

National Park Authority Board Meeting

Agenda Item 5 - Core Paths Plan Review
Appendix 1 – Selection Criteria

	Selection Criteria	Key factors	Scoring Range examples 0 – 6		
			0= Poor	3= Neither good nor poor	6= Excellent
1	Identified by the community as a priority	Identified in audits Identified by local path groups/interest groups Identified in Community Action Plans and/or Charrettes	Not marked on map during audits or any mention during community consultations.	Marked on audit maps only	Marked on maps Identified in audits or as a priority in Community Action Plans or similar. E.g. feasibility studies, spatial frameworks.
2	Provides for a specific recreational use, as a primary use.	Level of importance within area Special/specific recreation opportunity within area All abilities, horse-riding etc	No specific use or potential identified	Provides a reasonable opportunity for the specific activity but not the ideal provision.	Provides the best opportunity for a specific use such as horse-riding, mountain biking, all abilities etc
3	Provides enjoyment of the Parks special qualities	Gives access to: historic sites, landscape, view-points, special places. Variety of experience Quality of experience	Road edge urban Derelict land Over Developed sites e.g. housing schemes, industrial units	Low quality experience. Lacks variety or quality of experience.	Provides access to experience the Parks unique characteristics and distinctive special qualities such as biodiversity, lochs and rivers, mountains and moors, woodlands, open/clear views, cultural landscapes, diverse landscapes and geodiversity.
4	Promoted for visitors and tourism linked activity and contributes to economic linked benefits.	Potential to contribute to local economy via business opportunities and services used by visitors. Attracts more visitors and local use Promoted through: signage, leaflets, web Managed specifically for access.	No promotion or management of route/path.	Managed for access and/or promoted to a mid-level, e.g. directional signage only, or managed pathline.	Both managed and high level promotion through multiple methods e.g. quality and fit for purpose signage, leaflet and web.
5	Provides useable links with the public transport network	Path is accessible from: bus stops, stations, ferry Provides a useable link between public transport hubs e.g. station to station Level of usability of public transport in relation to the path start and end points.	No links to any public transport available	Public transport is available in the general area but not close to the paths start or finish point.	Path starts immediate to a station/bus stop and returns to it, or links to other public transport hubs.
6	Provides a functional route/link	Value of functional links to and between: Visitor centres, information points, toilets Shops and services Safe routes to schools, nursery or education centres Places of work. Accommodation (visitors and local residential areas)	No functional links exist.	The path provides an element of functionality but not as its main purpose. Provides a less desirable link e.g. may be longer or not all abilities. Extent may be limited to providing access to one service only (dependant on settlement requirement)	Provides the best direct and useable link to or between functional need(s). Is proportional to the requirements of the settlement.

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7	Provides a link (or part of a link), between settlements including cross boundary	Links to neighbouring local authorities settlements Links to neighbouring communities/settlements. May form part of a strategic path (inc proposed)	Path provides no community or hub links.	Link is possible but not fully useable e.g. may have physical constraints such as distance, gradients, topography.	Provides a useable and widely accessible link for and between communities/settlements/hubs. Short in distance, easy gradients and starts and finished within the settlement.
8	Provides a short route option close to or within settlements or visitor hubs/destinations	Paths less than 2km for predominantly recreational use by visitors and locals: Within or from car parks, picnic sites, places of interest and settlements Has health benefits potential All abilities and barrier free Short distances. Forms a loop or circular option. Links to open spaces/green space	Out-with range of settlements or visitor hubs.	Within range of settlements and popular well used visitor destinations but with limited accessibility due to terrain, distances.	Fully accessible, barrier free within or on immediate fringes of settlement or popular visitor destinations, should be short easy distance.
9	Forms a key link (or part of) to a wider network of paths/routes or strategic longer distance routes	How key the route is to accessing other access provision e.g. strategic paths, SGTs and/or wider path networks and promoted routes or neighbouring authorities CPNs or wider access networks.	Provides no key links to wider network or strategic routes.	Provides a link to some paths but not to a wider network of paths or to a strategic link. Is not the sole link to the network.	Provides the primary link to a wide network of paths, strategic links and/ or promoted paths.
10	Balances landowners interests with exercising access rights	Apply reasonable balance within scope of access rights and CPP requirements. Level of compatibility between access and land management activity	Access is not compatible with land management activities. Path alignment is not acceptable to the landowner.	No issues present, access tolerated.	Land management activities and access are fully compatible and integrated, and where positive steps to manage both have been taken.