

Rights of Way Improvement Plan for the City of Derby 2013-2017

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Rights of Way Improvement Plan for the City of Derby 2007-2012, which contains the actions that the Council follows in order to manage Derby's local rights of way network, requires updating. Since 2007, changes in policy at local and national level as well as recent social trends have meant that the Council has had to carefully reappraise how its local rights of way network is used, maintained and promoted. In response to these changes, we have produced a draft version of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan for the City of Derby 2013-2017.
- 1.2 This revised plan will take forward the actions and themes of the 2007-12 plan and update them for the 2013-17 period. It will also act as a supporting document to the Local Transport Plan for Derby, LTP3. The Derby and Derbyshire Local Access Forum acted as the statutory adviser on the plan.
- 1.3 The draft 2013-2017 plan is the second part of a 10-year programme that began in 2007, rather than a complete revision of the first plan. It is proposed that a new plan, based on a full reassessment of the city's local rights of way network, will be published in 2017.
- 1.4 The plan will undergo a six-week public consultation exercise.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note and discuss the contents of the draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2013-2017 and to make appropriate comments and recommendations.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To ensure that Planning, Housing and Leisure Board is kept informed of this draft plan and has the opportunity to make comments on it.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 Derby's rights of way network is currently managed in accordance with the actions set out in its Rights of Way Improvement Plan for the City of Derby 2007-2012. The Council was required to produce the five-year plan under Section 60 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. The plan was adopted in November 2007. The Derby and Derbyshire Local Access Forum (DADLAF), which was formed in 2003, acted as the statutory adviser and has the same role for the draft 2013-2017 plan.
- 4.2 In the 2007-2012 plan, the Council was required to fully assess its local rights of way network and draw up actions listed in the Statement of Action chapter that would help us to ensure that the city's path network met the needs of its users.
- 4.3 The need for a revised plan was driven by the number of new local and national policy and strategy documents which have been produced since 2007 and which will have a significant impact on the way public rights of way will be maintained, promoted and used.
- 4.4 The draft 2013-2017 plan is comprised of five main chapters with supplementary appendices. The chapters headings are:
1. Introduction
 2. Rights of Way Improvement Plan for the City of Derby 2007-2012
 3. Moving forward from the 2007-2012 Plan
 4. Statement of Action
 5. Monitoring and review

Appendix E contains 9 desirable walkway/cycleway routes, which it is considered could reasonably be implemented within the life of the plan.

- 4.5 The five aims of the 2007-2012 plan have been replaced by six aims in the draft 2013-2017 plan. The aims are:
1. To support growth and economic competitiveness by delivering a more connected path network suitable for all users
 2. To contribute to tackling climate change by developing and promoting multiuser routes and low-carbon travel choices
 3. To provide learning and health benefits for people by promoting investment in multiuser routes.
 4. To contribute to better safety and security for all people in Derby by improving safety and security on all routes
 5. To provide and promote greater choice and equality of opportunity for all by promoting investment in accessible multiuser routes

6. To improve the quality of life for all people in Derby by promoting investment in multiuser routes that enhances the urban and natural environment and sense of place.

- 4.6 The aims act as drivers for the actions listed in the Statement of Action chapter. The statutory guidance on rights of way improvement plans, published in 2002, instructed local highway authorities to assess and review their plans “not more than 10 years after publication and at intervals of not less than 10 years thereafter.” The Council chose to produce two 5-year plans, rather than a single 10-year plan in order that actions would not become too outdated. The 2007-2012 plan can be considered to be the first part of a 10-year programme and the draft 2013-2017 plan, the second part. It is proposed that a new fully revised plan, based on a reassessment of the city’s local rights of way network, will be published in 2017.
- 4.7 The draft plan will undergo a six-week public consultation exercise, which will be undertaken and the results taken into account, before it is put before Council Cabinet for final approval later in the year.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 None

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	Not Applicable
Financial officer	Not Applicable
Human Resources officer	Not Applicable
Estates/Property officer	Not Applicable
Service Director(s)	Christine Durrant
Other(s)	Paul Clarke

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Background papers:	Rights of Way Improvement Plan for the City of Derby 2007-2012
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan for the City of Derby 2013-2017: Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan Link

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 No new costs arise directly from this report.

Legal

- 2.1 An up-to-date plan is required under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

Personnel

- 3.1 None arising directly from this report.

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 The plan will provide and promote greater choice and equality of opportunity for all by promoting investment in accessible multiuser routes.

Health and Safety

- 5.1 None arising directly from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

- 6.1 The plan will contribute to tackling climate change by developing and promoting multiuser routes and low-carbon travel choices.

Property and Asset Management

- 7.1 No specific impacts on Council owned land or property.

Risk Management

- 8.1 None arising directly from this report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 9.1 The plan takes forward all the Council's corporate objectives.

