

Report for the Derby and Derbyshire Local Access Forum

7 March 2025

Derby City Council Rights of Way Improvement Plan Update

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Rights of Way Service Update

The Rights of Way Service sits within the Planning Division, which in turn sits within the City Growth and Vibrancy department.

The Highways Maintenance service continues to carry out the rights of way maintenance and enforcement function. The Highways Maintenance Service sits within the City Sustainability department.

All the functions sit within the Communities and Place strategic department.

Finances

All rights of way functions, except for maintenance, are funded using the Planning division budget. There is no specific fixed sum allocated for rights of way work. The Planning division has been asked to find savings from its budget in line with a general request across the Council to find savings. More details can be found in the Council's Newsroom section.

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.

Status of definitive map modification order applications and public path order applications for 2024

Applications for definitive map modification orders received.

0

Applications for definitive map modification orders determined.

0

Applications for definitive map modification orders undetermined

2 received in the Sinfin Moor Lane area in 2022 (under investigation).

4 received in the Allestree Hall/Park area in 2023

Applications for public path orders received.

0

Applications for public path orders to be determined.

2 - Friar Gate Goods Yard & Sinfin Moor Lane area. Being determined.

ROWIP subgroup

RB/GM agreed with RoWIP the working group last autumn to seek the necessary internal permissions to finalise the wording of the questions with the aim of carrying out their consultation exercises in 2025. These public consultations are subject to resources. A full update will be given during the subgroup updates on the agenda.

Major Path Schemes

City-wide

The Council is investigating the viability of several proposed major path schemes around the city. The Council intends to bid to the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) for the required funding.

EMCAA will receive over £7.2 million from Active Travel England (ATE) to build more walking and cycling routes across the region.

Derwent Valley Bridleway

The Council is looking at alternative ways to fund the bridleway given the unclear situation with National Highways funding. This item is on the agenda.

Other updates

Allestree Hall

Allestree Hall was sold in December to property developer Staton Young for use as a wedding venue. Proposals for the development are expected to be submitted this year.

Defra News

The government announced last December that it intends to repeal the 2031 cut-off date for recording historic public rights of way. The government stated that “Under the changes, local authorities will now have the required time to assess whether paths meet the requirements to be added to the “definitive map”.”

There has been no news, at the time of writing, of any proposed dates for the implementation of the changes to rights of way legislation that were introduced by The Deregulation Act 2015.

There has been no news at this time of writing about the proposed Defra/Natural England support officer for Local Access Forums.

News (with updates from Ray Brown)

Sustainable Travel Ambassador for the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA)

The Mayor of the East Midlands, Claire Ward has announced the appointment a Sustainable Travel Ambassador for the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) region.

Alan Simpson has been named as the Sustainable Travel Ambassador for the East Midlands. One of the key pledges made by the Mayor has been to make it easier and safer for people to walk, cycle and get around our region, to connect local communities so they can make the easy choice to travel more sustainably.

Mayor goes green with new hydrogen-powered car

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L-R: Cllr Ajit Atwal (Deputy Mayor of Derby), Cllr Carmel Swan, Cllr Ged Potter (Mayor of Derby) and Darius Mikolajczak (Toyota) with the new Mirai.

Derby City Council continues to take steps towards a greener future, partnering with Toyota UK to secure a cutting-edge hydrogen fuel cell vehicle as the official car for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

The new Mirai promises cleaner journeys for civic duties and underlines the Council's commitment to sustainable transportation.

Toyota have supplied the car on a loan to Derby City Council for the Mayor to perform Civic Duties using the latest sustainable technology. Both the car and associated refuelling will come at no cost to the Council.

Toyota has been developing and trialling hydrogen fuel cell technology in a range of vehicles, including the prototype Hilux fuel cell pick-up truck designed and built at Toyota Motor Manufacturing UK (TMUK) in Burnaston.

In 2024 Derby City Council launched its new [Climate Change Action Plan](#) addressing what the organisation needs to do to reduce its emissions. Fuelled by hydrogen - extracted from water using zero carbon renewable energy produced at TMUK - the Mirai emits no carbon dioxide or harmful tailpipe emissions when in use. It is estimated that it will save 1 tonne* of CO2 emissions over the trial and with zero nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide it will be supporting the city's shift to zero and low emissions vehicles in their fleet.

Recommendation

To note this report.