

ROWI Ps  
Workshop for Outer London Boroughs  
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# Context and Purpose

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# Rights of way improvement plans

- Why
- Who
- What
- When
- How

# Why are plans required?

- Better provision for walkers, cyclists, equestrians and people with mobility problems
- Network fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- To encourage local authorities to take a more strategic view of the network and its contribution to wider objectives.

# Who needs to prepare a plan?

All unitary, county and metropolitan councils and outer London boroughs must complete plans with the exception of those whose overall performance has been rated as "excellent" in previous years by the Audit Commission.

# What should the plan cover?

In drawing up a ROWIP authorities are required to:

- Assess the extent to which local rights of way meet the **present** and likely **future** needs of the public;
- Opportunities provided by local rights of way ( in particular footpaths, cycle tracks, bridleways and restricted byways) for exercise/open air recreation and enjoyment area;
- Accessibility to those with mobility problems.

Cont.

## What? cont...

- Prepare a statement of action that propose to take for the **management** of the **existing network** and for **securing improvement**
- Publish, publicise and invite comments on the draft ROWIP before they adopt it.
- Have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State

# When?

- ROWIPs should be adopted by  
**21 November 2007**
- Reviewed **not less** than every ten years thereafter

**Finally .....**

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**More info and access to guidance and legislation:**

<http://defraweb/wildlife-countryside/issues/public/improvement-plan.htm>