


RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

Policy Ref.	ROWIP Ref.	Achievements 2018-2019	Ongoing targets 2019-2020
H2 H3 S7 S8	Various W8	Planning Applications, Pre-Applications and Developer Contributions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning applications and pre-applications commented upon from the perspective of active travel and leisure walking, cycling and horseriding, putting forward ROWIP aspirations. Developer contributions sought and secured for off-site improvement through section 106 agreements and unilateral undertakings. Delivery of s106-funded improvement works in Nantwich, Wilmslow and Sandbach. Securing improvements to Public Rights of Way and other walking and cycling access routes, to be delivered by developers within sites. For example, a ROWIP suggestion to link footpaths Nos. 6 & 7 in Sandbach has been achieved through a housing development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing, as arising. S106 funding to be used to improve routes in Nantwich, Alsager and Disley.
H2 H3 S7 S8	X10	Nantwich towpath s106 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements to the towpath and access to the Shropshire Union Canal in Nantwich A partnership delivery with the Canal and River Trust, using developer contributions secured from a nearby housing development. The improvements mean that a greater proportion of the public will be able to use the route to get out into the countryside close to the town. <div data-bbox="526 973 952 1295" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="983 973 1404 1295" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Improved access and towpath surface</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project completed.

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S7 S8 H3	N/a	<p>Nantwich Riverside Bridges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of works to assess and repair bridges in Nantwich Riverside Park, part funded by s106 developer contribution and part by CEC's facilities management. • Works included improving accessibility of ramped approaches, repainting handrails, replacement of decking boards, re-pointing of stone work abutments, removal of graffiti and protective treatments to increase the life of materials. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Footbridge before works</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Footbridge after works</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Footbridge before works</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Footbridge after works</p> </div> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed

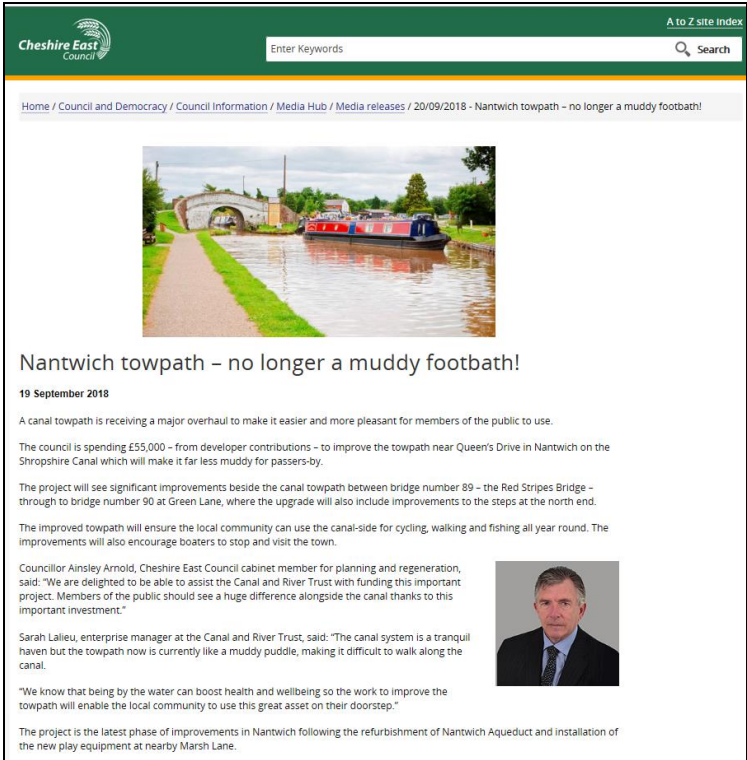
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H2 H3 S7	T181	<p>Sandbach Footpath No. 46 and 51</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This footpath forms a key link between a major development area and the railway station, and onward towards the town facilities and yet was not an attractive route to use. The potential for the improvement of the route was identified at the time of the planning application as a means to encourage active and sustainable travel. <div data-bbox="477 448 1668 941">  </div> <p>The path before the improvement works were undertaken.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to permit investment in the route to improve its accessibility and aesthetics, a legal order process was required to resolve an anomaly in the status of Public Footpath. The legal order process completed, the improvement works were undertaken to create a more accessible and welcoming route for all users. The works included surfacing, lighting and signage. Funding was secured partly from developer contributions and partly from the Local Transport Plan. A project team including local Ward Member and Community Partnership were involved in delivering the project and securing improvements in Network Rail's footbridge at the same time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed.

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		  <p>The path after completion of the improvement works.</p>	

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H2 H3 S7 S8	X15	<p>Publicity to promote walking, cycling and horse riding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles submitted for Partnership Newsletters, other newsletters and social media feeds for all news items, as arising. Suggestions for walks, cycle rides and horse riding routes published on www.discovercheshire.co.uk. Walks and countryside site leaflets distributed via country parks, visitor information centres, libraries and on request to members of the public. Countryside Ranger Service events promoted via social media channels. Press release undertaken for towpath improvement works completed in Nantwich.  <p>Screenshot of press release on the Council's website.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work ongoing.

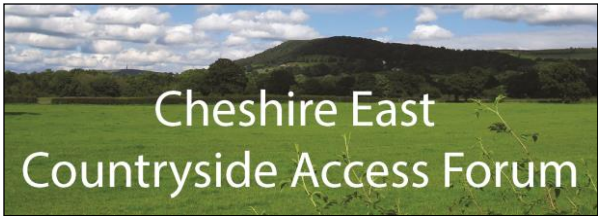
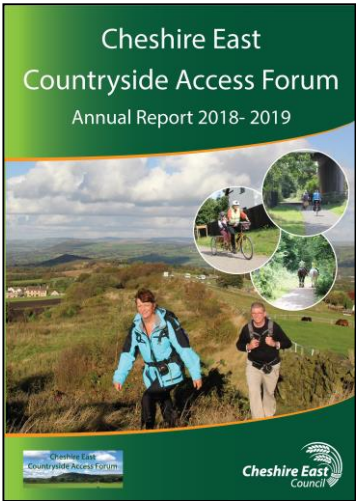
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H2 H3 S8	W113	<p>Arclid Permissive Path to link Public Footpath Nos. 3 and 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with landowner Bathgate quarry company to create a permissive path to link two footpaths. The path offers an alternative link in the network to avoid road walking along the busy A534 which has no footway. The new link forms part of circular loops from Sandbach, now featured on the Sandbach Footpath Group's website, and also offers safer access to bus stops for local residents. <div data-bbox="526 526 1108 970" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1153 526 1601 970" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>The start of the permissive path and permissive waymark disk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project completed.
H2 H3 S8	X16	<p>Sandbach Footpath No. 7 and Bradwall Footpath No. 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working in partnership with Sandbach Footpaths Group who secured landowner permission and donations of £1500 towards the improvement of accessibility of this route. The route forms half of a circular walk from Sandbach town. The replacement of stiles with kissing gates and pedestrian gates has made the whole route available to a wider range of walkers than before. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project completed.

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H2 H3 S7	T34	<p>Wilmslow Footpath No. 80</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements to a public footpath to make it more attractive as an active travel route between the residential areas of Handforth centre and the employment and retail centres of Handforth Dean. Improvements included signage, surfacing, fencing repairs and revetment works. Delivered using s106 developer contributions and in partnership with Network Rail who removed graffiti and improved brickwork on an underpass under the railway line. <div data-bbox="526 526 1075 941" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1120 526 1668 941" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Before and after the improvement works</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project completed.
H2 H3 S7	W117	<p>Wood Park, Alsager WREN grant third part funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A community-led partnership project to improve the Wood Park area of Alsager for the benefit of local residents. The project includes the improvement of part of Alsager Public Footpath No. 28 to provide a more accessible route into the park and onwards to circular walking routes in the area. Advice has been provided for the project and third party funding support for a grant application. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project delivery.

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H2 H3 S7 S8	n/a	<p><u>Cheshire East Countryside Access Forum</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretariat duties for Forum, a statutory body, whose members are volunteers, which advises the Council on matters relating to countryside access. The Forum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provided input into scheme design for Poynton Relief Road, Middlewich Eastern Bypass, Leighton West Spine Road, A500 and HS2 Phases 2a and 2b. ○ Responded to the government's consultation on 'The future for food, farming and the environment'. ○ Monitored the Rights of Way Improvement Plan delivery and Public Rights of Way team resources. ○ Progressed priority areas of work through working groups on safety on rural lanes, publicity of the Forum, waterways and accessibility of the countryside. ○ Continued to generate publicity on a number of topics through letters, the Connected Communities newsletters, local newspapers and partners, focussing on the work of the Forum under its other priorities. • As Secretariat, the Forum's annual report 2018-19 was published. • Also as Secretariat, a recruitment drive for new members to join the Forum was initiated. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div> <p>The Forum's logo and front cover of the annual report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work ongoing.

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H3 S7 S8	Various	Road and rail infrastructure schemes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influencing road and rail infrastructure schemes through design development, the planning system and Side Road Orders to achieve best possible outcomes for non-motorised users, and ensuring delivery of infrastructure on the ground as well as legal records. A556, Leighton West Spine Road, SEMMMS A6-Manchester Airport Relief Road, Congleton Link Road, A500, Sydney Road Bridge, M6 missing Restricted Byway Bridge, Middlewich Eastern Bypass and Poynton Relief Road. 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. Response to consultation and negotiation with HS2 scheme designers for improved accommodation of Public Rights of Way and rural lanes, to protect and enhance leisure and active travel routes affected by HS2 proposals. Continued liaison and input to the revision of the Local Transport Plan and delivery of active travel schemes under the Cycling Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work ongoing.
H2 H3 S7 S8	n/a	Rights of Way Consultative Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twice yearly liaison meetings between PROW team and user group representatives. Updates provided on long term closures of Public Rights of Way due to legal or resource issues. Monitoring of Rights of Way team resources. Proposing improvements to the online Interactive map of public rights of way. Providing information on the route and impact of the A500 dualling, together with the mitigation for and additional Public Rights of Way. Discussion on the trialled use of agents by applications for Public Path Orders, the use of consultants for Definitive Map Modification Order investigations and the delegated decision of uncontested Public Path Order cases. Updates from local groups. Ongoing management of register of volunteers and issuance of Letters of Authority for volunteers assisting with waymarking and minor vegetation cutting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work ongoing.