

Working with your appointing authority on planning issues

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Objective

- To explore with other LAF members the degree to which local planning authorities provide appropriate protection for public rights of way and access land as part of their strategic plan making and when making individual development planning decisions.

Outcome

- LAF members will have exchanged examples of best practice and leave the workshop armed with some ideas as to how they can take action to seek an improvement in the performance of the local planning authorities within their LAF area.

The planning system

- ‘Plan led’
- National policies (NPPF*) override in absence of a local planning authority plan
- Nationally Significant Infrastructure
- Local planning authority plan
Back to the future – the Local Plan
[LDF – Core Strategy, Site Specific, SPDs]
- In most areas the planning authority is not the highways authority (appointing authority)

* National Planning Policy Framework

Paragraph 75.

- Planning policies should protect and enhance public rights of way and access. Local authorities should seek opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks including National Trails.

This is better than many local planning policies

LAF experience

- Cambridgeshire LAF
- East of England Regional meeting
- Your experience
 - Loss of PRowS
 - Protective policies
 - Proactive policies
 - Actions by appointing authority
 - Support from appointing authority
 - Support from NE

LAF actions

- Input at strategic level of policy making
Local Plan consultation
- Input at individual decision (planning application)
Commenting, objecting, sustaining objection
- Support from public bodies and NGOs