




## RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016


Policy Ref.	ROWIP Ref.	Achievements 2015-2016	Ongoing targets 2016-2017
H2 H3 H7	xx	<p><b>Odd Rode Footpath No. 22</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>S106 developer contributions were used to deliver improvements in Scholar Green.</li> <li>Project included an improved path surface and a new path across the playing fields, providing all-weather access to the childrens' play area.</li> <li>Delivered, in partnership with the Parish Council, ansa parks team and Scholar Green Primary School, by Cheshire East Highways.</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Before</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>After</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Before</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>After</p> </div> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project completed.</li> </ul>

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H2 H3 S7	T117	<p><b>Middlewood Way Station access</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accessibility improvements for pedestrian access to Middlewood Station to encourage use of public transport option.</li> <li>Including path surfacing works, lighting and ramp to avoid steps.</li> </ul> <div>  <p>Steps before</p>  <p>Steps after</p>  <p>New ramp</p>  <p>Before</p>  <p>After</p>  <p>Signposting</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project completed.</li> </ul>



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H2 H3	X6	<p><b>Public Health Transformation Fund</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development and delivery of <a href="#">Footpaths to Fitness</a> project having secured grant funding.</li> <li>Delivery of circular, promoted walks close to target community where activity levels are lowest.</li> <li>Development of brand, promotion and publicity.</li> <li>Programme of weekly led walks each with special interest focus, attracting 93 participants.</li> <li>Partnerships with South Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group and GP practices, Local Area Partnership and AgeUK Cheshire.</li> <li>Footpath network accessibility improvements: 48 stiles replaced with gates and muddy sections surfaced.</li> <li>Encouraging volunteer walk leaders to provide longevity of project.</li> <li>Monitoring and evaluation of participants showed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>85% over 51 years old, of which 2/3 were women.</li> <li>54% had physical long term condition or illness.</li> <li>83% are planning to walk more regularly.</li> <li>75% joined to walk with others in a group.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-end;">   </div> <p>Footpaths to Fitness led walk, way mark and publicity materials</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project completed.</li> <li>Options for delivery of similar projects in other target areas to be explored.</li> </ul>

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H2 H3 S7 S8	Various	<p><b>Assistance to Local User Groups / Parish &amp; Town Councils</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice and assistance to local user groups and Parish &amp; Town Councils in their planning of access improvements and external funding bids, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goostrey Footpaths Group proposal for dedication of new PROW.</li> <li>Chelford proposal for a new route to link housing with village hall.</li> <li>East Cheshire Ramblers on permissive path in Kettleshulme area.</li> <li>Sandbach Footpaths Group creating new paths and publishing leaflets.</li> <li>Local walkers for potential new path in Kettleshulme Parish.</li> <li>Access improvements in Great Warford and Alderley Edge.</li> <li>Congleton Partnership on signage and access barriers to parks.</li> <li>Holmes Chapel Partnership for potential new permissive path.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <p>Permissive path waymark</p> <p>Sandbach Footpaths Group waymark</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing, as arising.</li> </ul>
H2 H3 S7 S8	n/a	<p><b>Mapping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assistance with mapping provided to Cheshire East departments, including the Countryside Ranger Service for grant applications and management plans.</li> <li>Assistance with mapping for third sector groups producing walks leaflets.</li> <li>Landscape Scale Partnership project with National Trust.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing, as requested.</li> </ul>

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H2 H3 S7	T69	<p><b>Congleton Footpath No. 23 Dane Walkway</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivered in partnership with and funded by Congleton Partnership through a grant secured from Cheshire East Partnerships team.</li> <li>Route forms continuation of Dane Walkway through town, and Dane Valley Way.</li> <li>Aimed to improve accessibility as far as practical and to improve aesthetics of route to encourage use.</li> <li>Works included railing repairs and repainting, new handrail alongside steps, new destination signage, tree management and new surfacing.</li> </ul> <div data-bbox="526 513 1662 703" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="526 722 990 1340" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="519 1339 629 1374" data-label="Caption"> <p>Before</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1034 722 1482 1340" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1028 1339 1113 1374" data-label="Caption"> <p>After</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project completed.</li> </ul>

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H2 H3	X15	<p><b>Mobberley Bridleway No. 17</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part of the long distance horse rider and cyclist promoted route, Laureen's Ride.</li> <li>A route linking Mobberley village with the wider Public Rights of Way network.</li> <li>Previously muddy underfoot and with remnants of restrictive path furniture.</li> <li>Continuation of an tried and tested surface and path furniture replacements have helped to make the route more accessible for all users.</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">    </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Before                      After</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project completed.</li> </ul>
H2 H3	H36	<p><b>Wilmslow Footpath No. 95</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A popular route on the edge of Wilmslow, linking Newgate countryside site with the wider Public Rights of Way network.</li> <li>Previously muddy underfoot and with remnants of restrictive path furniture.</li> <li>Surface and accessibility improvements have helped to make the route more accessible for users.</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Before                      After</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project completed.</li> </ul>







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H2 H3	X7	<p><b>More Walks for All Leaflet</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed in partnership with volunteers from <a href="#">Cheshire East Local Access Forum</a> and partners National Trust, Canal and River Trust, Parish &amp; Town Councils and local friends of groups.</li> <li>Leaflet offers 10 pleasant routes for people of all abilities, including those with children, pushchairs and wheelchairs.</li> <li>7 of the routes are accessible by public transport, with train and bus stops and routes stated.</li> <li>Details of path surfaces, gradients, gates and gaps are given for each walk to help residents and visitors alike enjoy exploring the varied countryside of Cheshire East.</li> <li>Publicity and promotion with printed leaflets and <a href="#">online download</a>.</li> </ul> <div data-bbox="521 675 1288 1240" data-label="Image"> <p><b>Lindow Common Wilmslow</b></p> <p>Lindow Common is a small area of heathland on the outskirts of Wilmslow. It might be small, but it is special in a number of ways: it is a Local Nature Reserve, has national recognition as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and is a leftover of a previously much more widespread landscape - ancient lowland heath. On the site, many information boards, at a good height for wheelchair users, detail the special flora and fauna of the reserve.</p> <p><b>Map:</b> Shows Lindow Common with a suggested route marked in red. Key locations include Black Lake, Boddington Arms Park, and Wilmslow Town Centre.</p> <p><b>Suggested Route:</b></p> <p><b>DISTANCE:</b> About 1.2km (1 1/2 miles), mostly circular, around the small central Black Lake.</p> <p><b>TIME:</b> About 30-45 minutes</p> <p><b>SURFACE:</b> Level, 150cm (5') wide with a good surface of compacted stone and gravel.</p> <p><b>GRADIENTS:</b> The route is largely level.</p> <p><b>GATES, STEPS, BENCHES AND BARRIERS:</b> Gates open from car parks at both ends of the reserve. The gates are 130cm (5'7") wide and are not sprung. The latch height is 100cm (3'9") off the ground. There are many seats around the lake.</p> <p><b>DESCRIPTION:</b> Paths run from both of the car parks and lead on to the circular path around the lake. The fenced lake is only partly visible for wheelchair users, especially in summer due to growth of vegetation. Narrower paths branch off the main circuit but have less access suitability.</p> <p><b>VISITOR INFORMATION:</b></p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Both car parks are accessed off Racecourse Road, which leads off the A538, Altrincham Road, between Wilmslow and Manchester Airport.</p> <p><b>PARKING:</b> There are free car parks at both ends of the common, open and accessible at all times. Approximate postcode: SK9 5NQ.</p> <p><b>PUBLIC TRANSPORT:</b> Bus route: CHA Coaches Connect Bus No. 88 Knutsford - Wilmslow - Altrincham. Bus stop: Altrincham Road, Gorseway Road. Distance to start of walk: 295m (320yds) (note you may need to cross Altrincham Road).</p> <p><b>TOILETS AND REFRESHMENTS:</b> Public toilets in Wilmslow town centre. Refreshments at the Boddington Arms opposite the most northerly car park, and in Wilmslow town centre.</p> <p><b>FURTHER INFORMATION:</b> A detailed leaflet is available from the Cheshire East Council Ranger Service at: <a href="http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/rangers">www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/rangers</a>.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1319 702 1646 1168" data-label="Image"> <p><b>More Walks for All in Cheshire East</b></p> <p>10 more walks for all abilities, including those with pushchairs, wheelchairs and mobility scooters</p> <p>Cheshire East Council</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project completed.</li> </ul>




More Walks for All leaflet extract and front cover

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H2 H3 S7 S8	Various       X10	<p><b>Planning Applications, Pre-Applications and Local Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning applications and pre-applications commented upon from the perspective of active travel and leisure walking, cycling and horseriding, putting forward ROWIP aspirations.</li> <li>• Developer contributions sought and secured through section 106 agreements and unilateral undertakings.</li> <li>• Input from Public Rights of Way and Countryside into emerging Cheshire East Local Plan.</li> <li>• Towpath improvements in Elworth, Sandbach: preparation for delivery of surfacing project to create circular walk and ride options for residents of new housing development, in partnership with Canal and River Trust.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing, as arising.</li> <li>• S106 funding to be used to improve routes in Elworth and Handforth.</li> </ul>
H2 H3 S7 S8	X15	<p><b>Publicity to promote walking, cycling and horse riding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Published and promoted <a href="#">More Walks for All</a> leaflet.</li> <li>• Articles submitted for partnership newsletters for all news items.</li> <li>• Newsletters and social media feeds made for all news items.</li> <li>• Signposting on site promoting links and networks.</li> <li>• </li> </ul> <div style="text-align: right;">   </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">   </div> <p>Examples of destination signposting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work ongoing to coincide with national and local events and projects.</li> </ul>



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H2 H3 S8	T37	<p><b>Crewe Footpath Cycle Track Order</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of ROWIP suggestion from Local Area Partnership and Sustrans.</li> <li>• Proposal to convert status of footpaths Nos. 3 (part) and 36 to cycle track on route used by both pedestrians and cyclists.</li> <li>• Route runs from residential areas of Crewe and village beyond towards town centre.</li> <li>• Project in partnership with Cheshire East Highways.</li> <li>• Legal Order to convert footpath into cycletrack made and advertised: 2 objections received and sustained.</li> <li>• Order and objections referred to Department for Transport for determination.</li> <li>• Public Inquiry held in January 2016.</li> <li>• Order confirmed by Secretary of State.</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>Photos of route in Cycle Track Order</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement works to be undertaken.</li> <li>• Public notice of confirmation of Order to be posted on completion of works.</li> </ul>
H2 H3 S8	X14	<p><b>Local Transport Plan Cycling Schemes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contributions to LTP active travel cycling schemes.</li> <li>• Development of Cycling Strategy.</li> <li>• Assistance to local groups considering input to Neighbourhood Plans.</li> <li>• Initiation of monitoring at 10 sites around the borough to gather data on cycling usage.</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work ongoing.</li> </ul>

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H2 H3 S7 S8	T52	<p><b>Congleton Bridleway No. 31</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In response to requests for surfacing and improvement works to bridleway.</li> <li>• Route runs from residential area towards the local primary school and the Biddulph Valley Way linear country park which forms part of the National Cycle Network and a key access to the countryside.</li> <li>• Launch event held in partnership with Bromley Farm Wellbeing Group, the local community and Countryside Ranger Service.</li> </ul> <div>  <p>Before</p>  <p>After</p>  <p>Before</p>  <p>After</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local primary schools launching walking buses.</li> <li>• Project completed.</li> </ul>

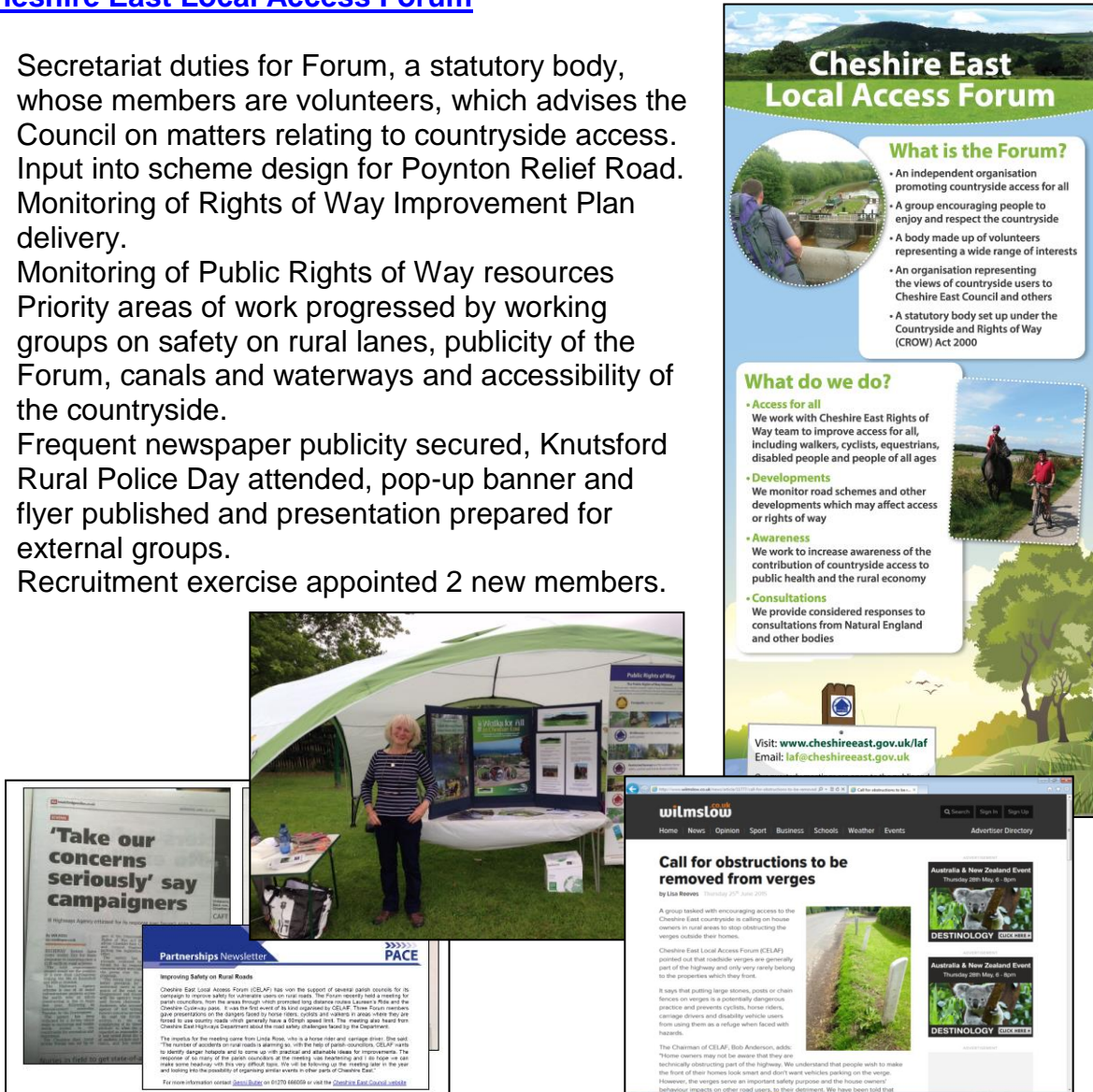


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H2 H3 S7	T145	<p><b>Knutsford Footpaths Nos. 14 &amp;15 Sparrow Lane</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In response to requests for surfacing works to footpath to provide an all-weather walking route option.</li> <li>Route runs from residential areas towards the town centre and is used by school pupils on daily journeys.</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Before</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>After</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Before</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>After</p> </div> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project completed.</li> </ul>

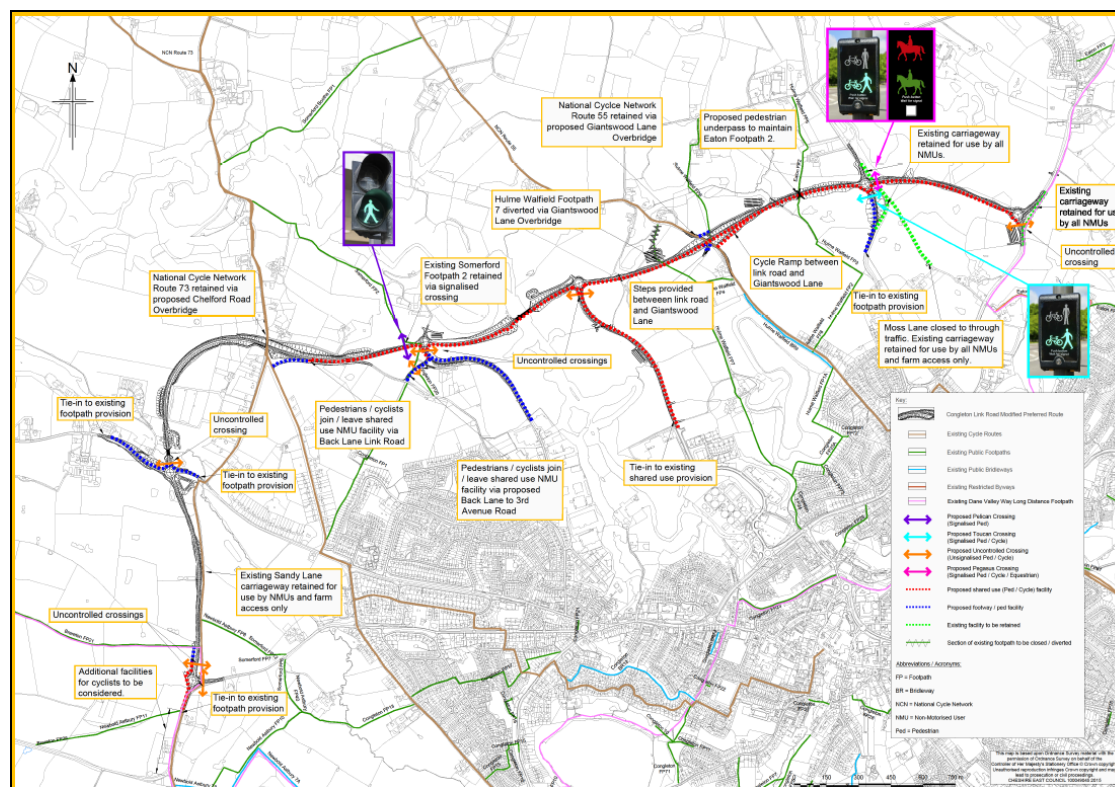


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H2 H3 S7 S8	n/a	<p><u><b>Cheshire East Local Access Forum</b></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secretariat duties for Forum, a statutory body, whose members are volunteers, which advises the Council on matters relating to countryside access.</li> <li>• Input into scheme design for Poynton Relief Road.</li> <li>• Monitoring of Rights of Way Improvement Plan delivery.</li> <li>• Monitoring of Public Rights of Way resources</li> <li>• Priority areas of work progressed by working groups on safety on rural lanes, publicity of the Forum, canals and waterways and accessibility of the countryside.</li> <li>• Frequent newspaper publicity secured, Knutsford Rural Police Day attended, pop-up banner and flyer published and presentation prepared for external groups.</li> <li>• Recruitment exercise appointed 2 new members.</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work ongoing.</li> </ul>

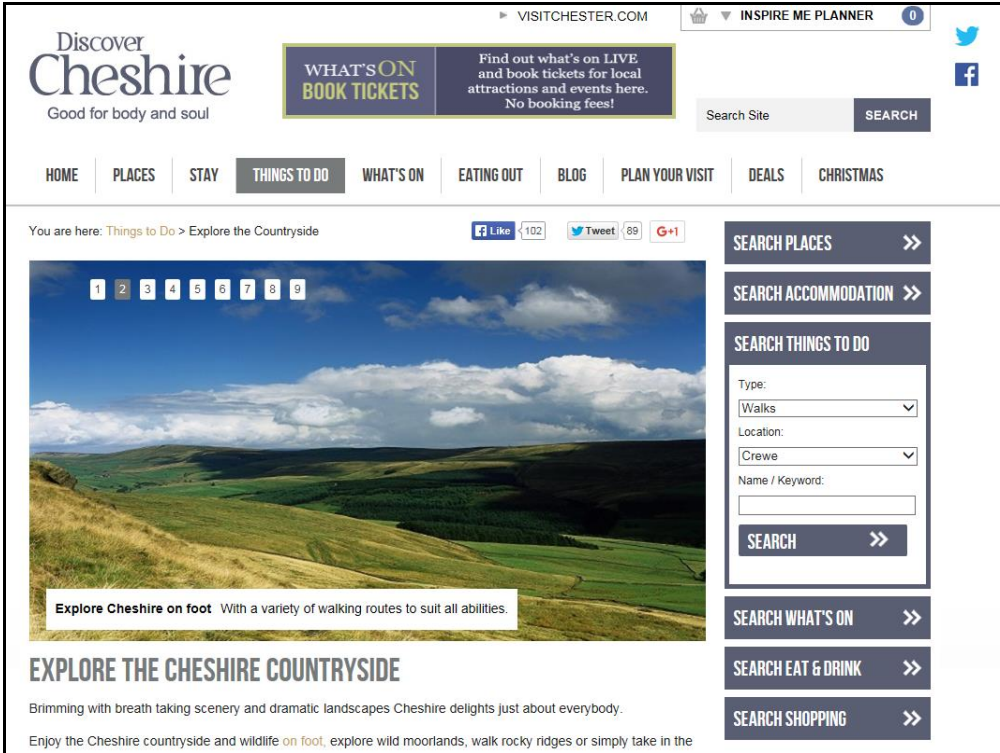
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S7 S8	Various	<p><b>A556, SEMMMS A6-Manchester Airport Relief Road, Congleton Link Road and Poynton Relief Road Schemes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued input of ROWIP aspirations into options and designs to maximise opportunities for improving routes for active travel and leisure walking, cycling and horse riding.</li> <li>Influencing road scheme designs and Side Road Orders to achieve best possible outcomes for non-motorised users.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work ongoing.</li> </ul>



Congleton Link Road plan

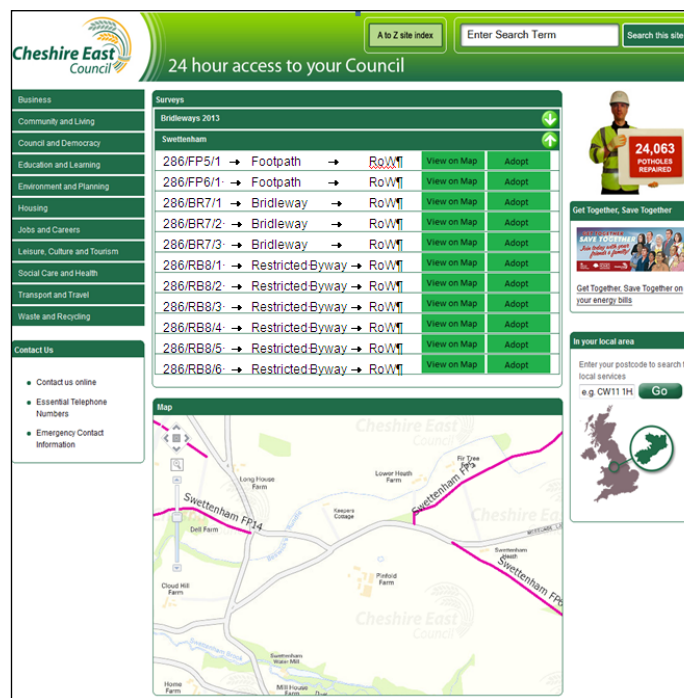
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H2, H3	X15	<p><b>Discover Cheshire Website</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.discovercheshire.co.uk">www.discovercheshire.co.uk</a>.</li> <li>• Website promoting walking, cycling and horse riding routes.</li> <li>• Also highlights nearby visitor economy facilities in the countryside, such as refreshment stops and accommodation.</li> <li>• Partners include Visitor Economy team, Marketing Cheshire, Cheshire West and Chester Council and the Mersey Forest.</li> <li>• Redeveloped website now mobile compatible and combined with other websites to act as the 'one-stop shop' for visitors to Cheshire.</li> <li>• Amends and updates to walking, cycling and horse riding routes made, as arising.</li> </ul>  <p>Screen image from website</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing as arising.</li> </ul>



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H2 H3 S7 S8	n/a	<p><b>Rights of Way Consultative Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Twice yearly meetings between PROW team and user group representatives.</li> <li>Ongoing management of register of volunteers and issuance of Letters of Authority for volunteers assisting with way marking and minor vegetation cutting.</li> <li>Updates provided on Deregulation Act legislation changes.</li> <li>Updates provided on long term closures of Public Rights of Way due to legal or resource issues.</li> <li>Liaison with Cheshire East Local Access Forum.</li> <li>Debate on multi-user route safety and surface management.</li> <li>Review on Ramblers' Big Path Watch.</li> <li>Monitoring of Public Rights of Way resources.</li> <li>Review undertaken on bridlegate and catch safety.</li> <li>Data cleansing undertaken in preparation of development of web portal to use in a volunteer network survey to gather path furniture and surface information.</li> <li>Data entered into the CAMS GIS mapping database would then be available for use by officers initially, and, in the long term, by the public via Interactive Mapping on the Council's website.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work ongoing.</li> </ul>



Screen image of draft CAMS webportal