

MEETING : CHESHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
DATE : 22 JUNE 2012

REPORT OF : COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS
Contact : Genni Butler & Hazel Barber
Officer 01270 686059 or 01606 288539

RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN - CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Updates on current projects are provided for both Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester in Appendix 1
2. The annual report for Cheshire East Rights of Way Improvement Plan is shown in Appendix 2.
3. The annual report for Cheshire West and Chester Rights of Way Improvement Plan is shown in Appendix 3.

RECOMMENDED:

That the reports be noted.

APPENDIX 1- PROGRESS ON THE RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN – CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Project	Completion date	Partners	Detail and work completed	Update June 2012
LTP Area Programme Crewe and Nantwich – Crewe to Nantwich Greenway	Spring 2013	SUSTRANS, Highways, Weaver Valley Regional Park	Creation of new bridleway link between Crewe (Queen's Park) and Nantwich Riverside over land owned by the Beam Heath Trust. Part of the Sustrans 'Connect 2' project using the People's Millions Lottery Money ROW Committee approval of new route obtained December 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning permission secured May 2012 • Common land consent re-application submitted
Seven Sisters Lane, Ollerton (ROWIP Ref. H20)	March 2015	North Cheshire Riders, Highways, Landowners	Safety issue for riders on busy lane, used to access bridleway network. Surface improvements delivered on connecting bridleway No. 6 also.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigating headland permissive path with adjacent landowner
Gritstone Trail crossing of A54,	March 2015	Landowners	Seeking to improve crossing of A54 in Wincle. Road safety officer report received. Two landowners approached. Landowners approached, but unwilling to offer permissive route.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways tasked to install signage
Long distance horse ride (ROWIP ref. X15)	March 2012 And Summer 2012	North Cheshire Riders, Hoof Cheshire, local businesses	Development of long distance horse ride. Route would be first in Cheshire East and would be promoted for cyclists as well as horseriders. Route developed by North Cheshire Riders Application for funding submitted August 2011. Funding bid successful October 2011. Project delivery underway: signage, gate improvements, landowners informed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheshire Cheese Loop signposted, available and promoted • Heritage Loop under development
discovercheshire.co.uk	ongoing	ICT, Tourism colleagues	Population of www.discovercheshire.co.uk and its sister websites Discover Cheshire's Peak District and Discover the Gritstone Trail with promoted walks, cycles and horse rides. Knutsford Rail Walks leaflet routes added June 2011 Willaston Old Oak Circular walk added October 2011, Haslington walk added October 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd 'Getting to know Willaston' leaflet added May 2012 • Cheshire Cheese Loop added April 2012
Cheshire East News / other publications	ongoing	Communications teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knutsford Rail Trail leaflet nominated for Best Marketing Event award in the Community Rail Awards 2011 • Nantwich Riverside Loop featured in Cheshire East News • Walks for All route at Astbury Mere is the 6th most visited page out of all of those listed from around the country on the Walk4Life website • Walk4Life Day press release and Radio Stoke interview • Evaluation of Nantwich Riverside Loop press release • Ollerton bridleway surface improvements press coverage • Haslington walk feature in Cheshire East News prepared but publication cancelled due to spending freeze • Stapeley Footpath No. 1 cycling to school publicity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd 'Getting to know Willaston' leaflet May 2012 • Cheshire Cheese Loop of Laureen's Ride April 2012 • Bollin Valley Cycle Route for Bike Week June 2012

2012-2013 ROWIP and LTP cycling projects	March 2013	Highways and local user groups	<p>Delivery of identified schemes for ROWIP and LTP Cycling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandbach FP33: surfacing a footpath which leads to facilities • Solly Crescent, Congleton: creation of a cycle track on desire line • Congleton FP10 : supplementing s106 funds to surface path • Goostrey Path North: creation of a new strategic footpath • Macclesfield Canal towpath, Bollington: grant support for surface • Alderley Edge bypass to Astra Zeneca cycle route: creation of link • Sutton BR28: installation of bridge where there was only a ford • Chelford FP1: grant support for improved & new path to facilities • Peak Forest Towpath, Disley: grant support for surface • Nantwich FP26/Stapeley FP1: improved connection to town centre • Road Safety Schemes: warning signage and safety measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement of schemes • Scheme initiation
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Progress on the Cheshire West and Chester Rights of Way Improvement Plan

http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/transport_and_roads/public_rights_of_way1/cheshire_west_chester_rowip.aspx

Project description	Policy reference delivered	Staff/project cost	Year 1 2011/12	Update	Year2 2012/13	Update
Random survey of 5% of the ROW network annually	AM	£*	5% random survey	Complete -2011 Results of Random Survey 95% pass for Ease of Use. This was completed electronically from the results of the full survey. It was felt that the Greenspace team would probably have a stricter view of what constituted a pass or fail which is why the pass rate this year was high adhering strictly to the methodology. It will be interesting to compare next years results when the survey will be done by internal staff again.	5% random survey	2012 survey in progress May results were 86% pass for Ease of Use, all failures were on signage.
Increase paths 'ease of use' by 5 % over 5 years	AM EO	£-££*	Improve by target 1%	N/A	Improve by target 1%	N/A
Develop a maintenance priority system	AM	£*	Develop a maintenance priority system	Delayed -This is still in development and will be deferred to 2012/13	review	

			and include on the corporate website			
Provide additional information on Rights of Way Network available	AM EO QL CC BS EG	££**	Redevelop online mapping to show furniture items and surface.	Delayed – this is 90% complete but may run into 2012/13	Additional routes on Discover Cheshire	Complete (deferred from 2011/12) – the online 'Interactive Mapping' now holds all the furniture information collected during the Network Survey. This can be found on the following link http://maps.cheshire.gov.uk/CWA/C/interactivemapping/ The Sandstone Trail website is still under construction.
Fault reporting system	AM BS	£**	Fault reporting via corporate web site	Delayed – this is awaiting corporate changes in the website and will be added as soon as these have been implemented.	Redevelop to incorporate fault reporting via online mapping	Complete – Fault reporting is now available via the online Interactive Mapping. The reports go straight to the Greenspace email for logging and allocating. This system will be reviewed periodically
Develop easily identifiable branding	AM EG QL EO	£-££***	Produce design and consult with CLAF and user groups	Part complete – this has been incorporated into leaflets and publications this year but there is no 'insignia' or logo' at the moment	Incorporate design onto electronic info	Part complete – a Greenspaces style is still being incorporated into publications this year.
DMMO priority system	AM	££*	Develop a priority DMMO, and	Part complete – priority criteria developed. Not on website yet. See Annual Report for application investigations.	Investigate 3 applications	In progress

			include on the corporate website. Investigate 2 applications			
Develop a PPO priority system	AM	££*	Develop a priority PPO system and include on the corporate website. Investigate 2 applications	Part complete – priority criteria in place. Not on website yet.	Investigate 3 applications	In progress
Unrecorded paths	AM CC QL	£-££*	Project set up, investigation of 1 path	Delayed to 2012/13	Investigation of 2 paths	Initial meeting held with user groups.
Additional Greenspace info on Discover Cheshire website		£**	Add walks for all routes onto Discover Cheshire and 10 additional Greenspaces	Complete – a number of priority Greenspace sites have been added to the Discover Cheshire website	5 Additional Greenspace sites	Delayed – due to the manager of the site Joe Wainwright leaving the authority, this may not be achievable this year

			e sites			
Work with parish/town councils community groups to adopt local paths	QL EO EG BS	£**	Contact parish and town councils to assess take up	Delayed to 2012/13	Facilitate interested parish and town councils to adopt local paths	In progress
Develop priority system for improvements	AM EG BS QL CC EO	£*	Finalise priority system for improvement projects and review current list	Delayed to 2012/13	Review	In Progress
Select 5 priority safety projects to investigate	BS	£-£££***	Select 1st project to investigate	Delayed to 2012/13	Select 2nd project to investigate	In Progress
Select 5 priority economic growth projects to investigate	EG	£-£££***	Select 1st project to investigate	Delayed to 2012/13	Select 2nd project to investigate	In Progress
Select 5 accessibility projects to investigate	EO	£-£££***	Select 1st project to investigate	Delayed to 2012/13	Select 2nd project to investigate	In Progress
Select 5 links to fragmented paths to	CC	£-£££***	Select 1st project to investigate	Delayed to 2012/13	Select 2nd project to investigate	In Progress

investigate						
Select 5 quality of life projects to investigate	QL	£-£££***	Select 1st project to investigate	Delayed to 2012/13	Select 2nd project to investigate	In Progress
Investigate how S106 funding can deliver ROWIP policy	AM EG BS QL CC EO	£**	Liaise with colleagues in planning service to include Greenspace objectives in all S106 options. Target 1 major development	Complete – eg. Wincham Urban village – route to school.	Target major developments	In progress

*internal staff resources

**with colleagues in other services

*** with external partners

£ up to £5k

££ 5-20k

£££- >20k

Policy references

AM- Assets and Maintenance

BS- Better safety

CC- Climate Change

QL- Quality of Life

EO- Greater Equality of Opportunity

EG- Economic Growth