



PLYMOUTH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

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26 June 2012

Gareth Harrison - Poole
Greenspace Manager
Plymouth City Council
Central Park depot
90 – 92 Outland Road
Plymouth

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 Harrison-Poole,

At the recent meeting of the Local Access Forum on 18 June 2012 the issue of footpaths within City Council owned parks was discussed. The Forum agreed that:

- (1) a letter would be written to Parks Services outlining the Forum's views on Public Rights of Way within City Council owned parks;
- (2) the Greenspace Manager is invited to a future meeting to respond to the LAF letter to address the forum in the context of the LAF work programme and in response to the forum's request.

The views of the forum are that the Council owns a considerable amount of greenspace, most particularly in the form of parks. Throughout these parks are a series of well trodden and well used pathways, there is free entry to all these sites and the general public is being advised that exercise (in the open air) is of increasing importance for general well-being.

Most of the pathways are only permissive in nature and it is, therefore, the LAFs recommendation that these paths in the city council owned parks are all adopted as Public Rights Of Way in a single request. This would satisfy all users and save the Council a considerable workload.

In response to this letter could you please, firstly, endeavour to pursue the request of the Local Access Forum to adopt all footpaths in City Council owned parks as Public Rights of Way, and, secondly, could you please attend a future meeting of the Local Access Forum to discuss this important issue.

The Forum would like to invite you to its meeting on 17 September 2012 at 10:30am, or if you are unable to attend this meeting then the 17 December 2012.

Yours Sincerely,

Ian Stewart,
Vice-Chair of the Plymouth Local Access Forum