

Attendees: Bobbie Matulja = BM (LAF Chairman), Rowena Hayward = RH (WCC), Tony Kerbey = AK (LAF Secretary), Anthony Lovell = AL, Linda Robinson = LR, Sandra Starkey = SS, Gordon Bunker = GB.

Asked for permission to auto-transcribe the meeting no dissenters.

Explained the aims of the Sub-Group meeting (Analysis of, and questions regarding, PRoW Key Performance Indicators and statistics for 2022/23).

Indicated that she may have to leave sometime during the meeting.

Started her report by explaining that the total length of Public Rights of Way in Worcestershire has risen from 4605 Km to 4611 Km. The change is caused by an unusually high number of orders completed this year. Questions were taken after each stage of the report.

AL joined the meeting.

answered The high use PRoWs, often in urban areas with a sealed surface and maintained by the Highways Department. This is balanced by UUCRs (Unclassified Unsurfaced County Roads) which are not technically PRoW but are maintained by the PRoW team.

Clarified a point regarding staffed posts and full-time equivalency, explaining that staffing levels were broadly the same as last year when recruiting is consid

party activity.

Clarified how PPOs are managed and why some are prioritised (school safety, railway safety and diversions associated with county matters planning applications) whilst most are processed on a first come; first served basis.

Thanked PProW team.

Provided a short history of the Deregulation Act and the delayed implementation of those sections related to PProW. The cut-off date of 2026, for the submission of new DMMOs, based solely on historical evidence, had been pushed back to 2031. Some uncertainty exists regarding the status of new application by the time of the cut-off i.e. submitted or completed. stated that authorities were still waiting to see what the new legislation would mean in terms of process and policy. Whilst there will be extensive changes, it was difficult to assess the impact at present.

was able to pass on that Worcestershire County Council have fully funded the WBL Greenway project feasibility study for the Worcestershire section of the route. With the Herefordshire feasibility study complete, this represents a major step forward.

provisional response to the Stakeholder Survey so she will submit as is.

Infrastructure consultation and subsequent clarification sought by the project staff. and discussed the balance between farming and low carbon transport options, some of which is facilitated by PProW. agreed to distribute a form of words for LAF approval.

Tony Kerbey

Secretary

3 May 2023