

Appendix 2

Rights of Way Improvement Plan Strategy and Policy Framework

The Borough Council has a wide range of statutory duties and powers with respect to both the protection and maintenance of public rights of way and the upkeep of the Definitive Map. Our policy framework is built upon key national legislation and links to Borough Council corporate policies.

The key national legislation relevant to rights of way includes

Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 – NERC 2005
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW) – CROW 2000
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 –TCP 1990
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 – WCA 1981
Highways Act 1980 – HA 1980
Countryside Act 1968 – CA68
National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 – NPAC 1949

Other general legal duties and responsibilities for rights of way users includes

The Equality Act 2010 – formerly the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) – EA 2010, DDA 1995

The headline Bedford Borough Council strategies and policies include

Bedford Borough Council - Constitution 2017 (C)
Corporate Plan 2017 – 2021 (CP)
Corporate Asset Plan 2012 – 2016 (CAP)
Sustainable Community Strategy 2009 – 2021 (SCS)
Bedford Statutory Development Plan) Planning Policy – Core Strategy and Rural Issues, Allocations and Designations, Minerals Plan, Policies Map (BSDP)
Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2018 – 2023 (RoWIP)
Transport Policy – Local Transport Plan 2012 – 2017 (LTP)
Health and Wellbeing Strategy (HWBS)
Bedford Borough Equality Objectives 2012 – 2016 (BBEO)
Risk Management Strategy (RMS)
Procurement Policy (PP)
Corporate Safety Policy (CSP)
Communications Strategy (CS)
Bedford Knowledge & Information Management Strategy 2016 – 2018 (BKIMS)
Consultations Strategy 2013 - 2017(ConS)
Volunteers Policy 2012 (VP)

Please note that there may be extensive associated legislation, case law and common law which may also apply. Where appropriate the principal legislation and headline Council policies relating to RoWIP policy have been considered.