

# DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM ACCESS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY GLOSSARY OF COMMON TERMS (VERSION 3 - MAY 2025)

## IMPORTANT ACTS OF PARLIAMENT AFFECTING PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

<b>WCA</b>	<b>Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981</b> Act that covers general countryside law, including the definitive map and statement.
<b>CROW</b>	<b>Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000</b> Act that introduced Local Access Forums and Rights of Way Improvement Plans. Included the 2026 cut-off date for historical rights of way claims.
<b>HA</b>	<b>Highways Act 1980</b> Primary act covering highways law. Includes powers and duties for maintenance/ improvement, removal of obstructions and legal orders to create, extinguish and divert public rights of way.
<b>NERC</b>	<b>Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006</b> Wide ranging act which covers the countryside, nature conservation, rights of way/ mechanically propelled vehicles and rural community issues. Established Natural England as a new independent body.
<b>RTA</b>	<b>Road Traffic Act 1988</b> Act that covers road regulation and other related functions.
<b>TCPA</b>	<b>Town and Country Planning Act 1990</b> The primary act covering planning law.

**Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.** Act that brought in powers to make gating orders, subsequently subsumed within **the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014** and redesignated as Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs).

**Commons Act 2006.** Act relating to town and village greens and common land.

**Deregulation Act 2015.** Act that includes reforms for the procedures covering definitive map work and public path orders.

**Equality Act 2010.** Act that consolidates the various Acts and regulations which together form anti-discrimination law. Replaced the **Disability Discrimination Act 1995** in England, Wales and Scotland.

**National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.** The original act that provided the framework for the creation of National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in England and Wales. Introduced the Definitive Map and Statement and Access Land.

**Countryside Act 1968.** Act that gave powers and duties to highway authorities in respect of signage/ waymarking of public rights of way and introduced the right to ride a bicycle on any bridleway.

## **CENTRAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES**

### **Active Travel England (ATE)**

Established in 2022, as an executive agency of the Department for Transport. Responsible for making walking, wheeling (using wheelchairs and mobility scooters) and cycling the preferred choice for everyone to get around in England for everyday journeys.

### **DEFRA**

#### **Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**

Government department responsible for improving and protecting the environment. Aims to grow a green economy and sustain thriving rural communities. Supports the food, farming and fishing industries. The main government department for public rights of way, access land and countryside matters.

### **Environment Agency (EA)**

Non-departmental public body concerned mainly with rivers, flooding and pollution.

### **Forestry Commission**

Non-ministerial government department responsible for protecting, expanding and promoting the sustainable management of forests and woodlands. Forestry England, a division of the Commission, manages and promotes the publicly owned estate for timber production, public access and wildlife.

### **Natural England**

Government's adviser for the natural environment in England. Helps to protect and restore England's nature and landscapes. Encourages and supports improved public access to the outdoors so more people can connect with nature.

### **Rural Payments Agency**

Executive agency of Defra that supports the farming and food sector to help ensure a healthy rural economy and strong rural communities.

**Department for Transport (DfT)**

Government department that supports the transport network. Oversees the implementation of Local Transport Plans and promotes the ambition to transform the role that active travel can play in the transport system.

**National Highways**

Government owned company charged with operating, maintaining and improving England's strategic road network (motorways and major A roads) to ensure they are more dependable, durable and safe.

**Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government**

Main government department responsible for town planning, housing, communities and other local government matters.

**HM Land Registry**

Non-ministerial department that registers the ownership of land and property in England and Wales.

**PINS****Planning Inspectorate.**

Executive agency which deals with planning appeals, national infrastructure planning applications, examinations of local plans and other planning-related and specialist casework in England, including rights of way.

**MoD****Ministry of Defence**

Government department responsible for implementing the British defence policy to protect the nation and help it prosper.

**DIO****Defence Infrastructure Organisation**

Branch of the MoD responsible for the management of the military estate, including accommodation for Service personnel and their families.

**DWP****Department of Work and Pensions**

Government department responsible for welfare, pensions and child maintenance policy.

**DHS****Department of Health and Social Care**

Government department responsible for nation's health and social care policy to help people live more independent, healthier lives for longer.

**HSE****Health and Safety Executive**

Britain's national regulator for workplace health and safety responsible for preventing work-related death, injury and ill health.

**Department for Business and Trade**

Government department for economic growth that supports businesses to invest, grow and export, creating jobs and opportunities across the country.

**DCMS****Department for Culture, Media and Sport**

Government department responsible for supporting culture, arts, media, sport, tourism and civil society across England.

**VB****Visit Britain**

National tourism agency responsible for marketing Britain worldwide and developing Britain's visitor economy. It works with UK Trade & Investment as well as airlines, travel operators, global brands and the official tourism bodies - Visit London, England, Scotland and Wales.

**Department for Energy Security and Net Zero**

Government department responsible for securing the nation's long-term energy supply.

**Home Office**

Lead government department responsible for dealing with crime, the police, drugs policy, immigration and passports, and counter terrorism.

**CHARITABLE TRUSTS AND OTHER PUBLIC BODIES****Paddle UK**

National governing body for canoeing, kayaking, stand up paddleboarding and paddle sport. Formerly known as British Canoeing.

**Canal and River Trust**

Charitable organisation entrusted with the care of 2,000 miles of canals and rivers across England and Wales.

**EH****English Heritage**

Charitable organisation responsible for managing over 400 historic buildings, monuments and sites.

**NAO****National Audit Office**

Independent body that monitors central government spending and performance. It reports to Parliament's Public Accounts Commission.

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT TERMS**

### **Appointing Authority**

Authority responsible for appointing members to the Local Access Forum for its area.

Examples: Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council, Peak District National Park Authority.

### **Local Authority (LA)**

Authority responsible for carrying out some or all local government duties in its area, such as education, transport, planning applications and waste collection/ disposal.

Examples: Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council, Erewash Borough Council, Peak District National Park Authority.

### **County Council**

Authority responsible for carrying out the top tier local government administrative duties within a county.

Examples: Derbyshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council.

### **District/ Borough Council**

Authority responsible for carrying out the lower tier local government administrative duties within a county district or borough.

Examples: Amber Valley Borough Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council.

### **Unitary Authority**

Authority responsible for carrying out all local government duties in its area.

Examples: Derby City Council, Nottingham City Council.

### **Strategic Authority**

New type of body which involve several councils working together, covering areas that people recognise and work in. Many places already have Combined Authorities that serve this role. The government will continue to develop new Strategic Authorities collaboratively and in partnership with places.

### **Combined Authority**

Combined Authorities, Combined County Authorities and Mayoral Combined County Authorities are normally formed from two or more local councils and either led by a Mayor or without a Mayor. They support councils to work together across a wider geographic area on issues such as transport and housing. Any "lower tier" authorities (districts or borough councils within a county council area) are not included as members.

Examples: East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA). South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA).

<b>EMCCA</b>	<b>East Midlands Combined County Authority</b> Formed in March 2024. It is led by an elected Mayor (Mayoral Combined County Authority) and covers the four local authority areas of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham.
<b>NPA</b>	<b>National Park Authority</b> Authority responsible for managing a National Park with duties to conserve and enhance its natural and cultural heritage, promote sustainable use of its natural resources and to promote understanding and enjoyment of its special qualities by the public, including through recreation. Example: Peak District National Park Authority.
<b>LHA</b>	<b>Local Highway Authority</b> Authority responsible for managing highways in its area. Also, usually the surveying authority and access authority for its area. Examples: Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council.
<b>LSA</b>	<b>Local Surveying Authority</b> Authority responsible for keeping the definitive map and statement for its area up to date. Examples: Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council.
<b>LPA</b>	<b>Local Planning Authority</b> Authority responsible for determining planning applications in its area and producing the local development framework. Examples: Derby City Council, Amber Valley Borough Council. Peak District National Park Authority.
<b>MPA</b>	<b>Minerals Planning Authority</b> Authority responsible for planning control of minerals development in its area. Examples: Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council.
<b>WPA</b>	<b>Waste Planning Authority</b> Authority responsible for the planning control of waste disposal in its area. Examples: Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council.
<b>LEP</b>	<b>Local Enterprise Partnerships</b> Non-statutory bodies that were responsible for local economic development in England. Locally owned between local authorities and businesses, they played a central role in determining local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and create local jobs. Example: The Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (D2N2) LEP. Central Government funding has ceased and from 1 April 2024 LEP functions have been transferred back to local authority responsibility.

<b>LNP</b>	<b>Local Nature Partnerships</b> Partnerships of individuals, businesses and organisations working together to better understand, appreciate, value and enhance the local natural environment and to embed its value in local decisions for the benefit of nature, people and the economy. Derbyshire is covered by two LNPs: the Peak District LNP and Lowlands Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire LNP.
<b>ADEPT</b>	<b>Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport</b> Represents 'directors of place' who are responsible for providing day-to-day services including local highways, recycling, waste and planning as well as the strategic long-term planning and delivery of sustainable places. It has a rights of way managers' working group The aim of the group is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public rights of way and access legislation and working practice through dialogue with Defra, DfT, DCLG and other government departments and agencies.
<b>IPROW</b>	<b>Institute of Public Rights of Way Officers and Access Management</b> Professional body for rights of way officers.
<b>LGA</b>	<b>Local Government Association</b> Represents interests of all English and Welsh local authorities.
<b>NALC</b>	<b>National Association of Local Councils</b> Represents 10,000 community, parish and town councils in England and Wales, in partnership with county associations.

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANS AND STRATEGIES**

<b>ROWIP</b>	<b>Rights of Way Improvement Plan</b> Every local highway authority is required by law to produce a ROWIP which is a strategic document setting out goals and priorities for public rights of way and access. They must be reviewed every ten years. Examples: Derby Rights of Way Improvement Plan, Derbyshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
<b>LCWIP</b>	<b>Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan</b> The D2N2 LCWIP is a long-term approach to developing comprehensive local cycling and walking networks across the D2N2 area. The draft plan identifies a prioritised list of cycling and walking improvements for future delivery in the short, medium and long term (up to 15 years).

<b>LTN1/20</b>	<b>Local Transport Note</b> Published in July 2020 by the Department for Transport providing guidance for local authorities on designing high-quality, safe cycle infrastructure.
<b>LTP</b>	<b>Local Transport Plan</b> Key strategic transport plan produced by the local highway authority. The third generation of plans (LTP3) were published in April 2011. EMCCA will lead on LTP4 for the D2N2 area.
<b>NPPF</b>	<b>National Planning Policy Framework</b> Sets out Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.
<b>LDF</b>	<b>Local Development Framework</b> Folder of documents that outlines how planning will be managed in an area. Produced by the Local Planning Authority and sets out policies and proposals for the development and use of land. Key document is the Core Strategy.
<b>Development Plan/ Local Plan</b>	
	The Development Plan, which is also known as the Local Plan, is at the heart of the planning system with a requirement set in law that planning decisions must be taken in line with this unless material considerations indicate otherwise. A development plan can be prepared by a single local authority covering its area or a group of authorities covering their combined area.
<b>LA21</b>	Local Agenda for the 21st Century
<b>Active Travel Masterplan (ATM)</b>	
	Comprehensive strategy developed to encourage and support active and sustainable modes such as walking, wheeling and cycling. The plan will typically include a range of measures to make active travel safer, more convenient, and more appealing to a wider range of people. Examples: ATMs being prepared for three market towns in Derbyshire (Belper, Glossop and Ilkeston) as well as for the Hope Valley.
<b>LBAP</b>	<b>Local Biodiversity Action Plan</b> Identifies actions to benefit species and habitats considered to be important locally and which reflect the values of local people. Examples: The Peak District LBAP, Lowland Derbyshire LBAP. The National Forest LBAP.
<b>LNRS</b>	<b>Local Nature Recovery Strategy</b> Being produced for 48 areas across England by 'responsible authorities' appointed by Government to lead on work to prepare and publish a LNRS that will establish priorities and map



proposals to drive nature's recovery and provide wider environmental benefits. They embody a long-term vision and action plan that is formed and delivered in collaboration with partners, stakeholders and the public.

Example: Derbyshire County Council has been appointed to prepare and publish a LNRS for Derbyshire and Derby.

## **PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

<b>PROW</b>	<b>Public Right of Way</b> A way over which the public has a right to pass and repass, includes FP, BW, RUPP, RB and BOAT (see below).
<b>FP</b>	<b>Public Footpath</b> A right of way for the public on foot only, but along which they may take what is termed as a "natural accompaniment", for example a dog, pram or pushchair, or a manual or powered wheelchair (mobility scooter).
<b>BW</b>	<b>Public Bridleway</b> A right of way for the public on foot, riding or leading a horse and (since 1968) by pedal cycle. Cyclists must give way to pedestrians and horses.
<b>RUPP</b>	<b>Road Used as Public Path</b> Reclassified as Restricted Byways
<b>RB</b>	<b>Restricted Byway</b> A right of way for the public on foot, riding or leading a horse, pedal cycle and horse-drawn vehicles.
<b>BOAT</b>	<b>Byway Open to all Traffic</b> A right of way for the public on foot, riding or leading a horse, pedal cycle and by wheeled vehicles of all kinds, including mechanically propelled vehicles, but which is used by the public mainly for walking or for riding.
<b>Cycle Track</b>	A highway for pedal cycles, with or without a right of way on foot.
<b>UCR</b>	<b>Unclassified County Road</b> A highway maintainable at public expense. Has no legal meaning in terms of defining what public rights exist over them. Also known as non-classified highways (NCHs) in Derbyshire.
<b>Green Lane</b>	This term has no legal meaning but is used as a physical description of lanes that are vegetated underfoot or enclosed by hedges hence the 'green'.

**Quiet Lane** Quiet Lanes are an initiative of Natural England. They are minor rural roads which are appropriate for shared use by walkers, cyclists, horse riders and motorised users. These roads should already have low levels of traffic travelling at low speeds.

**Greenway** Shared use, traffic free routes designed to be used by people of all abilities on foot, bike, horseback or with wheelchairs/mobility scooters.

**Ancient Highway**

Very old paths not always recorded on the definitive map and statement.

**National Trail**

A long-distance walking or riding route approved by the Government and supported by Natural England and local authorities.

**Definitive Map**

The legal record of public rights of way in an area.

**Definitive Statement**

Accompanies the Definitive Map and provides a description of each route, in particular the start and finish point and general direction. It may also include details of the surface, width and additional information about any limitations eg stiles and gates.

**DMMO**

**Definitive Map Modification Order**

Used to make changes to the Definitive Map and Statement when evidence is discovered that shows certain routes are not recorded correctly.

**LEMO**

**Legal Event Modification Order**

A separate order which is required to effect a change to the Definitive Map and Statement.

**PPO**

**Public Path Order**

Used to create, divert or extinguish public rights of way under Highways Act 1980 and Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

**TPO**

**Tree Preservation Order**

Usually made by a local planning authority to protect a specific tree or woodland from deliberate damage and destruction.

**TRO**

**Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)**

Restrict or prohibit the use of certain routes. Made under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to help manage the highway network for all road users, including pedestrians. Aim to improve road safety and access to facilities.

**TTRO**      **Temporary Traffic Regulation Order**  
Imposes temporary restrictions while works or repairs take place or to ensure safety for a special event.

**Gating Order**  
Order that can restrict access to a public right of way without taking away the public highway rights.

**Waymark**      Standardised arrow used to mark Public Rights of Way:  
Yellow for Footpaths, Blue for Bridleways, Plum for Restricted Byways and Red for Byways Open to All Traffic.

**List of Streets**  
Record of highways maintainable at public expense which the Highway Authority is required to keep up to date and available for public inspection.

**NSG**      **National Street Gazetteer**  
Database of all streets in England and Wales compiled from the responsible highway authorities.

**LSG**      **Local Street Gazetteer**  
Database of all street information in a local highway authority area. Feeds into the NSG above.

**NLPG**      **National Land and Property Gazetteer**  
Initiative to provide a definitive and consistent address for infrastructure in the whole of the UK.

**LLPG**      **Local Land and Property Gazetteer**  
Address database maintained by a local authority. Feeds into the NLPG above.

## **ACCESS LAND TERMS**

**Open Access Land**  
New rights for the public to access land mapped as 'open country' (mountain, moor, heath and down) or registered common land, without having to keep to particular paths, were created by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. Known as open access land and can generally be used for walking, running, watching wildlife and climbing.

**Town & Village Greens**  
Town and village greens are usually areas of land within defined settlements or geographical areas which local inhabitants can go onto for the exercise of lawful sports and pastimes.

**Common Land**

Common land is land owned by one person over which another person is entitled to exercise the ancient rights of common (such as grazing animals or cutting bracken for livestock bedding), and these rights are generally exercisable in common with others.

**Access Authority**

Authority responsible for carrying out duties related to the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 open access land in its area. Examples: Derbyshire County Council, Peak District National Park Authority.

**CRA****Commons Registration Authority.**

Authority responsible for keeping a register of Common Land and Town and Village Greens and determining applications to register land as a town or village green.

Examples: Derby City Council, Derbyshire County Council.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TERMS****IT**

Information Technology

**ICT****Information & Communications Technology**

Similar term to IT that is commonly used in central and local government.

**GIS****Geographical Information System**

Examples of GIS software clients: Map Info, ArcView & CadCorp.

**GPS****Global Positioning System**

Space-based global navigation satellite system that provides reliable location and time information anywhere on or near the Earth when and where there is an unobstructed line of sight to four or more GPS satellites.

**CAMS****Countryside Access Management System.**

Computer management system for public rights of way.

**NATURE CONSERVATION DESIGNATIONS****Ancient Woodland**

Any woodland which has existed from pre-1600 to the present day.

**AONB**

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (46 in the UK). Designated areas of protected countryside, smaller than National Parks.

<b>LNR</b>	Local Nature Reserve
<b>NNR</b>	National Nature Reserve
<b>SAC</b>	Special Areas of Conservation
<b>SPA</b>	Special Protection Areas
<b>SSSI</b>	Sites of Special Scientific Interest

## **USER ORGANISATIONS AND TRUSTS**

**ABD** Alliance of British Drivers (a voluntary organisation promoting the interests and concerns of Britain's drivers)

**BDS** British Driving Society (national organisation for horse drawn carriage driving activities)

**BHS** British Horse Society

### **Campaign for Better Transport**

Campaigns to make sustainable transport available to all and encourage its use.

### **Countryside Alliance**

Campaigning group that aims to promote and protect the rural way of life

**CPRE** The Countryside Charity (formerly known as the Campaign to Protect Rural England)

**CTC** Cyclists' Touring Club

**DWT** Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

**FOE** Friends of the Earth

**GLASS** Green Lane Association (motoring group)

**GLEAM** Green Lanes Environmental Action Movement (campaigns to end off-roading)

**LARA** Land Access and Recreation Association (for motoring organisations)

**NT** National Trust

**OSS** Open Spaces Society

<b>PHP</b>	Peak Horsepower
<b>PCT</b>	Primary Care Trust
<b>PNFS</b>	Peak and Northern Footpaths Society
<b>RA</b>	<b>Ramblers' Association.</b> Britain's walking charity, now branded as the Ramblers. Local Example: Derby and South Derbyshire Ramblers
<b>TCV</b>	The Conservation Volunteers. Aims to bring people together to create, improve and care for green spaces
<b>TRF</b>	Trail Riders Fellowship

### **LANDOWNER ORGANISATIONS**

<b>CLA</b>	The Country Land and Business Association is the membership organisation for owners of land, property and businesses in rural England and Wales
<b>NFU</b>	National Farmers Union

### **ENVIRONMENTAL LAND MANAGEMENT SCHEMES**

For example, Countryside Stewardship and Higher-Level Stewardship (HLS) which offer payments to farmers and land managers in England for effective land management to protect habitats, restore landscapes and boost biodiversity. Gradually being phased out and replaced by the Environmental Land Management (ELM) scheme.