



Date of the statement – Friday 9th September

We want to inform all Thames Path Challengers that it is our plan to continue with this weekend's challenges as planned, however we do so with the upmost respect towards the Queen Elizabeth, the Royal Family, and for those whom are all affected by the news of her passing. It is a sombre and sad day, and we appreciate that like us, many of you will be reflecting on the life of Queen Elizabeth with nothing but deep respect and admiration for the life she lived, and the duty she served to the country.

Our responsibility as the organiser of mass participation challenges is first and foremost to our 6,000 challengers whom have been training, planning and fundraising for their planned participation in this weekend's event for many months, and some even years as well as to our charities. The fundraising that will be generated from this weekend's Thames Path Challenge is set to exceed over £1 million, for over 400 different UK charities – after a disastrous time over the past two years for our Charity Partners the fundraising our challenge will generate is a vital lifeline for many and we feel a deep responsibility to ensure that the fundraising from this weekend's challenge is delivered to that charity.

Our teams are already out in the 'field' and along the route – setting up this weekend's challenge – and we know that many challengers are already making their journey to London for their start line – some traveling across Europe & other parts of the world to make it. Today we are working with our staff, suppliers, venues and local councils and authorities to ensure that this weekend's event respectfully takes place in and amongst the communities we work with. We are also making some route changes to the Moonlight & Bridges Trek at the request of local authorities, and these will all be briefed before the departure.

Moving forward we will keep our communication lines open with our challengers should any public transport services be affected for this weekend's event.

For those who are joining us this weekend on the Thames Path Challenge, we look forward to seeing you there as now more than ever the spirit of community, giving, fundraising and togetherness is at the heart of what we do and why we do it.

Thank you,
The Action Challenge Team