



# Joint Local Access Forum (JLAF)

for Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol City and South Gloucestershire

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**Ray Newbigin, Chairman of the JLAF. Robin Winfield, Vice Chairman of the JLAF.**

Reference: S:\Prow\JLAF\JLAF Meetings\JLAF11a (FR020307)\Final Mailout\2007-02-10 Chair to B&NES Exec Lansdown Access Land.doc

**Cllr Sir Elgar Jenkins**  
**Executive Member for Transport and Highways**  
**Bath & North East Somerset Council**  
**Guildhall**  
**High Street**  
**BATH BA1 5AW**

**Ray Newbigin**  
**19 Macaulay**  
**BATH**  
**BA2 6AT**

**Tel. Bath 311210**

Saturday, 10th February 2007

Dear Sir Elgar Jenkins,

## **Access Land at Lansdown**

I am writing to you as chairman of the Joint Local Access Forum for Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol City and South Gloucestershire (the "JLAF").

Alun Morgan, the previous Chairman of The Joint Local Access Forum (the JLAF) for Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol City and South Gloucestershire wrote to you on the 11 October 2006 about this matter and you replied to him saying the matter would be investigated. A copy of Alun's letter is enclosed.

Alun's letter fully explained the position and the JLAF is keen to know if the Council will use its available powers to gain access to this land. I would like to be able to inform the JLAF of progress with this, so it would be helpful for us to receive a reply soon.

We believe that a walk on the northern escarpment of Bath could be made into a country and historic walk which would rival, and even surpass, the National Trust Skyline Walk around the southern fringe of Bath.

Yours sincerely

Ray Newbigin, Chairman of the JLAF.  
Tel. 311210

Enclosure

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*The JLAF is a statutory body established by the three councils shown below, to provide advice as to the improvement of public access to land in the area of Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol City and South Gloucestershire for the purposes of open-air recreation and enjoyment of the area. Its views do not necessarily represent those of the three councils.*





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**Alun Morgan, Chair of the JLAF. Ray Newbigin, Vice Chair of the JLAF.**

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**Cllr Sir Elgar Jenkins**  
**Executive Member for Transport and Highways**  
**Bath & North East Somerset Council**  
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**High Street**  
**BATH BA1 5AW**

**Alun Morgan**  
**17 Forester Lane**  
**BATH**  
**BA2 6QX**

**Tel. Bath 465262**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2006.

Dear Sir Elgar Jenkins,

## Access Land at Lansdown

I am writing to you as chairman of the Joint Local Access Forum for Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol City and South Gloucestershire (the "JLAF").

The JLAF has been established through a partnership between your authority with Bristol City Council and South Gloucestershire Council to provide advice on matters associated with public access to land; the authorities have a statutory obligation to consider that advice. The JLAF has 21 members, one Councillor from each authority involved and 18 other members with a variety of interests, including those of land managers and of users.

This letter is being sent on behalf of the JLAF following a consensus to do so at the meeting of Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2006.

We have, over the past three years, considered the implementation of Access Land in the area. This has involved site visits of land included on the Conclusive Map of Open Country issued by the Countryside Agency, then advising the Councils on priorities for opening access to sites, on improvement works and on the design and installation of new signs.

One of the sites that we identified as high priority is the Access Land around Chelscombe Farm, between Lansdown and Weston. The land has excellent views, is close to a large population and has the potential to provide an excellent link for walkers along the Cotswold escarpment. There are public footpaths on the land, though one path has been inaccessible for many years: the council has, in the past, considered enforcement action regarding this path. The land has not been improved for access and promoted by the council as Access Land, as agreement has not been achieved between the council and the landowner. We understand that council officers have written to and also visited the landowner on site. The JLAF has written to the landowner to invite

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discussion though there has been no response. There are legal powers available to the council to achieve a means of access agreement.

We would be grateful if you would consider this case and make a decision on the council's approach to the improvement and promotion of this area of access land.

If you have any questions or queries regarding this matter then please do contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Alun Morgan, Chair of the JLAF.  
Telephone: Bath 465262