

## **SCAN Newsletter – January 2008**

The National Access Forum has asked SCAN to consult its members for their views on how best to monitor access issues and incidents at a national level.

Many different organisations, including access authorities, recreation bodies and land managing organisations are already collecting this very useful information, but it is not being pulled together nationally. There is now a proposal for a mechanism to collate all the information nationally once or twice a year, so that trends can be identified.

This would enhance the monitoring of the Land Reform Act which is already being carried out by the Scottish Government and SNH. In addition, it would point the way to helping with areas requiring training or targeted promotion. It will also assist SNH in keeping the Code under review and being aware of any potential changes that may be required.

Access authorities and other organisations would not need to make changes to existing recording systems providing such systems are capable of identifying strategic trends and issues.

It is suggested that reports should be short - a maximum of two sides of A4, listing the issues you are dealing with, any trend information, any code related issues, any relevant issues, suggestions, solutions and recommendations.

While it is recognised that this would not provide accurate statistics, it would give an indication of where things may need to be changed. It would be seen as a mechanism to pick up issues and trends to help authorities and organisations to decide if they need, for example, to develop training courses, provide different material, target a particular audience or to go Parliament to change the Code.

We would be grateful if you could send a quick e-mail with your response to the following questions to give us your ideas, in principle, about national monitoring. Please reply to [joycereid@scottishcountrynet.org](mailto:joycereid@scottishcountrynet.org)

1. Are you recording access issues and incidents at the moment in any systematic way?
2. Would you be willing to contribute to a national system of monitoring to allow trends to be noted?
3. Would you find it helpful to the work you do, to know these trends?

If you need more information, please look at the relevant paper on the National Access Forum website.

[http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/upload/Paper%20on%20monitoring%20of%20access%20issues%20and%20incidents%20-%20NFU%20Scotland\\_informal%20discussion%20group%20-%205%20September%202007.doc](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/upload/Paper%20on%20monitoring%20of%20access%20issues%20and%20incidents%20-%20NFU%20Scotland_informal%20discussion%20group%20-%205%20September%202007.doc)

### **Core Path Plans**

Perth & Kinross Council: to view the maps showing the proposed core paths and obtain a comment form, go to [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)

Fife Council: link to their core path plan is

<http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/topics/index.cfm?fuseaction=subject.display&subjectid-2587D375-E7FE-C7EA-0641A036FA52DA9E>

### **Ramblers Scotland**

For an update on the Donald Trump/golf course story, see

<http://www.ramblers.org.uk/scotland/access/donaldtrump/html>

SCAN has been invited to attend an Active Travel event held by Sustrans and Ramblers Scotland in the Parliament during Scottish Environment Week which runs from 4<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> February this year. We hope to bring the issue of the need for better provision of paths and other facilities for walkers and cyclists to the attention of parliamentarians.

### **A Date for Your Diary**

SCAN's next conference will be held at the Birnam Institute by Dunkeld on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 10 am – 4 pm

### **Who's Listening to the Outdoor Access Message? Informing, Educating and Co-operating**

The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code have set a framework for the whole population to understand their access rights and responsibilities. It is recognised this will take time and a lot of work. How can the relevant authorities, NGOs and member organisations come together to promote accurate information and education that lead to better understanding, and a co-operative approach to responsible outdoor access.

Further details will follow. However, a registration form will be on our website ([www.scottishcountrynet.org](http://www.scottishcountrynet.org)) by the end of this week, if you want to book early.

Joyce Reid  
SCAN Co-ordinator

