Local Access Forum (LAF) Annual Report Proforma

*Reporting year	year to 30th April 2012
*Name of LAF	Slough Local Access Forum
*Name of LAF secretary	Jacqui Wheeler

Review of Current reporting year

Were you succesful in meeting the achievments set out in your Annual Report or LAF work programme? Please provide supporting information.

Slough LAF has continued to work on giving advice/recommendations to the local Highway Authority on road safety and Integrated Transport schemes in the town meeting on the four ocassions aimed at. It has been successful in being recognised as a useful consulting tool for local walking and cycling schemes by council officers. The membership of the LAF has also increased by two members over the last year.

*How many Open Access Restriction cases have you been informed about/involved with?

There is no open access land within the Slough LAF area

*Give up to three examples of advice given by your LAF to section 94 bodies:

In April 2011, some LAF members attended a "cycle about slough" accompanied by Council Officers from the Integrated Transport Team. The resulting report highlighted problem areas within the existing cycling infrastructure/network and was discussed at the subsequent meeting. Recommendations/advice were then issued via email to relevant officers for possible improvement works to be taken forward/feedback.

Plans were tabled at the September LAF meeting for the Chalvey One Way Experimental Scheme, a new traffic scheme aimed at alleviating congestion in a busy part of Slough town. Emailed comments from the LAF on the designs have been forwarded to the designers and the Network Management Team Leader who are running   the scheme as and when plans are released. Feedback has been received in answer to LAF members' queries about the designs and the consultation process is o

Give up to three examples where you have encountered difficulties; explain what mechanisms could be put in place to alleviate this issue:

Do you have any issues with recruitment of members from particular interest groups? Does this hinder your work in any way?

There is a difficulty in attaining the required membership level in general and the LAF tends to focus on cycling /walking infrastructure and routes within the urban environment. There is still no horse riding member of the Slough LAF, but two new members have joined who have a walking perspective. This has raised the membership level to 8.

Comments from appointing authority
The LAF has grown in strength over the last year being vocal about wanting to be consulted on walking and cycling schemes. There are plans to continue consulting the LAF on any walking and cycling schemes that arise over the coming year including those under the Local Sustainable Transport Fund. The AA wants to continue to encourage the LAF to develop it's own identity and independence from the council.

Forward Look

What are your priorities for next year (list up to 3)
Continue working with the AA to be consulted on relevant schemes/issues and provide well balanced and useful advice. Develop specific LAF work plan for 2013/14 incorporating targets.

*What support/training will you need to be able to deliver these priorities?
Make Huddle a continuous item on the agenda not only for ideas on best practice and how other LAF's operate, but to help set agenda items, keep up on LAF news and tackle any far reaching issues. This will probably help members to feel less insular as a small urban LAF and become familiar with using Huddle. There is still an intention to have training on LAF role, remit and an overview on legislation/practical implementation of Highways Act as it relates to walking and cycling, Design Standards Transport for London. Relevant site visits to be undertaken when deemed necessary.

Do you perceive any barriers to delivering your priorities?

Time restrictions for both members and the LAF support officer who is also the rights of way officer and works part time.

Any other comments