

Countryside Access Delivery Plan 2020- 2021



This plan is provided to advise on projects being implemented to deliver the Countryside Access Improvement Plan. This plan will be amended and revised as projects and resources change.

Well Maintained Public Rights of Way Network and Countryside Sites: To target improvements to ensure greatest public benefit is obtained. Objective: WM1 Better network/sites for leisure and daily use; WM2 Compliance; WM3 Promotion of responsible use; WM4 Evolution and increasing the accessibility of the network; WM5 Improve Green Infrastructure					
Objective and CAIP References	Description of activity	Lead Inc. delivery partners	Timescale	Status (Progress in italics)	Finance
				Q1 1 st April to June 30th Q2 1 st July to 30 September Q3 1 st October to 31 December Q4 January – 31 st March	
WM1 1.1 Working with NFU/FUW/CLA & Landowners to reduce cropping issues	Cropping Ongoing cropping enforcement.	MonLife Countryside Access	Ongoing from February 2020 Revised June ongoing	<i>Q1 Covid & flooding both impacted on Project and flooding reduced spring crops significantly.</i> Sites monitored throughout year. Resolved 98.52% of 745 issues.	Existing Officer resources
WM1 1.3 Improving general fingerpost and way marking to encourage use and	Project 1 Mark My Paths , Pilot Project for Wales. Training volunteers and identifying important missing	MCC, Ramblers Cymru, Torfaen CBC	January 2020 – March 2021	Publicity about campaign visit our webpage in March 2020.	Existing Resources

<p>build confidence prioritising areas within and near communities with high use</p> <p>As above</p>	<p>fingerposts/signage. Then working with Communities, purchasing and installing identified posts</p> <p>Project 2 Living Levels Improvements to signage on key routes to the Wales Coast Path and development of best practice to do this.</p>	<p>Living Levels, MCC, MonLife Green Infrastructure, Newport Council, RSPB</p>	<p>Revised due to covid extended to 2021-22</p> <p>Q3 Sign purchasing and installation Q4</p>	<p><i>Q1 Covid has now stalled project. RA Cymru project officer furloughed.</i> <i>Q3/4 surveys being undertaken by RA trained volunteers.</i></p> <p><i>Q1 No work waiting confirmation of available budget</i> <i>Q4 completed installation of signage across Mon Living Levels area – new path signage at 21 locations. Commissioned further works and obtaining quotes.</i></p>	<p>Living Levels £ to be confirmed</p>
<p>WM1 1.4 Prioritise and undertake bridge repairs and replacements.</p>	<p>Bridges -Prioritisation, Inspection and maintenance of Bridges</p>	<p>MonLife Countryside Access</p>	<p>Ongoing (Note Covid has stopped bridge replacement and maintenance in Q1)</p>	<p><i>Q1 Flood Inspections completed and WG notified of costs for repair. 4 bridges closed with legal order.</i> <i>1 dangerous bridge at Drybridge park closed. Other bridge work re-prioritised, 2 bridges (1 at Clytha and 1 at Tintern) and 1 boardwalk at Mathern waiting to be</i></p>	<p>Capital funding £19,959+</p> <p>WG Flood Grant £62,091.34 (including other materials and surfacing but</p>

				<p><i>installed. 9 Bridges prioritised for purchase in q2.</i></p> <p><i>Q3 Various bridges (6) and 1 boardwalk purchased and installed where conditions allow.</i></p> <p><i>Q4 New flooding reprioritised bridge work/repairs</i></p> <p><i>3 more bridges and two 9m bridges for Lower Trothy and Magor installed.</i></p> <p><i>3 New recycled plastic boardwalks installed (2) in Shirenewton and (1) Mathern. Also 5 bridges purchased for Llanfair Kilgeddin and Pennalt Volunteer Improvement Schemes</i></p> <p><i>2 bridges installed on WCP</i></p> <p><i>From April 2020 to April 2021 we received 3,245+ bridge issues. 2,598 were resolved or 80.06%</i></p>	<p>excluding staff costs)</p> <p>WG Access Improvement Grant for boardwalk £23,793 and £12,424 for bridges £2,800 75% grant funding from WCP Grant</p>
WM1 1.6 Promote and provide better signed circular routes to increase	Promote and or sign Circular Routes	MonLife CA Team	Ongoing	<p><i>Q1 All pathcare routes on Visitmonmouthshire website checked and re waymarked. Stay local message during</i></p>	Existing budgets

<p>confidence in wider use.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working with The Narth Volunteer Group, Penallt Volunteer Group and volunteers in Llanfair Kilgeddin to develop local circular routes 2. Development of a Geology circular walk, Cefn Ila, Usk 3. Living Levels three new circular routes. 4. Magor s106 Complete re-opening and promotion 	<p>The Narth, Penallt Volunteer Groups and Mon Life CA team</p> <p>RA Cymru, Llanbadoc CC, MonLife CA , WT, Gwent WT,</p> <p>MonLife, RSPB, Newport CC,</p> <p>MonLife</p>	<p>May 2020 – May 2022</p> <p>April 2021 Q2 Purchase Furniture to improve route for all Q4 Opening event and promotion</p> <p>April 2020 – March 2021</p> <p>Deferred to 2021/22</p>	<p><i>lockdown meant unable to promote routes until public movement allowed. Q3 improved media presence ongoing</i></p> <p><i>Q1 Penallt Volunteer Group prioritising routes for promotion and works. Applying for grant funding Q2 Identified and applied for new WG funding for project Q3/4 purchased signs, stiles, gates, bridges for installation in summer 2021</i></p> <p><i>Q1 Geology route on hold due to Covid. Q2 Route inspected and sites where stiles could be removed in favour of gates identified Q4 Gates Received for installation in summer 2021</i></p> <p><i>All materials purchased last year, new gates installed and waiting installation of way markers delayed due to Covid</i></p> <p>Q1 No work</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. £19,293.10 WG Improvement Access Grant (includes gates for geology walk in Usk) 2. WG Access Grant £3,318 RA Cymru funding leaflet. 3. Living Levels £? 4. £4608 section 106 funding
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	of 8 circular routes around Magor & Undy (2 of which are routes above)	Magor & Undy CC		Q2 deferred to 2021/22	deferred to 2021
WM1 1.10 maintain Offa's Dyke Path National Trail and Wales Coast Path to agreed quality standards WM1 1.10 maintain Offa's Dyke Path National Trail and Wales Coast Path to agreed quality standards	Sudbrook Fort Wales Coast Path - secure route and improve route over Hill Fort by building floating steps and carrying out surface/signage improvements	MonLife and Cadw	April 2020 – February 2021 Moved to 2021/22	Site has been cleared and materials bought for physical works to start in April/May (subject to weather) <i>Q1. On hold due to COVID</i> <i>Q4 Agreed approach to works with Redrow & Cadw which would include works on Church also and interpretation. New bid submitted to Wales Coast Path and agreed for 2021/22</i>	
WM1 1.10 maintain Wales Coast Path to agreed quality standards	Wales Coast Path General Maintenance ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 cuts of vegetation • 2 bridges at St Pierre Golf Club and Pill Cottage to be installed Autumn 2020 • Checking and maintenance of gates/signage 	Natural Resources Wales, Welsh Government, MonLife Countryside Access	1 st April 2020 - 31 May 2021	<i>Q1 Grant received June 2020, vegetation clearance contract in place</i> <i>Q2 First cutting</i> <i>Q3 Second cutting and 2 bridges installed. Change in works programme and Warrenslade Footpath link surfaced.</i> <i>Diversion identified Mathern to St Pierre but</i>	Note total spend £16,070.07 £15,664 NRW Grant of which 75% is funded and 25% match funded by MonLife.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversion to improve path at Mathern/St Pierre to resolve ongoing surface problems. 			<p>unable to process due to covid. Re-scheduled to 2021/22</p> <p>Q4 Ongoing general maintenance and signage improvements. Final claim made in full 9 April 2021</p>	
<p>WM1 1.10 maintain Offa's Dyke Path National Trail to agreed quality standards</p>	<p>Offa's Dyke Maintenance Programme: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two cuts of vegetation & general maintenance • Replace gate at Llantillio Crossenny • 1 replacement directional finger post • 1 kit bridge • Winter route signage at Hendre/Abbey Bridge 	NRW & MonLife	Ongoing April 2020 – March 2021	<p><i>Q1 Bid made</i></p> <p><i>Q2 1st vegetation cut to take place July 2020</i></p> <p>Q3 Second vegetation cut took place. New winter route signage installed at Abbey Bridge</p> <p>Q3/q4 7 Fingerpost replacements installed and 6 Marlow Gates in addition to the gate at Lantillio Crossenny. 3 timber ditch crossings purchased</p> <p>Consideration of ODPNT Birthday celebrations for next year and link to English Coast Path</p>	<p>£8000 NRW Grant of which 75% is funded and 25% match funded by MCC</p>
<p>WM1. 1.11 Maintain regionally promoted routes to a high standard seeking stronger invigorated regional partnerships</p>	<p>Wye Valley Walk bank/erosion project in Monmouth</p> <p>Maintain Wye Valley Walk Partnership (new website,</p>	Wye Valley AONB Project Officer, MonLife CA	Sustainable landscapes	<p><i>Q1 New project officer, considering design for improvements to protect river bank and WWV at Monmouth. Also seeking</i></p>	<p>AONB reserves £35K</p>

along whole lengths to ensure maximum public benefits	setting up of Friends Group etc.)			<i>grant for improvements to walk and Cleddon Shoots.</i>	
WM1 1.12 Maintain countryside sites and prepare management plans for each site.	Produce Site Management Plans.	MonLife GI & CA	ENRaW funding 19/20 completed 20/21 (tbc) 21/22 (tbc) 22/23 (tbc)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castle Meadows - completed plan (review 22) • Caldicot Castle - completed plan (review 22) • Goytre Hall – completed/under review • Black Rock – completed/under review • Abergavenny Castle completed/under review GF • Warren Slade - - Completed under review • Old Station – Completed/under review GF– • Rogiet Country Park – proposed 	<i>Grant Funding ENRaW - 2022</i> <i>ENRAW 2022</i> <i>ENRAW 2021</i> <i>ENRAW 2020</i> <i>ENRAW 2021</i> <i>ENRAW 2020</i> <i>ENRAW 2020</i> <i>ENRAW 2020</i> <i>ENRAW 2020</i> <i>Flood Grants</i>
	Improve surfacing/access at Castle Meadows	MonLife Countryside Access	2020- ongoing	<p>Flooding in February 2020 and 2021 both resulted in paths being repaired from WG Flood grant</p> <p>Active Travel Grant for improvements from new</p>	<i>Active Travel funding 2020/21 £50,000</i>

	<p>Consider new site management regimes in light of Covid</p>	<p>MonLife</p>	<p>March 2020 ongoing</p>	<p>proposed bridge to railway station received funding from WG to start WELTAG 1 assessments. Consultations took place Feb/March 2021. Design and some works to take place 2021/22</p> <p>Environmental Growth Grant provided trees. Tenancy agreement started with farmer and fishing agreement sorted.</p> <p>Q1 New Site Signage Installed throughout sites. Carparks temporarily closed.</p> <p>Q3 Gates installed at carparks for Llanfoist, castle Meadows and Lower wireworks.</p> <p>Q4 New signage at entrance to all sites. Additional staff hours from April 2021 to patrol and clear litter on sites to September 2021 Increased information re responsible behaviour. Increased emptying of bins. Ongoing as circumstances change</p>	
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<p>the public particularly dog ownership and England/Wales /Dog Walking Code.</p>	<p>and websites and where other opportunities arise</p> <p>Promoting the MonLife “Caring for the countryside” workshop to local schools.</p>			<p><i>& countryside access recovery plan from Covid, which includes messages about responsible behaviour. Agreed across MonLife for publication from June 2020.</i></p> <p><i>Produced new dog poster re chasing stock</i></p> <p><i>Q3 updated website.</i></p> <p><i>Campaign to respect and protect landscapes supported.</i></p> <p><i>Supported police report re dogs worrying and causing death to sheep on social media</i></p> <p><i>Q4 commitment to countryside promoted.</i></p> <p><i>Also Visitmonmouthshire carried out responsible messaging.</i></p>	
<p>WM3 3.1 “Provide advice and guidance to landowners regarding PROW responsibilities.”</p>	<p>Enforcement/Maintenance Advice & guidance to Landowners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update and promote Countryside Access Policy, Protocol and Operational Management. <p>Timescale by July 2020</p>		<p>July 2020</p>	<p>Q1 <i>Countryside Access Policy, Protocol and Operational Management Guide endorsed by Cabinet.</i></p> <p>Q2 ongoing updating website on covid</p>	<p><i>Existing resources</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve information available on website. • Staff to give advice on site 		ongoing	<p>restrictions/closures and responsible behaviours.</p> <p>Ongoing advice on site, phone and email.</p> <p>Cropping leaflet drafted</p>	
WM4 4.0 Continue to uphold Least Restrictive Access Policy and seek removal of other barriers to use such as steps and narrow gates.	<p>Least Restrictive Access</p> <p>1. Identifying opportunities to improve access and give advice to volunteer groups/ community and others re LRA where required.</p>		Ongoing	<p><i>Q1 Gates purchased in 2019 by Llanvapley volunteers to replace 30 stiles with gates. Installation on hold due to Covid</i></p> <p><i>Opportunity to improve access in Penallt identified and being explored.</i></p> <p>Gates purchased to replace gates Llanbadoc Geology Walk.</p>	<p>Funding obtained by CPRW bid to solar farm community fund</p> <p>WG Access Improvement Grant £5,200</p>
WM4 4.2 Provide more, short, circular promoted routes for health, leisure and tourism	See also WM1 1.6 & CI1 18.1 Circular route development	MonLife CA, Penallt Volunteer Group, Ramblers Cymru, MonLife CA & GI, Llanbadoc CC, Living Levels		<p><i>Q1. Funding identified and applied for route development in Penallt, Geology Walk in Llanbadoc, route in Llansoy and 8 routes in Magor & Undy.</i></p> <p><i>Q3 Materials purchased and waiting installation and promotion summer 2021</i></p>	Access Grant & section 106 funding

<p>WM5 5.0 Work with planners/developers to create planned strategic green infrastructure which incorporates the PROW network to promote and encourage sustainable active travel and provide opportunities for recreation and leisure.</p>	<p>Advice to planners / developers to create strategic green infrastructure access improvements</p>	<p>Mon Life GI</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><i>Suggestions totalling £50k to MCC planners in Q1 in response to request for ideas for a potential new S106 for new proposed development in Magor. See also GI management plans</i></p> <p>123 planning applications received advise re rights of way in 2020-21</p>	<p>Existing resources</p>
<p>WM 6.3 Identify and support measures that will reduce traffic speed and volume where this will preserve or improve network connectivity for non-motorised users.</p>	<p>Active Travel route and highway improvements</p>	<p>Highways, NT, Cadw, BBNP,</p>	<p>May onwards</p>	<p><i>Q1 Covid has seen many places with reduced traffic and an increase in active travel/recreation. MCC consulting on what measures could be put in place as lockdown reduces to keep active travel routes and people safe. Identification of improvements within towns and villages and discussion about potential long term improvements to reduce speeds and traffic on going.</i></p>	

Active Healthy Lifestyles: To improve the accessibility of the network/countryside sites and to make it easier for people to incorporate walking, riding and cycling into their everyday lives. To support the rights of way network for purposeful journeys.

Objectives: - Increase Health and Well Being Benefits; Active Travel; Modal shift to walking & cycling; Tackling deprivation and disadvantage

Objective and CAIP reference	Description of activity	Lead Inc. delivery partners	Timescale	Status Q1 1st April to June 30th Q2 1ST July to 30 September Q3 1st October to 31 December Q4 January – 31 st March	Finance
AHL1 7.0 Target priority areas and deliver improvements to the network and sites addressing health inequalities through increasing active travel and recreational activity. Also 8.4 Remove barriers to active travel and recreation and promote routes and opportunities	Active Travel Monmouth Improve and extend surfacing from Monmouth, Rowing Club to Dixton Church. New signage for blind and others and also improved boardwalks making route more accessible to all and providing active travel link to church and school.	MonLife	2020/23	<p><i>Q1 Active Travel Bid made. Comments made on Cycling Strategy and new INMS maps.</i></p> <p><i>Q3 December 2021 Contractor appointed and Weltag 1 report produced.</i></p> <p><i>Q4 March 2021 Bid submitted to WG waiting for results to progress to next stage</i></p>	Active Travel bid made and confirmed £30,000

As above AHL1 7.0 Also 8.4	Active Travel Castle Meadows, Abergavenny upgrade cycle paths on Castle Meadows site with a surface to resist flooding and improve active travel opportunities	MonLife Countryside Access	2020/22	<i>Q1 Active Travel bid made Q3 Active travel Grant received. Consultant working on Weltag reports. Q4 Consultations and bid made to WG for further funding</i>	Active Travel £50,000
AHL1 7.0 Target priority areas and deliver improvements to the network and sites addressing health inequalities through increasing active travel and recreational activity.	Usk Railway Path Creation of cycle way	MCC Highways	2020/21	<i>Q1 Lead being taken over by the Highways Projects team as an 20/21 Active Travel bid</i>	Funding not confirmed (20/21 AT bid)
AHL1. 7.2 Support volunteering on sites and rights of way and seek opportunities for specific groups to also enhance access on permissive paths on NRW land.	Penallt Volunteer Group Promotion of new circular route (Buzzard). Negotiation/consultation with NRW by MonLife CAT team re permissive route.	The North Volunteer Group, Mon Life Countryside Access and NRW	June 2020 - 2021	<i>Q1 Volunteering stopped due to Covid Q2 July - consultation to take place with NRW re new permissive route at Troy Park Wood Q3 Initial meeting with NRW re volunteers working on their sites. Q4 covid stopped project again</i>	Existing Resources
AHL1 7.3 Work with partners to support implementation of	Dementia Walks Follow on from pilot project in 2019/20. Dementia training for	Karin/Ruth/Mark	April 2020- 2022	On hold because of Covid but Rogiet paths improved in anticipation of the park	

health improvement initiatives, such as Fit4Life Groups, Walking for Health, cycling and walking initiatives and GP referral.	staff and volunteers. Identification of improvements on countryside sites and linking PROW that would help support Dementia Walks programme. Promotion through Health Board and GP surgeries.			then being a site which could be used for dementia walks in future.	
AHL 1 7.9 In conjunction with partners look at installing & maintaining picnic benches/seats to enable more use of sites/PROW for those with disability or health issues.	Consideration of existing and new furniture requirements on sites to take place in conjunction with consultation on site management plans, active travel projects and Dementia Project	Local Health Groups/ Disabled Ramblers, Local Health Board, Friends of Groups, Volunteer Groups, U3A Groups, Monmouthshire LAF	April 2020 – March 2021	On hold due to Covid but benches reinstated at Castle Meadows after flooding. New bench at Black Rock funded with donation	Existing resources
AHL2 8.4 Support and Influence the authorities and other strategies and policies to ensure that active travel is firmly integrated into work programmes.	Comment on draft plans, policies and strategies regarding active travel	MonLife	Ongoing	<i>Q1 Active Travel Bids made. Assistance with Active Travel Map consultation and input Q3 Digital Cwtch internally advertising our CAIP and connection to other policies. Comments made on draft Heritage Plan</i>	Existing resources

				Comments made on WG Legislative changes. Comments made on Agricultural Bill	
<p>Knowing What's Out There: To achieve an up-to-date and accessible Definitive Map and Statement and to promote countryside sites and PROW network.</p> <p>Objectives; Maintain and make more accessible records; Provide advice on PROW network & countryside sites; Negotiate Improvements; More accessible information/increasing knowledge and confidence; Promotion of Wales Coast Path, Offa's Dyke National Trail & promoted routes; Sustainable tourism; Disability promotion improvements</p>					
Objective and CAIP Reference	Description of activity	Lead Inc. delivery partners	Timescale	Status	Finance
				Q1 1st April to June 30th Q2 1ST July to 30 September Q3 1st October to 31 December Q4 January - April	
KWOT 11.2 Maintain pubic registers on line and add list of all section 147 authorisations and legal orders	<p>List of section 147 authorisations being produced</p> <p>List of Legal Orders (Diversions/Creations) being created for inclusion on website.</p> <p>List of temporary closures updated</p>	MonLife Countryside Access	Q3 October 2020	Q1 S147 and Legal orders register prepared needs checking and updates Temporary closures on line here	Existing resources
KWOT 11.3 Continue to process claims according to prioritisation and	Process Modification Applications	MonLife Countryside access, Legal Services,	Ongoing (Note unable to make orders, or go to	<i>Q1 1 new assessed claim at Lady Hill, Usk. Advice ongoing as required to landowners/public etc.</i>	Existing resources

<p>seek additional resources to clear backlog of applications.</p>	<p><i>As of 1st April 2020 there are 43 DMMO applications on the WCA 1981 s.53B Register</i></p>	<p>Highways, Planning Inspectorate</p>	<p>committee during Covid lockdown)</p>	<p><i>Priority cases 1, 2 (routes A and B), 5 & 6 are at committee stage. Delay due to Covid. Waiting for committee to be working again.</i></p> <p><i>Priority 3 Price's Bridge 01 13Mod with legal 14th Jan 2020, to be sent to PINS for Public Inquiry</i></p> <p><i>Gt Panta, Devauden. Public Inquiry postponed and now being dealt with by written representation by Planning Inspectorate who advised on 17/06/2020 that modification order should be re-consulted upon as part footpath and part restricted byway. Order to be re-advertised Q3 Mod register updated. 1 objection withdrawn and waiting for order to be made. Various reports prepared for enforcement etc. q4 increase in</i></p>	
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				<i>inquiries due to publicity on Slow Ways.</i>	
KWOT2 12.1 Liaise with Planning and Development management to provide advice on Local Development Plan and planning applications.	Advice re policies for Local Development Plan ongoing Ongoing advice re planning applications	MonLife Countryside Access	Ongoing	LDP consultation postponed due to Covid planning applications made comment on: _Q1 23 Q2 43 Q3 28 Q4 29 Total in year 123	
KWOT2 Respond to and give advice to Land Charge searches.	Responding to land charge searches	MonLife Countryside Access	ongoing	Q1 108 searches Q2 221 searches Q3 374 searches Q4 304 searches Total in year 1007	
KWOT2 Advise on and where appropriate progress orders to amend the public right of way network in the interests of the public and or landowner.	Processing applications to create, move, or close public paths.	MonLife Countryside Access	ongoing	Q1 11 applications in progress, 4 pre order consultations, 1 certification and 1 new application received. Q2 & Q3 19 applications in progress, 5 consultations. Q4 20 applications in progress. 4 pre order consultations, 6 waiting for order to be made, 1 waiting for committee, 1 waiting confirmation, 5 requiring certification & 1 new application	Existing resources and agreements with applicants to pay costs

KWOT2 12.4 Provide advice and where appropriate progress orders for temporary closures but with conditions as per policy.	Process and make temporary closure notices as required	MonLife Countryside Access	ongoing	<i>Q1 Flooding in February resulted in 4 temp closure notices. Other temporary closure orders made as per register.</i>	
KWOT2 12.5 Consider developing policy for requests to plant trees, install seats/plaques etc. in country parks/sites	Develop policy for sites regarding bereavement requests/donations for trees etc.	MonLife	Q4	New	
KWOT3 13.1 Work with NRW to review access on their sites, reduce modification claims and produce management plans that can help inform future tree clearance programmes, reducing access closures and assisting with aims in 13.0	Work with NRW reviewing other ways of dealing with claims on NRW land and seek resources to produce management plans.	NRW, MonLife	ongoing	No progress due to covid and increased demands on staff time elsewhere	
KWOT4 14.4 Work with NRW & other woodland partners to provide better information about	Woodland Access Information Provide links to NRW's sites on MonLife's webpages and Visit Monmouthshire	NRW, MonLife Destination Management and Countryside Access	October 2020	Not yet started due to Covid Deferred to 2021/22	

what access is available in woodlands					
KWOT4 14.5 Encourage NRW TO provide and share an easily accessible map showing the extent of Welsh Government woodland estate that is subject to permissive access by horse riders.	Bridleway Access Information in Woodlands Establish where the public can ride a horse in NRW woodlands within Monmouthshire and make information accessible	NRW, MonLife Destination Management and Countryside Access	December 2020	Information partly acquired deferred until 2021/22 and review of website	
KWOT5 15.1 Maintain primary promoted routes to a high standard to safeguard economic benefits and tourism product	Ongoing maintenance programmes for regional routes Wye Valley Walk / Overlooking the Wye Walks	MonLife Countryside Access AONB		<i>Q1 Cutting programme in place for all regional routes .</i> <i>Input into delivery of wye valley walk website revamp, waymarking, new guide and republishing OTW walks – include resolving Llandogo route.</i>	AONB funded 19/20
KWOT5 16.0 provide information to help support community led tourism	Living Levels (Destination marketing/signage, levels festival) Information Board		2020/21 Q2	Q1 No work Q3 Installation of The Living Levels sculpture trail Q4 Installation of a reproduced route	Living Levels RCDF £185

				information board at Magor Town square	
KWOT 16.2 Refresh and Improve signage to and in countryside sites	Review of signage across MonLife sites	MonLife Countryside Access		Q1 New entrance signage for Covid June 2020 Q4 New adaptable entrance signage produced and installed for all sites	
KWOT6. 16.3 More guided walks and events	Events/Guided Walks	MonLife Countryside Access	2 guided walks planned each month in 2020/21	On hold due to Covid	

Community Involvement: To support and enable volunteer groups to be actively involved with countryside projects, contributing to well-being and creating sustainable and resilient communities.

Objectives:- Volunteer Involvement; Assisting volunteers; New volunteer programmes to improve health and well-being, improve environment/biodiversity and get young people volunteering

Objective and CAIP Reference	Description of activity	Lead Inc. delivery partners	Timescale	Status	Finance
				Q1 1 st April to June 30 th Q2 1 st July to 30 September Q3 1 st October to 31 December Q4 January - April	
CI1 18.1 Support existing groups and the development of new community groups to improve and maintain their	Supporting Volunteers, Friends Groups Local Ways Groups & Community Groups.	MonLife Countryside Access Ramblers Cymru Volunteer Groups	Ongoing	Ongoing advice to various groups and some potential new recruits found. (11 groups and 72 direct volunteers) Potentially 3 new groups. Training on	

<p>local rights of way and countryside sites</p>		<p><i>Community and Town Councils</i></p>		<p>Safeguarding, first aid, manual handling, guided walk leaders, brush cutter, pathcare for individuals and groups, supervisor training for group leaders as required. This was mainly held on line due to covid. Saturday tasks, rights of way maintenance groups were unable to take place at all in 2020. Pathcare, computer mapping, view ranger project and some limited group work took place in between lock downs as rules allowed. In addition the following took place:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MonLife Awards. • Network meetings for path groups, • Guided walk leaders meeting. • MonLife Volunteer Newsletter. • MonLife Quiz night. <p>Total volunteer hours 1116 compared to 3293.75 in previous year</p>	
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<p>CI1 18.1 Support existing groups and the development of new community groups to improve and maintain their local rights of way and countryside sites</p>	<p>Supporting Monmouthshire Local Access Forum</p>	<p>MonLife, NRW, WG</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p><i>Q1 New LAF awaiting first meeting, election of chairman and to finalise 19/20 report. On hold all meetings until change of legislation made to allow alternative meeting arrangements during Covid. 1 update provided to LAF Members. Q4 First LAF Meeting held on Teams 24 November 2020 and second 9 March 2021</i></p>	
<p>CI1 18.2 Develop guidance, training and promotional material to help educate and attract volunteers</p>	<p>Development and updating of information to help countryside access volunteers</p>	<p>MonLife Countryside Access</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p><i>Q1 Established MonLife volunteer webpage. New check lists for Walk Leaders and Pathcare Volunteers On line training courses obtained</i></p>	
<p>CI2 19.0 Improve Information Technology and mapping interface to be more useful for volunteer projects</p>	<p>Improving CAMS web</p>	<p>MonLife Countryside Access Exegesis SRS Newport Information Hub</p>	<p>January 2021</p>	<p><i>Q1 Contract in place to update website to meet security, accessibility and welsh language standards. Add additional functionality to include support volunteers, additional workflows for</i></p>	

				<i>officers, e.g. bridge assessments and improve speed and base mapping provision. Q2 /q3 on hold waiting for server updates. Q4 CAMS upgrades completed and being tested before promoting</i>	
C12 19.1 Develop and publish guidance on responsibilities for groups and insurance requirements	Producing guidance for volunteer groups	MonLife Countryside Access	April 2020 – December 2021	Q1 <i>Completed guidance for using power tools.</i> Q4 Produced groups agreement and passed to Insurance to check	
C12 19.2 Identify method of collating and giving information on grants to community and other groups	Compile method of collating and giving information on grants to community and other groups	MonLife	Q3-4	Deferred to 2021/22 – possibility of new corporate groups website which could accommodate this	
A Prosperous Wales: To maximise the economic benefits of countryside access					
Objectives: To maximise economic benefits, Improve product and grow new markets					
Objective and CAIP Reference	Description of activity	Lead Inc. delivery partners	Timescale	Status Q1 1 st April to June 30th Q2 1 st July to 30 September Q3 1 st October to 31 December	Finance

				Q4 January - April	
FW1 21.3 Continue to work in partnership with other coastal authorities, NRW, WG and others to secure improvements to WCP and maintain to quality standard	Maintain Regional Coast Path Management Meetings	NRW, WG, CADW, MonLife	ongoing	Regional Meeting 01/06/2020 & 17 February 2021 National Meeting 3 rd February 2021	
<p>Future Focused: Working for a resilient and future focused service in partnership with others, to provide wider benefits to residents and visitors in Monmouthshire.</p> <p>Objectives:- Increase awareness of the CAIP, Links to other strategies and plans; To deliver objectives in the plan; Partnership working; Environmental Impact & Mitigation Measures; Resourcing; Improved customer service; Legislative changes & operational management</p>					
Objective and CAIP Reference	Description of activity	Lead Inc. delivery partners	Timescale	Status Q1 1 st April to June 30th Q2 1 st July to 30 September Q3 1 st October to 31 December Q4 January - April	Finance
FF1 22.0 Raise awareness pf the ROWIP to customers, non- users of the network and stakeholders.	Promotion of CAIP	MonLife, WG & NRW, Monmouthshire LAF	ongoing	<i>Q1 Promotion of final CAIP. Delayed due to covid</i> <i>Q2 Update website, local press social media campaign.</i> <i>300+ Emails to stakeholders.</i>	Existing resources

<p>23.0 Strengthen partnership working with key Stakeholders to make better sense of the network and provide well-maintained safe attractive environments.</p>	<p>Working with Highways and other partners in developing active travel routes</p> <p>Production of information to community councils</p>	<p>MonLife and all key stakeholders</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p><i>Q2 Working with Highways and National Trust in developing active travel routes around important sites like the Sugar Loaf in Abergavenny.</i></p> <p><i>Q2 Regular meetings with BBNP Partnership covid group</i></p> <p><i>Q4 meetings with cadw</i></p>	<p>Existing resources</p>
<p>FF4 24.2 Identify flood risk areas and likely impact on PROW. Put in place mitigation measures. Seek alternative routes for those parts of Offa's Dyke Path National Trail and regional routes prone to flooding.</p>	<p>Flooding Impact</p> <p>Identify impact of flooding on prows .</p>		<p>ongoing</p>	<p><i>Q1 Assessments from Feb to end April 2020. Flood maps overlaid with CAMS data to consider impacts and opportunities</i></p> <p><i>Flood assessment data provided to WG</i></p>	<p>Waiting for confirmation on flood repair grant from WG</p>
<p>FF5 25.0 Resourcing – Ensure adequate resources for funding of CAIP by securing additional resources from internal and external sources that help achieve the objectives within this plan.</p>	<p>Grant application and resources</p>	<p>MonLife Countryside Access and GI</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><i>Applied for following grants and received them this year:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Active Travel Bids £80k</i> <i>• £300,000+ Flooding assessment and evidence passed to WG £62 spent</i> <i>• Offa's Dyke Path National Trail</i> <i>• Wales Coast Path.</i> <i>• GI funding for Warren Slade woodland</i> 	

				<i>management and Clydach Ironworks</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>New WG Access Improvement Grant for £83k</i> • <i>2 donations</i> • <i>WG Covid Grant £15k</i> • <i>Magor walking routes section 106 funding £4,608</i> • <i>Warrenslade woodland management section 106 funds £9,569</i> • <i>21,500 hardship fund ENRaW grant funding in conjunction with Greater Gwent CCs. Waiting to hear if successful.</i> 	
FF5 25.3 Seek to maintain and improve the delivery of the countryside access service through charging for activity where admissible	Review of existing charges and where new income could be made			<i>Q1 Identification of need to raise additional £10k+ revenue</i> <i>Staff costs for flooding works and through grants like WCP were claimed</i>	
FF5 26.2 Provide updates about specific improvements to user groups	Identify needs for updates Provide register of legal orders on-line Build in method for grant work of reporting progress to user groups	MonLife and stakeholders	ongoing	<i>Q1 Registers see KWOT 11.3 Knowing what's out there</i> <i>Q2 Delivery Plan available on line</i>	

Ff6 26.0 Provide the customer with a range of methods of reporting an issue	Improve Websites re how to report an issue , consider adding information on signs like finger posts. Social media and press campaign. Email update to volunteers and user groups.	MonLife Countryside Access	Autumn/Winter 2020	<i>Q2 Update MonLife Website</i>	
FF7 27.1 Review operational policies and priorities in light of the CAIP implementation	Ongoing review of operational policies	MonLife Countryside Access	Ongoing (Expected in Q2 Review of modification order policy and for use of drones on countryside access sites. Q3 Review of funding and policy for naming row)	Q1 Operational management guide produced, Review of Fishing Agreement on Castle Meadows completed and new policy in place for benches Covid risk assessments and operational priorities in light of different restrictions ongoing.	
FF27.2 Periodically review operational policies in response to legislative change.	Create Risk Assessment approach, and operational procedures for new Covid Regulation Closures		ongoing	<i>Q1 Risk Assessment Matrix approach, design for orders etc. all complete and being actioned. Web site updated with info for Covid. Ongoing review and updates</i>	

	Consultee on Welsh Government proposals for legislative change			<i>Comments made on new legislative options for communicating access rights, CRoW Access Changes and PROW Flexibility.</i>	
FF7 27.3 Provide PROW officers and volunteers with necessary training to ensure effective delivery of PROW operation.	Training for effective delivery (Dementia Training, CAT scanners, QTRA training, manual handling, CAMS upgrade, Least Restrictive Access)		ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff all up-to-date with relevant training • Training supplied on-line where possible to volunteers for safeguarding, manual handling etc. 	

Key Performance Indicators

Indicator	Actual 2018/19	Target 2019/20	Actual 2019/20	Target 2020/21	Actual 2020/21 Q1	Actual 2020/21 Q2	Actual 2020/21 Q3	Actual 2020/21 Q4	Comments
Countryside Access Volunteer hours (direct volunteers)	3089.5 +1326 recorded indirect (1)	3,000	3294 Direct 2265.5 Indirect 1028.5	2,000	Direct 324.5 Indirect 6	Direct 299.5 Indirect 127	Direct 136.5 Indirect 184	Direct 25 Indirect 13.5	Note 1: partial recording only. All volunteering stopped due to covid so expect results to be lower this year
Countryside Access Indirect volunteering groups supported)	13	15	11	12	11	5	5	6	

Indicator	Actual 2018/19	Target 2019/20	Actual 2019/20	Target 2020/2 1	Actual 2020/21 Q1	Actual 2020/21 Q2	Actual 2020/21 Q3	Actual 2020/21 Q4	Comments
Resolved ROW enforcement issues in year	1648		1750		1754	1775	1791	1797	
Unresolved ROW enforcement issues	1339		1365		1422	1441	1474	1485	
Percentage of ROW enforcements issues resolved (cumulative)	55.17	56%	56.18%	50%	55.23%	55.19%	54.85%	54.75%	Pl's% for 2020/21 lower due to covid restrictions
Resolved ROW maintenance issues in year	6594		6971		6999	7042	7134	7160	
Unresolved ROW maintenance issues	3370		3592		3629	3690	3695	3745	
Percentage of ROW maintenance issues resolved (cumulative)	66.18	65%	65.99%	55%	65.85%	65.62%	65.88%	65.66%	Pl's% for 2020/21 expected to be lower due to covid restrictions but have been maintained despite increase in issues/usage
"Green Flag Award" status awarded / maintained	3	3	3	3			3		Annual assessment of selected sites through annual applications (currently 3)