

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK/HIGHWAYS

Plymouth Transport & Highways Civic Centre Plymouth PLI 2AA

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Our ref: Your ref:

Date: March 25, 2010

PLYMOUTH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM Mr. Ross Jago - Secretary to the Forum Floor 1 Civic Centre Plymouth PL1 2AA

Dear Mr. Jago,

## ATTENDANCE AT THE PLYMOUTH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Thank you for your letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

The reasoning behind my not attending future LAF meetings was explained to the Forum by briefing note at the last meeting, minute 48 refers.

My decision has high level support including that of the Director of Development, the Leader of the Council and Natural England all of whom have queried, and subsequently agreed, the basis for this change. Initial feedback suggests the last meeting progressed well with a noticeable improvement in focus. It would therefore seem short-sighted of me not to allow the changes this decision will bring to be realised.

The Forum is not a new body, they have a long term and experienced Chair with a clear understanding of the LAF's role on a local, regional and national level. Micro management by Officers is detrimental to its progression. I, like other Officers of the Council, will treat the PLAF as we would treat any Council or Area Committee. We will attend for relevant and specific agenda items. If there is a topic the Forum wishes to discuss which requires my input I will attend to provide that support for that agenda item. If there are no agenda items which require my input there is no need for my attendance. Therefore if Members wish me to attend they need to agree relevant agenda items with the Chair prior to each meeting or through the future work programme.

Your current Secretary is extremely capable and works regularly with both the Chair and myself to ensure the business of the Forum continues. I receive debriefs after each meeting and we discuss in detail each agenda to determine if additional support is needed. We will review the situation in the future to determine whether or not the level of support we provide to the Forum is sufficient.

I hope this information is of use to you, should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely

**Robin Pearce** 

Public Rights of Way Officer
Sustainable Transport - Plymouth Transport & Highway