

**UPDATE ON PROGRESS ON STATUTORY REGISTERS FOR RIGHTS OF WAY.**

Report of the Head of Highways and Transportation

**1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To update the Stockport Local Access Forum on the progress of the Rights of Way Team in publishing a Section 53 Register and other improvements to the website.

**2. Progress**

- 2.1 Legal Services have previously presented a report to the Local Access Forum outlining the legal requirements for Statutory Registers, and the information needing to be published.
- 2.2 This report stated: It is acknowledged that some entries are incomplete and some currently contain inaccurate or out-of-date information. Resources are being directed at reviewing the information on the register and correcting and updating it where required. The LAF will be kept informed of progress in this respect at its meetings. Since that time work has been ongoing on updating the register, but it has not yet been possible to identify all the correct information.
- 2.3 The register was removed from the Council Website due to the need to upload an improved version with accurate data. As part of the improvement of the register the Council has decided to revise the format of the register to meet the needs of disabled accessibility. In particular PDF's are regarded as unsuitable unless unavoidable. Therefore we are having to take more time in order to review all aspects of the process.
- 2.4 While we have established a good format to use as a model (from Norfolk County Council's site <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/out-and-about-in-norfolk/public-rights-of-way/register-of-definitive-map-modification-applications>) this does not conform to the latest IT standards on accessibility and so further work needs to be undertaken.
- 2.5 The need to improve the site is likely to include:
- a) Online forms for applications.
  - b) Improved guidance for applicants.
  - c) Easier access for people wishing to read applications
  - d) Greater accessibility for people using speech recognition and readback functions.
  - e) Better general website navigability
  - f) Greater integration with other council webpages
  - g) Easier updating by officers to keep information up to date
  - h) Mapping improvements.
- 2.6 Due to the current lack of the information on the website the following information has been appended to the report:
- a) the most recent version of the Section 53 Register
  - b) a PDF containing the three most recent applications for DMMO's

- i) footpath 33 Bredbury and Romiley. Application for a diversion
- ii) footpath 110 Stockport. Application for extinguishment.
- iii) Claim for a new footpath at Heald Green between Bradshaw Hall Lane (bridleway 58 Cheadle and Gatley) and footpath 96 Cheadle and Gatley

### **3. CONCLUSIONS**

- 3.1 It is acknowledged that the council has no current online register. It is hoped that the current project with IT will result in a much better functioning and accessible register in the near future with greater functionality to keep it up to date.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Not Applicable

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact Sue Stevenson on telephone number Tel: 0161-474-4351 or alternatively email [sue.stevenson@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:sue.stevenson@stockport.gov.uk)