

PI Survey Returns 2017/18 – Public Rights of Way

The 2017/18 survey year differed from previous years; the initial aim was to increase the annual 10% survey to 20%, The LAF members maintaining a 5% spring and 5% autumn survey and the PROW team picking up the remaining 10%.

Continuing the principle of complete random selection, the selection was undertaken for the full 5 years ensuring no path would be surveyed twice.

Unfortunately due to long term sick leave of the PROW officer who oversees the PI survey the later surveys were not undertaken and the early surveys came in short.

In 2017/18 - 8.7% (51.2 kms) of the PROW network was surveyed, comprising the spring LAF survey 4.7% and the spring/summer survey by the PROW team 4 %.

The pass rate for	2017/18 - 67 %	
Compared to previous years	2012/13	62%
	2013/14	69%
	2014/15	63%
	2015/16	71%
	2016/17	59%

The average pass rate for the previous 5 years was 65%.

In line with the return this year to an average pass rate, the individual detail for bridges, stiles and gates, obstructions and surface conditions remain stable and close to the average of the previous 5 years

Signposting from the road shows a steady decline from a high of 80% in 2014/15 to a pass rate of 70% in 2017/18;.however way-marking along the paths shows a slight improvement this year – the average over the previous 5 years was 77% this year 81%.

Ploughing and cropping has returned to a stable rate in line with previous years, the particularly poor rate for 2016/17 would appear to have been a blip.

The aim for 2018/19 is to undertake a 20% survey incorporating the 10% LAF survey split between spring and autumn and 10% PROW team survey; if possible also the completion of the 10% missed from 2017/18, this would put us back into a position to complete the 100% survey over 5 years.