

## **Appendix 2:**

### **The Current Situation - 2006**

The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority has been making steady progress towards eliminating discrimination towards disabled people and providing equitable access to services. The list below shows the progress that has already been made. Most of these activities are not required by law.

#### **Disabled Access Steering Group**

The Disabled Access Steering Group was formed in the early 1990's to advise on disabled access improvements to identified sites in the Brecon Beacons. Its' members comprise of a mix of local disabled access, advocacy and representational groups, local officers from the Forestry Commission, Brecknock Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Welsh Water and a mix of Brecon Beacons National Park Authority staff.

The group meets four times a year to discuss disabled access issues and to develop new disabled projects, activities and events in the National Park. The group is also responsible for compiling a Disabled and Easier Access Guide to the Brecon Beacons National Park, which is coordinated and published by the BBNPA.

#### **Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan**

Disabled access groups and individuals were involved and consulted in formulating key parts of the draft Rights of Way Action Plan. This has resulted in disabled access and barrier-free access being a comprehensive feature throughout the plan.

**Website Accessibility:** The current website is being redesigned and will exceed the minimum accessibility standards required.

**Member Champions:** The National Park Authority Committee has two members that act as Member Champions on disability issues as part of their individual portfolios.

**Human Resources Policies:** The Human Resources policies have recently been reviewed to ensure that they comply with current legislation, and that they reflect the National Park Authority's commitment to equality of opportunity.

**“Two Ticks” Disability Symbol:** The National Park Authority is an authorised user of the symbol which, amongst other things, guarantees disabled people an interview if they meet the essential minimum criteria for the post.

**Training:** During 2006 all members of staff received Disability Equality Training which adhered to principles of the social model of disability.

7 members of staff successfully completed the introductory British Sign Language Association assessment.

**Places to Visit with Disabled & Easier Access Guide:** The guide lists over 40 sites, routes and attractions in the Brecon Beacons National Park that have disabled and easier access. Many of the listed sites were specifically designed or improved to meet the requirements of disabled access. The guide is currently being revised in preparation for the 2007 season.