

# Broads Local Access Forum

09 March 2022

Agenda item number 7

## Forum Membership

Report by Head of Construction, Maintenance & Ecology

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### Summary

A report to update on the current membership of the Broads Local Access Forum (BLAF) and set out the timetable for recruitment and appointments in 2022/23.

### Recommendation

That members of the Forum note the membership information and future timetable.

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1. As per the BLAF constitution, the Forum will comprise at least 10 and not more than 22 representatives, appointed by the Broads Authority in accordance with The Local Access Forums (England) Regulations 2007. Members of the Forum shall be appointed for not less than one and not more than three years. Seven members came to the end of their membership duration in December 2021.

## 2. Membership from January 2022

- 2.1. Table 1 below shows the current membership and the start and end dates of the current membership period.

	First Name	Surname	From	To
1	Katie	Baxter	10/03/2021	09/03/2022
2	Paul	Saunders	10/03/2021	09/03/2022
3	Harry	Blathwayt*	01/07/2021	15/07/2022
4	Michael	Scott*	01/07/2021	15/07/2022
5	Linda	Aspland	04/09/2019	03/09/2022
6	Tim	Harris	04/09/2019	03/09/2022
7	John	Murray	04/09/2019	03/09/2022
8	Louis	Baugh	10/03/2021	09/03/2023
9	Richard	Atkins	10/03/2021	09/03/2024
10	Christine	Cane	10/03/2021	09/03/2024

	First Name	Surname	From	To
11	Peter	Dixon	10/03/2021	09/03/2024
12	Tony	Gibbons	10/03/2021	09/03/2024
13	Martin	Rendle	10/03/2021	09/03/2024
14	Richard	Webb	06/12/2021	05/12/2024
15	Peter	Mason	06/12/2021	05/12/2024
16	Keith	Bacon	06/12/2021	05/12/2024
17	Chris	Yardley	06/12/2021	05/12/2024
18	Steven	Read	06/12/2021	05/12/2024

\*Denotes a Broads Authority member directly appointed on an annual basis to the Forum (maximum of two at any one time)

### 3. Future membership

3.1. The current membership is 18 members. As up to 22 members are allowable, as per the constitution, a further round of recruitment will be initiated in spring 2022 once the vacant Waterways & Recreation Officer post has been recruited to. The Forum application process is an open invitation with a form for candidates to fill in. The applications are reviewed by the Chair and Broads Authority staff directly engaged in BLAF administration with a face to face meeting with each applicant. Under 3(5) of the 2007 Regulations, membership of the Forum is selected so that there is representation from the following interest groups:

- a) users of local rights of way or the right conferred by section 2(1) (rights of public in relation to access land);
- b) owners and occupiers of access land or land over which local rights of way subsist;
- c) any other interests especially relevant to the Broads Authority's executive area.

3.2. If there are more applications than spaces available on the Forum, then the applicants will be selected to ensure a spread of representation across a-c above. After that, selection will be based on the potential for the applicant to act as an effective representative for their interest group. As for other public sector activities, ensuring representation and engagement with all sectors of the community, particularly those under-represented, or those facing specific access challenges, will be a consideration, in line with the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010.

3.3. Broads Authority members are appointed to the Forum annually (July) at the Authority's AGM. Currently the Forum election of a chair and vice chair is at the September meeting each year.

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Background papers: [BLAF constitution 2020 \(endorsed\) \(broads-authority.gov.uk\)](https://broads-authority.gov.uk/broads-authority/broads-authority-constitution-2020)

[Broads Plan](#) objectives: 6.1, 6.2, 6.4