

M4 Corridor around Newport

Monmouthshire Local Access Forum response.

The LAF made preliminary comments on the Scheme on 7th July 2015. Since then, we have worked closely with all parties to get a clear understanding of the proposals on rights of way and general access issues.

We very much appreciate that suggestions we made have been included in the latest design.

I confirm that the LAF fully supports the comments on rights of way issues made by Monmouthshire County Council in their latest response and we agree with them the need for further clarification on many issues.

I would reiterate the comment about the Mill Lane Reen tunnel. We are very pleased that this will continue to be a right of way but would urge that access is maintained consistent with safety during the construction period. The alternative routes north towards Upper Grange and Castell Coch involve either a lengthy detour along Dancing Hill Grange Road and through Knollbury or by St Brides Road which is dangerous for pedestrians. Keeping the tunnel open as much as possible will help reduce the 'isolation' of Magor during construction.

The provision of the new right of way from St Brides Road through the services to the roundabout is also appreciated and will be a much safer route. To link with the footpath to Pencoed Castle and Llandevaud there will need to be a short length of new path behind the existing crash barrier at the roundabout.

We also await details of the proposed haul route to Itton Quarry and details of the proposed mitigation works on the Caldicot levels which may affect part of the Wales Coast Path.

The Forum will continue to work closely with MCC and also with neighbouring Newport City Council and Newport Local Access Forum.

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