

## Local Access Forum (LAF) Annual Report Proforma

*Reporting year	April 2011 to March 2012
*Name of LAF	IOW Local Access Forum
*Name of LAF secretary	Jennine Gardiner

### Review of Current reporting year

**Were you successful in meeting the achievements set out in your Annual Report or LAF work programme? Please provide supporting information.**

The Isle of Wight's Local Access Forum (LAF) has its achievements as raised at the LAF quarterly meetings

**\*How many Open Access Restriction cases have you been informed about/involved with?**

The LAF has not been advised of or been involved with any.

**\*Give up to three examples of advice given by your LAF to section 94**

**bodies:**

Letters to the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport & Waste 15 January 2012 to bring to his attention deficiencies in the road network at the point certain bridleways cross the highway. Asking him to consider the locations raised and to take this forward to the highways team so they can consider if any remedial works can be carried out on the highway to highlight to drivers that they are approaching concealed bridleway crossings i.e the provision of improved signing, lining and junction improvement works to improve visibility.

**Give up to three examples where you have encountered difficulties; explain what mechanisms could be put in place to alleviate this issue:**

Achieving positive outcomes to issues which have been raised.

Raising awareness of the existence and purpose of the LAF to the general public.

Complicated and time consuming process required for the recruitment of new members, due to the formalities imposed by the regulations.

Remove the restriction that a member can only serve a maximum of three years and increase it to at least five years.

**Do you have any issues with recruitment of members from particular interest groups? Does this hinder your work in any way?**

It is proposed at forthcoming meetings to discuss how the LAF target, different user groups, in addition to the formal requirement of a public notice in the local newspaper and on the Councils own website.

The LAF is experiencing difficulties in recruiting members generally. The LAF currently only has 11 members, the service of four of these is due to end in 2013

**Comments from appointing authority**

The Authority reiterates the difficulty in recruiting new members and the complicated process of this recruitment.

The restriction on serving as a member for a maximum of three years should be removed when the maximum number of members is not being reached.

## **Forward Look**

**What are your priorities for next year (list up to 3)**

Encourage new members, to undertake tasks relating to improving access to the countryside and, provide feedback.

Raise the general public's awareness of the LAF, what it does, how to become involved and what it could achieve.

To identify strategic deficiencies relating to access to the countryside, and to work with all relevant persons and organisations to identify and achieve solutions.

**\*What support/training will you need to be able to deliver these priorities?**

Guidance on recruiting methods.

**Do you perceive any barriers to delivering your priorities?**

Insufficient members to enable achievement of objectives.

**Any other comments**