

Liz Pickering
Principal Forward Planning Officer
Mid Devon District Council
Phoenix House
Tiverton
EX16 6PP



Grey Gables
Bampton
Tiverton
EX16 9NQ

31 March 2011

Dear Ms Pickering

Mid Devon Green Infrastructure Strategy – Initial Consultation

Public Rights of Way and Access Land

May I recommend that you add Devon County Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan (DCC ROWIP 2005) to your list of general policy and guidance documents.

The ROWIP was drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (the CRoW Act). The main objective of the ROWIP is to improve public rights of way and access for all.

DCC is the highway authority and the Public Rights of Way section deals with footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways and byways open to all traffic. In addition, the Public Rights of Way section now has responsibility for Unsurfaced County Roads (UCR's) – identified by green blobs on OS Explorer maps.

Access Land was mapped under the CRoW Act and is also shown on OS Explorer maps; there is a helpful section on Access Land in the ROWIP and a map showing Access Land sites in Devon within local authority areas including Mid Devon - page 37.

Rights of Way can be affected by planning applications and development - there is a section on Planning in the ROWIP - page 34.

Other helpful sections in the ROWIP include Environment, Tourism & Economic Development and Health.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Joan Fagg
Footpath Officer, Tiverton Group Ramblers' Association