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## Profile

I am a dedicated professional with a 15 year career in the countryside sector. This experience has been gained across a range of disciplines, including access management and promotion, biodiversity, including habitat management and management planning, and strategic planning. The range of experience gained through my career provides a cross-disciplinary approach, allied with an understanding of practical issues gained through working at grass-roots level. I operate across the south and further afield.

## Expertise

- Rights of way
- Inclusive access
- Access promotion
- Interpretation planning and implementation
- Path surveys
- Strategic access planning
- Managing publicly accessible sites
- Integrated management planning
- Experience of managing a range of habitats
- Phase 1 and 2 surveys
- Strategy development and writing
- Area plans
- Stakeholder engagement and workshops

## Professional Record

### 2005 – present      Freelance Consultant

Consultant and freelance projects undertaken for a range of clients across all areas of expertise.

#### Key Achievements:

- Development of Natural East Kent Strategic Access Plan, a wide ranging access plan for east Kent, linking access with sustainable tourism development and the needs of local communities
- Range of access projects including the award-winning 'Ride Kent', interpretation planning and implementation for Brockhill Country Park, increasing equestrian access, 'access for all' paths
- Development of Kent County Council Country Parks Strategy 2009–2014
- Development of successful funding bids including the HLF Landscape Partnership Scheme 'Valley of Visions', Access to Nature and various lottery and charity grants
- Integrated management plans for a range of sites including urban fringe and SSSI
- Development of cycling projects within the Thames Gateway Kent Growth Area, both across the Growth Area and specific proposals within Dartford 'Greenheart' project
- High level of repeat commissions

### 2002 – 2005      Medway Valley Countryside Partnership, Kent Partnership Manager

Manager of a countryside partnership operating in central Kent. Responsible for the business management and development of the countryside partnership.

#### Key Achievements:

- Development of the Medway Gap Landscape and Access Plan, which directly led to the Valley of Visions £2 million Landscape Partnership Scheme
- Development of the Medway Valley Walk project, securing £200k Interreg funding for path repairs and beginning development of project which led to the development of the HLF funded Riverside Communities Project

## Professional Record (cont'd)

Medway Valley Countryside Partnership, Partnership Manager (cont'd)

- Securing a strong financial position for the partnership through business planning approach and securing partner contributions, corporate sponsorship and grants
- Responsible for re-branding partnership
- Wide portfolio of work with communities groups, local authority partners and landowners, including

1994 – 2002      Brentwood Borough Council, Essex  
**Countryside Manager (Assistant Countryside Manager to 2000)**

Manager of Brentwood Countryside Management Service, initially joining the Service as Assistant Countryside Manager. Responsible for a wide range of work area including rights of way management (under agency agreement from Essex County Council), management of the Council's estate of woodland, commons and country parks, habitat management advice to landowners, guided walks, schools visits and public events and a healthy walking programme.

### Key Achievements:

- Development of new country parks secured by Brentwood Borough Council through s106 agreements; taking neglected urban fringe sites to create publicly accessible sites, managed for conservation and developing community engagement
- Set up a successful Walking for Health Scheme (Health Trax) in 2000, still being run by community volunteers in 2009
- Member of Essex Biodiversity Action Plan Steering Group 2000–2002
- Management and improvement of public rights of way network including practical improvements, enhancing access for all, conflict resolution, enforcement, creation and diversion orders
- Management of an extensive estate of woodland, commons and country park sites, all being publicly accessible, including SSSIs and LNR, development of management plans
- Promotion of rights of way and other access, including equestrian access and cycling, through leaflets and guided events
- Development and delivery of annual programme of public countryside events and schools events
- Grass roots, practical understanding of countryside management

1990 – 1993      University of Plymouth, undergraduate

1986 – 1989      Lansing Linde Ltd, Hampshire  
 Information Analyst

## Qualifications and Institute Membership

MSc Ecological Restoration  
 University of East London

BSc (Hons) Environmental Science 2:1  
 University of Plymouth 1993

Full Member of the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management since 2000

