

Broads Local Access Forum

20 November 2024

Agenda item number 5

IAS Progress monitoring

Report by Waterways and Recreation Officer

Summary

Progress update on the Integrated Access Strategy objectives and associated projects.

Recommendation

Advise on any projects which could help with meeting the objectives of the Integrated Access Strategy.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The aim of the Integrated Access Strategy (IAS) is to address the issues of maintaining and improving access routes, including over land and between land and water, and their connections to key visitor facilities and sustainable transport links. Part of the strategy was a 3-year plan relating to the land based, land to water, and mooring and de-masting objectives. The IAS was adopted in April 2024, this is a progress report from the first 6 months. [Integrated Access Strategy 2023](#)

2. Progress Matrix

- 2.1. The Appendices 1-3 show the objectives and the Year 1 tasks from the IAS and the progress made against each objective. The progress has been ranked with a traffic light system. Green is on target; Amber is progressing but more to be done; Red is behind target.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1. Over the next six months there needs to be more focus on Mooring and Demasting Provision objectives as they are the ones which have had the least progress since April 2024. The Local Cycling, Walking and Wheeling Infrastructure Plan covers a majority of the land-based objectives, it is important that this plan is completed and the associated Year 1 tasks. Many of the Year 1 tasks are underway, these need to be completed for the Year 2 tasks to start.

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[Broads Plan](#) objectives: C2 – Maintain existing navigation water space and develop appropriate opportunities to extend access for various types of craft. C4 – Maintain and improve safety and security standards and user behaviour on the waterways. E1 – Improve the integrated network of access routes and points (with easier access for people with mobility and sensory needs), linked to visitor facilities.

Appendix 1 - Land Based Objectives:

Objective number	Land Based Access Objectives	Year 1	
L 1	Develop a Communications Plan to ensure equality, diversity, and inclusivity in land access provision around the Broads.	Devise and implement communications plan. Thinking particularly about how to break down social, cultural and age barriers.	Initial meeting held
L 2	Review the Broads Authority role in Public Rights of Way (PRoW) maintenance.	Carry out review of PRoW maintenance by the Authority.	NCC PRoW cutting schedule is available on the NCC Highways webpages. Review of BA cut routes deferred to Q1 2025
L 3	Identify priority sites for new and improved access provision.	With partners identify priority sites.	LCWIP fully funded and in development
		Consult with stakeholders about what site improvements could take place.	LCWIP fully funded and in development
L 4	Consult with users regarding priority locations for the development and promotion of access hubs and facility improvements.	Consultation on location of access hubs / development of hubs / definition of hubs.	LCWIP fully funded and in development
L 5	Work with local authorities and transport providers, to promote use and enhancement of the travel around the Broads.	Contact local authorities and transport providers to seek opportunities to work in partnership.	LCWIP fully funded and in development

L 6	Carry out feasibility study of installing electric charging points for cars and cycles at Broads Authority sites.	Review local electricity grid capacity at Broads Authority sites with parking facilities.	No progress. Needs input from Broads Authority Carbon Reduction Manager
L 7	Look at what Open Access land is available for increased access opportunities.	Review Broads Authority's role and duties with regards to Open Access land.	Met with Ecology about maintenance role and discussion was held at access officers meeting
L 8	Norfolk County Council Walking, Wheeling, and Cycling Strategy and Suffolk County Council Cycling and Walking Strategy linking up with BLAF to promote cycling, walking and horse-riding provision.	Discuss strategies with NLAF and BLAF.	LCWIP fully funded and in development

Appendix 2 - Land to Water Objectives:

Objective Number	Land-to-Water Access Objectives	Year 1	
LW 1	Develop a Communications plan for land-to-water access on the Broads.	Devise and implement communications plan. Thinking particularly about how to break down social, cultural and age barriers.	Initial meeting held
LW 2	To assist the prioritisation of service delivery, develop a method of determining the relative boating activity within waterways management units, by using aggregated and anonymised mobile phone data.	Learn to use data system.	Data set on Active Exchange
		Use data to create a prioritisation matrix.	Sediment compliance matrix made

LW 3	Continue to work at multi-use hubs with access to water identified around the Broads.	Identify hubs with access to water.	LCWIP activity to be completed
		Work with local stakeholders for improvements.	Stakeholders identified through LCWIP and Paddle UK
LW 4	Update and disseminate open water swimming advice and guidance.	With help from Rangers monitor swimming activity.	On Rangers Tablets
		Work with partners and local water safety forum to communicate safety messaging.	Talks with RWT and other swimming groups about safety protocol
		Report to BLAF.	
LW 5	Develop a web-based zoomable/ scrollable map of access facilities in the Broads.	Improve map provisions and usability for Broads users.	Initial meetings held but now stalled
LW 6	Carry out a review with stakeholders to understand the issues and barriers to sailing in the Broads.	Work with sailing clubs to carry out a review.	No progress
LW 7	Promote and enhance opportunities for launch of small vessels and paddlecraft where vehicle access or parking is possible.	Identify sites with the help of Rangers and local stakeholders.	Current ones identified and checked with Paddle UK but not engaged with Rangers about this
		Maintain existing access points.	Current ones identified and checked with Paddle UK
LW 8	Maintain and promote the Broads Authority managed angling pads/ platforms.	Maintain existing platforms.	Spoken with Rangers about current platforms but needs further discussion
		Work with comms team to promote.	In Broadcaster
		Work with local stakeholders to promote.	No progress

LW 9	Promote and enhance opportunities for paddlecraft routes/trails.	Using study of craft transportation sites identify where craft can be launched. What are the facilities at these sites?	Sites identified and checked with Paddle UK as they are advertised trails
LW 10	Review of access provision at Mutford Lock and adjacent Authority owned land.	Carry out feasibility study of access improvements at Mutford lock.	In progress
LW 11	Review access to slipways across the Broads to ensure long-term usage.	Yr 2+	
LW 12	Review the accessibility arrangements for public boat trips.	Yr 2+	

Appendix 2 - Mooring and Demasting Provision Objectives:

Objective Number	Mooring and Demasting Provision Objectives	Year 1	
M 1	Report annually on total mooring length managed by the Broads Authority compared to agreed baseline.	Agree a baseline that reflects capacity where needed and report.	Asset manager to take on this task
M 2	Review policy regarding DP16 moorings. Improve communications to public regarding DP16 moorings.	Review maps of DP16 moorings thinking about usage and accessibility.	No progress
M 3	Identify locations for new short-stay moorings in gaps identified by gap analysis.	Cost up what it would take to fill all the gaps in gap analysis.	No progress
		Agree a process for new mooring locations.	Discussed with operations team, RR says he has a process

M 4	Review de-masting provision in the Broads and develop a prioritisation methodology to guide future investment in new provision.	Review de-masting provision.	No progress
		Identify points needing improvement.	1 was brought forward for potential new site
M 5	Review ancillary services provision at 24-hour moorings.	Review of water and electric hook ups at Broads Authority moorings.	No progress
M 6	Identify the highest priority modification for accessibility at 24-hour moorings.	Consult on where access issues are having a negative impact on user enjoyment.	No progress
M 7	Review lease fees and assess on a case by case basis.	Review lease fees.	Lease fees have been seen, meeting to discuss with Asset Officer
M 8	Feasibility study of different mooring design options and consult.	Feasibility study and consultation.	Discussion held in Operations meeting
M 9	Work on a zoomable/ scrollable map of Broads Authority Waterways facilities which include moorings.	Improve map provisions, include moorings.	Initial meetings held
M 10	Review every 3 years double alongside and stern-on mooring provision in appropriate locations.	Yr 2+	
M 11	Identify if there are popular moorings which need to become staffed.	Yr 2+	