

**Secretary to the Forum**

(01243) 753542 (Direct)  
(01243) 777952 (Fax)  
fiona.macleod@westsussex.gov.uk

www.westsussex.gov.uk

**Agenda Item 5**

County Hall  
West Street  
Chichester  
West Sussex  
PO19 1RQ  
01243 777100

If calling ask for

Our reference

Your reference

Fiona MacLeod

FMC/CNE.17/1

16<sup>th</sup> October 2006

Dear Ms Moon,

The Countryside Access Forum for West Sussex (CAFWS) recently received an impressive presentation on the newly completed Accessible Natural Greenspace Project from Patrick McKernan, the South East Native Woodland Officer.

Whilst the Forum was most supportive of the project principles and achievements, concern were raised there is a risk that potentially new high quality access may be overlooked if the map showed the area as having sufficient access already available.

The understanding from Mr McKernon was that the model should not be used as the sole arbiter and that Natural England are aware of the concerns raised by other Forums including the South Downs Access Forum, one of our sub-fora

As a result, CAFWS would like your confirmation that Natural England and partners will not rely exclusively on access provision models when deciding where to provide new access. The Forum will, of course, be happy to provide impartial views as to whether access should be provided when asked.

Whilst writing, please can you confirm who the Natural England contact will be for such future correspondence, copy minutes etc.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course

Yours sincerely

Fiona MacLeod  
Secretary  
Countryside Access Forum for West Sussex