Natural England Commissioned Report NECR113

Higher Level Stewardship permissive access evaluation

Appendix 2 – Questionnaires

Contents

1. Agreement Holder Telephone Questionnaire

AGREEMENT HOLDER QUESTIONNAIRE

Agreement No		Name of holder	
Evaluation Node		Interviewee address	
Interviewer		Interview date	

Identify type of scheme, date agreement started and date ended

Scheme 1		Date started 1		Date ended 1	
Scheme 2		Date started 2		Date ended 2	

Identify access options in agreement and area/length or numbers

OPTION GROUP CODE		AREA/LENGTH/NO.
HN1 - Linear and Open Access - Base Payment	☐	
HN2 - Permissive Open Access	☐	
HN3 - Permissive Footpath	☐	
HN4 - Permissive Bridleway/Cyclepath	☐	
HN5 - Upgrading Countryside and RoW	☐	
HN6 - Access for People Reduced Mobility	☐	
HN7 - Upgrading Countryside and RoW for People with reduced mobility	☐	
HN8 - Educational Access - Base Payment	☐	
HN9 - Educational Access - Payment per visit	☐	

What is your position within the farm? Other details

Full or Part Time?

Q2. Tenure breakdown - What area of your land is:

Is this area.....

Acres
Hectares

Q3. What best describes your farm?

Owner-occupied

Other (rented/shared/contract)

TOTAL AREA

Information Concerning the Access Elements

Q4. For each access element can you tell me if there are:	Answer required?	Links to National Trails / Rights of way	Features made accessible - such as viewpoints land features	Parking facilities	Links to public transport
NH2 (perm open acc)					
NH3 (perm footp acc)					
NH4 (perm brid/cyc acc)					
NH5 (upgrade CRoW)					
NH6 (acc reduce mob)					
NH7 (upgrade CRoW for red mob)					

Q4. Comments

Q5. With whom did you discuss provision of permissive access through your HLS agreement? (tick ALL that apply)

- Independent adviser
- Natural England officer
- Local Auth officer
- User groups
- Local community representatives
- Other
- No-one

Details of 'other'

Q6. Can you tell me what persuaded you to create permissive access in your agreement? (Tick ALL that apply - DO NOT PROMPT!)

- Asked to do so by NE/others
- Altruistic - wanted to help the public
- Financial reasons
- People using it already
- Compliment other aspects of HLS
- Provide other business benefits
- Creates benefits for local community
- Part of farm management strategy
- Fits in with the way I manage the farm
- Fits in with educational access I have
- Other

Q7. Which of these statements BEST describes the way your HLS permissive access is promoted? (SELECT ONE ONLY)

- Via Country Walks Website
- I promote it myself
- Promoted by others (Ramblers/Local Authority)
- Other form of promotion
- **OR...THE ACCESS IS NOT PROMOTED AS FAR AS I AM AWARE**

Other details...

Q8. Please give details about who uses the access and when

USER TYPE	USE ACCESS?	APPROX NUMBERS	OTHER INFORMATION
Walkers/Ramblers			
Dog Walkers			
Cyclists			
School Groups			
Other Organised Groups			
Horse Riders			
Other Users			

Q9. Is this use different from what you expected?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If YES, in what way?

Q10. What would you say have been the main impacts (positive and negative) arising from providing permissive access?

A. POSITIVE IMPACTS		COMMENTS
1st Pos		
2nd Pos		
3rd Pos		
4th Pos		
5th Pos		

Details of monetary benefits OTHER than HLS payments

B. NEGATIVE IMPACTS		COMMENTS
1st Neg		
2nd Neg		
3rd Neg		
4th Neg		
5th Neg		

Details of monetary COSTS not mentioned above

Q11. Please state whether you Agree, Disagree or have No Opinion on the following statements:

The access on my land provides benefits to others	Disagree Agree No Opinion	**Q11. Comments**
Since allowing access on my land I have had positive encounters with those using it	Disagree Agree No Opinion	
I would never enter into an access agreement again	Disagree Agree No Opinion	
I have had to change my land management activities because of the access	Disagree Agree No Opinion	
The access has had a positive impact on my business	Disagree Agree No Opinion	
I like getting the opportunity to meet people who use the access	Disagree Agree No Opinion	
This type of access is good for the community	Disagree Agree No Opinion	
Managing the access part of the agreement has not presented any problems	Disagree Agree No Opinion	

Q12. How has your attitude changed towards public access since providing access through your agreement?

- I feel much more positive about it
- I feel a bit more positive about it
- No change
- I feel a bit more negative about it
- I feel much more negative about it

What makes you say this?

Q12a. Do you think you will continue to provide access voluntarily once your agreement expires?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

Details

Q13. Do you think without your agreement, you would have provided access to the general public or specific groups?

HN1 - Linear / open access BASE PAYMENT

ANSWER REQUIRED?

Yes No Don't know

HN2 - Permissive open access

ANSWER REQUIRED?

Yes No Don't know

HN3 - Permissive footpath access

ANSWER REQUIRED?

Yes No Don't know

HN4 - Permissive bridle/cycle access

ANSWER REQUIRED?

Yes No Don't know

HN5 - Upgrading CRoW Act access for cyclists and horses

ANSWER REQUIRED?

Yes No Don't know

HN6 - Access for people with reduced mobility

ANSWER REQUIRED?

Yes
No
Don't know

HN7 - Upgrading CRoW Act access for people with reduced mobility

ANSWER REQUIRED?

Yes
No
Don't know

Social Impact of the Scheme

Q14. As a result of providing permissive access, have you had more contact with the general public?

Yes
No
Don't Know

...IF YES, how did this occur / nature of contact (positive or negative)

Do you have any other comments you would like to make?

Natural England would like us to visit some of the permissive access sites, and explore some questions in more detail. Would you be willing to POTENTIALLY participate in such a visit?

Yes No

Finish and Add Record

2. Ex-agreement Holder Telephone Questionnaire

EX-AGREEMENT HOLDER QUESTIONNAIRE

Agreement No		Name of holder	
Evaluation Node		Interviewee Address	
Interviewer		Interview Date	

Identify which scheme and start / finish date

- ○ Countryside Stewardship
- ○ HLS
- ○ ESA

Date Started

Date Ended

Identify access options in agreement and area/length or numbers

OPTION GROUP CODE		AREA/LENGTH/NO.
ACA - Open Access - Base Payment	☐	
ACL - Linear Access - Base Payment	☐	
AF - Permissive Footpath	☐	
AB - Permissive Bridleway	☐	
AD - Disabled Access	☐	
AE - Educational Access	☐	

Please detail any access related capital projects undertaken

Project 1		Project 1 Grant Amount	
Project 2		Project 2 Grant Amount	
Project 3		Project 3 Grant Amount	

General Information About the Farm Business

Q1.

What is your position within the farm? Other details

Full or Part Time?

Q2. Tenure breakdown - What area of your land is:

Owner-occupied

Other (rented/shared/contract)

TOTAL AREA

Is this area.....

- Acres
- Hectares

Q3. What best describes your farm?

Information Concerning the Access Elements

Q4. For each access element in your former agreement can you tell me if there were:	Answer required?->	Links to National Trails / Rights of way	Features made accessible - such as viewpoints land features	Parking facilities	Links to public transport
ACL - Linear Access - Base Payment					
AF - Permissive Footpath					
AB - Permissive Bridleway					
AD - Disabled Access					
AE - Educational Access					

Q4. COMMENTS

Q5. Why did you decide to take up the permissive access agreement? (tick ALL that apply - DO NOT PROMPT)

- Asked to do so by NE/Others
- Altruistic - just wanted to help public
- Financial - to get more money
- People were using it anyway
- Complimented other aspects of agreement
- Part of farm strategy (diversification)
- Other
- Details of 'other'

Q6. Was the permissive access part of your agreement ESSENTIAL in securing the HLS agreement?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

Q7. How well do you think YOUR HLS permissive access was promoted?

- NOT PROMOTED AT ALL
- Not promoted enough
- Just about right
- Promoted too much

Please explain:

Q8. Please give details about who uses the access and when

USER TYPE	USE ACCESS?	APPROX NUMBERS	OTHER INFORMATION
Walkers/Ramblers	☐		
Dog Walkers	☐		
Cyclists	☐		
School Groups	☐		
Other Organised Groups	☐		
Horse Riders	☐		
Other Users	☐		

Q9. Is this use different from what you expected?

○ Yes ○ Don't know
○ No

If YES, in what way?

Q10. What would you say have been the main impacts (postive and negative) arising from providing permissive access?

A. POSITIVE IMPACTS		COMMENTS
1st Pos		
2nd Pos		
3rd Pos		
4th Pos		
5th Pos		

Details of monetary benefits OTHER than HLS payments

B. NEGATIVE IMPACTS		COMMENTS
1st Neg		
2nd Neg		
3rd Neg		
4th Neg		
5th Neg		

Details of monetary COSTS not mentioned above

Q11. Please state whether you Agree, Disagree or have No Opinion on the following statements:

The access on my land provides benefits to others	Disagree / Agree / No Opinion	**Q11. COMMENTS**
Since allowing access on my land I have had favourable interactions with those using it	Disagree / Agree / No Opinion	
I would never enter into an access agreement again	Disagree / Agree / No Opinion	
I have had to change my land management activities because of the access	Disagree / Agree / No Opinion	
The access has had a positive impact on my business	Disagree / Agree / No Opinion	
I like getting the opportunity to meet people who use the access	Disagree / Agree / No Opinion	
This type of access is good for the community	Disagree / Agree / No Opinion	
Managing the access part of the agreement has not presented any problems	Disagree / Agree / No Opinion	

Q12. Do you feel as though your attitude towards public access changed - either positively or negatively - as a result of providing permissive access?

- I feel much more positive about it
- I feel a bit more postive about it
- No change
- I feel a bit more negative about it
- I feel much more negative about it

What makes you say this?

Q13a. Since your CSS agreement has ended have you applied for HLS? (does this contain voluntary access?)

- I have applied for HLS
- I have NOT applied for HLS

If you HAVE APPLIED, does this contain voluntary access?

- Yes
- No

Q13b. Since your CSS agreement has ended, what statement best describes now, the access you once provided?

- Full access maintained
- Partial access - restrictions on people/location of access
- No access - not enforced (I tolerate use but do not actively prevent users)
- No access - enforced (I actively prevent people from accessing the land where possible)
- Other

Details:

Social Impact of the Scheme

Q14. As a result of providing permissive access, have you had more contact with the general public?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

IF YES, how did this occur / nature of contact (positive or negative)

Do you have any other comments you would like to make?

Finish and goto Next Record

3. Agreement Holder Face-to-Face Questionnaire

Evaluating HLS Permissive Access

Countryside and Community Research Institute

Agreement Holder Face-to-Face Interview

Complete prior to the interview – use data taken from telephone interview or the data bases

Questionnaire No: (ID no. from spreadsheet)	
Name of Agreement Holder:	
Address of Agreement Holder:	
CPH No:	
Telephone No:	
Date and time of interview:	
Name of interviewer:	
Evaluation Node:	

Scheme	**Tick**	**Date agreement started**	**Date due to end**
Higher Level Stewardship (HLS)			

Options in agreement and area/length or no. included in agreement

Option Group code	Description	Area/length/no.
HN1	Linear and open access – base payment	
HN2	Permissive open access	
HN3	Permissive footpath access	
HN4	Permissive bridleway/cycle path access	
HN5	Upgrading Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act access for cyclists/horses	
HN6	Access for people with reduced mobility	
HN7	Upgrading Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act access for people with reduced mobility	
HN8	Educational access – base payment	
HN9	Educational access – payment per visit	

Capital projects undertaken	Grant paid to agreement holder	Total project cost

Introduction

Thank you very much for agreeing to be interviewed. As we explained in our telephone call, we want to supplement our telephone survey with some site visits and a more in-depth discussion of some of the issues raised from the survey.

As before, everything you tell me will be treated confidentially and the results of the survey will be aggregated and conclusions reported as part of the study. We would under no circumstances release any individual information about your farm or your business to anyone else.

Before we start, please can I just confirm with you that you are in the following HLS agreement (see front sheet)?

Please can I just confirm that these are the permissive access options in your agreement.

Now to the questions….

1. Location on the farm: could you please show us on a map where the HLS permissive access is located on the farm (will need a NE GIS or OS map to mark location).

2. How useful was the assistance and advice you obtained from NE advisers/officers when selecting the form and extent of HLS permissive access within your agreement?

No	Please explain: What was lacking?
Yes	Please explain: Who helped? How were they helpful?

3. Did any regional or local theme target statement influence the level or type of access you signed up to in your HLS agreement?

(Note: might need to remind person of what the theme statement says, or it may be they are not aware that one exists).

If 'no'

– are you aware of any HLS regional or local theme statement for public access?

If yes

– please explain:

4. Have you heard of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan? (Please keep in mind that your permissive access does not form part of the RoW system.)

If yes - did it have any influence on your decision to include permissive access in your agreement?

5. Costs of provision of permissive access. Can you please describe the main types of expenditure you have undertaken in order to provide HLS permissive access.

Activity	**Amount and Source** (e.g. grant)	**Timing** (date and/or ongoing)
Fencing		
Signage (other than what was provided by NE)		
Stiles/Gates		
Benches/seats/other 'furniture'		
Promotional Leaflets		
Public Liability Insurance		

Other		

6. Who do you think has gained from your provision of permissive access, and in what way:

Who	**How**
You – the land manager	
Local Users - People who use the access	
Users from further afield	
Environment – the surroundings	
Other (specify…..)	

7. Was the area you placed into the permissive access option already being used for informal public access in any way?

If Yes – please describe the type and level of use:

8. Has the provision of permissive access under your HLS agreement interacted with other aspects of your HLS agreement? For example:

- By channelling people along a specific route, it has safeguarded more sensitive areas
- Permissive access complemented educational access provision (if relevant)

If so, how?

8. In your view is it important for the public to be able to access the countryside for recreation?

9. In your opinion, is there a high level of demand in your local area for more public access to the countryside?

10. Could you tell me how the permissive access provided by you fits in with other forms of access in your local area? For example, does it meet any special needs (e.g. connects to bridleway network for horse riders; allows access to a school; provides links to previously inaccessible areas of the countryside)

11. How often do you walk/ride the route yourself? When did you last check all site maps were in place and any infrastructure was safe/functioning?

12. Can you tell me anything more about who uses the access? (Expands on the answers given on the telephone)

Type of user	**Numbers of users**	**Timing of use** (days of week, hour of day)	**Comments on use** (e.g. do you know where people come from, how far they travel)
Walkers/ramblers			
Dog walkers			
cyclists			
Horse riders			
School groups			
Other organised groups			
Other users: please specify			

13. Can you suggest any ways in which the permissive access could have been better promoted (to make the public aware of its existence)?

[Note: Permissive access is currently promoted through Natural England Conservation walks and rides website.]

14. Do you think Natural England worked well with you as a partner in designing the access options in the agreement? How could they have improved the way they work?

The future of permissive access

15. Could you tell me what will happen to the access when your HLS agreement ends?

What do you expect to do regarding the access element when the agreement expires?	Please explain:

15a. Would you want to continue to provide permissive access on a voluntary basis?

Yes **No** (interviewer – circle one answer)	Please explain:

15b. Are there any benefits that will be longer lasting – i.e. will continue after the agreement ends?

16**.** In the absence of your agreement under the HLS scheme would you have made any access available to either the general public or to specifically identified groups?

Option code	**Would work have taken place without scheme**	**If yes, % of work that would have taken place**
HN1 – Linear/open – base payment		
HN2 – open access		
HN3 – footpath		
HN4 – bridle/cycle way		
HN5 – upgrade CRoW for cycles/horses		
HN6 – reduced mobility		
HN7 – upgrade of CRoW for reduced mobility		

17. Do you think there are more people now accessing the countryside in your local area since you signed the agreement?

Probe:

General increase?

Amount due to this specific access agreement?

18. Are there any further comments or observations you would like to make about the impact of your permissive access scheme on the local area?

Complete <u>After</u> the Visit

(From Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 map and observations):

Introduction

Aim of site visit is to record comprehensive information about the site:

To record relevant details of the site;	To record activity and usage of access land
• Access details; • Site conditions and facilities; • Usage; • Any safety concerns/hazards	• Use of access land vs PRoW • Adherence to restrictions • Information provided at the site • Collect landowner information

COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE, USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS WHERE REQUIRED. ANNOTATE PLANS FULLY AND CLEARLY, TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS AS NECESSARY (ask permission if farmer is present).

SECTION 1 (to be completed prior to visit with reference to sample selection and maps)

Site Details		**Approx Site Size (ha)**
Name		
Local town(s)		
OS refs		

SECTION 2 (Completed at time of visit)

Visit		**Weather**
Date		Fully describe conditions
Day of week		

Some site characteristics:

		Tick as appropriate
Landscape in which HLS permissive	**Flat**	
	Rolling	

access sits	**Hilly**	
	Wooded	
	Pastoral	
	Arable/farmed	
	Built	
Density of surrounding RoW network	**More than 10 PRoW in surrounding grid sqs**	
	Moderate 5-9 PROW " " " "	
	Light 1- 4 PROW " " " "	
	None 0 PROW " " " "	
Proximity to open access (CRoW Act) land (as shown on OS map)	**Adjacent**	
	Provides link to otherwise inaccessible area of open access land	
	Close e.g. within a field	
	Not near	
Proximity to other open areas (e.g. country parks, coastal access, etc.)	**Adjacent**	
	Close e.g. within a field	
	Not near	
Proximity to urban areas	**Adjacent/within**	
	Close e.g. within a field distance	
	Not near	
Designation (e.g. National park)	**National Park**	
	AONB	
	Heritage Coast	
Is parking available adjacent/close to permissive access?	**Yes**	**No**
Distance to nearest bus stop (if within 1 km)		
Distance to nearest train station, if within 3 km		

CHECKLIST – complete after visit:

On Maps, using appropriate scales, record:

- Areas of site you covered in site visit
- Access Points to site (A)
- Parking areas around site (P)
- Any public transport routes/stops close to site (PT)
- Toilet facilities (T)
- Other facilities interviewers may use, e.g. visitor centre
- Nearest towns/settlements
- Anything else that might be relevant

Section 3 – Accessibility of site

How many access points to site were identified? From where (roads, paths etc); Any potential difficulties with access? For each: Was there an information board? (show on map) Summary of information (record with photo if necessary) Note if the site is suitable for access by public transport (considering likelihood of weekend surveys)? *If yes, give details* *If not, Indicate on map where surveyors recommended to park* Record any potential difficulties re parking; e.g. • Lack of marked spaces; • Soft verges • Busy roads • Lack of legal parking Record approx. distance between parking and site access What are main features / land marks? – draw site plan	

Section 4 Visual Survey

Record any features that may be relevant to access users and which the permissive access now makes accessible: Topographic interest - Hills, peaks, ridges Water bodies/courses Archaeological/historic features Built Structures Livestock and note species crops For any the permissive route/area, record any evidence of • Use (i.e. is the surface showing evidence of it being used) • overuse/erosion • Misuse (e.g. cycle tyre tracks on permissive footpath) • Trespassing • Disturbance to wildlife?	

• Anything that might put off users	

Visitor Behaviour Record movements of any visitors observed during visit, including entry and exit points, whether on/off the permissive route, any dog behaviour (e.g. is it on or off lead, is it under control or roaming around, if roaming around, is it affecting livestock/wildlife), number of visitors, party sizes, age groups, any visitors with a disability? Local or visitors/day trippers, families, youths etc? activities undertaken Any inappropriate behaviour?	

Section 6 Informal Discussions with Visitors

If you see any users and have the opportunity/time to chat with them:

what information can they provide about usage of the site, e.g. - busiest times of day - busiest days of week - busiest time of year, what they typically do there and where did they walk/ride (record on map) where did they come from today?	

Anything else worth noting?

4. Stakeholder Face-Face Questionnaire

Evaluating HLS Permissive Access

Countryside and Community Research Institute

Stakeholder face-to-face Interview

Complete prior to the interview

Name of stakeholder:	
Organisation:	
Position in organisation:	
Address of stakeholder:	
Telephone No:	
Stakeholder category: Representative of…	User NE Project Officer Landowner/Land manager local authority/PRoW environmental LAF other/independent
Date and time of interview:	
Name of interviewer:	
Evaluation Node:	

Introduction

Thank you very much for agreeing to be interviewed. As Natural England explained in their original letter, we have been asked to carry out a project to examine the benefits of permissive access in Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) schemes.

Natural Englandare interested in finding out levels of use and perceptions of agreement holders and a wide range of other stakeholders regarding the quality of access provided through permissive access schemes under HLS.

The results of the survey will enable Natural England to identify the wider benefits from the permissive access options.

Everything you tell me will be treated confidentially and the results of the survey will be aggregated and conclusions reported as part of the study. We would under no circumstances release any individual information about your business or organisation to anyone else.

Awareness of/experience with permissive access schemes

1. Please describe your interest in access to the countryside in this area.
   Are you...
   - A user of rights of way and other access areas
   - Involved with access management as part of your work
   - Involved with land managers as part of your work

   Interviewer: show map specifying boundaries of relevant evaluation node, with HLS/Classic agreements with access marked on it – map will be developed from NE data sources.

2. Do you have any direct experience or involvement with permissive access options under HLS/classic schemes, either as a user of such access, as a party to an agreement, or through provision of advice?

3a. Please describe the nature and extent of your involvement with any permissive access scheme.

Probe: What was the nature of your involvement?

3. Were you involved in any partnership work to help establish permissive access routes in your local area?

NO

YES – IF YES

– what was the nature of your involvement?

- In your opinion how well did the partnership operate and was it successful?

4. Were there any local or regional aims or themes that influenced the nature of the access established in your area?

NO

YES - If yes:

– what was the nature of the theme?

- How did it influence establishment of permissive access?

5. Were you given or did you miss out on opportunities to work with NE when they were developing permissive access as part of HLS agreements? Please explain your response.

6. In your view how important are HLS permissive access agreements in this area (refer to map) in enabling people to access the countryside?

7. Can you tell me about some specific examples of permissive access in this area (refer to map) that you are familiar with?

Interviewer – please try and identify two permissive HLS access agreements (from the map) with which respondents are most familiar. Some stakeholders may have a high level of involvement – e.g. if they are advisors or rights of way officers.

	Nature of your involvement (e.g. User, etc.)	Length or area involved	Key features made accessible (e.g. viewpoints, archaeological sites, etc.)	Type of access (footpath, etc.)
Agreement 1 Location:				
Agreement 2 Location:				

8. For each of the agreements described above please provide your opinion about the quality of the permissive access provided. These questions are trying to elicit the respondent's perception of the situation – erroneous information might be given (e.g. that an access route is within a National Park when it is not), but the aim is not to correct the respondent – only report their perceptions.

	Quality of infrastructure (e.g. signs, waymarks, surface)	**Quality of access provided** (Does it offer users an interesting experience)	**Situation in the wider context** (e.g. does it link up to other access in the area/national trails, etc.)	**Situated within a designated land area** (e.g. AONB)	**Links to public transport**
Agreement 1 Location:					
Agreement 2 Location:					

9. Can you tell me anything about usage of the permissive access you selected?

Who uses it and when?

	Type of user (e.g. walkers, cyclists, riders, school groups, etc)	**Numbers of users**	**Timing of use (days of week, hour of day)**	**Where do people come from/how far do they travel**
Agreement 1 Location:				
Agreement 2 Location:				

10. In your view, do the 2 HLS permissive access agreements you selected represent good value for money?

(interviewer – circle one answer)

Agreement 1	**Yes/ No** Please explain:
Agreement 2	**Yes/ No** Please explain:

11. Was the area in any of the permissive access options described above already being used for informal public access in any way?

	Previously used for access but not promoted	**Level of use**	**Additional value (if any) provided by permissive access**	**Other comments**
Agreement 1 Location:				
Agreement 2 Location:				

12. In general terms could you tell me how well the permissive access provided in your local area fits in with other forms of access in your local area.

- Links to PROW
- Links to national trails
- Links to public transport (bus stops/railway stations)
- Meeting special local needs (e.g. school access)

13. In your opinion are the permissive access areas/paths in your local area well publicised – how well do people know about the existence of this form of access?

	Level of information (Low/Medium/ High)	**Type of publicity** (e.g. word of mouth/internet/leaflets/local walkers associations)	**Signage** (adequate/ inadequate)	**Other comments**
Permissive Access in general in your local area				

14. What would you say, based on your direct experience, have been the main impacts (both positive and negative) arising from provision of permissive access in this area?

Positive impacts	**Nature of benefits**
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
Any monetary benefits to yourself or others you are aware of? If not identified above. (e.g. reduced costs of travel to access the countryside)	

Negative impacts	**Nature of impacts**
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
Any monetary costs to yourself or others you are aware of? If not identified above. (e.g. increased costs to farmers)	

15. Have there been any unexpected impacts arising from permissive access options that have been created in this area (specify boundaries of relevant evaluation node)?

16. Have the permissive access options taken up by farmers in your local area altered any of the following:

Impact	**Nature of change**
Concern over risk and liabilities	
Changes in the way land is used/managed	
Changes in the activities you undertake	
Appearance of the landscape	
Other: please specify	

17. Do you have any idea about what might happen to the permissive access areas in this locality when the HLS agreements end?

18. In your opinion are farmers in this area likely to continue with permissive access on a voluntary basis?

Yes **No** (interviewer – circle one answer)	Please explain:

19. In your view have the creation of permissive access areas changed the attitudes of farmers in this area towards access and recreation in the countryside?

If yes: *how have these attitudes changed?*

Social impact of the scheme

20. In your opinion has your use of, or work with, permissive access led members of the public to have had more contact with farmers?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If yes,

How did this increased contact come about and what was the nature of the contact? (For example, was it positive such as chatting and learning about farming activities; or negative – such as being stopped for doing something wrong.)

21. Are there any further comments or observations you would like to make about the impact of your permissive access scheme on the local area?

5. National Stakeholder Questionnaire

NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER QUESTIONNAIRE

InterviewID: 3 | Interviewer: NL
Interviewee: | Date:
Tel No: | Evaluation Node:

Organisation:
Position:
Address:

STAKEHOLDER CATEGORY

- ◉ User Gr
- ◉ NE/Defra
- ◉ Local Auth (Inc NPA)
- ◉ Environmental
- ◉ LAF
- ◉ Other/Independent

Other Description:

Q1. Are you aware that farmers were able to apply for support to develop permissive access on their farms under HLS and other earlier agri-enviornment schemes?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Q2. Do you have experience or involvement with permissive access options under HLS or previous schemes? (ESA or CSS?)

As a party to an agreement ◉
As a representaive of specialist interest group ◉ **Details:**
Through provision of advice ◉
As a user ◉

Please Select if none of the above - ☐
IF SELECTED PLEASE END INTERVIEW

Q3. What was the nature of your involvement? (Please tick all that apply)

- Promoted/advised on HLS application
- Wanted access in particular location
- I commented on/was consulted concerning development of the scheme and/or access options
- Worked towards obtaining a continuation of existing ESA/CSA access after agreement had lapsed
- I have personally made use of HLS access
- Other

Q4. Were you involved in any partnership work to help establish permissive access routes?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

IF YES - how well did the partnership operate?

- Good
- Average
- Poor
- N/A

IF YES - was the partnership successful?

- Successful
- Neither
- Unsuccessful
- N/A

Q5. Are you aware of any local/regional aims or themes that influenced the nature of the access?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

IF YES - What themes are you aware of?

IF YES - how did they influence establishment of permissive access?

Q6. Were you given opportunities to work with NE when they were developing permissive access in your area?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Please explain your answer

Q7. How well do you think HLS permissive access has been promoted?

- NOT PROMOTED AT ALL
- Not promoted enough
- Just about right
- Promoted too much

Q7. Please explain

Q8. IN GENERAL, how would you rate the following aspects of permissive access?

Quality of access provided (i.e. signage, surface gates/stiles etc	Links with other Rights of Way?	Car parking facilities?	Accessibility for disabled persons?
Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor
Reasonable	Reasonable	Reasonable	Reasonable
Good	Good	Good	Good
Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know

Q9. Which types of user have benefitted from permissive access?

Walkers	
Cyclists	
Horse riders	
Schools/Groups	
Dog Walkers	
Other	

Q10. Is there an unsatisfied demand for access by any particular user groups?

Yes / No / Don't know

If YES, details:

Q11A. To what extent have permissive access agreements improved the level of access to the countryside?

A great deal / Slightly / No real change / Don't know

Comments:

Q11B. In your view, is permissive access occuring where it is needed?

Yes / No / Don't know

Comments:

Q12. In your view do the permissive access agreements in your area represent good value for money?

Yes / No / Don't know

Comments:

Q13a What would you say have been the main impacts (Positive / Negative) arising from the provision of permissive access?

POSITIVE IMPACTS		COMMENTS
Impact1		
Impact2		
Impact3		
Impact4		
Impact5		

Which of these, if any may be sustained after the scheme ends?

Q13b

NEGATIVE IMPACTS		COMMENTS
Impact1		
Impact2		
Impact3		
Impact4		
Impact5		

Which of these, if any may be sustained after the scheme ends?

Q13d Have there been any unexpected impacts? (positive or negative)

Q14. How do you think permissive access has affected land managers' attitudes towards public access?

- They feel much more positive about it
- They feel more positive
- No change
- They feel more negative about it
- They feel much more negative about it
- Don't know

Q15. In your opinion are land managers who have provided access thorugh HLS likely to continue to do so without payments when their agreement ends?

- Generally 'Yes'
- Generally 'No'
- Don't know

Comments

Q16. In your opinion have permissive access agreements led to greater interactions between farmers and the general public?

Yes | No | Don't know

Q17. Do you have any other comments?

Q18. We would like to talk to a range of stakeholders regarding permissive access - are you able to suggest anyone from your organisation in the following areas who may be able to discuss HLS permissive access in the following areas? (Nth'land; Devon; Hants; Cumbria; Shrops; Norfolk; Leics; Lincs)

We will be conducting Face to Face with some stakeholder groups where we will investigate in more detail some permissive access agreements. Would you or someone else from your organisation be interested in participating?

Yes | No **Name and number**

Finish and add Record