

## C. RIGHTS OF WAY OPERATIONS UPDATE (JOANNE TAYLOR)

49. The 'Summary of Works' is attached to this report in Appendix A, outlining work carried out by the Rights of Way Operations Team between 1st April 2012 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013. A verbal update will be provided.
50. The interim results for the May 2013 BVPI are now available. They are down for this time of year which will probably result in an overall reduction for the BVPI from 80% to approx 75%. The reason for the fall includes signposting, way marking and surface issues.

### BVPI 2013 – Survey Results (interim figure)

2.5% Survey of the network showed

79% Paths Easy to use

96% Signs on Roadside

93% Structures Easy to use

51. Although we 'launched' the Community Money for Parish Path Clearance Fund in the parish newsletter, and have received requests for clearance money from a number of parishes, (to which we have agreed), we have not been in a position to push the fund as much as required due to the difficulty with financial management of the scheme and also management of Health and Safety requirements through the Ringway Jacobs Term Contract arrangements. However, we are working on these matters and we will be in a position (subject to allocation of budget) to 'sell' the scheme for next year's summer clearance in a more pro-active way.
52. Currently there are proposals for the Rights of Way Operations Team (7 officers) to be transferred over from the County Council's employ to the contractor Ringway Jacobs under TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment)) arrangements. A consultation with staff and the Union has been completed. Following on from this the Director of Service has now asked the Portfolio Members to make a Key Decision to transfer all the staff in TfB to Ringway Jacobs. The team come under Lesley Clarke, Cabinet Member for Environment. The transfer date which was originally 1st July, and was then set back to the 1st September is now set to occur on the 1st October 2013, subject of course to the Cabinet Members' agreement.