

Title and date of consultation:

The Countryside Access Strategy for Jersey 01/05/14 - 07/08/14

Summary of consultation responses:

Based on the responses to the public consultation, the access network is considered to be one of Jersey's key assets. It is widely appreciated and considered highly desirable by those who make use of it in order to relax, de-stress and follow their recreational, sporting and leisure pursuits.

The consultation responses have also confirmed a strong desire by many for the provision of off-road cycling and horse riding facilities. Walking and cycling are relatively inexpensive activities, at a basic level they require no special skills and can be built into people's regular, daily routine, thus providing one of the simplest ways for people to become more physically active

Minister/department response to this feedback:

Service providers need to work together to deliver safeguarded, high quality, well maintained access to the countryside which meets the sometimes conflicting needs of the different user groups.

Historically there has been little in the way of regular communication between service users and service providers. The change in recreational activities since the paths were created requires better lines of communication to ensure that access provision is able to evolve in response to user demand.

The Department of the Environment needs to work with other access providers, users, and landowners to encourage responsible use of the countryside and produce clear codes of conduct in order to encourage everyone to enjoy the natural environment in a sustainable way. Consistent and clear signage is vital to ensure that all information provided is easily accessible and constantly branded.

Countryside access in Jersey is dependent upon the goodwill of private land owners. Access to private land and farmland is fundamental in order to take the pressure of public access away from environmentally sensitive areas and to create a comprehensive Island-wide network

Supporting documents attached:

Any additional reports or papers on the outcome of this consultation?

Attached
