

Peak District National Park Green Lanes Action Plan 2019/20

Monitoring

Vehicle Logging

We monitor vehicle use using electronic vehicle loggers. During 2019/20 we will focus our monitoring on the following routes: Wetton Hills, Minninglow and Gallowlow Lanes, Hurstclough Lane, Nether Bretton and Pindale. We will also react to developments on priority routes and other routes where there is intensification or excessive or inappropriate use and monitor accordingly.

Visual Inspections

We monitor routes by visual inspections and photographic records. This is carried out at the same time as placing vehicle loggers on those routes meriting action. We also undertake visual inspections on other routes, as required. During 2019/20, our focus will be on the routes where vehicle logging is proposed and other priority routes, as required to fit in with the Miles without Stiles work and promotion of the Green Lanes Code.

Traffic Regulation Orders

Consulting on TROs

The Authority has powers to make traffic regulation orders. These are similar powers to the Highway Authorities. The Authority also facilitates meetings of the Peak District Local Access Forum who are a statutory consultee for consultations on TROs. The process for TRO consultations involves at least 2-stages: a 28 day consultation with statutory consultees, a 6-week public consultation and, if required, a consultation to modify a proposed draft order. During 2019/20, we will be taking forward the TRO proposal to permanently exclude mechanically propelled vehicles from the route at Wetton Hills, near the Manifold Valley. We will also be keeping under review other routes throughout the National Park if it is felt that a traffic regulation order may be a possible course of action.

Responding to consultations on TROs

The Authority is a consultee on consultations on traffic regulation orders carried out by the National Park's constituent Authorities. During 2019/20, we will contribute as required to Derbyshire County Council's consultations on a TRO at Jacob's Ladder, Stoney Middleton. We will also contribute to any other consultations by the Highway Authorities.

TRO exemptions

On those routes where we have made TROs, exemptions may allow access for specified purposes, on application. In the case of Derby Lane this is access along part of the lane from Monyash for the purposes of caving. In the case of Washgate this is for two named motorcycle events which take place annually. During 2019/20, we will consider applications for exemptions for these purposes and compliance with the terms on which they may be granted. Applications for access by registered disabled users may also be received on all suitable sections of the TRO routes.

Voluntary Restraint

Formal restraint

4-wheeled vehicle users have been continuing with the established voluntary restraint over the winter months at Minninglow and Gallowlow Lane. During 2019/20, we will support their measures for restraint. We will continue to monitor the level, type and pattern of vehicle use that takes place, both during and outside the periods of restraint, work with those proposing restraint, and promote the measures.

Responsible use

Everyone who visits and passes along a green lane has a right to do so with respect for others and the environment. The National Park's Green Lanes Code promotes responsibility amongst all users. During 2019/20, we will be promoting this code with an emphasis on keeping to surfaced tracks and will input into any other work forming part of the National Park Management Plan's Delivery Actions.

Legal Status

Determination of legal use

The Highway Authorities have a duty to determine legal rights and to ensure the definitive map and statement is correct. Derbyshire County Council has been dealing with the priority routes as a priority. The Authority can contribute to this through the provision of evidence. During 2019/20, we will respond to consultations with any relevant information we hold.

Signage

The Authority supports the Highway Authorities in the signing of public rights of way in the National Park. We do this by waymarking routes and providing advisory signage where appropriate. During 2019/20, we will check, replace and erect signage on those routes identified for monitoring and those encompassed in the route surveys. Signage will also be considered as part of the focus on keeping to surfaced tracks.

Repairs & maintenance

Repairs by Highway Authorities

The Highway Authorities have a duty for maintenance commensurate with the level of use. Where schedules of repairs are identified, and which may be as a result of the work on priority routes, the Authority will offer advice on repairs in sympathy with the National Park. During 2019/20, the Authority will provide a response on schemes and will monitor their effect during and following the works, as required.

Work by the Authority

The Authority will encourage the use of volunteers for small scale works including routine maintenance. The Authority can also liaise with and work with landowners to protect and enhance the National Park and users' enjoyment of it. The Authority does not have a budget for this work and is reliant on support from the Highway Authorities, grant funding and donations. During 2019/20, further work is proposed on the stone pitching at Washgate and will be considered on other routes as part of the Miles without Stiles work.

Surveys & Audits

Use Surveys and Accessibility

During 2019/20, surveys of byways and unsurfaced unclassified roads in the National Park will be undertaken to improve accessibility in line with the Miles without Stiles work and to assess their character and appropriateness for different users.

Reporting

Route Summary reports

During 2019/20, we will update the route reports for priority routes with the latest vehicle logging data, changes in legal status and environmental information.