



## Attendees:

Name	Organisation
Simon Pickering (Chair)	Welsh Government – Head of Landscape & Outdoor Recreation
Jont Bulbeck	Natural Resources Wales
Eifion Jones (BBNPA)	Representing the 3 National Park Authorities and 5 AONBs
Adrian Walls	Welsh Rights of Way Managers Working Group
Ben Sears	Welsh Local Government Association

## Technical and secretarial support:

Name	Organisation
Helen Lewis	Welsh Government - Landscape & Outdoor Recreation
Joe Roberts	Natural Resources Wales
Jayne Carter	Natural Resources Wales

## Apologies:

Sarah Smith	Welsh Government - Landscape & Outdoor Recreation
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Key decisions and actions arising	Owner
<p><b>Notes and actions from previous meeting</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The previous minutes were agreed.</li> <li><b>Points 2 &amp; 10:</b> Legal questions have been submitted by NRW and will be addressed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WG lawyers will respond to Question 1 (Senedd powers)</li> <li>NRW are appointing Browne Jacobson to respond on remainder of questions.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Point 3:</b> It was agreed to cancel the September steering group meeting as it falls amongst the next round of Expert Group (ExG) meetings.</li> </ol>	WG/NRW

<p>4. <b>Point 5:</b> The group agreed the responses report would be made available to the public once finalised: to be published on WG website.</p> <p>5. <b>Point 7:</b> Simon will contact colleagues from Active Travel and Sustainable Farming once the initial drafts of the Analysis reports have been finalised.</p>	<p>NRW/WG</p> <p>Simon</p>
<p><b>Draft Reform Analysis Reports: Papers 2 - 7</b></p> <p>6. The group reviewed the format options put forward for the Analysis reports and agreed the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All reports should generally follow the same format (outlined in the Option 2A draft) where possible</li> <li>• Initial drafts (V1) to be ready prior to next round of ExG meetings</li> <li>• Drafts will be updated and refined following review and input from ExGs, and re-issued as V2.</li> <li>• The final submission will consist of 6 option analysis reports with a covering paper</li> </ul>	<p>NRW</p>
<p><b>Draft Analysis Report – cross-cutting themes</b></p> <p>7. It was agreed that the cross-cutting report is not required ahead of the ExG meetings.</p>	
<p><b>Expert Groups – update on next sessions</b></p> <p>8. NRW have engaged Dafydd Thomas (BRO) to facilitate the next round of ExG meetings. They will be held via Zoom accompanied by an interactive facility using Meetingsphere for ExG members to rank detailed proposals as a basis for discussion. Meetingsphere will provide a recording of each meeting, including levels of consensus reached.</p>	<p>WG/NRW</p>
<p><b>Expert Group 3A – Technical Support</b></p> <p>9. Technical mapping support to ExG 3A continues to be a challenge. NRW have been able to engage the services of a member of their internal staff for some assistance with this, and are due to have discussions with OS regarding copyright implications.</p>	
<p><b>Contracts for copy editing and legal questions</b></p> <p>10. An external copy editor will be appointed to ensure the final reports are reader-friendly and adopt a consistent tone.</p> <p>11. NRW have held an initial meeting with Browne Jacobson, who are preparing responses to the ARAG legal questions. The initial</p>	<p>NRW</p>

<p>draft of responses is due w/c 7 September, with final responses due w/c 21<sup>st</sup> September.</p>	
<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>12. NRW have a meeting with John Morgan scheduled for 24 September to discuss LAFs. WG are also planning to meet with him to discuss Proposal 27. Helen to enquire whether this could be a joint meeting or whether John would prefer to meet with WG separately, and will confirm with NRW.</p> <p>13. E-scooters: whilst these are currently illegal, the group recognised that they will need to be taken into consideration in access reform if their use is subsequently legalised.</p> <p>14. The group discussed the recent press article regarding lack of promotion of the Countryside Code in England and the recent survey results which suggest only 13% of visitors are familiar with the code. Whilst its promotion is limited in England, in Wales NRW continue to promote it via online activity, leaflets, etc. It was recognised that a wide--scale publicity campaign would be required alongside any proposals to introduce a new code in relation to responsible recreation.</p>	<p>Helen</p>