

Dear Alistair

Thank you for the Environmental Statement. I will have a more thorough look at it and I have forwarded it to our Local Access Forum secretary to add to our agenda at our next formal meeting. So Herts LAF will also comment.

I think the statement is very comprehensive and those parts I have read so far I am very impressed with. These are my comments so far.

1. I think the idea of encouraging people to walk, cycle to the forest and try to avoid car use is a great one, however an opportunity exists with the vast number of local livery and riding stables in this area of Hertfordshire to arrive at the forest using horse and perhaps carriage transport. For example there is a 7 mile bridleway from the marford rd. to nomansland, there are bridle paths linking Hatfield and through Oakland's college area of st Albans to pound farm. This would impact on perhaps cars being left at stables or dining pubs etc avoiding the area of the forest.

2. As the area of heartwood is already used significantly by horse riders, the country lanes you comment on in the area used by walkers and cyclist will also impact on the horse riders and carriage drivers that use the lanes if the volume of traffic increases. As you know horses and cars can be quite a dangerous mix.

3. The plan for a car park area at pound farm will again impact on the horse riders as the bridle path runs along this area. Whilst I agree a car park needs to be provide for those that insist on visiting by car. The impact and safety of horse riders and carriage drivers using this area must be addressed.

4. When in the statement your refer to crime in the area. "Travellers" are mentioned, this area of Hertfordshire is highly populated with both legal and illegal traveller site (I live very close to one myself in Barley Mow Lane) I believe it would be a positive impact if you engaged with the travellers in the same way as you will with the hilldyke residents.

regards

Lynn Myland – member: Hertfordshire Local Access Forum