

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

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**Date of Meeting:** 4<sup>th</sup> October 2010  
**Report of:** Greenspaces Manager  
**Subject/Title:** Draft Cheshire East Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2011-2026

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### **1.0 Report Summary**

- 1.1 This report presents the Draft Cheshire East Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2011-2026.

### **2.0 Recommendation**

- 2.1 That the Draft Cheshire East Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2011-2026 as attached to the report be approved for public consultation.

### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 Approval is sought for the commencement of public consultation on the draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) document as an integrated document of the Draft Cheshire East Local Transport Plan 2011-2026. The Local Transport Plan document is to appear before Cabinet in October 2010.

### **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 All Wards affected.

### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 All Local Ward Members.

### **6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change - Health**

- 6.1 The development of the ROWIP is aligned with the health and wellbeing objectives and priorities of the Council as stated in the Corporate Plan (2.1.1 Encouraging healthier lifestyles), the Local Area Agreement (National Indicator 8 Adult participation in sport and active recreation) and the Health and Wellbeing Service commitment to the Change4Life initiative.
- 6.2 In addition, the ROWIP, as an integrated part of the Local Transport Plan, will be set within the context of the Local Area Agreement indicators concerning air quality and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

## **7.0 Financial Implications**

- 7.1 The ROWIP strategy document contains the policies and initiatives of the relevant sections of the Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3). The strategy sets out what the Council will aim to do during the period 2011-2026, although no financial commitment is made. Funding sources, which will include external grants, will be identified through the implementation plans for the LTP/ROWIP.

## **8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)**

- 8.1 It is a statutory duty under section 60 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 for every local highway authority to prepare and publish a Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
- 8.2 Non compliance with the requirement for the full integration of the ROWIP with the LTP3 could result in criticism from statutory monitoring bodies and agencies.

## **9.0 Risk Management**

- 9.1 No matters arising.

## **10.0 Background and Options**

- 10.1 The current ROWIP covering Cheshire East expires in March 2011. Therefore a new ROWIP is required. A draft document is attached.
- 10.2 It is a requirement for the ROWIP to be integrated into the LTP3. Therefore, whilst the background chapters 1-4 are specific to the ROWIP, the content of chapter 5 is common across the 2 documents; within this chapter the policies and initiatives of the strategy are laid out.
- 10.3 As the draft LTP3 chapters and document are finalised, minor amendments to wording may be made, but the essence of the policies and initiatives will remain unchanged prior to public consultation on the draft ROWIP.
- 10.4 Public consultation will include the prescribed list of consultees given in Section 61(1) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

## **11.0 Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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