



7. Statement of Action

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 Defra's statutory guidance on Rights of Way Improvement Plans requires Highway Authorities to prepare a statement of action. The statement outlines the strategic actions the Authority will take over the next 5 years for the management of rights of way, and for securing improvements to the network.
- 7.1.2 The Action Plan addresses the issues raised from the consultation, engagement and general findings from the assessments undertaken in this Plan. The actions are strategic in nature and are not path or site specific. These matters will be dealt with in the proposed business plan and annual work programmes.
- 7.1.3 The County Council will report progress through annual progress reports and work with the Nottinghamshire Local Access Forum identifying the key issues and priorities. The 12-week ROWIP public consultation process also helped the County Council prioritise the identified actions.
- 7.1.4 The actions are ambitious and challenging but with the backing of national and local government, key organisations, land managers and the general public they are achievable. Many of the actions are dependent on further resources and funding. However, by encompassing the ethos of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan, Best Value and political backing, many of these actions are attainable.
- 7.1.5 The statement of action is grouped into the County Council's six aims:
 - 1. To protect, maintain and seek to enhance the network for all lawful users
 - 2. to improve access to the network for all, including those with visual impairment and mobility problems, by adopting the principle of the least restrictive option
 - 3. to improve the safety and connectivity of the metalled road network with the rights of way network
 - 4. to increase awareness of the network and the understanding of the wider benefits arising from its use, such as leading an active and healthy lifestyle, and making a positive contribution to the local economy

5. to provide a revised and updated definitive map and statement, with particular reference to the resolution of map anomalies and support for the 'Lost Ways' project
6. to enhance and increase community involvement in managing and improving the network.

7.1.6 To achieve our aims we must ensure that the Authority and our partners work together encompassing:

- Best value and improved efficiency with long-term solutions not quick fixes
- best practice and innovations but not forgetting time honoured good practice
- wider environmental and sustainability issues
- education and awareness of all stakeholders' rights and responsibilities
- acceptance and understanding of all stakeholders needs
- the knowledge and skills of all partners
- funding opportunities – both for revenue and capital investment work
- political and public will and backing
- legislation and statutory guidance.

7.2 Layout

7.2.1 The statement of action is formatted in tabular form and is grouped into six categories:

- Action reference number
- The key action
- **Policy context.** This links the key action to both the ROWIP's policy statements (prefix A1, A2, A3, A4, A5 and A6) and those from the supporting policies and statements outlined in Chapter 3 of the Plan
- **Resources.** The following symbols indicate the estimated staff resources needed to successfully achieve the action

existing resource



extra staff required



significant extra staff required



- Expenditure. The estimated costs required to achieve each action:

less than £5,000 required per year	£
£5,000 to £10,000 per year	££
over £10,000 per year	£££

- Delivery partners

7.2.1 Policy context key

Ref. No. Policy document

PPG17	National Planning Policy Guidance 17
PPG13	National Planning Policy Guidance 13
PPS7	National Planning Policy Statement 7
RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy 8
RES	Regional Environment Strategy
LTP	Local Transport Plan
NNJSP	Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Joint Structure Plan
NCS	Nottinghamshire's Community Strategy
NMLP	Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan
NWLP	Nottinghamshire Waste Local Plan
LDF	District Local Development Frameworks

7.3 Statement of Action tables

Aim 1. To protect, maintain and seek to enhance the network for all lawful users

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA1.1	Review the Countryside Access team structure to maximise BVPI178 figure	PPG17, PPG13, RSS, NCS, LTP		£	NCC
SOA1.2	Identify funding sources to achieve the aims of Nottinghamshire's Rights of Way Improvement Plan	PPG17, PPG13, PPS7, RSS, NCS, NNJSP, LTP, LDF		£	NCC
SOA1.3	Conduct a full network survey	PPG17, PPG13, RSS, NCS, LTP	 	££	NCC, volunteers, P3 parishes
SOA1.4	Implement programme of signing and waymarking improvements throughout the county	PPG17, PPG13, RSS, NCS, LTP, A1-5, A1-6	 	££	Nottinghamshire County Council, P3 Parishes Work with user groups and volunteers to implement and monitor
SOA1.5	Carryout an audit of all paths on the annual grass cutting programme.	PPG13, NCS, LTP, A6-1, A1-8		£	NCC, Wayfinder scheme
SOA1.6	Identify and increase the number of rural paths on the annual grass cutting programme.	PPG13, NCS, LTP, A6-1, A1-8	 	£££	NCC, Wayfinder scheme
SOA1.7	Implement a programme of annual maintenance on urban paths.	PPG17, PPG13, RSS, NCS, LTP, A1-7, A1-8, A1-10	 	£££	NCC
SOA1.8	Review maintenance responsibilities for both urban jittys and rural UCRs	LTP, A1-1, A1-8		£	NCC
SOA1.9	Implement an inspection maintenance and replacement bridge programme	PPG17, PPG13, RSS, NCS, LTP	 	££	NCC
SOA1.10	Follow policy when authorising gates, stiles and other barriers	PPG17, PPG13, PPS7, RSS, NCS, NNJSP, LTP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, A2-1, A2-2		£	NCC, Land managers, parishes, districts and boroughs

Aim 1. To protect, maintain and seek to enhance the network for all lawful users

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA1.11	Implement a countywide structures policy with our partners and other stakeholders	PPG17, PPG13, RSS, NCS, NNJSP, LTP, A2-1, A2-2		£	NCC, Land managers, parishes, districts and boroughs
SOA1.12	Develop a system for recording approved structures	PPG17, PPG13, RSS, NCS, A2-1		£	NCC
SOA1.13	Develop a programme of improving approved structures on bridleways (i.e. latches etc.)	PPG13, NCS, LTP, A2-1		££	NCC, Land managers, parishes, districts and boroughs
SOA1.14	Continue with the Ploughing and Cropping Campaign	PPG13, NCS, A1-3, A1-9, A1-10, A6-3		£	NCC
SOA1.15	Identify bridleways needing overhead vegetation clearance. Contact landowners.	PPG13, NCS, A1-10		£	NCC, Land managers, parishes, districts and boroughs
SOA1.16	Work with conservation and archaeologists when carrying out large scale works	PPG13, PPS7, NCS, NNJSP, LTP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF		£	NCC, Land managers, parishes, Natural England, Notts Wildlife Trust, districts and boroughs
SOA1.17	Improve liaison and partnership working with land managers	PPG13, NCS, A1-9, A6-3		£	NCC, Land Managers
SOA1.18	Support landowners by providing guidance, information and updates on legislation	PPG13, NCS, A6-3, A1-9		££	NCC, Land Managers
SOA1.19	Seek to prosecute persistent offenders who obstruct PROWs	PPG17, PPG13, RSS, NCS, A1-3, A1-10		£	NCC, Land Managers
SOA1.20	Work with the RPA on issues relating to Cross Compliance	PPG13, NCS, A1-3		£	NCC, Land Managers
SOA1.21	Contribute to NCC asset management Plan	PPG17, PPG13, RSS, NCS, LTP		£	NCC
SOA1.22	Produce a strategy for the positive management of Byways.	PPG17, PPG13, RSS, NCS, LTP, A1-1		£	NCC, User groups, Land Managers

Aim 2. To improve access to the network for all, including those with visual impairment or mobility problems by adopting the principle of the least restrictive option.

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA2.1	Identify and list improvements from the Fieldfare Trust accessibility survey and audit.	PPG17, RSS, NCS, LTP, A2-1, A2-2		£	NCC
SOA2.2	Prioritise and undertake access improvements identified in the Fieldfare Warsop case study.	PPG17, RSS, NCS, LTP, A2-1, A2-2		£££	NCC, Land managers, user groups, disability representatives, parishes, districts and boroughs
SOA2.3	Develop countywide access for all strategic plan from the lessons learnt from case study.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, NCS, NNJSP, LTP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, A2-1, A2-2		£	NCC
SOA2.4	Promote and encourage land managers to replace approved stiles with kissing gates.	PPG17, RSS, NCS, LTP, A2-1, A2-2		££	NCC, Land managers, parishes, districts and boroughs
SOA2.5	Remove unauthorised structures.	PPG17, RSS, NCS, LTP, A2-1, A2-2		££	NCC, Land Managers
SOA2.6	Adopt the least restrictive option in everyday work.	PPG17, RSS, NCS, NNJSP, LTP, LDF, A2-1, A2-2		£	NCC, Land Managers
SOA2.7	Ensure that all future PROW work incorporates 'access for all' best practice.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, NCS, NNJSP, LTP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, A2-1, A2-2		£	NCC, Land Managers
SOA2.8	Develop circular routes designed to BT 'Countryside for All standards'.	PPG17, RSS, NCS, A2-1, A2-2		££	NCC, Land managers, user groups, disability representatives, parishes, districts and boroughs
SOA2.9	Hold an access for all / DDA training / awareness event for all stakeholders.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, NCS, LTP, A2-1, A2-2		££	NCC, Land managers, user groups, disability representatives, parishes, districts and boroughs

Aim 2. To improve access to the network for all, including those with visual impairment or mobility problems by adopting the principle of the least restrictive option.

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA2.10	Establish a liaison group with representatives from the LAF and local disability groups.	RSS, NCS, A2-1, A2-2		£	NCC, Land managers, user groups, disability representatives, parishes, districts and boroughs
SOA2.11	Publicise barrier free routes.	RSS, NCS, A2-1, A2-2		££	NCC, disability representatives
SOA2.12	Produce and provide information and publicity in a variety of different formats.	RSS, NCS, A2-2		££	NCC, disability representatives
SOA2.13	Work with Living Landmarks team on the development of accessible multi-user routes.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, NCS, LTP, A1-14		££	NCC, Land managers, user groups, disability representatives, parishes, districts and boroughs
SOA2.14	Audit existing promoted routes for accessibility.	RSS, NCS, A1-14		£	NCC, disability representatives
SOA2.15	Work with partners to identify key gateways to countryside access by car and public transport.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, NCS, NNJSP, LTP		£	NCC, Land managers, user groups, disability representatives, parishes, districts and boroughs
SOA2.16	Liaise with riding establishments that cater for the needs of people with disabilities with a view to improving access provision.	RSS, NCS, LTP, A2-1, A2-2		£	NCC, disability representatives, BHS

Aim 3. To improve the safety and connectivity of the metalled road network with the rights of way network

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA3.1	Identify and compile a list of key road and rail crossings in the PROW network.	PPG13, PPG17, NCS, LTP		£	NCC
SOA3.2	Work with Network Rail to provide safe at-grade crossings for all users.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP		£££	NCC, Network Rail
SOA3.3	Actively seek opportunities for light controlled crossings – Toucan and Pegasus.	PPG13, PPG17, PPS7, RSS, RES, NCS, NNJSP, LTP, LDF		£	NCC, Highways Agency
SOA3.4	At the very least seek opportunities for improved signage and calming measures.	PPG13, PPG17, PPS7, RSS, RES, NCS, NNJSP, LTP, LDF		£	NCC, Highways Agency
SOA3.5	Agree with Highway Managers a standard for improving points at which PROWs meet the metalled highway.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, NNJSP, LTP		£	NCC, Highways Agency
SOA3.6	Identify locations which would benefit from street lighting.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP, LDF		£	NCC, Districts and Boroughs
SOA3.7	Support the Quiet Lanes initiative providing links with the PROW network.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP		£	NCC, Parishes, Districts and Boroughs
SOA3.8	Identify suitable roadside verges for improved maintenance with particular emphasis on linking bridleways.	PPG17, RES, NCS, LTP		£	NCC, LAF
SOA3.9	Liaise with the area Highway teams on implementing a programme of roadside verge improvements.	PPG17, NCS, LTP		££	NCC
SOA3.10	Identify potential shared use footways which link key PROW.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP		£	NCC, Parishes, Districts and Boroughs, user and community groups

Aim 3. To improve the safety and connectivity of the metalled road network with the rights of way network

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA3.11	When developing multi-user routes build in safe crossing points with the road network.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, NNJSP, LTP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, A1-14		£££	NCC
SOA3.12	Identify and work up schemes to provide safe routes to schools.	PPG13, PPG17, PPS7, RSS, RES, NCS, NNJSP, LTP, LDF		£££	NCC
SOA3.13	Seek early involvement and opportunities to improve PROW through development and road improvements.	PPG13, PPG17, PPS7, RSS, RES, NCS, NNJSP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, A1-11		£	NCC, Highways Agency, developers, District and Borough Council's
SOA3.14	Engage and encourage LPAs and developers to design out crime when designing and implementing paths.	PPG13, PPG17, PPS7, RSS, RES, NCS, NNJSP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, A1-11, A5-7		£	NCC, Highways Agency, developers, District and Borough Council's
SOA3.15	Work with the Road Safety team to raise driver awareness of all users particularly cyclists and horse riders.	PPG17, RES, NCS, LTP,		£	NCC

Aim 4. To increase awareness of the network and the understanding of the wider benefits arising from its use.

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA4.1	Undertake countryside access display tour in libraries, country parks, agricultural shows and other public outlets.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS,		£	NCC
SOA4.2	Review and update countryside access displays.			££	NCC
SOA4.3	Provide countywide cover for promoted walks pack. Produce a circular walks pack for South Nottinghamshire.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS,		££	NCC
SOA4.4	Survey and inspect all current promoted walks and rides for accessibility and maintenance issues.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS,		££	NCC
SOA4.5	Develop walk packs in conjunction with public transport.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP,		££	NCC, public transport providers
SOA4.6	Produce 'Escape from the City' walk pack utilising the bus and tram network.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP,		££	NCC
SOA4.7	Publish and launch the revised Trent Valley Way Guide.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS,		££	NCC
SOA4.8	Develop NCC countryside access website. Provide a user forum, favourite walks / rides and news section.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS,		£	NCC
SOA4.9	Investigate the feasibility of providing online access to the updated parts of the county's definitive map and statement.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS,		££	NCC
SOA4.10	Identify new and innovative marketing opportunities for countryside access.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS,		£	NCC, District and Borough Council's, Land Manages
SOA4.11	Promote countryside access on public transport and local radio.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS,		££	NCC

Aim 4. To increase awareness of the network and the understanding of the wider benefits arising from its use.

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA4.12	Produce PROW guides and information for both users and landowners highlighting responsibilities.	NCS, A6-3, A1-9,		££	NCC, Land Managers
SOA4.13	Work with others to promote responsible dog walking.	NCS		£	NCC, Land Managers, District and Borough Council's, Pet Shops
SOA4.14	Investigate the feasibility of running short map reading courses.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS,		£	NCC, user and interest groups
SOA4.15	Produce PROW guidance for LPAs and developers.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, NNJSP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, NCS, A1-11, A5-7, A1-12		££	NCC, developers, District and Borough Council's
SOA4.16	Roll out a series of presentations to developers and LPAs.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, NNJSP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, NCS, A1-11, A5-7, A1-12		££	NCC, developers, District and Borough Council's
SOA4.17	Design a series of cab cards and packs for landowners. Initially for the Farm Partnership Scheme.	NCS, A6-3,		££	NCC, Land Managers, Parishes
SOA4.18	Examine the feasibility of producing local parish maps and guides to countryside access.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS,		££	NCC, Parishes
SOA4.19	Produce an equestrian guide to off-road riding provision in the county.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-1		££	NCC, BHS, other user and interest groups
SOA4.20	Provide information and publicity promoting healthy lifestyles for doctors' surgeries, clinics, and drop in centres etc.	PPG13, PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP		££	NCC. NHS, PCT's

Aim 5. To provide a revised and updated definitive map and statement, with particular reference to the resolution of map anomalies and support for the 'Lost Ways' project.

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA5.1	Continue to review the definitive map and statement.	PPG17, NCS, LTP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, A5-1, A5-2		£	NCC, user and interest groups, Land Managers
SOA5.2	Develop an action plan to deal with the large number of potential DMMO applications as a result of the Lost Ways project.	PPG17, NCS, LTP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, A5-1, A5-2		£	NCC
SOA5.3	Refine and periodically review prioritisation of DMMOs with particular emphasis on orders which improve connectivity.	PPG17, NCS, LTP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, A5-1, A5-2		£	NCC
SOA5.4	Record the legal width of all 'new' paths added to the definitive map.	PPG17, NCS, LTP, LDF,		£	NCC, Land Managers
SOA5.5	Finish work to record unregistered pre 1949 jitties, dead ended definitive paths and unsurfaced unclassified county roads.	PPG17, NCS, LTP, A5-2		£	NCC, Land Managers, Lost Ways Project team
SOA5.6	Identify and record all definitive map anomalies.	PPG17, NCS, LTP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, A5-1		£	NCC, Lost Ways Project team
SOA5.7	Make the necessary 'anomaly' orders	PPG17, NCS, LTP, NMLP, NWLP, LDF, A5-1		£££	NCC, Land Managers
SOA5.8	Develop a list of cross border routes where the paths status changes	PPG17, NCS, LTP, A5-2		£	NCC, adjacent authorities, Lost Ways Project team
SOA5.9	Continue with the countywide preparation of new definitive map and statement; Rushcliffe, Broxtowe, Newark and Sherwood, Gedling, East Bassetlaw.	PPG17, NCS, A5-1		£	NCC
SOA5.10	Publish updated maps completed so far on the internet; Ashfield, Mansfield and West Bassetlaw.	PPG17, NCS, LTP		£	NCC

Aim 5. To provide a revised and updated definitive map and statement, with particular reference to the resolution of map anomalies and support for the 'Lost Ways' project.

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA5.11	Consult and work with other access providers with a view of publishing non-definitive access map.	PPG17, NCS,		££	NCC, providers of permissive access
SOA5.12	Continue to provide and update the on-line DMMO applications register.	PPG17, NCS,		£	NCC
SOA5.13	Work towards an on-line register of applications for public path orders.	PPG17, NCS,	 	£	NCC
SOA5.14	Refine and periodically review prioritisation of PPOs.	PPG17, NCS,		£	NCC
SOA5.15	Recharge the full cost of PPOs to the applicant (with exceptions as per policy).	PPG17, NCS, A5-5		£	NCC
SOA5.16	Implement a system ensuring non definitive routes are recognised on planning applications.	PPG17, NCS, NMLP, NWLP, A5-7	 	£	NCC, developers, District and Borough Council's
SOA5.17	Actively seek opportunities in improving the connectivity of the network through the use of dedications and creations.	PPG17, NCS, LTP	 	£££	NCC, Land Managers, , District and Borough Council's

Aim 6. To enhance and increase community involvement in managing and improving the network

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA6.1	Expand and develop the Parish Partnership Scheme.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP, A6-1		£££	NCC, P3 Parishes
SOA6.2	Improve communication with P3 Parishes through liaison meetings.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-1		£	NCC, P3 Parishes
SOA6.3	Hold a P3 conference and workshop with Parishes.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-1		££	NCC, P3 Parishes
SOA6.4	Produce a newsletter for P3 Parishes.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-1		£	NCC, P3 Parishes
SOA6.5	Provide parishioners and volunteers with a structured programme of training.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-1		££	NCC, P3 Parishes
SOA6.6	Extend the P3 scheme to other organisations.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-2		£	NCC, P3 Parishes
SOA6.7	Implement a programme of improved monitoring of P3 contracts.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-1		£	NCC, P3 Parishes
SOA6.8	Reassess local P3 publicity and promotions.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-1		£	NCC, P3 Parishes
SOA6.9	Produce annual report.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-1		£	NCC, P3 Parishes
SOA6.10	Continue to support and develop the Farm Partnership scheme.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP, A6-3		££	NCC, Land Managers
SOA6.11	Encourage and invite more Farmers onto the FPS.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-3		£££	NCC, Land Managers
SOA6.12	Implement a programme of improved monitoring of FPS contracts.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-3		££	NCC, Land Managers
SOA6.13	Introduce a method of feedback e.g. newsletter to farmers on the FPS.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-3		££	NCC, Land Managers
SOA6.14	Continue to work with and support volunteers both individuals and organisations.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP, A6-4		£	NCC, volunteers, user and interest groups, community groups

Aim 6. To enhance and increase community involvement in managing and improving the network

Reference number	Key Action	Policy Context (ROWIP & other)	Resources	Expenditure	Delivery Partners
SOA6.15	Increase the number of volunteers to help NCC maintain and enhance PROW.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP, A6-4		£	NCC, volunteers, user and interest groups, community groups
SOA6.16	Arrange volunteer task days.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-4		££	NCC, volunteers, user and interest groups, community groups
SOA6.17	Set up and encourage volunteers to attend training days.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-4		££	NCC, volunteers, user and interest groups, community groups
SOA6.18	Investigate the feasibility of introducing 'adopt-a-path' type initiatives.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, LTP, A6-4		£	NCC, volunteers, user and interest groups, community groups
SOA6.19	Improve networking between all volunteers such as through social type events.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-4		£	NCC, volunteers, user and interest groups, community groups
SOA6.20	Consider the needs of volunteers as part of the Lost Ways project.	PPG17, RSS, RES, NCS, A6-4		£	NCC, volunteers, user and interest groups, community groups