

**Report for the Derby and Derbyshire Local Access Forum**

**3rd December 2021**

**Derby City Council Rights of Way Improvement Plan**

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**General Rights of Way Service**

The service is running at close to normal levels although there are still some difficulties associated with the limitations of home working.

The Highways Maintenance service continues to carry out the rights of way maintenance and enforcement function. The maintenance service is looking to add paths to its online complaints system on the Rights of way - maintenance and enforcement web page. This is being investigated but the public can contact the service directly by phone and email.

**Definitive map and path orders**

As stated in previous reports, work continues to be carried out towards the production of the legal event modification orders that are required to bring the definitive map areas covering Derby up to date. There are no ongoing applications for definitive map modification orders. The Council is currently processing several public path order applications.

There have been no updates from Defra about the 2026 cut-off date introduced in the Deregulation Act 2015.

**Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP 2)**

Ideas for the next Derby City RoWIP and the Derbyshire RoWIP were discussed with the DADLAF City and County RoWIP joint subgroup in November. It was recognised that the actions within the Statement of Action of the Derby 2014-17 plan may need revising in the light of the policy, societal and environmental changes that have occurred since it was produced. There were useful discussions about the Council resources available to produce a new RoWIP and how to best to consult the public and other stakeholders. A further meeting to discuss proposed changes to the RoWIP actions is planned for early next year.

## **Path Schemes Update**

**Sinfin Moor Park Permissive Bridleway.** The proposed permissive circular horse-riding route will connect Sinfin Moor Lane with the park. An on-site inspection with local park users and horse rider representatives took place in October. Possible routes and issues were discussed. Parks Services will hold a public consultation exercise in the coming weeks on the matter.

**Derwent Valley Cycleway.** The proposed cycleway scheme will link Haslams Lane, Derby and Little Eaton village. Discussions with Highways England and the Derwent Valley Trust are ongoing.

## **Allestree Hall and Park**

An update on the sale of Allestree Hall will be given verbally.

The park is set to become UK's largest urban rewilding greenspace. Derby City Council will work with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and University of Derby on a rewilding project for the park. A consultation will take place with the community to develop the plans for what would be the first large-scale urban rewilding project in the UK.

## **Environment Act 2021**

Gained royal assent on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

The government has stated that the “legislation will improve air and water quality, tackle waste, increase recycling, halt the decline of species, and improve our natural environment.”

And that new, independent “Office for Environmental Protection (OEP) which will hold government and public bodies to account on their environmental obligations.”

The [Environment Act](#) will deliver:

- Long-term targets to improve air quality, biodiversity, water, and waste reduction and resource efficiency
- A target on ambient PM2.5 concentrations, the most harmful pollutant to human health
- A target to halt the decline of nature by 2030
- Environmental Improvement Plans, including interim targets
- A cycle of environmental monitoring and reporting
- Environmental Principles embedded in domestic policy making
- Office for Environmental Protection to uphold environmental law

## **HS2**

A new [Integrated Rail Plan](#) has been produced to help improve the railway infrastructure in the Midlands and the North.

The plan makes changes to the proposed high-speed railway (HS2) network meaning that the eastern leg of the HS2 network is now proposed to run from Birmingham to East Midlands Parkway. HS2 trains are now proposed to run into Derby, Nottingham and Sheffield along an upgraded Midland Main Line, which will be electrified along its length from London

### **From the Council Newsroom (with updates from Ray Brown)**

#### **Brilliant Derby**

As a key part of the City's Recovery from the Pandemic the Derby City Partnership is to team up with respected wellbeing and happiness expert, Dr Andy Cope, to launch a unique city-wide wellbeing programme called 'Brilliant Derby'.

This well-being programme is designed to improve the mental health of Derby residents. A web site with video wellbeing sessions has been created.

[Brilliant Derby – A Wellbeing Revolution](#)

#### **Project Zebra hope for zero emission buses**

Derby City Council recently submitted an Expression of Interest for funding for a project called 'Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas' (Project Zebra) and whilst this bid has not been successful in securing funding this time round, launching the scheme remains our ambition and we are keen to continue to develop the plans and look for additional funding opportunities in the future.

Project Zebra looked at the potential of launching a hydrogen bus scheme in the city and into the county too as a kickstart not just for transport but in other areas of economic development and decarbonisation.

The joint scheme proposal would look to fund a minimum of 30 buses, split between double deckers and single deckers on urban and rural routes to replace diesel buses with zero emission hydrogen buses with a direct one-to-one ratio.

## Derby welcomes riverboat launch



Plans by Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust to bring boat trips to the River Derwent took a step forward today with the successful launch of their riverboat on the water in Derby city centre.

Named after the famous Derbyshire engineer who built the Derby Canal, the Outram has been designed and built by a local boatyard and canal trust volunteers. The 16 tonne craft was lowered into the river by crane from Cathedral Green, outside the Museum of Making.

Following its launch in Derby, the Outram will remain moored in the Derwent over the winter while more trials are carried out, volunteer crew members are trained, and safety measures are installed along the river.

The Trust will launch return passenger trips from the city centre to Darley Abbey in Spring 2022, following on from a successful test with passengers at the recent Shardlow Inland Port Festival.

### **BMX track opens at Osmaston Park**

Following £49,644 joint funding from Derby City Council and British Cycling, Osmaston Park BMX cycle track will be completed and ready to roll from the end of October.

The new track will be an inspiration to beginners and a challenge to the more advanced riders, offering a wide range of riding options, through a variety of berms, rollers and jumps that can be ridden by riders of all ages and abilities. The tarmac and stone track will split at half-way providing advanced riders varying jump heights of differing levels of difficulty.

### **Proposed Derby Football Hub to boost the game at grassroots level**

Proposals have been announced for a new Derby Football Hub, with the goal of boosting grassroots football in the city.

The project would bring state-of-the-art provision to Derby Racecourse, with more artificial grass pitches and better community facilities.

The project is part of a national Hubs programme led by the Premier League, The FA and the Government's Football Foundation.

As well as three additional full-sized 3G artificial grass pitches (AGPs) at Derby Racecourse, meaning four in total, the existing building would be extended and improved to include a café, larger reception area, a community/education room, better access and improved parking.

### **Derby's Parks have been awarded Green Flag status**

Six of Derby's city parks have been recognised as being among the best in the world by the Green Flag Award Scheme.

The parks achieving this international quality mark status are Derby Arboretum, Alvaston, Chaddesden, Darley, Sunnydale and Markeaton Park. As the scheme marks its Silver Jubilee, Derby's Parks are part of the 2,127 celebrating success today.

### **First trial Safe Haven Zone opens**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November saw the launch of the first Safe Haven Zone at Redwood School in Sinfin.

After discussions with Local Councillors, Neighbourhood Officers, school representatives, and in consultation with local residents and parents, the Safe Haven

will see the closure of a section of Redwood Rd between Sinfin Lane and Islay Rd during term time only, Monday to Friday from 8:15 to 9:00 in the morning and from 2:30 to 3:30 in the afternoon.

The zone is being introduced on a trial basis for a maximum of 18 months during which a further consultation will be held to determine if the restriction will become permanent.

The School Safe Haven Zone project is being funded after an award of £776,150 from the Department for Transport for the delivery of additional active travel measures across the city.

### **Recommendation**

To note this report.