



News Release

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Huge improvements made on rights of way network

Over 290km of public rights of way were improved in the county during the last financial year, Powys County Council has announced.

The improvement works were overseen by the council's Countryside Services team, which is responsible for managing and maintaining the 8,150 km of rights of way in the county excluding the Brecon Beacons National Park.

During 2015/16, 291.3km of rights of way were maintained or improved, which smashed the 175km target the team set themselves.

As part of the works, 10 new bridges were installed and a further 19 were repaired and maintained. 227 gates were installed as part of the improvement works along with 123 waymarker posts, 120 fingerposts and 10 stiles. Over 97km of clearance work on the rights of way were also carried out.

Some of this work was carried out by the council's Countryside Volunteers, who clocked up 1,212 hours carrying out practical works on the county's public rights of way.

Cllr John Powell, Cabinet Member for Countryside Services, said: "This is a fantastic achievement and proves that we are committed to ensuring our public rights of way are maintained and open for everyone to enjoy."

"This is a real team effort by everyone within our Countryside Services team, I would like to congratulate them on their outstanding work. These results are a testament to their hard work and dedication in helping to maintain the largest rights of way network in Wales.

"I would also like to thank our Countryside Volunteers for their efforts in carrying out the practical works. In these increasingly difficult financial times, we have to rely on the generous support of our volunteers, who made a huge contribution to the rights of way network during 2015/16.

"Our rights of way network is a huge asset to the county. Our work, and the efforts of the Countryside Volunteers, is going a long way to preserve them for future generations."

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