

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNTRYSIDE AND RIGHTS OF WAY ACT 2000
LOCAL ACCESS FORUM**

GUIDANCE FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Background

The County Borough Council is currently in the process of re-establishing a statutory Local Access Forum (LAF), as required by the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW Act).

The fourth term of the statutory LAF, which was appointed in May 2013, has been disbanded following the prescribed three-year period of operation. The Council is now required to appoint a 'new' set of members.

The function of the Forum is to advise the Council, the Countryside Council for Wales and other bodies exercising functions under Part I of the CROW Act, as to the improvement of public access to land in the Council's area for the purposes of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the area and as to other matters as may be prescribed. These bodies must, by law, have regard to relevant advice given by the Forum.

Regulations require the Forum to meet at least twice a year. However, it is anticipated that meetings will generally take place more frequently at a time and place agreed by the Forum members.

Areas of Work

The LAF will advise upon aspects of public access in the Council's area, including public rights of way and the new right of access to open country and registered common land. The Forum will consider all forms of access, including horse riding, cycling and off road driving, and not just access on foot. The exact nature of this work will be decided upon by the LAF itself, in agreement with the Council.

Other Information

Members of the LAF will need to be committed to making a positive contribution to the success of the Forum, and be willing to play a full part in all aspects of the work. Experience of a wide range of access issues and interests in the area is being sought. The positions are unpaid but Forum members will be able to claim reasonable expenses.

It is anticipated that the first meeting of the LAF will be held in December 2016.

If you wish to be considered for membership please complete the enclosed application form and return by the 31/10/2016 to:

Jason Bragg
Countryside & Rights of Way Officer
Countryside Section
Rhondda-Cynon-Taff C.B.C.
Sardis House
Sardis Road
Pontypridd,
CF37 1DU

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**COUNTRYSIDE AND RIGHTS OF WAY ACT 2000
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF LOCAL ACCESS FORUM**

Name:

Address:

Home telephone number:

Daytime telephone number:

Occupation:

How did you learn of the Local Access Forum?

Please state why you feel you would make a good member of the Local Access Forum.

Continue on a plain sheet of paper if necessary.

I declare that the information I have given is to the best of my knowledge and belief true and complete.

Signed:

Date:

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

In order to ensure that our equal opportunity policy is effective, we would be grateful if you would complete the details below. This form will be separated from the application form and will not be used in the selection process.

Gender: Male / Female

Age:

Ethnic Origin

Please tick:

White
Black Caribbean
Black African
Indian
Pakistani
Bangladeshi
Chinese
Other – please describe

Disability Survey

Are you disabled? If 'yes' please describe the nature of your disability.

Can you speak Welsh?

Please tick:

Fluent

Working Knowledge

Learner - Beginner

Learner - Intermediate

Learner - Advanced

No

Please return to: **Jason Bragg, Countryside & Rights of Way Officer**
Countryside Section, Rhondda-Cynon-Taff C.B.C., Sardis House
Sardis Road, Pontypridd, CF37 1DU.