

# Peak District Local Access Forum

**Date: 13 March 2014**

**Item: 6**

**Title: Access Update**

**Author: Sue Smith**

## **Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on an issue related to the management of access in the Peak District. This has been discussed at meetings of the Access Sub-group.

## **Agricultural Policy Reform**

The future of farming, the rural economy and the environment in England is going through some change. National Parks England has provided input to the consultations on the implementation of the reforms. The Forum has had the opportunity to feed into this. Members have emphasised the importance of recreation and tourism to the rural economy and that National Parks make a significant contribution to national prosperity and wellbeing. Details of the consultations, proposals and timelines can be viewed at [Land Management Developments webpage](#).

New agri-environment agreements will now be covered by the New Environment Land Management Scheme (NELMS). This programme also covers the Woodlands Grant Scheme. Work is currently ongoing on details of the prescriptions and payments.

Annual payments for the provision of permissive access are not available other than for educational access. Existing agreements will continue to be funded for the remainder of their term, but will not be continued. Details of permissive access can be seen at <http://cwr.naturalengland.org.uk/>. A link is also provided on the Authority's website.

## **Recommendation**

- 1. That the report be noted.**