

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

27 June 2025

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

Ray Brown, Senior Planning Officer, Planning Division, Derby City Council

#### **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 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 determined.**

1

### **Applications for public path orders to be determined.**

1 - Friar Gate Goods Yard

## **Rights of Way Improvement Plan**

The service has the aim of carrying out its consultation exercise in late 2025 or early 2026. These public consultations are subject to resources, which is why they have been delayed. An update will be given during the subgroup updates item on the agenda.

### **Derwent Valley Bridleway**

The Council is exploring alternative ways to fund the bridleway given the unclear situation with National Highways funding.

### **Allestree Hall**

Allestree Hall was sold in December 2024 to property developer Staton Young for use as a wedding venue. Proposals for the development are expected to be submitted this year.

### **General schemes**

The Council is investigating the viability of several proposed major path schemes within the city.

## **East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) Funding for Derby**

At its meeting on 9 April 2025, Council Cabinet accepted over £15m of funding from the East Midlands Combined County Authority and approved a £9.5m capital programme for City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement 2, Bus Service Improvement Plan, and Active Travel Fund.

The City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement was allocated to Mayoral Combined Authorities following the cancellation of HS2 and would not have been accessible without the creation of EMCCA.

The Cabinet report set out the proposed capital programmes for a number of key strategic areas including Highways and Transport (£9.4m), Vehicle Plant and Equipment (£5.2m), Flood Defence (£0.25m), and Parks and Open Spaces (£0.3m).

## **Council Plan 2025-2028**

Our new Council Plan has been published, which sets out our priorities and outcomes for the future.

This plan builds on the foundations that have been laid in recent years, and refreshes our mission statement and priorities, to reflect the latest needs and ambitions for Derby.

The Council cannot achieve our aspirations for the city without the vital support of its communities and partners. This Council Plan outlines the role that everyone can play in fulfilling our huge ambitions - together we're building a Derby to be proud of.

Our themes are:

- Inclusive City - putting people at the heart of everything we do
- Green City - promoting a sustainable Derby for future generations
- City of Growth - creating a modern city, with jobs, skills and homes for the future
- Vibrant City - reimagining our city with culture and diversity at its heart
- Connected Council - collaborating to deliver efficient, integrated and accessible services

As the Council's highest strategic planning document, the mission statement, themes, outcomes and values of the Council Plan inform all our priorities for action and the decisions that we take about how to use our resources.

The Council Plan sits alongside our Medium-Term Financial Strategy, setting out how we are going to use our resources to achieve outcomes for the city. Our Strategic Risk Register sets out the threats that we have identified that could stop us from achieving our goals if not mitigated, alongside any opportunities that we may seek to take. We will monitor progress against priorities and must do's at least every three months, through performance reports presented to Council Cabinet. An Annual

Report will be published once a year, summarising our financial and performance highlights.

## **Defra News**

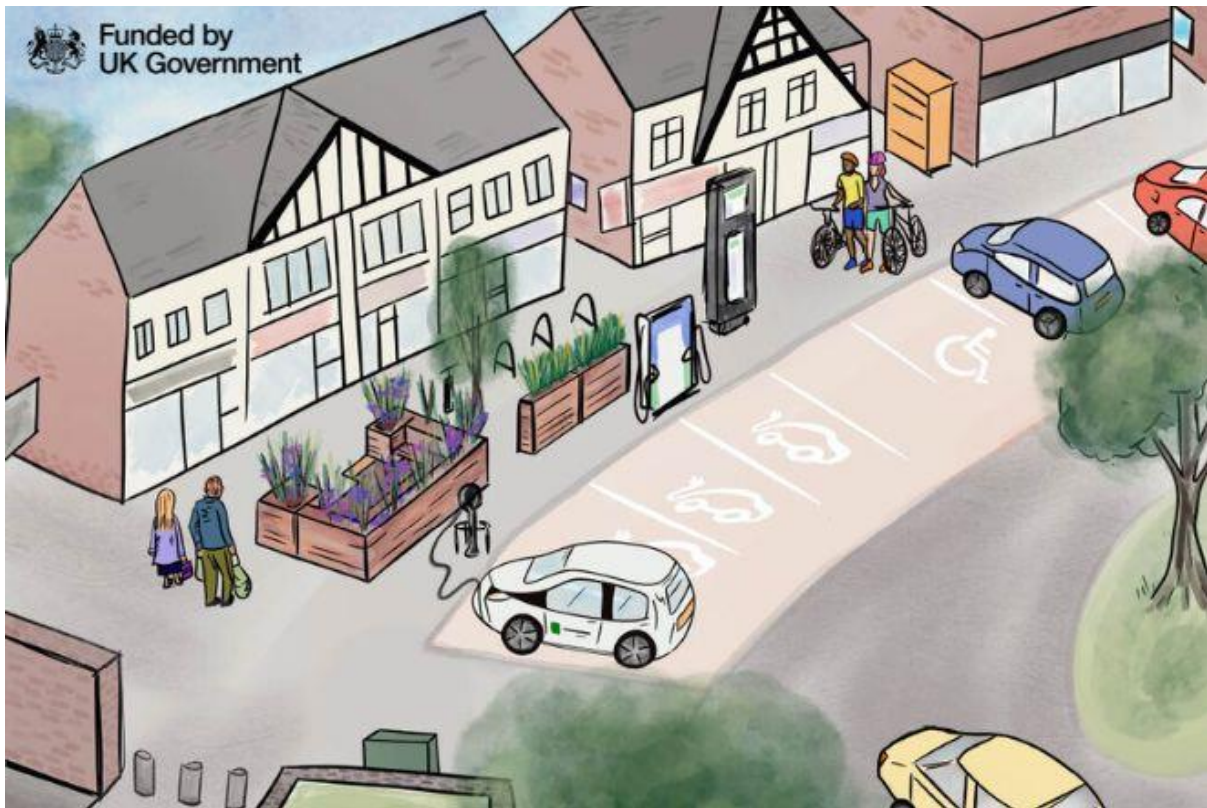
The government announced last December that it intends to repeal the 2031 cut-off date for recording historic public rights of way. The government stated that “Under the changes, local authorities will now have the required time to assess whether paths meet the requirements to be added to the “definitive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

There has been no news 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)

### Work begins to give residents greater transport choices



Sketch of shopping precinct with electric car charging, disabled parking bays, pedestrians and cyclists. Funding by UK Government.

Work will begin on site on Monday 19 May

Work to create the city's newest sustainable transport hub is underway on Osmaston Road, following the success of similar hubs elsewhere in the city.

Mobility hubs give residents greater choice when deciding how to travel, as well as making it easier to choose sustainable methods such as electric vehicles (EV), car share clubs, and cycling. The hubs are also continually monitored, helping the Council to learn more about the area's transport needs.

Following the installation of mobility hubs in the Chaddesden and Six Streets areas, work began on Monday 19 May to create the latest hub, which will include:

- Electric vehicle (EV) charging and dedicated parking for up to three EVs
- Additional Enterprise Car Club vehicles
- An accessible seating area with bike storage, designed in consultation with local businesses, ward councillors and the Police
- Interactive information totem with live travel updates

The mobility hub will be funded by the Department for Transport (DFT)'s Future Transport Zones Fund, which was awarded to Derby City Council to trial new and exciting developments in transport.

Residents who would like to know more about the mobility hubs can get in touch with the Future Transport Zones team by emailing [traffic.management@derby.gov.uk](mailto:traffic.management@derby.gov.uk).

## **Travel gets greener for university students and staff**



The sustainable transport hub was opened on Friday 14 March by representatives from Derby City Council and the University of Derby

A new sustainable travel hub at the University of Derby's Kedleston Road site is now open, giving students and staff greater choice when deciding how to travel.

Home to the new hub, Kedleston Road is the University's largest site, two miles from the city centre.

Now, thanks to a partnership between Derby City Council and the University of Derby, students and staff can take full advantage of the city's growing sustainable transport offer. The first-of-its-kind in the city, the hub has been designed with the capacity to grow as Derby's sustainable travel offer continues to expand.

To begin with, the hub offers:

- 11 Electric Vehicle (EV) charge points
- Real Time Information (RTI) screens with live travel updates
- Secure undercover cycle parking for up to 58 bicycles, plus a further 12 uncovered spaces

Work began on site in late 2024 and the hub was officially opened on Friday 14 March ahead of the University's Go Green Week; an annual event to encourage staff, students and visitors to consider making greener choices.

The hub, funded by £800,000 from the Government's Future Transport Zones Fund, complements the city's growing active travel offer which gives citizens a range of sustainable transport options.

### **From grey to green: Derby City Centre gets a makeover**

Whether stopping for a quick rest or enjoying the sunshine, people can now experience Derby in a whole new way.

Derby City Centre has undergone a transformative green makeover thanks to funding from the Government's Transforming Cities Fund.

New planters have been installed around the city centre, giving a fresh and vibrant feel to the area.

Many of the new planters have seating incorporated, which has been designed to be accessible to all visitors. Whether stopping for a quick rest or enjoying the sunshine, people can now experience Derby in a whole new way.

Alongside the new planters, residents will already be familiar with the living roof bus shelters, which continue to be installed around the city. On top of being more visually appealing, these shelters also provide food sources and habitats for a wide variety of pollinating insects.

These new planters have been installed by Whitehouse on behalf of Derby City Council.



## Derby parks are spring-ready thanks to improvements



The improved footpath at Alvaston Park

Work to upgrade footpaths in parks across the city has been completed in time for spring. Visitors to Chaddesden Park, Alvaston Park, Allestree Park, South Avenue Park and Gravel Pit Lane Recreation Ground in Spondon will enjoy a better experience as a result of the improvements.

The new smoother paths have been designed to make the parks more accessible and ensure that everyone can enjoy the benefits of the city's green spaces as the weather improves.

At Chaddesden Park, the main footpath connecting the library, the café and the play area, has been widened and resurfaced. At Alvaston Park, an upgrade of the well-used path between the park and Lakeside Primary School has made the route much more accessible, while improvements have also been made to paths at Allestree Park. [Opens in new tab](#)

South Avenue Park and Gravel Pit Lane Recreation Ground have also had their paths revamped, while the entrance from South Avenue has been improved and new railings installed to create a more welcoming and accessible entry point.

Alongside the various path upgrades, the entrances to Chaddesden Wood Local Nature Reserve have been improved to make them more accessible, thanks to Section 106 funding for the site. Visitors may have noticed new signs at three of the entrances, with the main signage to be installed in the coming months.



## Enjoy the great outdoors this spring by becoming a Derby Parks volunteer



A group of parks volunteers smile and wave for the camera

As spring approaches, do you want to make new friends, get out in the fresh air, learn new skills or get a bit more exercise? You can do all this and more by becoming a Derby Parks Volunteer!

Working closely with the Council's Parks team, the volunteers carry out conservation work and improvements to parks and green spaces across the city to ensure they're preserved for the public to enjoy.

The group's chairperson Peter Marshall, from Littleover, has been a member for almost 10 years. He went along to a session after hearing about the group from a friend and never looked back.

Peter said:

"I had been retired for some time and my wife was volunteering at the Royal Derby. A friend told me he had been volunteering with a group at Sinfin Local Nature Reserve, doing all sorts of conservation and maintenance. I turned up for a session and have been volunteering ever since.

I was made welcome by the group from the beginning and really enjoy being part of it, you get a sense of belonging. We have several long-term members who have clocked up over 10 years and are still going.

There are so many benefits – it's great to be outdoors, learn new skills and get some exercise. There's a great variety of tasks to get involved with and you can do as much or as little as you can. It's very satisfying to see what we've achieved at the end of the day. We also have plenty of breaks for tea and biscuits!"

Peter added:

"Our tasks take us to parks and green spaces all around the city. I've discovered places that were unknown to me, even one quite close to where I live. Some of the projects I remember fondly are pond lining at Chaddesden Park, building bridges at Allestree Park and step building at Chellaston brick works.

If it sounds like something you'd like to get involved with, come along and join us to try it for yourself. Anyone turning up on a task day will be joining a group of like-minded individuals from diverse backgrounds, all with a common aim."

The volunteers have a dedicated task leader to link the group with the Council's Parks team. Regular meetings take place to keep the group up to date with plans and developments across the parks.

Councillor Ndukwe Onuoha, Derby City Council Cabinet Member for Streetpride, Public Safety and Leisure, said:

"Derby's parks are a treasure. Derby Parks Volunteers work closely with the Council's teams to keep them vibrant and enjoyable spaces for everyone to enjoy. Why not come along and enjoy the great outdoors while making new friends? By lending a hand, you can help our green spaces thrive."

To start out, new volunteers will need sturdy waterproof footwear and clothing to suit the season – volunteers work in all weathers! Volunteers are provided with all the necessary tools and PPE.

For more information go to the Derby Parks Volunteers or check out the group's Facebook.

## **Derby City awarded Purple Flag Award for twelfth year in a row**

The Purple Flag status acknowledges cities and towns that meet standards of excellence in providing an enjoyable experience between 5pm and 5am.

Derby is once again celebrating its success on the international stage as it proudly retains its Purple Flag accreditation, a prestigious award that recognises excellence in managing the evening and night-time economy. This will be the twelfth year in a row that Derby has held the Purple Flag accreditation.

Awarded by an independent panel from the Association of Town and City Management (ATCM), the Purple Flag status acknowledges cities and towns that meet or surpass standards of excellence in providing a vibrant, diverse, and enjoyable experience between 5pm and 5am.

A range of local organisations have come together through Derby's Purple Flag working group to improve the city's evening and night-time economy. This group includes representatives from Derby City Council, Derbyshire Constabulary, Marketing Derby, Pubwatch, St Peters Quarter and Cathedral Quarter BIDs, Derby Homes, the University of Derby, and Visit Derby alongside many more. Their collaborative efforts have been key to helping Derby retain its Purple Flag status.

## **Recommendation**

To note this report.