

Mr S Hardcastle
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Ian Stephenson
Strategic Director

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Our Ref: PE/PJW/412815/ROW30
Your Ref:
Date: 03 July 2013

Dear Mr Hardcastle

Offer of Assistance and Consultations

Thank you for your letter which I received on 2 July 2013.

I note your offer of assistance which is always welcome and in this respect we have worked actively with volunteers for many years as a Countryside Service however this takes place outside the National Park which manages its own volunteers. If you are interested in offering services outside the National Park then please feel free to contact our Area Managers; Chris Coombs on 01629 823204 for Derbyshire Dales and High Peak; Martin Dowson, 01246 533020 for Chesterfield, Nth East Derbyshire and Bolsover.

The County Council does not consult on repairs to the highway network. Given the often complex issues we have to resolve and the duty imposed on the council to maintain routes in a safe condition it would be impractical to publicly consult on engineering operations. I am acutely aware of the concerns expressed by the mountain cycling interests, particularly in respect of Long Causeway. The route is in disrepair and given the County Councils statutory duty it is compelled to carry out repairs. Some of the comments received from mountain bikers suggest that we have taken away the challenge however I am bound to point out that this route cannot be repaired to anything other than a standard that leaves it safe for all classes of user and regrettably that includes the smoothing of the surface and removal of hazards.

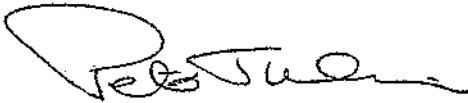
You may download a copy of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) from the County Council web site by following the instructions overleaf.

1. Go to www.derbyshire.gov.uk/countryside
2. Select Access.
 - a. Select Local Access Forum for information about this activity. Here you will find a list of representatives making up the forum.
3. For ROWIP Information go to www.derbyshire.gov.uk/rowip

The only list of consultees we possess is for Public Path Orders. I can send you a copy of this however it is principally a list of statutory consultees as per the regulations.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to call me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter J White', written in a cursive style.

Peter J White
Rights of Way Officer