

Devon Countryside Access Forum Response to Exeter Plan

Submitted 12.01.24

Exeter Plan



Hilary Winter

To Planning.Policy@exeter.gov.uk

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 This message was sent with High importance.



DCAF response Exeter Local Plan 6.12.22.pdf
.pdf File

Dear Sir/Madam

Exeter Plan consultation

Apologies for emailing but the online portal and opportunity to upload documents was insufficient.

I am re-attaching the Devon Countryside Access Forum's response to the earlier consultation exercise. The Forum is pleased to note that some of its advice and recommendations have been incorporated in the full draft consultation.

Two issues in the initial Forum response do not appear to have been addressed. The first relates to space to let dogs exercise off-lead. Secondly, the DCAF raised points about disability access and transportation of different types of cycles and mobility scooters on public transport. Although there are useful references to accessibility within new developments and a requirement for storage facilities for cycles etc., the question of disability access across the City and transportation of cycles etc. is not included.

For information, a comment has been added to the online survey website for CC8. (Climate Change – Flood Risk) which states:

Without well-designed SuD schemes, paths, public rights of way and cycle routes are more likely to be impacted by climate change and flooding. Increased levels of maintenance are likely to be required. If routes are not resilient, people may use these less which would be detrimental to both health and wellbeing and sustainable transport aspirations. The Council is advised to adopt the Schedule 3 SuDs legislation to assist in mitigation.

I should be grateful if you could confirm that the comments above will be considered as the full Plan is finalised.

The Devon Countryside Access Forum (DCAF) is a local access forum under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW Act). Its statutory remit is to give independent advice “as to the improvement of public access to land in the area for the purposes of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the area...” Section 94(4) of the Act specifies bodies to whom the Forum has a statutory function to give advice, and this includes the City Council.

The DCAF currently has seventeen members, appointed by Devon County Council, who represent the interests of landowners/managers, access users and other relevant areas of expertise such as conservation and tourism.

Regards

Hilary

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