

# **National Access Forum**

## **Second Annual Report: 2005-2006**

## Introduction

Part 1 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 confers rights of access to most land and inland water in Scotland. These rights are subject to responsible behaviour, which is described in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) has a statutory duty to keep this Code under review.

The National Access Forum (NAF) is a voluntary association of interested organisations, convened by SNH, with overarching aims to help:

- facilitate responsible enjoyment of the outdoors;
- encourage responsible management of land and water in relation to access; and
- ensure that the reasonable needs of privacy, safety and conservation are safeguarded.

The forum seeks to achieve these aims by:

- advising SNH and other bodies on national issues arising from implementation of the access legislation;
- advising on the effectiveness of the *Scottish Outdoor Access Code* and on work to publicise and promote it;
- advising on best practice in access provision and management;
- advising on other access-related issues of national importance which relate to responsible enjoyment of the outdoors, and;
- liaising with the new local access forums and advising SNH on their consistency in dealing with issues arising from the legislation.

The forum has 25 full members, with equal numbers of bodies representing land management and recreation interests, and common membership criteria which specify that each body should be membership-based, authoritative and committed to effective liaison with a broad constituency. The forum also includes public bodies, including the access authorities and SNH, which have critical roles in the implementation of the new rights, and representatives of relevant commercial/tourism, education and conservation interests. The Scottish Executive attends as an observer.

Participating representative bodies are selected democratically from wider constituencies of recreation and land management organisations, and those bodies which are not selected for full membership are able to participate as corresponding members. The forum can establish sub-groups to consider particularly complex or contentious issues, and these may include both full and corresponding members as appropriate. Members of the forum are listed in Annex 1.

The forum has an independent Convenor elected by full forum members, and any full or corresponding member body can propose nominations for this role. The current Convenor is Bob Reid, who was elected in November 2004. The Convenor serves for a two year term with the possibility of renewal for a further two years, and membership of the forum as a whole is also periodically reviewed. The Secretariat to the forum is provided by SNH.

In summary, the membership of the forum is therefore as follows:

- user bodies (six)
- land management bodies (six)
- public bodies (six)
- other representative bodies (five: commercial/tourism body, education body, conservation body, and two other bodies selected by the forum)

- additional local contact (one: an access authority officer providing further input on issues affecting low ground/urban access authorities)
- convenor (one)

All regular forum meetings are held in public and papers are available on a dedicated Access Forum microsite at [www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com). Submissions on forum papers are invited from all interested parties, including members of the public. The Operating Principles of the forum are listed in Annex 2.

The forum was convened during 2004-05 and was largely in place when access rights came into force in February 2005. This is the second Annual Report of the forum and describes the work that has been undertaken from September 2005 to September 2006. During the period covered by this report, some time has necessarily been devoted to the resolution of outstanding administrative and structural issues. However, the forum is now fully operational and the balance of effort has focused on practical issues arising from the implementation of the new access rights.

## **Administration and structure**

A number of outstanding issues relating to the membership and operation of the forum have been resolved during the last year.

### *Open meetings*

When the forum was originally convened, the SNH Board recommended that it should move to open public meetings as soon as possible. These arrangements were put in place in late 2005 and a small number of observers have attended each regular business meeting held during the last year.

### *Liaison with local access forums*

Following considerable discussion, both at meetings and by correspondence, the forum has agreed further action to strengthen liaison with the network of local access forums. This is described in more detail below.

### *Liaison with Access for All (Scotland) Forum*

The forum seeks to address disability interests through liaison between the Secretariats of the NAF and the Access for All (Scotland) Forum, which is convened by the Paths for All Partnership (PFAP). The Access for All Forum is now fully operational and has met twice during the past year. Some early priority tasks have been identified, including feeding disability issues into core path planning and collating lists of disability contacts for other public consultations. This has not so far generated any significant discussion at the NAF, but the respective Secretariats continue to liaise and members of either group can relay matters for discussion by the other body at any time.

### *National Park Authority membership*

Following agreement on a preferred approach to strengthen local input to the forum (see below), the joint membership of the two National Park Authorities has been confirmed on a permanent basis. This arrangement should ensure continued input from both types of access authority to future discussion at the forum.

### *VisitScotland membership*

At an early stage in the development of the forum, it was suggested that VisitScotland (VS) should be invited to participate as a full member. This proposal was agreed by the forum on the basis that SNH should relinquish voting rights to maintain the numerical balance, for voting purposes, between the different sectors. VS has now taken up this offer, and the March 2006 forum meeting included a presentation by Riddell Graham, Director of Strategy, Partnerships & Communications, outlining VS's perspective on the access legislation. As originally agreed, SNH is now a non-voting member of the forum.

### *One-year review*

At the NAF meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2004, it was agreed that the forum should provide a system of constructive and supportive performance monitoring for the Convenor, based on an annual appraisal supplemented, if necessary, by informal guidance. This process is now underway in the context of a wider review of the forum's operation to date, and was initiated in February 2006 by circulation of a questionnaire to full members. The resulting comments and suggestions were passed to a small cross-sectoral sub-group of forum members, which has developed a small number of recommendations, in discussion with the Convenor and

Secretary, for consideration by the forum as a whole. This process is ongoing and will be concluded later in 2006.

## **Achievements during 05-06**

During the last year, the forum has considered a number of practical issues relating to the access legislation and Code. These are grouped according to the functions of the forum as indicated in the Introduction.

### ***Advising SNH and other bodies on national issues arising from implementation of the access legislation***

#### *Funding for implementation*

The forum has received regular updates from the Scottish Executive on the development of access provisions in Land Management Contracts (LMCs) and has assisted with this process where possible, in particular by using its contact network to gather feedback on the integration of this process with other access provision. A number of members have contributed more directly through liaison with the Scottish Executive Environment & Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD) Access Working Group, which is helping to develop the LMC access options. The forum has also continued to receive regular updates on access authority funding for implementation of the legislation from the Scottish Executive and SNH through a standing agenda item.

#### *Roles and responsibilities*

The forum has contributed to a process through which the roles of the various bodies involved in implementation of the access legislation have been clarified. This has been summarised in a matrix table which is now available on the Scottish Executive website at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Countryside/16328/delive>.

#### *Access and the media*

Experience during the recent avian flu alert suggested that the Scottish Executive's contingency plan operated very effectively with regard to access interests. There was, however, considerable misreporting of access restrictions in and around the 'protection' and 'surveillance' zones. The forum has agreed to consider ways of promoting greater understanding of access in the media, which will be taken forward in the coming year.

### ***Advising on the effectiveness of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and on work to publicise and promote it***

#### *Camping*

Various access authorities and other bodies have highlighted issues relating to the management of informal camping in the context of the access rights. These were explored at a joint workshop organised by the National Trust for Scotland and SNH, which took place in February 2006. A sub-group of the forum has been established to take this process forward and is chaired by Brent Meakin of Forestry Commission Scotland. The group met in May 2006 to consider this issue, building on the outcome of the previous workshop, and has developed the following recommendations for action:

- Map locations, quantify the problem, consider surveying wild campers and collate examples of good practice.

- Encourage the provision of training, including new courses if required, to help land managers, access authorities and rangers to deal with irresponsible, antisocial or illegal behaviour.
- Encourage the inclusion of suitable provisions in LMCs and highlight other potential sources of funding.
- Consider improvements to the wording of the Code, including the benefit of defining different types of camping. Develop additional guidance in advance of the revision of the Code that includes these points.
- Review the inclusion of camping in the current programme for promoting the Code and develop further promotional material where required.

Some of these actions are already in hand and SNH is considering whether camping issues could be included in forthcoming education and training initiatives, such as its programme of Sharing Good Practice training events.

### *Events*

Experience in a number of areas has also highlighted various issues relating to the management of some types of large outdoor event. Discussion at the forum indicated a general need to promote greater awareness of the Scottish access framework and the Access Code among some event organisers, and this has been pursued by various routes:

- The forum has contacted the Institute of Fundraising to consider ways in which Scottish access messages could be integrated into guidance which is produced by the Institute for event organisers across the UK.
- The forum has also worked with EventScotland to raise awareness of the Code by promotion of the Code on the ES website, in information supplied to organisers, and through an article in a regular ES newsletter. ES has become a corresponding member of the forum and can make an important contribution to future discussion of access issues relating to events.

Discussion at the forum, and further correspondence with the wider forum network, has also highlighted a number of more specific issues, including a need to clarify the procedures and timescales for liaison between event organisers and other interested parties, and to more clearly define who is best placed to advise on potential impacts on other recreational users and on the environment. A preliminary meeting is planned to allow interested parties to identify the necessary action and this will be taken forward in the coming year.

### *Promoting awareness of the Code*

The forum has continued to receive periodic updates from SNH on the preparation of Access Code publicity materials and the Code education programme, and these have been disseminated to the network of corresponding members and other corresponding contacts. The forum has also highlighted the need for consistency of Code messages in cross-Border publications and SNH is in ongoing discussion with agencies south of the Border to address this issue.

### ***Advising on best practice in access provision and management***

#### *Guidance on signage*

The forum has contributed to the development of guidance on various types of signage through a dedicated signage sub-group. This group has previously made an extensive input

to the development of signage guidance and associated sign templates for land managers, which was led by SNH, and these are now available on [www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com). During 2005-06, the signage sub-group has also contributed by correspondence to the development of guidance on general access-related signage. This is now at the design stage and will be available in the near future.

#### *Guidance on local access forums*

Forum members have commented by correspondence on updated guidance on local access forums produced by PFAP. This will shortly be published as the second edition of *Local Access Forums: a guide to good practice*.

#### ***Advising on other access-related issues of national importance which relate to responsible enjoyment of the outdoors***

##### *Support for land managers affected by irresponsible behaviour*

In response to a paper previously tabled by the Scottish Rural Property & Business Association (SRPBA), the Forum considered further action which might be needed to support land managers affected by irresponsible behaviour. This has been followed up during 2005-06 by discussion between SNH and police architectural liaison officers to clarify the role of the police in dealing with criminal behaviour and promote greater awareness of the access legislation. Further work is underway to integrate access into the police training curriculum. Police representatives took part in SNH Sharing Good Practice training events in February and May 2006, which focused on the promotion of responsible access and dealing with unacceptable behaviour.

##### *Access across level crossings*

The Forum has been involved in further discussion with Network Rail regarding access across level crossings which are not on the public road network. A one year pilot exercise has now been completed at a number of crossings in the Highlands, to explore the potential for positive management that will both support access rights and address safety concerns. SNH and the forum Convenor have met with Network Rail to consider the way ahead, and Network Rail is in discussion with Her Majesty's Rail Inspectorate to clarify the legal background and the available options. Discussion of this issue is ongoing.

##### *Access across golf courses*

In January 2006, the Scottish Golf Union (SGU) met the Deputy Minister for Environment & Rural Development to highlight concerns about the implications of the access legislation for golf courses. The Minister advised SGU that any case for amendments to the Act would need to be supported by evidence of issues on the ground and of attempts to address them using existing measures, and encouraged SGU to work with the NAF to take this process forward. Hamish Grey, Chief Executive of SGU, gave a presentation to the May 2006 forum meeting indicating these concerns, which primarily relate to irresponsible access, with the risk of injury to users, and dog fouling. These concerns and possible solutions were discussed in some detail and SNH offered to work with SGU and the access authorities to develop practical solutions and best management practice.

##### *Ticks*

The NAF has been approached by Scotland's Moorland Forum with the aim of highlighting the apparent increase in sheep tick populations and the associated risk of disease

transmission to humans. The Access Forum will receive a presentation on this issue in the near future.

### ***Liaising with the new local access forums***

The part of the forum's remit is of general importance to the realisation of the other objectives listed above, and is likely to gain momentum as the network of local forums becomes established. A number of mechanisms currently exist to promote liaison with local access forums, including:

- papers are circulated to access officers by e-mail for onward distribution, as appropriate, to local forums;
- forum papers are available online at [www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com);
- local forum members can contribute comments or points for discussion at the national forum via the full members representing access authorities or relevant recreation/land management interests, or via the Secretary, and;
- the forum conducts its regular business meetings in public and holds an annual joint meeting with local access forums at different locations around the country.

The Forum held its first annual joint meeting with local access forums in Pitlochry on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2005. This event included presentations on the development of local forums around the country and reports from access officers on emerging issues relating to the management of access and the Access Code. Feedback suggested that participants found this to be a useful event.

Since the inception of the forum, two seats have been reserved on a provisional basis for local forum members, one of which has been temporarily occupied, since May 2004, by a joint representative of the National Park Authorities. At a number of meetings held during last year (and before), the forum discussed possible ways in which local input could be further strengthened. Local access forums and access officers were consulted on this issue during late 2005 – early 2006, through a correspondence paper which floated various additional national-local liaison mechanisms. These included a local access forum representative, or maintaining contact with local issues via the Paths for All Partnership (PFAP) or an access authority access officer. The response to this consultation was relatively limited and indicated general support for the principle of national-local liaison, but little wider consensus.

In subsequent discussion at the forum, a majority of members felt that an access officer would be best placed to reflect the full range of views at local level, to strengthen links between the Forum and the wider network of access practitioners, and to provide an additional contact point for local access forum members. It was agreed that this officer should be drawn from a lowland/urban authority, complementing the existing Forum membership. It was noted, however, that the chosen approach need not preclude the future involvement of PFAP or a LAF member, and this could be discussed again at the NAF-LAFs joint meeting in 2006.

The meetings held by the forum during the period covered by this report are listed in Annex 4.

## Further information

Additional information about the National Access Forum, including the papers of the NAF-LAF joint meeting and regular meetings conducted during 2005-2006, can be obtained at [www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com). If you have any other queries about the Forum, or would like to discuss any aspect of the Forum's work, please contact:

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## **Annex 1: Full and corresponding members of the National Access Forum**

Member organisations are grouped into the 'constituencies' used to ensure that the forum is balanced and broadly representative. Full members are indicated in **bold**.

### ***Recreation bodies***

#### **British Horse Society Scotland**

British Cycling

#### **Cyclists Touring Club (Scotland)**

International Mountain Bicycling Association-UK

#### **Mountaineering Council of Scotland**

National Caving Association

#### **Ramblers' Association Scotland**

Rough Stuff Fellowship

Royal Yachting Association (Scotland)

Scottish Amateur Rowing Association

#### **Scottish Canoe Association**

Scottish Carriage Driving Association

Scottish Cycling Union

Scottish Equestrian Association

Scottish Hang Gliding & Paragliding Federation

Scottish Hill Runners

Scottish Orienteering Association

#### **Scottish Sports Association**

Snowsport Scotland

Sub Aqua Association (Scotland)

Trail Cyclists Association

### ***Land management bodies***

#### **Association of Deer Management Groups**

Association of Salmon Fishery Boards

#### **British Association for Shooting & Conservation**

#### **Confederation of Forest Industries**

#### **Historic Houses Association of Scotland**

#### **NFU Scotland**

Scottish Crofting Foundation

Scottish Estates Business Group

Scottish Golf Union

#### **Scottish Rural Property & Business Association**

### ***Public bodies***

British Waterways Scotland

#### **Convention of Scottish Local Authorities**

EventScotland

#### **Forestry Commission Scotland**

Health & Safety Executive

Historic Scotland

Ministry of Defence

#### **National Park Authorities**

Scottish Enterprise

#### **Scottish Natural Heritage**

#### **Scottish Water**

#### **Sportscotland**

Visitscotland

### ***Other bodies***

### *Education bodies*

Boys Brigade  
Field Studies Council  
Girls Brigade  
Guide Association Scotland  
Outward Bound Scotland  
Royal Highland Educational Trust  
**Scottish Advisory Panel for Outdoor Education**  
Scout Association Scotland  
Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

### *Commercial/tourism bodies*

#### **Activity Scotland**

Association of Mountain Guides  
Association of Mountaineering Instructors  
British Holiday and Home Parks Association  
Scottish Chambers of Commerce  
Scottish Youth Hostels Association  
Trekking & Riding Association of Scotland

### *Conservation bodies*

John Muir Trust  
Scottish Environment Link  
National Trust for Scotland  
**RSPB Scotland**  
Scottish Wildlife Trust  
Woodland Trust

### *Other relevant interests*

Association of Scottish Community Councils  
Cycling Scotland  
**Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group**  
Fieldfare Trust  
Mountain Bothies Association  
Salmon and Trout Association  
Scottish Anglers' National Association  
Scottish Autocycle Union  
Scottish Canine Consultative Council  
Scottish Disability Equality Forum  
Scottish Federation for Coarse Angling  
**Scottish Rights of Way & Access Society**  
Sustrans Scotland

### **Professional bodies**

Association of Chief Police Officers (Scotland)  
Association of Heads of Outdoor Centres  
Game Conservancy Trust  
Law Society of Scotland  
Royal Town Planning Institute  
Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors  
Royal Scottish Forestry Society  
Scottish Countryside Access Network  
Scottish Countryside Rangers Association  
Scottish Gamekeepers Association  
Scottish Raptor Monitoring Group

The Paths for All Partnership is also included in the circulation of forum papers.

## **Annex 2: Operating principles of the National Access Forum**

### **A. The role and status of the Forum**

- A1. The Land Reform Act places a statutory duty on SNH to keep the Access Code under review, and to consult 'such persons or bodies as they think appropriate' in fulfilment of this task. The National Access Forum is a voluntary association of interested organisations convened by SNH for this purpose. It is for SNH and Forum members to agree the Forum's composition and remit.
- A2. The overarching aims of the Forum are to:
- facilitate responsible enjoyment of the outdoors;
  - encourage responsible management of land and water in relation to access; and
  - ensure that the reasonable needs of privacy, safety and conservation are safeguarded.
- A3. The Forum will achieve these aims by:
- advising SNH and other bodies on national issues arising from the implementation of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, including the use of duties and powers, the content and effectiveness of guidance, and resource requirements;
  - advising on the effectiveness of the *Scottish Outdoor Access Code* and on possible improvements to it;
  - advising on work to publicise the Code and to promote understanding of it, and keeping the effectiveness of this work under review;
  - advising on broad principles and approaches to best practice in access provision and management, including codes of practice, advice, signage and standards;
  - advising on other access-related issues of national importance arising from or impacting on responsible enjoyment of the outdoors; and
  - liaising regularly with the new local access forums and advising SNH on their consistency in dealing with issues arising from the legislation.

### **B. Running the Forum and its meetings**

- B1. The Forum will meet 3-4 times a year, or as required.
- B2. Much of the work of the Forum will be conducted through time-limited working groups that report to the Forum. The working groups would most likely be chaired by Forum members but their membership would be drawn from both full and corresponding member bodies.
- B3. The Forum will be chaired by a Convenor who will be appointed by the full members of the Forum. All members of the Forum may put forward nominations for this role. The Convenor will be appointed for two years in the first instance, with the possibility of a further two year term thereafter.
- B4. SNH will provide the Secretariat support for the Forum and will maintain an address and web presence for the Forum.
- B5. Each working group will be serviced by a Forum member organisation, most likely one of the public body members.
- B6. Forum and working group meetings will be minuted. Comments will be attributed to individuals and member organisations.

- B7. Any member organisation can raise agenda items or prepare formal papers for discussion by the Forum with the agreement of the Forum. Formal papers must be with the Secretariat at least three weeks before the meeting.
- B8. Agendas for meetings will be agreed by the Convenor and Secretary. Agendas, papers and minutes will be circulated to all members at least two weeks before meetings (unless otherwise agreed between the Convenor and Secretary). Corresponding members can comment or raise other points through the most appropriate representative on the Forum or through the Secretary.
- B9. A brief meeting report, covering the main issues discussed and action points arising, will be produced, circulated to members and placed on the website within one week of each meeting. The report will be approved by the Convenor and Secretary.
- B10. A detailed note of the meeting will be produced within three weeks of a meeting and circulated to full members for comment on its accuracy and content. The note will then be formally approved at the following meeting.
- B11. The Forum seeks to develop a climate of openness and trust. At each meeting of the Forum, there will be an opportunity for members to declare any relevant interests or actions which are likely to affect the work of the Forum or the business on the day.
- B12. In the unlikely event of a vote on a particular action or activity, all full members will have equal status. Observer members would not vote.
- B13. In joint decisions taken by the Convenor and Secretary, the Convenor will, if necessary, have the final say.
- B14. Scottish Natural Heritage will be a non-voting member of the Forum but will participate fully in all Forum business. The Scottish Executive will be an observer. Note: SNH currently holds the vote for the vacant public body position, which it is hoped to allocate to VisitScotland.
- B15. A work programme will be agreed by the Forum each year. This programme will set out the main areas of work, the main outputs expected and what working groups are likely to be required.

### **C. Keeping people informed**

- C1. Agendas and papers will be placed on the website at least two weeks before a meeting, unless otherwise agreed between the Convenor and Secretary.
- C2. Meeting reports and approved formal minutes will be made public and placed on the website.
- C3. A short annual report will be produced each year. This will be published and placed on the website.
- C4. The annual report will be launched at a meeting which will be open to local access forum members and the wider public. This meeting will take place at a different venue each year, to give a good geographical spread around Scotland.
- C5. Regular meetings of the Forum will normally take place in a central location and will be open to the public. Members of the public attend strictly as observers, and should inform the Secretary beforehand in order to facilitate the arrangements for the meeting.

- C6. Members of the public can contribute written submissions on particular agenda items, which will be circulated to members or tabled at the meeting. These will be in the public domain, although the Convenor and Secretary may withhold material that is offensive or in breach of law.
- C7. Certain agenda items may be discussed in closed session, at the discretion of the Convenor and Secretary.
- C8. The Convenor and Secretary may invite attendance by any individual or organisation that they believe will assist with the work of a meeting. More than one person may be invited to attend, as necessary, on behalf of a particular organisation.

**D. The role of member bodies and their representatives**

- D1. Each member organisation will have one named representative on the Forum. Each representative can have a named individual who can deputise for them. If neither the nominated representative or their deputy can attend a meeting, the Secretary should be informed in writing at least 1 week before a meeting of who will attend in their place.
- D2. At meetings of the Forum, no more than one formal representative will normally be allowed to attend on behalf of each member organisation.
- D3. Members are expected to bring forward the views of their organisations, their general sector and any corresponding members who have contacted them, and feed back accordingly.
- D4. The Forum should strive to reach a collective view on an issue, and members must be willing to work towards and adopt common positions where possible. Such decisions are binding on the Forum but not on member bodies. Where a common view cannot be reached, the different positions of the member bodies should be identified.
- D5. The work of the Forum must be well-informed, so member organisations are expected to seek the views of their members regularly (such as through a committee).
- D6. The membership of the Forum will be kept under review by SNH and the Forum itself.
- D7. If a representative or their deputy fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Forum then their membership may be rescinded.

### **Annex 3: Membership of Access Forum sub-groups**

#### *Signage sub-group*

- British Association for Shooting & Conservation
- Health & Safety Executive
- Mountaineering Council of Scotland
- NFU Scotland
- Ramblers' Association Scotland
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
- Scottish Countryside Rangers Association
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- Scottish Rural Property & Business Association
- Scottish Sports Association

#### *Camping sub-group*

- Activity Scotland
- Association of Deer Management Groups
- Forestry Commission Scotland
- Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group (Scotland)
- Mountaineering Council of Scotland
- National Park Authorities
- NFU Scotland
- Ramblers' Association Scotland
- Scottish Canoe Association
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- Scottish Rural Property & Business Association
- VisitScotland

#### *One year review sub-group*

- Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group (Scotland)
- NFU Scotland
- Scottish Canoe Association
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- Scottish Rural Property & Business Association

### **Annex 4: Meetings held during the last year**

- Joint meeting with local access forums – Pitlochry, 21<sup>st</sup> September 05
- Fifth meeting - 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov 05
- Sixth meeting - 1<sup>st</sup> March 06
- Meeting of camping sub-group - 5<sup>th</sup> May 06
- Seventh meeting - 31<sup>st</sup> May 06
- Meeting of one year review sub-group – 16<sup>th</sup> August 06

Regular Forum meetings all take place in the Perth area.