Dartmoor National Park Authority A38 Corridor Access Review

The Dartmoor National Park Auuthority has identified the A38 corridor of the National Park as an Area of Opportunity within the National Parks Partnership Plan Recreation Strategy. Areas of opportunity have been identified as those that offer scope for increased use if managed sustainably with improved recreation infrastructure.

The Recreation Strategy has also identified town hubs. The town hubs along the A38 corridor are Ivybridge, South Brent, Buckfastleigh, Ashburton and Bovey Tracey. It is envisaged these will act as destinations for visitors to support the local economy and promote sustainable modes of onwards travel.

Dartmoor National Park Authority would like to identify opportunities to improve the access provision along the A38 corridor to better connect settlements with access land and green space and create better connections between settlements for the benefit of local communities and visitors. Whilst this is a DNPA project, comments can be made for routes on either side of the National Park boundary.

A mapping tool is being developed which will allow suggestions to be inputted. Such improvements might include:

- A new suggested route – e.g. a missing link, where if a new route was created it would significantly improve access to a green space, help create a circular route or connect settlements.
- Suggestions for improvements e.g. where upgrading a footpath to a bridleway would create improved access or where surface improvements or changes to path furniture would make a route more usable.

The Dartmoor National Park Authority will be engaging with local communities on this project. It is likely a priority action plan will be created based on suitability, sustainability and benefit of the suggestions. Improvements are likely to be dependent on external funding to proceed.

The Devon Countryside Access Forum is recommended to consider how it could respond to this review. The deadline date for this initial exercise is 31 October.