

Paths In Crisis report

Anastasia French
Ramblers Campaigns Officer



Ramblers Mission

- The guardians of the footpath networks
 - The advocates of the right to roam
 - The protectors of the countryside
 - The champions of walking



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Ramblers and rights of way - History

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- Definitive Maps
- Shown on OS maps
- Case Law
- Ploughing and Cropping laws
- “Big Hits” Shropshire, Somerset, North Yorkshire





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Ramblers and rights of way - Today

- Checking every diversion + extinguishment
- 125 volunteer teams repairing paths
- Advice to the public
- 800 paths saved from closure
- Claiming historic paths
- Parliamentary work
- Campaigning against budget cuts



2012 report

- 70% of councils cut their budget between 2009-2012
- 41% councils cut their budget by over 20%
- Staff cuts



**Ramblers report on the reduction
of funding for rights of way in
England**

October 2012



Feedback from 2012 report

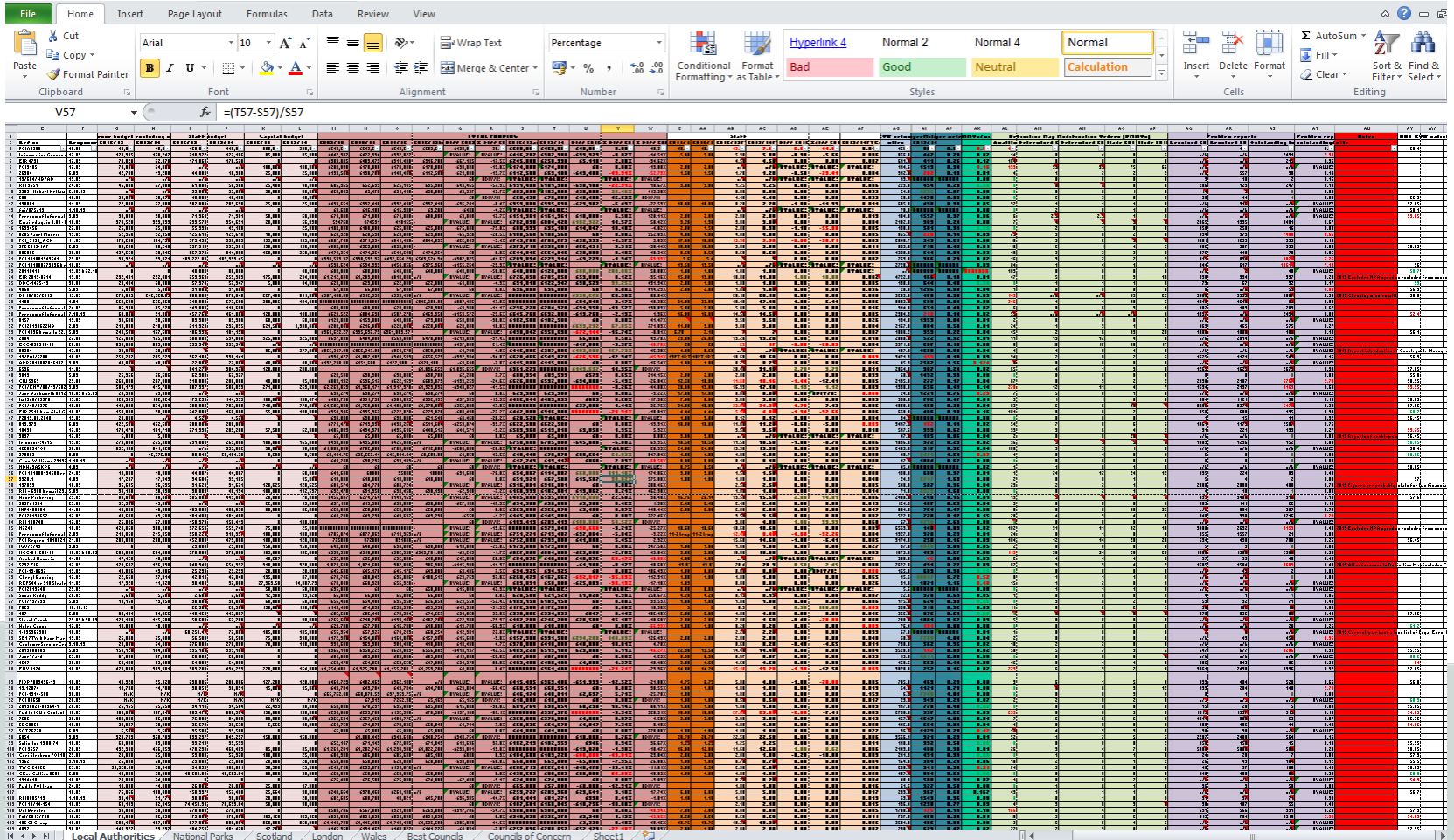
- Doesn't show the effect of cuts
- Doesn't take into account how much councils may have invested over the years
- Need more case studies for local press
- FOI – impersonal?



2013 Questions

1. Including staff costs, how much money has your authority allocated in its' **revenue** budget to carrying out its' statutory duties (maintenance, signposting & waymarking, keeping paths free from obstruction, and keeping the definitive map and statement up to date), including staff costs, in respect of public rights of way in 2012/2013 and 2013/14?
2. Not including staff costs, how much money has your authority allocated in its' revenue budget to carrying out its' statutory duties (maintenance, signposting & waymarking, keeping paths free from obstruction, and keeping the definitive map and statement up to date), in respect of public rights of way in 2012/2013 and 2013/14?
3. How much money has your authority allocated in its' **capital** budget in respect of public rights of way in 2012/2013 and 2013/14?
4. How many staff, expressed as full time equivalents (FTEs), does your authority employ to carry out its' statutory duties (maintenance, signposting & waymarking, keeping paths free from obstruction, and keeping the definitive map and statement up to date), in respect of public rights of way in 2012/2013 and 2013/14?
5. How many miles of rights of way are there in your authority area?
6. How many Definitive Map Modification Order applications are awaiting determination by your authority?
7. How many Definitive Map Modification Order applications were determined by your authority in 2011/12 and 2012/13?
8. How many Definitive Map Modification Orders were made by your authority in 2011/12 and 2012/13?
9. How many rights of way problem reports did your authority resolve in 2011/12 and 2012/13?
10. How many rights of way problem reports does your authority have awaiting resolution?

Spreadsheet heaven/hell



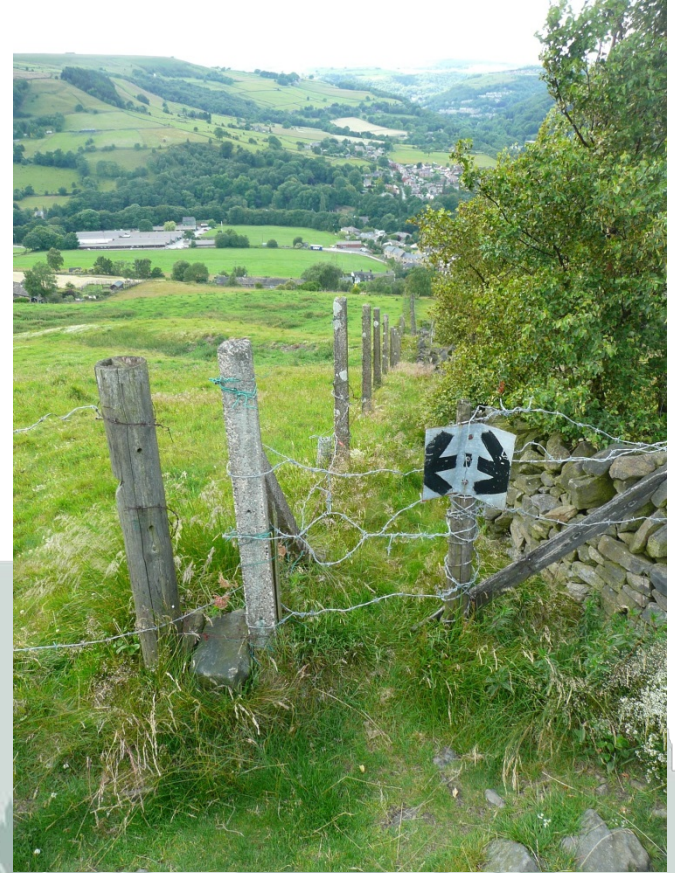


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I've got 100,000 problems

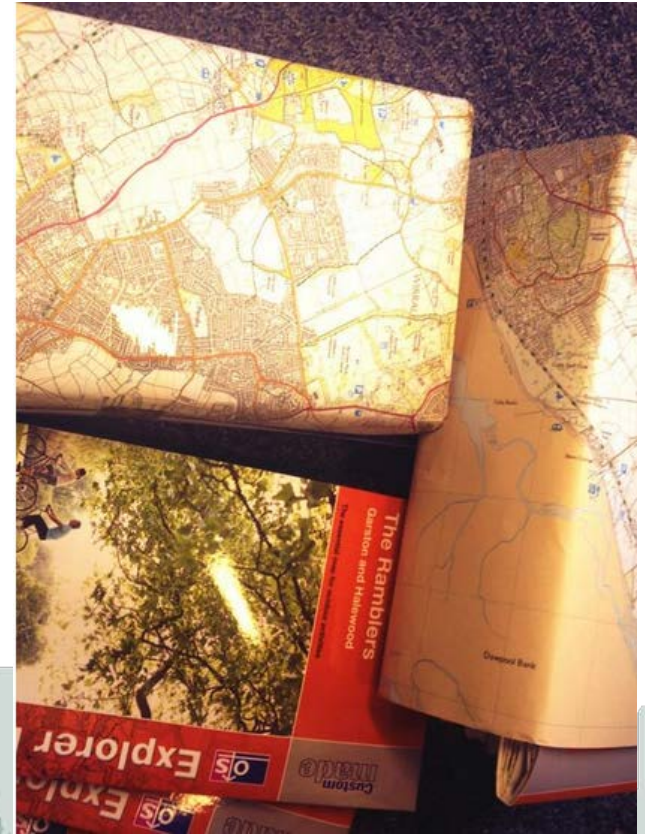
(and a ditch ain't one...)

- Nearly 100,000 outstanding problems
- It would take 2 years to clear the current backlog (if no other problems get reported and budget and staffing levels remain the same)
- There are over 19,000 problems in Cornwall
- Average of 1 problem per 2kms



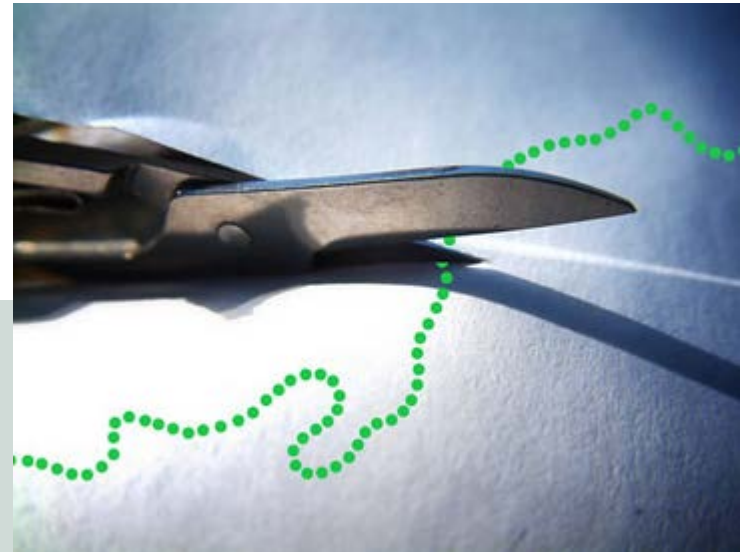
DMMO backlog

- 4,000 DMMO applications
- It will take over 13 years to process all of these DMMOs (if budgets and staffing levels remain the same)
- Coventry don't know how many miles of rights of way there are, but has 109 outstanding DMMO applications.
- Changes in the Deregulation Bill should help



Budget Cuts

- 30% of councils cut their budget
- Average spend 25p per metre (compared to £18,000 per metre of motorway)
- 19% councils cut staff



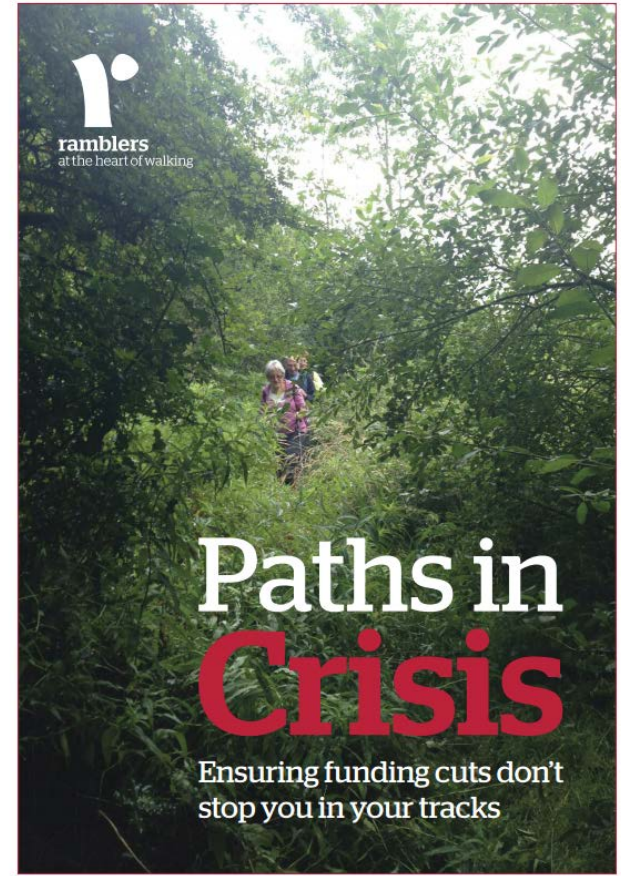
Ramblers can help

- 125 maintenance teams
- Surveying paths
- Path wardens
- “Donate a gate” type projects
- Making the case for walking and rights of way
- Deregulation Bill lobbying



Paths in Crisis launch

- National and local media coverage
- Email to council leaders inviting them on a walk
- E-survey to supporters to email their councillor
- Social media conversations



Learnings

- 118 different local situations and relationships vs one national report
- National Parks
- Highlight good councils?
- Cuts are happening everywhere/inevitable – stop complaining



Questions?

Anastasia.french@ramblers.org.uk

020 7339 8584

@RamblingFrench

