

Access and Inclusion

Summary:

- We have welcomed Andrea Graham and Hannah McDonnell to the group as Board members and Helen Komor as a CNL staff member
- Katherine Chesson stepped down as Chair and Bex has been Chairing the group for the past four meetings
- Next meeting 10th June at 1:30pm on Teams

Recommendation: That the Executive committee notes the report

Report by: Nicole Daw, Access and Volunteers Officer

MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

- Bex Waite
- Helen Komor
- Nicole Daw
- Amanda Davis
- Andrea Graham
- Ben Stokes
- Hannah McDonnell
- Katherine Chesson
- Margaret Reid
- Rosie Pearson

MEETINGS SINCE THE LAST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dates of meeting/s 18th March 2026

Key points of discussion, etc.

- Meetings in October, November and January focused on the Groups Terms of Reference and resulted in the name change from Wellbeing and Inclusion to Access and Inclusion. This slight shift in focus acknowledges that accessing nature and the countryside is the first step in enabling people to use it as a tool for increasing wellbeing.
- The meeting in March involved a conversation about a Telegraph article which highlighted work in National Landscapes in equity and inclusion. The Cotswolds and the Chilterns had been named specifically. The article though factual, used inflammatory tone and language and was subsequently picked up by other outlets.
- We agreed that the group should look at Board, staff and volunteering first when addressing inclusion and diversity, as well as championing our work and looking for further opportunities to work with the public and partner organisations.

OTHER ACTIVITY

Short walks booklet created by Margaret Reid has been well received and the print run of 100 were distributed quickly. A further print run of 5000 was therefore made. Funding for both print runs came from the Defra Access for All Fund

DECISIONS REQUIRED

None

NEXT STEPS

CNL looks to complete The Race Report Transparency Cards to improve our internal diversity and move forward with moving towards being an anti-racist organisation

If a new anti-harrassment and bullying policy is written, the WG would like to have chance to comment on this before it goes to full Board for approval

SUPPORTING PAPERS

The Race Report - <https://www.race-report.uk/>

April 2026