



LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

MEMBERS REQUIRED FOR LEEDS LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Leeds City Council has established the Leeds Local Access Forum, as required by the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000. The City Council is currently seeking to attract new Members for the Forum, drawn from a wide range of backgrounds, to assist in advising the City Council on improvements to public access to land, for the purpose of open-air recreation and enjoyment of the local area.

The Leeds Metropolitan District has approximately 800 km / 500 miles of recorded public rights of way and numerous areas of recreation land, including urban and country parks, designated access land and registered common land, together with nature reserves and woodlands.

The primary purpose of the Forum is to provide advice to the City Council on how to make the countryside more accessible and enjoyable for open-air recreation in ways that address social, economic and environmental interests. In addition the Forum has an advisory role regarding open access and the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan and it is the intention of the Forum to encourage and influence a strategic approach to recreational provision for the public within Leeds.

The Forum aims to meet least twice a year and consist of a minimum of 10 members, two nominated by the City Council and eight representing countryside recreational, land owning or other relevant interests.

Membership of the Forum is required by the regulations governing it to reflect a broad range of interests involved in the countryside and to this end it is hoped to attract people to represent a wide range of differing interests, including owners and occupiers of land, to ensure that not only are the full benefits realised but the interests of landowners, farming, wildlife and landscape are respected.

It is anticipated that Forum members will bring a wide range of experience, including recreational use (e.g. walking, horse riding and cycling) and land management to the Forum. Other criteria will be an interest in the land, nature conservation and heritage as well as tourism, education, health, business, trade unions and transport.

Members will not be paid but can claim reasonable expenses for attendance at meetings and will be required to confirm a commitment to the Forum and its work for a period of up to three years.

Applications are invited in writing to the address below giving details of relevant skills, knowledge and experience of the countryside within the local area.

If you are interested in becoming a Member of the Forum, details of the specification and an application form can be found on the Leeds City Council website, www.Leeds.gov.uk under the countryside section. For further information, please ring Leeds (0113) 395 7400, or write to Bob Buckenham, Parks & Countryside, Farnley Hall, Hall Lane, Leeds LS12 3HA, or e-mail PROW@leeds.gov.uk.