



PLYMOUTH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

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Anthony Payne
Director for Development and Regeneration
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This letter constitutes formal advice from the Plymouth Local Access Forum. Plymouth City Council is required, in accordance with section 94(5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to have regard to relevant advice from this forum in carrying out its functions.

When calling or telephoning please ask for: **Mr Ross Johnston**

Dear Mr Payne,

On 30 June 2011 the Local Access Forum contacted you about public slipways in Plymouth and their lack of cleaning. We were pleased to note that since then the cleaning of the slips has improved significantly. In that letter we mentioned the lack of useful information on your webpage relating to public slipways. We offered to assist Maritime Services by producing slipway related information suitable for web page access that will be of use to recreational users of those slipways and to visitors.

This offer was taken up by yourselves. We liaised with members of your staff and the LAF duly produced a page of information for each of ten public slipways serving the needs of recreational users. In addition, we provided you with grid references for the vast majority of slipways, steps and pontoons in the area, both public and commercial. This was passed to your staff prior to them attending a LAF meeting in December last year.

Since then we have heard nothing, The slipway related data on your webpage remains as it was, with circular links giving no information on the slips other than their names and where they are on a google map. Even that basic information remains incorrect for the Mount Batten slips with the google tag pointing to the one private slip in the area, rather than two tags to the actual public slip locations.

We are disappointed with the apparent lack of progress on this and we remain keen to see the information links on your website. We appreciate that your staff are busy and that the actual updating work has to be done by PCC IT support services. We do have members who have experience of web page design and, once again, we are prepared to offer assistance with the production of the pages, should yourselves or IT Support Services wish us to do so.

Finally, returning to the condition of the slips, although we are pleased with the cleanliness of the slips, we have noticed that some of the most popular slips are beginning to show degradation of the slip's surface, particularly where there are joins in the surface concrete. The two Mount Batten slips could be patched up relatively easily and inexpensively at the moment. The longer these are left the worse they

will become and therefore we recommend that these slips are checked and repaired before they degrade further.

We look forward to hearing from you on these matters.

Yours Sincerely,

Ross Johnston
Secretary, Plymouth Local Access Forum