

PEAK & NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY

HELPING WALKERS & PROTECTING FOOTPATHS
SINCE 1894



Walking on a PNFS walk round Congleton ~ photograph by Ken Smith

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

2023



Invitation to Members

PNFS Annual General Meeting

Saturday, 18 May 2024

at

Stockport Guildhall

169 Wellington Road South, Stockport, SK1 3UA

By road From Junction 1 of the M60, follow signs for the centre of Stockport until you reach the A6. Going south the Guildhall is 300 yards past the town hall opposite Stockport College. The free car park is accessed via Brentnall Street.

Rail Stockport railway station is ten minutes' walk away.

Bus The frequent 192 service and the 199 and 392 services call at the bus stop positioned directly outside the building.

10:30	Tea and coffee are available on arrival
11:00	AGM commences
	<i>Agenda is opposite and will be available on the day</i>
12:30	Cold buffet lunch*
13:30	Guest speaker
	<i>Jack Cornish, Head of Paths at the Ramblers</i>
14:30	Open forum
15:30	Meeting closes

*A donation is invited to help defray the catering costs which are £10.00 per person

Agenda

- 1 Welcome and apologies
- 2 Minutes of the previous meeting
 - For approval
 - Matters arising
- 3 Reports and accounts - To receive and consider:
 - Annual accounts - Treasurer
 - Annual report - Chair
 - Report of the independent examiner for 2023 - Treasurer
- 4 To appoint an Independent Examiner (proposed and seconded)
- 5 Election of members to the managing committee who will be the charity trustees:
 - To re-elect Kathy McLean as Chair
 - To re-elect Paul Easthope as Treasurer
 - To re-elect Dave Brown
 - To re-elect Mel Bale
 - To re-elect David Gosling
 - To re-elect David Morton
 - To re-elect Chad Wilkinson
 - To re-elect Tim Lewis
- 6 To re-elect David Bratt as President
- 7 To agree to a change in the rate of subscriptions as set out in the appendix - Treasurer
- 8 To agree to affiliate to the following:
 - Open Spaces Society, Ramblers, CPRE, Peak District Green Lanes Alliance
- 9 Any other business
- 10 Meeting close

Appendix

Item 7 subscriptions - In accordance with paragraph 7 of the constitution the Management Committee recommend that the subscriptions should be changed as detailed below:

- Individual membership - from £15 to £20
- Household Membership - from £25.50 to £30
- Concessionary Membership - from £7.50 to £10
- Affiliate membership - from £22.50 to £30

In accordance with paragraph 7 of the constitution the AGM may vote to accept or reject these changes but may not amend or delete any of them.

The proposal is to increase the rates by about 33%. The subscription rates were established at their present level in 2011. Since then, the CPI has increased by 41%.

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PEAK AND NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY

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Annual Review

Kathy McLean, PNFS Chair



Every year brings both challenges and achievements and 2023 is no exception. If you are a regular reader of Signpost, our magazine for members, you will be aware of the enormous commitment of both time and skill which our amazing volunteers give. The aims of preserving and improving public rights of way are at the heart of the work of PNFS across our region.

We can only be successful because of our membership. Meeting members is inspiring, and I was delighted to see so many attend the half-year meeting in Sheffield and a more local meeting in Preston.

We have a meeting planned in Leeds in April and hope to hold more local meetings as a strategy for meeting more PNFS members. This will allow us to discuss the progress of the Society but also meet volunteers and hear directly about their work.

As you know, the Society is governed by a number of trustees who have different areas of expertise and focus. This year there have been further changes. One of the trustees who joined relatively recently, Stuart Proud, unfortunately had to resign due to personal commitments. Suzanne Longworth has also resigned due to the pressure of commitments. Jenny Allen and Jan Howe stepped down as Courts and Inquiries officers in 2023. I would like to thank them all for the service given to the Society. We are seeking more trustees and hope to be able to introduce some new potential candidates at the annual general meeting (AGM).

One of the key roles which underpins the functioning of the Society is the co-ordination of our footpath inspectors. David Gosling has undertaken this role very effectively for a long time, but in 2023 handed it on to Simon Worrall. David continues to undertake a massive amount of work for PNFS but has successfully implemented a succession plan for the co-ordination of inspectors. Simon has settled brilliantly into the role. We do need to ensure that there are succession plans in place for every area of work, so any offers of help will be considered eagerly.

Our headquarters, Taylor House, has been used for in-person meetings this year, which is good to see after the remote working enforced due to the pandemic. It allows us to meet in person as a leadership team, which is important for any team of people. We do, however, take full advantage of virtual meetings, which are highly effective as methods for communication and are good for the environment.

There have been some notable successes in restoring footpaths which have been out of repair for many years, including a path in Stockport which had been impassable for a long time. Applying the law in relation to public rights of way is something that our Courts and Inquiries officers are always thinking about, but going to court is relatively unusual. This year officers for PNFS have attended court to support actions on a number of occasions, after exhausting other methods. The outcomes of these cases are reported in Signpost.

As we all know, the cost of living has risen over the past few years and PNFS is not immune. Our treasurer Paul Easthope, alongside the other trustees, keeps a close eye on the resources we oversee and their application. Membership fees have been static for many years, but due to rising costs we now need to propose a rise in fees. This will be discussed at the AGM.

One of the necessities in maintaining our communications, records and archives is to ensure that we have sustainable and resilient communication and recording systems. Tim Lewis has made a massive contribution this year to bring about a transition to a cloud-based system and alongside Suzanne Longworth has supported the development of new PNFS logos.

I am pleased to say that the walks programme has continued to include Saturdays, which we hope allows those with weekday commitments to join in. Everyone is welcome, so do keep a lookout for walks in your area, a great opportunity to meet other members.

We have been more successful in 2023 in partnering local authorities, parishes and wildlife trusts to carry out footpath improvements.

Whilst PNFS remains successful, in 2023 we spent time discussing the forward strategy, including how we are best organised, our profile and potential for fundraising. We will present our strategic plans for consideration by the membership.

I hope you have enjoyed being a member of PNFS. We are united by our love of the outdoors and commitment to ensuring it remains accessible to all.



Photograph of S396 by Norman Rice. For more about our silent ambassadors, go to pnfs.org.uk/sbgallery

Officers and Volunteers

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VICE CHAIR

David Gosling*

HONORARY SECRETARY

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John Harker (South & West Yorkshire Stockport)

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Udo Pope (Tameside)

Geoff Jones (Parts of Wigan)

David Taylor (Parts of Wigan)

Shirley Addy (Ribble Valley)

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Paul Easthope

MEMBERSHIP**SECRETARY**

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FOOTBRIDGE ASSESSOR

Nigel Howe

PATH IMPROVEMENT**OFFICER**

Nigel Howe

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Shirley Addy

SIGNPOST OFFICER

David Morton*

SIGNPOST ASSISTANTS

Shirley Addy

John Alexander

Pete Ash

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Graham Fullerton

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Simon Worrall

FAULTS & INSPECTION**OFFICERS**

David Gosling*#

Simon Worrall

FAULTS & INSPECTION**TEAM**

John Fisher

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Mel Bale*

OFFICE MANAGER

David C Brown*

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Linda Smith

ARCHIVIST

Andrew Harter

FILING CLERK

David C Brown*

OTHER TRUSTEES

Tim Lewis

Suzanne Longworth

Stuart Proud #

Chad Wilkinson

HONORARY EXAMINER

Liz Hudson

Indicates that the officer retired during 2023

** indicates that the officer is also a trustee*

Footpath Inspectors, Inspections and Faults

Footpath Inspectors and Inspections - *Simon Worrall, Inspection*

Co-ordinator, Linda Smith, Volunteer Co-ordinator

The Society's objectives are to monitor, protect and improve the 17,600 miles of public rights of way (PRoW) in our area. The team of volunteer footpath inspectors are fundamental in helping the Society achieve these objectives by monitoring PRoW for faults, reporting faults to their Highway Authorities and thus protecting and improving the PRoW in their respective areas. Footpath inspectors are asked to walk all the paths in their area at least once every two years and more frequently if they can.

During the two-year period 2021 – 2023 our inspectors carried out, on average, 6,860 path inspections per annum (2020 – 2022: 7,843 per annum) covering some 3,000 miles of paths annually. The inspection team has recorded some 2,000 new faults during 2023; this includes 240 serious faults. At the end of 2023 our inspection database records 8,022 faults that remain unresolved. Inspectors and the Society continue to engage with Highway Authorities to resolve long standing faults, in some cases taking legal action.

In 2023 the Society appointed 16 new footpath inspectors with 13 resignations leaving the total number of inspectors largely unchanged. The total number of inspectors with allocated parishes at the end of 2023 was 176. We decided to discontinue our programme with Manchester University (see 2022 annual report) as it yielded few long-term prospects. We did however manage to get some areas inspected which otherwise would have remained without data in our inspection records.

The Society has good inspection coverage in large areas of Derbyshire and Cheshire East where we have a strong member base. However, we have weaker coverage in significant parts of Lancashire (including Burnley, Preston, West Lancashire, Chorley and Lancaster), Doncaster, Liverpool & Sefton, Stoke, Wakefield, Oldham and large parts of Staffordshire where our membership numbers are lower. Strategically, we recognise the need to develop inspector numbers in these areas in the future.

During October 2023 we held a meeting in Preston for Lancashire inspectors and members which was well attended. David Goode, Lancashire County Council's PRoW manager presented and we had a chance to talk to him directly about PNFS inspections and specific faults. We have arranged a similar meeting to be held in Leeds during April 2024 for inspectors and members in the north-eastern parts of our territory where we also hope to hear from local PRoW managers.

In the first two months of 2024 we have added five new inspectors and had two resignations. The new website, Signpost magazine and our signposts continue to generate a steady interest in inspection volunteering for the Society. Given the length of

time, and often travel involved, in arranging training at Taylor House we now try to deliver inspection training online using Microsoft Teams whenever possible. So far this has proved successful and we hope gives new inspectors the best possible start to their volunteering with the Society.

We extend special thanks to two inspectors who retired during 2023 after many years of service (and many miles of walking their respective parishes). Martin Riley had been our principal inspector in Oldham for well over a decade. David Sissons inspected several Derbyshire parishes and remains one of the Society's most knowledgeable historians. The Society is grateful to both for their valuable contributions over many years (and miles!)

David Gosling stepped down as Inspection co-ordinator during October 2023 after some 10 years in the role. Under David's stewardship the Society introduced the Footpath Inspection Database and inspector numbers have increased greatly. Whilst David continues to serve as Vice-Chair and as a trustee, the Society is very appreciative of all that David has achieved in nurturing our volunteer inspection team over an extended period and for that we thank him. The Society is grateful to every volunteer footpath inspector helping us achieve our objectives.

Path Checker Faults Report - *John Fisher, Path Checker Fault Co-ordinator*

We provide a service to members and to the public where footpath faults can be reported. 487 faults were reported during 2023, an increase of 50% on the prior year. The increase was driven by greater use of our Path Checkers app, which reports from the field. This accounted for 70% of all reports. Considering multiple reports, 224 people used the system. Of these, 14 of our keenest path checkers sent eight or more reports.

Each report is forwarded to the inspector for the relevant parish. 90% of these were acknowledged - a better rate than last year. Thanks are due to our inspectors for this extra work, particularly those in the more popular areas. Where there is no inspector (58 reports), the area officer or another volunteer responds. The most common reports related to stiles (150), signposting (60), obstructions (52), overgrowth (45), bridges (23)

This year, reports were spread more evenly across the Society's area. Lancashire and the Derbyshire Dales recorded big increases. The walking areas where very few reports came in were those in Yorkshire (both South and West). The most reported parishes were the usual four adjacent ones of Marple, New Mills, Hayfield and Chapel-en-le-Frith, also Saddleworth.

Submitting reports via the (free to download) Path Checker app often makes it easier for the Society to locate and respond to faults. The app now includes the location of all of the Society's signposts.

Lost Ways

Ken Brockway

2023 has seen a slowdown in Definitive Map Modification Order applications to add unrecorded public rights to the definitive map and statement for Derbyshire. However, it has been a busy year in other areas now that Derbyshire County Council (DCC) is processing some earlier applications. We have taken one recent application to the Secretary of State, requesting a direction to DCC that the application must be investigated.

We have submitted just six applications for unrecorded routes; these are well-used routes. Since there is uncertainty about whether these will be protected from the extinguishment of public rights after 2031, better safe than sorry is a motto worth bearing in mind. Four of the paths are in Eckington parish, which shows how investigating one route can lead to spotting issues close by. 1.7 km of paths have been applied for. An application for a track called Water Lane at Newbold in Chesterfield had, frustratingly, been pending since 2020, when Back Lane was claimed. This latest application was clinched by the discovery of DCC Surveyor Office files at the Records Office; these files remain a useful source of evidence.

Elsewhere we have needed to support applications made by third parties. These are mostly based on user evidence, which can be strengthened by historical evidence provided by PNFS. Spotting a user application by a town council, we submitted historical evidence, and DCC used this alone to support making an Order. The Order is now with the Planning Inspectorate following the inevitable objection.

There has also been liaison with the Ramblers' Don't Lose Your Way initiative. The Ramblers' approach was to mark up a map with any route that was shown as a FP on OS maps but was not already recorded on the definitive map. Positive evidence has been thin on the ground, partly because OS surveyors recorded any physical evidence of a path, whether public or private. Some investigations into these Ramblers' paths have resulted in evidence of a public path which was legally stopped up many years ago. If these have returned to public use, a user evidence application could be made.

So yet again we urge all members to ensure that when out walking, the paths they actually use are protected by inclusion on the definitive map or are across access land. Let us know at lost-ways@pnfs.org.uk if they are not.

Courts and Inquiries

West Yorkshire (excluding Kirklees), South Yorkshire and Stockport - *John Harker*

FP 119 (Stockport): During 2023 the Society was involved in legal action against the Highway Authority (HA) over the “out-of-repair” section of this footpath near Hazel Grove (see David Gosling’s article in Signpost No. 77 pages 16-17). For a while it looked like we would be visiting the Magistrates’ Court to force the HA to do works necessary to bring this section of the Cown Edge Way back into a walkable state. Members may know this route was created by the Society in memory of Leslie Meadowcroft, a past chairman who lived on Nelson Street, where this route starts. The HA grudgingly did some work, which enabled us to suspend proceedings pending a review of its effectiveness over the winter of 2023-24.

FP 7 (Garforth) and BW 8 (Micklefield): These two public rights of way in Leeds cross the railway line by means of level crossings (LCs) east of Leeds. They are subject to a draft Order under Transport and Works Act 1992, legislation which allows major infrastructure projects like the Transpennine Route Upgrade (TRU) between York and Manchester to go ahead. The Society objected to the extinguishment of these LCs, due to non-existent or inadequate alternatives being provided. Those objections, and others by bodies like Leeds Council itself, have triggered a planned 12-day public inquiry starting in Leeds on 27 February 2024. I will represent the Society, assisted by local inspector Andrew Harter. The outcome is uncertain but we must try our best to mitigate the effects of this scheme on path users.

BOAT 185 (Bradfield Parish): This byway, called Moscar Cross Road, in the Sheffield part of the Peak District National Park, is an unsurfaced track popular with non-motorised users enjoying the area. Unfortunately, it’s also enjoyed by trail bikers and 4x4 drivers, which has led to serious surface damage. Sheffield councillors approved a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) in December 2023 after prolonged lobbying by user groups like this Society and the Peak District Green Lanes Alliance, of which we are a member. Unfortunately, councillors did not accept that two-wheeled motor vehicles should be banned from the byway over the winter until May. Council officers believe that there is insufficient evidence to show that trail bikes are responsible for any significant damage. We and our allies will monitor the byway closely in 2024 and continue our lobbying if necessary to protect this historic route.

Manchester, Salford and Trafford - Martin Hampar

Again this year, progress on a number of matters has been slow, largely as a reflection of the relevant highway authorities' lack of adequate resources to deal with the various matters expeditiously.

As in previous years, my work on behalf of the Society during the year has been divided between attention to issues in my home borough of Trafford, Greater Manchester and a number of more general activities, mainly in Manchester and Salford, and also in other parts of Greater Manchester and Lancashire. I am continuing to collaborate with Ramblers groups in several areas on matters of common interest and concern.

I have dealt with 27 consultations covering Orders proposing changes to the rights of way network in several Greater Manchester districts; and planning applications that may affect public rights of way in Trafford, Manchester and Salford.

Tameside - Udo Pope

During the last year I have continued to press Tameside Council to remove unlawful obstructions affecting a number of public rights of way within its area and/or to clear overgrown vegetation that prevents the use of those public rights of way. However, progress has been relatively slow.

In particular, in September 2023 I threatened Tameside Council with the service of statutory notices under either or both sections 56 and 103A of the Highways Act in respect of four public footpaths within Hyde. All four are overgrown by vegetation and, in the case of one of the footpaths, obstructed by a fence. As a result of my threat, the Council promptly inspected the footpaths and wrote to assure me they would seek prices for clearance of vegetation and had contacted the landowner responsible for the obstructive fence. However, progress has since stalled due to budgetary pressures. Tameside Council states that two of the paths (which are not in the open countryside) are considered low priority and unlikely to be cleared during the 23/24 financial year, and indicates that the clearance of the other two paths is also unlikely to take place within this timescale given Tameside's limited annual budget for PROW maintenance. I intend to continue to chase progress on these paths with a view to getting them cleared as soon as possible in the coming financial year.

In last year's Annual Report I mentioned the ongoing obstruction of FP186 Mossley (in respect of which I have previously threatened to serve a s130A notice) and the need for a potentially dangerous gulley to be bridged before that footpath could be reopened. Progress on this has been slower than was hoped for, but I am continuing to press for the installation of a footbridge over the gulley and the removal of the obstructing fence so that this useful footpath is again available to walkers.

Derbyshire Rhoda Barnett

The budget constraints on the Derbyshire County Council (DCC) rights of way service have continued to affect its performance. This has been apparent most acutely in the removal of obstructions on public paths and the repair of surfaces. After giving due warning, I served 5 legal notices on DCC seeking to resolve problems which affected walkers the most, but the council has become adept at doing just sufficient to stall the process which leads to the Society applying to the court. As lack of resources is a valid defence in the case of obstruction removal notices, it is very difficult to pursue notices under these circumstances. However, according to the council, the making of 2 diversion orders to resolve the problems is imminent and good progress has been made towards a third.

More progress was made by the council with respect to the making of modification orders to correct the definitive map and statement (DMMOs), with 8 being proposed, 14 made and 4 confirmed, resulting in the legal recognition of 4 public paths. I supported DCC at one public inquiry and in one case to be decided by written representations, but objected to 5 orders, which have yet to be decided. I wrote appeals to the Planning Inspectorate seeking directions to DCC to determine 2 applications for orders; one resulted in DCC deciding to make an order as directed, though this has not yet been done, and the outcome of the other is still pending. The Planning Inspectorate is also severely under resourced. One time-consuming matter was the need to submit another application for an order after both DCC and the Inspectorate failed to consult the Society when the landowner objected to a DMMO made by DCC. As a result the order was confirmed with a width for a path of 0.6 metres – hopelessly and incorrectly inadequate. The new application included strong evidence that the width is actually much greater; it has not yet been investigated by DCC.

A notable success was that of the area officer for Erewash, John Harker, who represented a resident in the village of Risley at a public inquiry to determine a DMMO to add a footpath to the definitive map. DCC had refused the application, but an appeal against refusal was allowed, and DCC was directed to make a DMMO. DCC adopted a neutral position at the public inquiry, so the case for confirmation was left to the applicant, who had no experience of this type of situation. John helped by presenting the case, calling witnesses who had used the path for over 20 years, and cross examining the landowner's witnesses. The landowner was represented by a London barrister. The inspector agreed with John's case that the use of the footpath did raise a presumption of dedication by the landowner, and that John had demonstrated that the landowner's attempts to rebut that presumption had failed. We are awaiting the works required to reopen this long-obstructed footpath, but we are determined to ensure that this happens.

Other more routine work continued. Comments were made on 150 planning applications, resulting in several cases in the safeguarding of public rights threatened by developments, and in improvements to public paths. Comments made on 10

proposed public path orders, both diversions and extinctions, resulted in revisions and even withdrawal made in a few cases. This work protects public rights within the limits of the tests in the relevant legislation. I have also supported the work being carried out to claim "Lost Ways", as described in another report in this document. The Derbyshire area officers and I continued to work with the local Ramblers, the Peak District Green Lanes Alliance and the Denby Footpaths Group, and to a lesser extent the British Horse Society, with our common aim of protecting and enhancing the use of public rights of way.

Wigan - Tyldesley, Leigh, Hindley, Atherton - Geoff Jones

I am currently monitoring several new housing developments in Atherton, Leigh and Tyldesley. In one of these in Leigh, through our assessors, I have raised an objection for upgrades from footpaths to bridleways as in some places they only end in footpaths. In another case, I pointed out that an upgrade of a path to a bridleway would terminate in a stile. Wigan council officers are asking the developer to remove that stile and another one on the development.

I covered a diversion in Standish in which there was nothing I could do about the original line of the path (houses had been built with people living in them). However, I managed to get the developer to add an extra access point on the diverted path. I also agreed to a diversion in Leigh of two paths across an old mill car park.

I attended a consultation with Network Rail in Hindley along with our Hindley inspector concerning the Bolton-to-Wigan line electrification. I attended a strategy meeting with Wigan concerning the old parsonage site in Leigh. I am also continuing to scan the definitive statements held at Taylor House.



*Lea FP8-2,
photograph by Ken
Brockway*

Consultations and Orders

Brian Hamilton, Assessor

At the beginning of the year, Alan Pickup, Peter Mitchell, Phil Rheinberg and I continued the work of assessors in the Consultation and Orders section, mainly working from home. Unfortunately, due to other pressures Peter was unable to continue. In his place we recruited David Mulvey, who is slowly fitting in.

I would like to thank the Society's inspectors for the good work and prompt reports they give us, and the Courts and Inquiries officers for their support.

We have been involved in five objections during the year. We have withdrawn our objections in two of these; the rest are ongoing.

The statistics for the year are listed below (previous year's figures in brackets):

Orders 146 (174)

Consultations 291 (266)

Confirmed Orders 64 (63)

Public Space Protection Orders 0 (1)

Objections 5 (13)



PROUD TO BE THE APPOINTED INSURANCE BROKERS TO THE SOCIETY

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Bridges and Improvements

Nigel Howe, Bridges and Improvements Officer

Unfortunately, although there have been lots of enquiries and proposed projects for bridges this year, none have been started or completed. The bridge projects currently under consideration are Failsworth FP 50, Bosley FP5, Lower Withington FP5, Ilkley Moor, New Mills 170, Alvanley FP17 and Blackshaw Head packhorse bridge. The proposed new bridge at Marks Bottom in Holmfirth has been approved and we are currently awaiting a commencement date. However, footpath improvements have progressed well. Here are some of the completed projects.

Hazel Grove FP84

There was a landslip to the south, affecting a connecting path. While assessing this, it became obvious that FP84 had also suffered from the same weather conditions, and the previously manageable slope was becoming steeper and more slippery. The solution was to install steps on this section, which both enabled use and prevented further damage to the area.



Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Huddersfield

HUD 189, 192-193/10; 189, 194/20; 194/40

The paths meander gently around a field within the nature reserve, granting people the opportunity to spot a number of wild species, including barn owls, tawny owls and deer. Views across Huddersfield and over towards the moors are excellent from this area. The routes are regularly used by walkers both local and from further afield. We received a number of comments from local people that the stiles made it difficult to access the fields, especially for those who were getting older. PNFS funded the replacement of a number of stiles with kissing gates.



Sandbach Public Footpath 23 Phase 3

In 2021 Sandbach Woodland and Wildlife Group (SWWG) planned improvements to FP23. Volunteer working parties commenced in 2022 with a PNFS grant (Phase I) and a crowd-funding scheme supported by both the town and county councils. After a total of 32 working parties with 600 volunteer hours, the FP23 project reached Phase III. Here it focused on establishing accessible approaches to three solid wooden footbridges on the final 350mtrs north to meet Mill Hill Lane. Meandering beside the footpath, the Arclid Brook is prone to flooding in winter. This made FP23 impassable in areas of soft puddled ground until it reached the highway, Mill Hill Lane.

Before (below left) and after the works (below centre and right)



This was a good project to be involved with, as all the work was carried out by volunteers, who also maintain the paths.

Osbaldeston FP 5 and FP6

This project has been approved and works are currently ongoing to improve the access along the existing PROW within Mire Wood. Access is currently hampered by steep slippery slopes, with some sections having been washed away. The project is to install steps within the banks to make access safer and easier.

There are other Improvement projects under consideration but currently on hold awaiting the finalisation of budgets.

Signposts

David Morton, Signpost Officer

In the course of the year our signpost-related costs again rose dramatically and by year's end had reached £800 per signpost. This included a very modest amount to cover the early years of maintenance. Essentially maintenance costs are met out of PNFS funds. I am still maintaining signposts dating back to 1905.

Our minimum required donation remained £500, but we asked donors, if possible, to pay the full amount and those who pay UK income tax to Gift Aid their donations. By December we had a total of 578 signposts, including 8 fingerposts, 5 commemorative wall plates and 2 toposcopes. All of them can be seen at pnfs.org.uk/sbgallery.

New signposts in 2023

S640 at SK 06890 83166, alt.984', 300m W of Shireoaks Farm, Chinley FPs 70 & 66, donated by Chapel-en-le-Frith Rambling Club

S641 at SK 02660 77686, alt 1226', Wythen Lache Farm, E of Fernilee Dam, Other Route with Public Access, funded by anonymous donor

S642 at SK 05373 84193, alt 1171', Andrews Farm, Chinley Head, FPs 44 & 45, donated by Blackbrook Conservation Soc IMO PNFS F'path Insp. Tony Brackenbury 1942-2020

S643 at SK 05501 84346, alt 1207', Andrews Farm, Chinley Head, FPs 46 & 45, donated in memory of PNFS member Kevin Joseph Brierley 1935-2022 from his family

S644 at SK 05414 84062, alt 1123', Andrews Farm, Chinley Head, FP 44, donated by Gail Sharples in memory of Harry Speight of Hayfield

S645 at SK 03244 50502, alt 1054', Ipstones Edge, 600m NE of Crowgutter Farm, Ipstones, FPs 63 & 65

S646 at SJ 98878 76851, alt 1180', Green Stack Farm, Rainow, FPs 10-1, 10-2, 11-2

S647 at SD 73439 51103, alt 600', Harrop Hall Farm, Slaidburn, FPs 3-40: 21, 25 and 27

S648 at SD 73298 51182, alt 594', Harrop Hall Farm, Slaidburn, FPs 3-40:21 and 25

S649 at SD 72045 51188, alt 512, Broadhead Farm, Slaidburn, FPs 3-29: 19 & 20

S650 at SD 72065 51177, alt 512', Broadhead Farm, Slaidburn, FPs 3-29: 19 & 20

S651 at SD 72050 51151, alt 511', Broadhead Farm, Slaidburn, FPs 3-29: 19 & 20

S652 at SJ 98899 81095, alt 831', Baileys Farm, Lyme Handley, FP 34

Maintenance

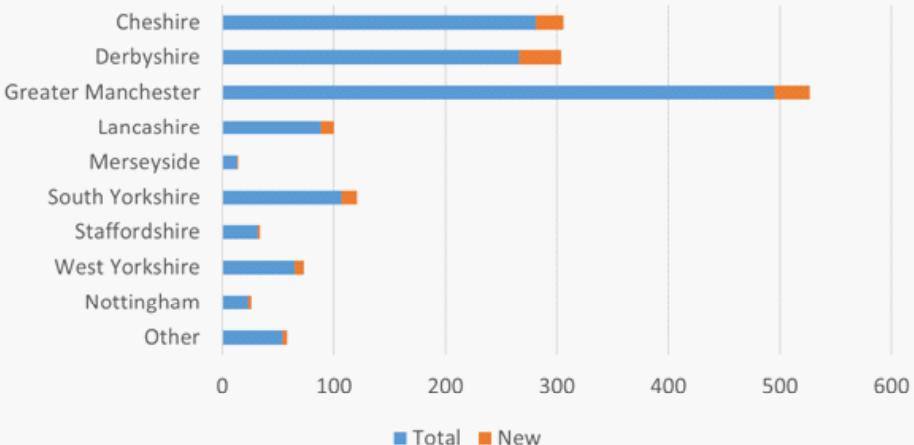
14 signs were reposted using either concrete or wooden repair posts or whole new posts. When posts rot, their sound sections are saved and recycled as repair posts. I also recover suitable timber posts from skips. Several signpost plates were shot-blasted and powder-coated by a local firm, then highlighted by myself. A small number of plates and posts were wedged and a great many were variously touched-up or fully repainted, cleaned and cleared of vegetation. My thanks are due to a small number of PNFS members and our contractor John Hodgson.

Membership

Mel Bale, Membership Secretary

The last year has been a challenging one for our membership numbers. The surge of new members that we saw during the pandemic has certainly abated. Indeed, a number of people who joined at that time disappointingly failed to renew the following year. This year, it seems as if more members than ever have written to tell me that they won't be renewing. I'm sure that the 'cost of living crisis' has had an impact, but so too has the passage of time. It always sad to hear that a long standing member has passed away. On a brighter note, we have gained more new members than we have lost and there are still a significant number of members who yet to renew from 2023.

Members by County



We continue to attract new members from all the counties that we cover, the biggest percentage increases were in Derbyshire, South and West Yorkshire, and Lancashire. It is interesting to note that our membership in Nottinghamshire, a county not covered by PNFS, continues to grow, it is almost double that of Merseyside and may well overtake Staffordshire in the next few years. The 'Other' category is largely made up of other counties adjacent PNFS counties, although we do have a few members in the south of England!

The chart does show that our membership varies considerably across the PNFS counties. Rather than seeing this a problem though, we should see it as an opportunity to increase our numbers elsewhere. I find it difficult to believe that people from one county are less interested in the work of the society than those from another, maybe they just don't know about us! We need to raise our profile in counties where our numbers are lower and hopefully we will see an increase in our overall membership as a result.

I have mentioned before that one of the rewards of being the society's Membership Secretary is that I often have direct contact with members, both old and new. In the Spring issue of *Signpost* I wrote about how I was able to facilitate a gift membership from a wife to her husband. Since then several other gift memberships have been purchased. Inevitably, this involves a longer email exchange than is usual as a gift membership has to be more personalised. Just imagine the impact on our membership numbers if we all gifted a membership to a friend or relative. Also, if you are an individual member who has a partner, why not upgrade your membership to Household?

I would like to thank all the members who have contacted me to switch to receiving *Signpost* 'electronically' rather than through the post. This will help reduce the society's 'carbon footprint' as well as saving money by printing and posting fewer copies. At the moment, we send *Signpost* 'electronically' by including a weblink to a PDF file in an email. This can then be viewed online or downloaded. Details of two alternative ways of reading the magazine 'electronically' were emailed to members recently and again I'd like to thank all those people who responded so positively.

I'm delighted to be able to report the number of groups affiliated to the society is now 100. The latest group to join us are the Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust who are returning after an absence of five years. Four new Parish Councils have also become affiliates. This might in part have been due to my appeal last year for our Footpath Inspectors to contact the Parish Councils that they cover, tell them about the work that the society does and encourage them to affiliate. The fee for doing this is modest but the benefits could be huge as we are keen to fund footpath improvements

You will probably have read elsewhere in the Annual Report that for the first time in over 10 years, the trustees are proposing to increase subscription rates. We have not taken this decision lightly, but faced with rising costs for almost everything that the society does, we feel we have no choice. The suggested increases are approximately 33%, although a little higher for affiliated groups. Many members that I have spoken to are supportive of the increase, so I hope that is the decision that is reached by the those who attend and vote at the AGM in May.

Please don't forget that your subscriptions are vital to the work of the society in protecting, promoting and improving the PRoW network. If you don't already Gift Aid your subscription and are a UK tax payer, please just sign the appropriate section on your next renewal form. By doing so you effectively increase the value of your subscription by 25%. Gift Aid can be claimed retrospectively for 4 years, so if you can Gift Aid please consider doing so.

As always, membership renewal reminder letters are sent out with every issue *Signpost* and emailed to those members who receive it electronically. I would encourage everyone to renew as soon as possible and also consider paying their subscription by direct debit if they do not already do so. Not only does this reduce the need for reminders but it also allows more time to be spent on other work for the society. Don't forget that you can renew online via our website.

I would like to thank my fellow trustees for all their support and encouragement throughout the year and in particular, Paul Easthope, our treasurer, who yet again has been a great help when dealing with the financial aspects of membership.

Finally, please do contact me at membership@pnfs.org.uk if you have any questions or ideas about membership matters.

Membership Details		
Members	2022	2023
Individual	674	703
Households	210 (420)	213 (426)
Concessions	7	8
Affiliates	82	100
Aff Free	83	102
Hon Life	32	32
VPs	6	6
Total	1305	1377

Note: Membership numbers are presented in a new format this year. Since 2022, membership renewals are now due on the anniversary of when a person or group first joined the society. The numbers above show people and affiliates who have a paid up membership at the end of March 2023. The numbers for the same date in 2022 are included for comparison purposes. Household membership counts as two people living at same address. The 2022 Affiliate number is a little misleading as a number of groups did renew before last year's AGM.

Financial Review

Paul Easthope, Treasurer

Accounting basis

These accounts have been prepared using the “receipts and payments” method, rather than the “accruals” method as used up to 2006. This is in accordance with Charity Commission guidance and the trustees’ decisions made in 2006.

Income

- * Receipts were up £6,802 to £47,303. This was mainly due to legacy income being £6,000.
- * Members’ subscriptions were similar to last year at £15,771. Affiliations were up slightly to £1,906.
- * General donations were up by £1,153 to £8,548.
- * Gift aid was lower by £463 to £5,052
- * Signpost donations were down appreciably by £2,337 to £3,210. Down £4,023 in the last two years. This is probably due to a large increase in the cost of the signpost plate to £588, making a minimum donation of £750 needed to cover the whole cost of the signpost including erection.
- * Dividends and interest were up £2,605 to £6,665.

Taking out legacy income, overall income was higher by £1,302 at £41,303.

Expenditure

Overall expenditure was appreciably lower by £13,304 to £74,308. This was nearly all due to a large fall in footpath improvements expenditure.

- * Taylor House costs were down £454 at £3,512.
- * Signpost costs more than doubled to £14,490, mainly due to a large increase in the cost of the signpost plate to £588. An increased number of signpost plates were purchased this year, 18 in total.
- * Footbridge expenditure was similar to last year at £2,460.
- * Footpath improvements costs were down £23,536 to £19,373.
- * Travel costs were down by £449 to £5,319.
- * Printing costs were similar to last year at £6,230. Please consider taking the magazine online.
- * Postage/phone/stationery was £805 higher at £4,131. Due to postage costs being £147 higher; phone, broadband, web hosting £644 higher at £1,441; and stationery £14 up at £223.
- * Computer costs rose by £2,128 to £4,906. All due to the Acronis cloud back-up service for all PNFS records in cloud storage.

- * Function costs for holding our annual general meeting and our half-year meeting were down £399 to £1,022.
- * Insurance was slightly lower at £1,233.
- * Subscriptions/donations/training costs were £1,064 lower at £354.
- * Footpath improvements were down an appreciable amount by £23,536 to £19,373. Schemes funded this year: Audlem Parish Council £8,571 for footpath improvements. Cheshire East gates for stiles £3,442. Stockport MBC £2,080 footpath improvement. West Yorkshire Wildlife Trust £5,280 for replacing seven stiles with gates.
- * Legal/prof./secretarial costs up £2,282 to £11,184. Due to funding a solicitor to take a case of a badly eroded bridleway to the Magistrates Court.
- * Sundries fell by £567 to £94. No badges purchased for resale this year.

The net deficit was £27,005 for the year. Down from a deficit of £47,111 last year.

Assets

The balance sheet is much lower due mainly to the large deficit in funding signpost installations and footpath improvements at £436,332.

Our investments rose slightly in value to £172,352, plus £9,975 held in cash waiting to be reinvested with Redmayne Bentley, our investment broker. Total £182,327
Current assets were down £49,581 to £193,350.

Direct debits subscriptions

CAF (Charity Aid Foundation Bank) collect our direct debits. Please note you no longer see on your statements and online bank details any mention of PNFS. Instead you see "Charity Donation" followed by a ref. number: either FRS... (*6 numbers) 10... or 11... or 12... (seven numbers). Collection dates are 1st and 15th of the month.

Please think about changing to paying your subscriptions and donations by direct debit and, if you are a taxpayer, signing up for Gift Aid. Forms available at pnfs.org.uk/giftaid

Annual Accounts

	Peak & Northern Footpaths Society		CC 16a	
	Receipts and payments accounts			
	For the period	From 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023		

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
Subscriptions	15,771		15,771	15,358
Affiliations	1,906		1,906	1,970
Legacies, bequests	6,000		6,000	500
Donations - general	8,548		8,548	7,395
Donations - signposts & footbridges		3,210	3,210	5,547
GiftAid tax	5,052		5,052	5,515
Interest & dividends	6,665		6,665	4,060
Other Receipts	151		151	155
<i>Sub total (Gross income for A1)</i>	44,093	3,210	47,303	40,501
A2 Assets and investment sales				
			0	0
			0	0
<i>Sub total</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Total receipts</i>	44,093	3,210	47,303	40,501
A3 Payments				
Taylor House running costs	3,512		3,512	3,966
Signpost & Footbridges	13,740	3,210	16,950	8,799
Travel & Subsistence	5,319		5,319	5,768
Printing, copying, newsletter	6,230		6,230	6,396
Postage, Telephone, Stationery	4,131		4,131	3,326
Computer, Software & maintenance	4,906		4,906	2,779
Facilities / Fundraising costs	1,022		1,022	1,421
Insurance	1,233		1,233	1,268
Subscriptions, Donations, Talking	354		354	1,418
Footpath Improvement projects	19,373		19,373	42,809
Legal Professional & Secretarial	11,184		11,184	8,902
Badge purchases, bank charges & Studies	94		94	661
<i>Sub total</i>	71,098	3,210	74,308	87,612
P&L SURPLUS			-27,005	-47,111
A4 Assets and investment purchases				
Redmayne Beale Investments bought	21,514		21,514	156,917
Transferred from Redmayne Beale cash account to investments	1,062		1,062	0
<i>Sub total</i>	22,576	0	22,576	156,917
<i>Total payments</i>	93,674	3,210	96,884	47,782
<i>Net of receipts/payments</i>	-49,581	0	-49,581	-46,386
A5 Transfers between funds £3150 was transferred from the restricted R. Barber (Mike Barnes estate) fund to cover Magistrate Committee for the Ramsdale road section 56 case	3,150	-3,150	0	0
A6 Cash funds at year end	181,921	61,010	242,931	289,317
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	135,490	57,860	193,350	242,931

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Category	Detail	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Savings accounts	123,886	57,860
	Current accounts & petty cash	11,604	0
	<i>Total cash funds</i>	135,490	57,860
	<i>(larger balance with receipts and payments account(s))</i>	OK	OK
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature		Date of approval
	<i>Paul Easthope</i>		28/1/2024
	<i>Karen... -</i>		28/1/2024



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

PEAK & NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY

On accounts for the year
ended

31/12/2023

Charity no
(if any)

212219

Set out on pages

(including the date of the pages numbers of additional documents)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention ~~(other than that disclosed below*)~~ in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* *Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: *Elizabeth Hudson*

Date: 20/2/2024

Name: ELIZABETH HUDSON

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

A.C.A.

Address:

16 LINDRIDGE LANE, DESFORD, LEICESTER
LE9 9GN

Honorary Members

The President and Vice Presidents are elected in recognition of outstanding services to the Society and they enjoy all the benefits of honorary membership. Members of 20 or more years standing who are aged at least 65 are entitled, upon application, to honorary membership

President

David Bratt

Vice Presidents

Kate Ashbrook
Mr and Mrs A F Bennet
Norman Edwards
Mrs Gwynneth Littleton
Ian McMillan

Other Honorary Members

Hilda Bowler	David Hinde
Eva Burling	Alan Hooley
Barrie Clark	Mr A Howcroft
Wade Cooper	Judith Hunt
Michael Davies	Mr and Mrs J C Law
Peter Edwards	Pat Moneypenny
Mrs M Frankland	Mr T L Norris
Brian Gerrard	Will and Marianne Peters
Ian Gibbon	Harry Scott
John and Audrey Grimsey	Mr C H Shaw
Margaret Haigh	David Sissons
John Harker	Hilary Summerscales
Philip and Anne Harris	Mrs B Taylor
Mrs J Hibbert	Peter Williams
Mr and Mrs D Hilliker	Ted Wolfe
David Hilton	Keith Wykes

Affiliated Groups

Abbotsfield Fellwalkers of Flixton
Activity in Retirement Macclesfield
Alderley Edge, Wilmslow & District FP Society
Altrincham Rambling Club
Anchor Ramblers
Anderton Parish Council
Ashton-u-Lyne & District Walking Club
Billington and Langho Parish Council
Blackburn Rambling Association
Blackrod Town Council
Bolton CHA Rambling Club
Bolton Ramblers Group
Buxton Rambling Club
CHA Bradford Rambling and Social Club
CHA Manchester Rambling Club
CHA Mansfield
CHA Sheffield Rambling Club and Social Club
Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council
Chapel-en-le-Frith Rambling Club
Cheshire Tally Ho Hare & Hounds Club
Clayton le Dale Parish Council
Crescent Ramblers Northwich
CROWS
Dark Peak Bridleways Association
Denby Footpaths Group
Derby Nomad Ramblers
Derbyshire Pennine Club
Disley Footpaths Society
Dore Village Society
Eccles Rambling & Social Club
Grindleton Parish Council
Halifax Rambling and Social Club
Hanliensian Rambling Club
Hayfield Parish Council
Helsby Parish Council
HF Bury Group
HF Nottingham Group
HF Warrington Rambling Club
High Peak Ramblers
Hulme Walfield Somerford Booths Parish Council
Hunshelf Parish Council
Macclesfield Rambling Club
Manchester and Salford Ramblers Group
Manchester Associates Rambling Club
Manchester Rambling Club
Manchester Weekend Walkers Ramblers Group
Marple District Rambling Club
Melbourne Footpaths Group
Merseyside & West Cheshire Area RA
Mid Cheshire Footpath Society
Mossley Town Council
North Turton Parish Council
Northenden Walkers
Oldham Wednesday Walkers
Oread Mountaineering Club
Osbaldeston Parish Council
Pennine Wayfarers Rambling Club
Pott Shrigley Parish Council
Poynton Rambling Club
RA Congleton Group
RA Doncaster Group
RA East Cheshire
RA Greater Manchester & High Peak Area
RA North & Mid Cheshire Area
RA Nottinghamshire Area
RA Oldham Group
RA Preston Group
RA Sheffield Group
RA South Yorks & NE Derbyshire Area
RA Stockport Group
RA Trafford Group
Ramsbgreave Parish Council
Red Rope (Manchester)
Rochdale CHA Rambling Club
Rock and Heather Club
Rossendale Ramblers
Saddleworth Pedestrians
Saddleworth Runners
Sale Walking and Activity Group
Salesbury Parish Council
Sandbach Footpath Group
Sandbach Woodland and Wildlife Group
Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust
Sheffield Co-operative Ramblers
Shirland & Higham Parish Council
Stockport Rambling & Social Club
Stockport Walkers
Stockport Walking and Outdoor Group
Sutton-in-Ashfield and District Rambling Club
Tameside Ramblers
The Irregulars
The Rucksack Club
The Strollers
Trafford Walkers
U3A Sale Walking Group
Whaley Bridge Town Council
Whalley Parish Council
Wilpshire Parish Council
Wirral Footpaths & Open Spaces Pres Soc.
Woolston Parish Council

Area Officers and Inspectors

Barnsley

Area Officer

Chris Davison

Inspectors

Mel Bale

Simon Hulme

Simon Jones

Chris Mansfield

David Oldfield

Barry Tylee

Inspectors

Steve Elliot

Chris Elliot

Pete Annice

Sue Annice

Will Ablett

John Alexander

Quentin Blagg

David Brown

Martin Brown

Tony Clare

Chris Davies

Sheila Dillon

Clive Evans

John Fisher

Terry Fones

Phil Gadsby

David Gartside

John Goodman

Brian Hamilton

Mark Kambites

Tony Littler

Clare Maxwell

Gavin Miller

Maria Novelty

David Powell

Duncan Smith

Linda Smith

David Taylor

Peter Varetto

Richard Vickery

Jeremy Marks

Gavin Miller

Joe Park

Ewan Price

John Q. White

Mike Russell

Andy Thorne

Andy Williams

Bill Buckley

Marie Campbell

John Collins

Jim Cowley

Richard Davies

David Furniss

John Goodman

Ann Haden

Julian Hodgson

Jim Howell

Merrick Iszatt

Stewart Keech

Kathy McLean

Derek Northin

Bill Parke

Debby Pickvance

Simon Thompson

David Tibbit

Richard Whiteside

Blackburn with Darwen

Inspectors

Graham Fullarton

Rob Johnson

Roger Marks

Danni Whitehead

Derby City

Area Officer

Rhoda Barnett

Inspectors

Kathy McLean

Barry Thomas

Bolton

Inspectors

Jim Foster

Brian Gerrard

Derbyshire -Amber Valley

Area Officer

Rhoda Barnett

Inspectors

David Armin

Jim Bosworth

Ken Brockway

Sandra Dixon

John Harker

Dudley Ibbett

David Moreton

Mike Nelms

Andy Smith

Derbyshire - Erewash

Area Officer

Martin Davis

Inspectors

Martin Davis

Ken Brockway

Kathy McLean

Bradford

Inspectors

Lindsay Atkinson

Gill Darnbrook

Andrew Harter

Andy Morris

Jonathan Robbins

Neil Walsh

Derbyshire - Bolsover

Area Officer

John Harker

Inspectors

Anne Green

Bury

Inspectors

Andy McMullan

David Pollard

Derbyshire - Chesterfield

Area Officer

John Harker

Inspectors

Bill Parke

Calderdale

Inspectors

Esther Mayor

Jenny Sibbons

Frank Sharman (CROWS)

Derbyshire - Dales

Area Officer

Rhoda Barnett

Inspectors

Luke Beckett

Derek Bodey

Cheshire East

Area Officer

Jenny Allen

Inspectors

Will Ablett

Derbyshire - High Peak

Area Officer

Derek Bodey

Inspectors

Mel Bale

Derek Bodey

Bill Buckley

Richard Davies

Kate Deamon

Paul Easthope

Nigel Hackney

Julian Hodgson

Tim Lewis

Steve Millward

Steve Royle

Tracy Royle

Dave Russ

Ian Smith

Duncan Smith

Helen Steel

Derbyshire - North East	Lancashire - Preston	Oldham	Stockport
<i>Area Officer</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Area Officer</i>
John Harker	Pete Kirby	Brian Lomas	David Gosling
<i>Inspectors</i>		Ken Smith	<i>Inspectors</i>
Bill Parke			Stuart Bell
Derbyshire - South	Lancashire - Pendle	Rochdale	Tameside
<i>Area Officer</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>
Rhoda Barnett	Mark Chung	Jerry Brown	Paul Easthope
<i>Inspectors</i>	Simon Worrall	Ross Myddleton	Udo Pope
Martin Davis			Simon Temple
John Eaton			
Kathy McLean			
Barry Thomas			
Doncaster	Lancashire - Ribble Valley	Rotherham	Trafford
<i>Area Officer</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Area Officer</i>	<i>Area Officer</i>
John Harker	Shirley Addy	John Harker	Martin Hampar
Kirklees	Lancashire - Rossendale	<i>Inspectors</i>	Wakefield
<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	David Oldfield	<i>Area Officer</i>
Jane Hodgson	Danny Allen		John Harker
Dan O'Hara	Blaine Parkes		<i>Inspectors</i>
David Oldfield	Ron Suthers		Ken Coggan
Mark Wall	Stephen Walker		Caroline Devonport
	Claire Whittaker		Stephen Hanslip
Lancashire - Burnley	Lancashire - South Ribble	<i>Inspectors</i>	Stephen Hird
<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	John Adler	Bill Parke
Shirley Addy	Paul Cocker	Bill Parke	Tim Saunders
Rachel Meredith	Andy Rae	John Collins	
	Brent Whybro	Stephen Blomfield	
	Danny Withington	David Oldfield	
Lancashire - Chorley	Lancashire - West	St Helens	Warrington
<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Area Officer</i>
Steven Greenbank	Nick Storer	Kevin Rigby	Jan Howe
Bob Smith			<i>Inspectors</i>
Cheryl Speight			Jenny Allen
			Jan Howe
			Nigel Howe
Lancashire - Hyndburn	Lancashire - Wyre	Staffordshire	Wigan
<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>
Shirley Addy	Brian Dearnaley	Martin Balderson	Peter Burns
James Singleton	Paul Hargreaves	Kate Beresford	Geoff Jones
	Jon Henry	Paul Beresford	Andrew Newsham
	Belinda Nixie	Tony Clare	Nick Storer
	Andrew Paton	Eric Davies	Dave Taylor
Lancashire - Lancaster	Leeds	David Edge	Mark Thomas
<i>Inspectors</i>	<i>Inspectors</i>	David Gartside	
Phil Featherstone	Andrew Harter	Steve Gwenlan	
Kathy McLean	Martin Wright	Katie Landon	
Belinda Nixie		Tony Littler	
Andrew Paton		Shaun Needs	
Hugh Stewart		Bill Parke	
Paul Tynan	Martin Hampar	Simon Temple	
		David Tibbit	
		Chad Wilkinson	

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