

Dear P3 coordinators,

As we are nearing the end of 2024 it is soon time for parishes to begin doing their 2025/26 surveys of the public rights of way parish paths partnership scheme.

The last twelve months have been challenging for all involved in the P3 scheme. Within our team we have had Ros Davies hand over the P3 reins after working on the scheme for many years, area wardens retiring and colleagues off on long term leave due to illness. With a delay of about 6 months with nobody in post there has been a very large backlog in payments, materials, and emails. It is safe to say it has been a tricky few months for me trying to catch up on as many emails as possible, learn how the scheme works and update the scheme to meet the expectations of Devon County Council. More importantly this has led to lack of communication with yourselves, lack of in-person visits and discussions and a delay in payments. This is not how I want the scheme to run and not how to value the work you and the many volunteers put into the programme.

Due to the above issues and an update in our finance system there has been a delay in some payments to the parishes. The key focus for myself over the next couple of months is to ensure any funding that hasn't already been issued to yourselves for the financial year of 2024/25 is with you ASAP. This money can be carried over to the next financial year due to how late you may have received it.

My primary focus for the 2025/26 year is on supporting and delivering far more to the P3 parishes than I have been able to this year. In order to do this, I have updated the P3 survey and grant forms with the intention of them being clearer to understand what the money is being allocated for and what materials are required. Please find attached:

1. **Public Right of Way Survey Form**
2. **Expenditure Form**
3. **P3 Bid Form**
4. **Parish Finance Form**
5. **Criteria Summary**
6. **Guidance for forms**

These forms are slightly different from previous years so where possible please can you return your bids and surveys on the new forms. Please submit completed forms 1-4 and send to prow@devon.gov.uk by 28th March 2025. I have attached a guidance for the forms this year. I hope the guidance will offer some assistance when filling in and explain the new grants being offered through the scheme.

I appreciate all your patience over the last few months and hope to meet in person over the coming months and years.

Kind regards

Jon Boyd