



PLYMOUTH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

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Mr Chris Coldwell
Senior Project Manager
Plymouth City Council
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PL1 2AA

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 Coldwell,

The Local Access Forum (LAF) meeting on 17 June 2013 received a brief summary outlining Plymouth City Council's collaborative bid for Heritage Lottery funding for their Plym Valley Connections project from members of the LAF who had attended recent meetings of the project community action group associated with the bid.

The LAF supports the bid and the initiatives outlined in the proposals, particularly the envisaged co-ordination of effort from a diverse range of organisation who are partners in the bid. Of particular interest to the LAF are the links from the areas of the Plym within the boundaries of the city reaching outside the city to the higher reaches of the Plym. We envisage the development of Plym trail close to the river from the Sound to the source of the Plym high on Dartmoor. We hope that local landowners can be encouraged to permit access along the banks of the Plym through their land to facilitate the development of such a trail.

The intention of developing intermediate access points to various points in the valley to encourage access to the valley from urban centres within Plymouth is welcomed. Centuries ago the Plym Valley industries were very important to Plymouth with transportation links in place from Dartmoor to the sea. Some of those links could possibly be redeveloped to give improved access from Plymouth to near those old industrial centres, thereby enabling city residents to better understand the heritage on their doorstep as well as introducing them to the wonderful landscape around them.

The LAF has a keen interest in the bid and any other projects that Plymouth City Council are involved in and members would like to invite you to attend their next meeting on Monday 2 September 2013 to update all members on the bid's aims and objectives and on its progress. In addition to the progress update on the Plym Valley Connections Project the Forum has identified in its work programme the need to be informed on any other projects that Plymouth City Council is co-ordinating or involved in. It is also requested that in your attendance you provide an update on any other projects that Plymouth

City Council are participating, focusing on the LAF's particular interest of projects which involve transport, access to the countryside, the sea, greenspaces and nature.

Could you please confirm that you will be able to attend the next meeting to provide the requested update or provide a suitable deputy to provide this update.

The LAF would like to wish the bid every success.

Yours Sincerely,

Ross Johnston,
Secretary of the Plymouth Local Access Forum