

**A487 Tremadog to Penmorfa – Cycle and Pedestrian Link  
Bridleways – Dolbenmaen 108 – Porthmadog 1**

Dear Mr Morgan

I thank you for your recent consultation regarding the Tremadog to Penmorfa Cycle Pedestrian link as described.

Unfortunately the timing of your consultation meant that this could not be discussed by either of our Access Forums on this current round of meetings as the agendas were already completed and circulated.

However, as Officers wish to take this opportunity to make our views known to you.

For our part the National Park would always welcome any improvements to access in the area *per se*. However, we are a little concerned over the fact that a closed (tarmaced/ashfelt) surface finish is being proposed over what is an existing bridleway.

This issue always raises concern in that equine users find this type of sealed surface difficult to use especially on slopes and/or in wet or damp conditions and can result in such surfaces becoming hazardous. So we would advise suitable surfacing material which is acceptable to all users in a safe manner.

We are mindful of the hospital development and the changes which have taken place in the area, including the increase in pedestrians using Tremadog end of the route. However, the bridleway surface should be constructed and maintained as best as possible to the satisfaction of all users.

As a general point we understand that these types of improvements are also part funded by other agencies such as Sustrans. Given that their remit is targeted at cycle use only there is usually a presumption for using `sealed surfaces` wherever possible. This would seem to be both unfair and disadvantageous to equine users when those `improvement criteria` are applied to existing bridleways.

Yours sincerely

Peter Rutherford – Access Officer SNPA  
Cc Mr David Coleman – Rights of Way Manager GC  
Mr Rob Owen – Rights Of Way Dept. Dwyfor Area