



NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE BOARD

Date: Tuesday 22 September 2015

Time: 2.00 pm

Place: Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham,
NG2 3NG

Councillors are requested to attend the above meeting to transact the following business

Acting Corporate Director for Resources

Governance Officer: Laura Wilson **Direct Dial:** 0115 8764301

AGENDA

Pages

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| 1 | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE | |
| 2 | DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS | |
| 3 | MINUTES
Last meeting held on 21 July 2015 (for confirmation) | 3 - 14 |
| 4 | REVIEW OF 2015/16 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS AT 30 JUNE 2015 (QUARTER 1)
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| 5 | RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN - KEY DECISION
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8 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

To consider excluding the public from the meeting during consideration of the remaining item in accordance with section 110a(4) of the local Government Act 1972 on the basis that, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

9 NOTTINGHAM'S COMMERCIAL STRATEGY

131 - 138

Report of Deputy Leader/Portfolio Holder for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration

ALL ITEMS LISTED 'UNDER EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC' WILL BE HEARD IN PRIVATE. THEY HAVE BEEN INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA AS NO REPRESENTATIONS AGAINST HEARING THE ITEMS IN PRIVATE WERE RECEIVED

IF YOU NEED ANY ADVICE ON DECLARING AN INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA, PLEASE CONTACT THE GOVERNANCE OFFICER SHOWN ABOVE, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE THE DAY OF THE MEETING

CITIZENS ATTENDING MEETINGS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF THE MEETING TO BE ISSUED WITH VISITOR BADGES

CITIZENS ARE ADVISED THAT THIS MEETING MAY BE RECORDED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. ANY RECORDING OR REPORTING ON THIS MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S POLICY ON RECORDING AND REPORTING ON PUBLIC MEETINGS, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT WWW.NOTTINGHAMCITY.GOV.UK. INDIVIDUALS INTENDING TO RECORD THE MEETING ARE ASKED TO NOTIFY THE GOVERNANCE OFFICER SHOWN ABOVE IN ADVANCE.

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE BOARD

MINUTES of the meeting held at Loxley House on 21 July 2015 from 2.03 pm - 2.36 pm

Membership

Present

Councillor Graham Chapman (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Alan Clark
Councillor Nick McDonald
Councillor David Mellen
Councillor Alex Norris
Councillor Dave Trimble
Councillor Jane Urquhart
Councillor Sam Webster

Absent

Councillor Jon Collins (Chair)
Councillor Nicola Heaton

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

David Bishop - Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Development and Growth
Ian Curryer - Chief Executive
Louise Dobson - Business Support Officer
Sue Flack - Director of Planning and Transport
John Kelly - Corporate Director for Community Services
Debra La Mola - Head of Democratic Services
Tracy Laxton - Acting Business Administration Manager
Alison Michalska - Corporate Director for Children and Adults
Glen O'Connell - Acting Corporate Director for Resources
Geoff Walker - Director of Strategic Finance
Keri Usherwood - Marketing and Communications Manager
Laura Wilson - Governance Officer
Sarah Wilson - Chief Elections Officer

Call-in

Unless stated otherwise, all decisions are subject to call-in and cannot be implemented until Thursday 30 July 2015.

8 CHAIR

In the absence of the Chair, Councillor Graham Chapman, took the Chair for the meeting.

9 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Jon Collins
Councillor Nicola Heaton

10 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None

11 MINUTES

The Board confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2015 as a correct record and they were signed by the Chair.

12 TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2014/15 ANNUAL REPORT

The Board considered the Deputy Leader/Portfolio Holder for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration's report setting out the 2014/15 performance for the management of the Council's external debt and investments.

RESOLVED to note the Treasury Management performance information for 2014/15, as set out in the report.

Reasons for decisions

The Council adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) revised Code of Practice on Treasury Management in Local Authorities on 5 March 2012 which requires a formal annual report on the performance of the Treasury Management function.

Other options considered

Options for management of the Council's debt and investment portfolio are continually reviewed. The overall aim is to minimise the net revenue costs of our debt whilst maintaining an even debt profile in future years, and to maximise investment returns within stated security and liquidity guidelines.

13 PRE-AUDIT FINANCIAL REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN REPORT 2014/15 - KEY DECISION

The Board considered the Deputy Leader/Portfolio Holder for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration's report setting out the Council's pre-audit General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) revenue outturn 2014/15 and Capital Programme.

RESOLVED to

(1) note:

- (a) the pre-audit revenue outturn for 2014/15, including a revenue underspend of £1.459 million after taking into account carry-forwards, which are subject to review by the appropriate Portfolio Holder, as set out in paragraph 2.2 and Appendix A of the report;**
- (b) the management action undertaken to control the identified cost pressures across services, as set out in Appendix B of the report;**

- (c) net General Fund carry forwards of 6.015 million, as set out in paragraph 2.6 and Appendix Aii of the report, subject to endorsement by the appropriate Portfolio Holder;
 - (d) the discretionary rate relief granted in 2014/15, detailed in paragraph 2.11 of the report;
 - (e) the position regarding cost reductions, invest to saves, pressures and big tickets for 2014/15, detailed in paragraph 2.4 of the report;
 - (f) the capital outturn and explanations of variances over £0.100 million, as detailed in Appendix H of the report;
 - (g) the additions to the Capital Programme detailed in Table 10 of the report;
 - (h) the refreshed Capital Programme, including schemes in development, and the unallocated resources of £3.864 million, as set out in paragraph 2.18 (Tables 12 to 14) of the report;
- (2) approve:
- (a) the transfer of the balance of the 2014/15 underspend, subject to finalisation of the audit, to:
 - (i) support the extension of the Nottingham Jobs Fund (£0.541 million) to enable a further 400 jobs to be created; and
 - (ii) create an inward investment fund (£0.750 million);
 - (b) the movements of resources, set out in paragraph 2.5 and Appendix D of the report;
 - (c) the net movement to earmarked reserves, as set out on paragraph 2.7 and Appendix E of the report;
 - (d) the HRA outturn for 2014/15, as set out in paragraph 2.8 and Appendix F of the report;
 - (e) write-offs in excess of £10,000, totalling £0.968 million, where all options for recovery have been exhausted, as set out in paragraph 2.10 of the report;
 - (f) the extension of the rolling capital scheme, as set out in paragraph 2.17 (Table 11) of the report.
- (3) note and endorse the allocations from the corporate contingency, as set out in paragraph 2.3 of the report.

Reasons for decisions

To enable formal monitoring of progress against the 2014/15 budget, and the impact of actual and planned management action.

To approve the virements of budgets, as required by corporate financial procedures.

Other options considered

No other options were considered as the Council is required to ensure that, at a corporate level, expenditure and income are kept within approved budget levels.

14 NOTTINGHAM JOBS FUND 2015-6 - KEY DECISION

The Board considered the Portfolio Holder for Jobs, Growth and Transport's report requesting funding to ensure that the Nottingham Jobs Fund can continue, and

detailing the change in wage subsidy to employers to a flat rate so that funding can stretch further and increase the number of beneficiaries.

RESOLVED to

- (1) approve the extension of the Nottingham Jobs Fund to enable a further 400 jobs to be created;**
- (2) allocate £637,491 to the programme for 2015/16, and £758,829 for 2016/17 (ongoing placement cost), giving a total of £1,396,320, noting that this includes £0.541million allocated for the scheme in minute 13 above.**

Reasons for decisions

The 2014/15 Nottingham Jobs Fund has been fully allocated and more funding is required to ensure the continued success of the programme.

The new funding will help local employers create 400 jobs opportunities for long-term unemployed residents in the City.

Other options considered

Not providing additional funding was rejected as many local residents are still having difficulties gaining employment and the need for job opportunities to be created and targeted at priority groups is still required. Some businesses need financial support to expand their workforce which creates the opportunities.

Continuing with the current funding model was rejected as the funding has come to an end.

15 CARRINGTON STREET AREA TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE PROJECT - KEY DECISION

The Board considered the Portfolio Holder for Jobs, Growth and Transport's report seeking approval to proceed with the Heritage Lottery Fund Stage Two bid for the development of the Carrington Street Area Townscape Heritage Project to improve the physical appearance of the buildings and support regeneration of the historic area.

RESOLVED to

- (1) approve the submission of the Stage Two Heritage Lottery Fund bid to seek funding to the value of £682,450 and delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Development and Growth to accept the grant if the bid is successful;**
- (2) agree to the City Council providing match funding of £373,375, detailed in Appendix D of the report, to be managed through the identified funding below, noting that further approval will be sought for between 25% and 45% match funding contributions if grant assistance is taken up for capital works to buildings owned by the City Council:**

<u>Capital</u>	
Works to properties in the Townscape Heritage area	£1,270,100
<u>Revenue</u>	
Running costs (over 5 years)	£202,700
TOTAL COST	<u>£1,472,800</u>

Financed by:

Heritage Lottery Fund grant	£682,450
Property owners match contribution	£416,975
Good to Great resources	£50,000
Existing Development Management revenue budget (over 5 years)	£323,375

- (3) delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Development and Growth, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Jobs, Growth and Transport, to approve grants up to the value of £200,000 for capital works on buildings within the designated area, as detailed in Appendix A of the report;**
- (4) delegate authority to the Head of Development Management to approve spend and enter into any contracts that relate to the activities outlined within the activity statement in Appendix B of the report;**
- (5) approve the budget of £131,000 to appoint a Townscape Heritage Project Manager, as outlined in Appendix E of the report, noting that a separate staffing decision will be taken to establish the post.**

Reasons for decisions

The project will improve the physical appearance of buildings in the area and support the regeneration of an economically disadvantaged historic area, for the benefit of local residents, workers and visitors.

The buildings in the area are in need of investment and improvement and the project will help to encourage property owners to restore the heritage character of their buildings.

Private owners have expressed strong interest in grant funding of between 60% and 75% and discussions have confirmed that the grant would comfortably be spent.

Other options considered

Not submitting the Stage Two bid was rejected as the Council already passed the first round and failure to submit the bid would prevent an award of £682,450 grant funding.

16 ELECTORAL REGISTER - RESIDENCY TEST FOR ACCESS TO SERVICES

The Board considered the Deputy Leader/Portfolio Holder for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration's report proposing that, to address the residency test for access to services to City residents and support the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) in promoting electoral registration and reduce costs, any existing residency tests that are normally applicable (or ones that might be in the future) should be that, as a minimum, the applicant is on the electoral register (if they are eligible).

The Board discussed the high student population in the City and the impact this has on the electoral register. To tackle this, it was agreed that the Chief Executive will discuss how students can be encouraged to register in Nottingham with the Vice-Chancellors of the universities.

RESOLVED to

- (1) agree that, where it is legally possible and practicable to do so, any existing test for residency within the City made at the point of application for Council services shall be that, as a minimum, the applicant is on the electoral register for the City, is eligible to be so;**
- (2) agree that, where it is legally possible and practicable to do so, a test for residency within the City also be applied at the point of application for Council services where currently there is no check that the applicant resides in the City, or at a specific address within the City, and it shall be that, as a minimum, the applicant is on the electoral register for the City, if eligible to be so;**
- (3) agree that the Leader of the Council approves the final list of services that the policy will apply to;**
- (4) agree that the residency test is implemented from 1 September 2015, with corporate and service specific communications on this issue being undertaken as soon as possible to alert City residents to this change;**
- (5) note that it is anticipated that existing government funding for Individual Electoral Registration (IER) will meet the cost of any additional temporary staff resource in Electoral Services, and for corporate and service specific communications to launch implementation of the electoral register residency check during the period of the canvass, but agree that any shortfall will be met from contingency;**
- (6) note that the first annual canvass under IER will commence with the delivery of Household Enquiry Forms to all City addresses during the week beginning 3 August 2015, and that this will run alongside promotion of electoral registration through engagement channels and activity as determined by the ERO;**

- (7) agree that the Chief Executive will discuss how students can be encouraged to register in Nottingham with the Vice-Chancellors of the universities.**

Reasons for decisions

To standardise and simplify residency tests that are applied to the provision of services for City residents and facilitate sustainable improvements in electoral registration in the City, which will support democratic participation and a reduction in the increasing costs of meeting the legislative requirements of IER.

Other options considered

Not introducing the changes to residency tests was rejected as it would not achieve any simplification of residency tests or ensure a greater focus on City services for City residents. Also, reliance on electoral registration engagement activity and ensuring that the statutory requirements of the canvass are met may not achieve the change in electoral registration that is necessary to ensure the ongoing completeness and accuracy of register, or to reduce the growing costs of electoral registration which may or may not be funded by Central Government from 2016/17.

Delaying implementation of the residency check until 1 December 2015 was rejected as this is after the register has been published and unregistered citizens may wait until they are denied access to services before they register to vote.

17 ROYAL CENTRE TRANSFORMATION PROJECT - ARTS COUNCIL BID - KEY DECISION

The Board considered the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture's report seeking approval to proceed with the Arts Council England Stage Two bid to improve the facilities of the Theatre Royal and Royal Concert Hall to increase day time usage and continue attracting world class events.

RESOLVED

- (1) to submit a Stage Two bid to Arts Council England for the Royal Centre Transformation Project;**
- (2) to delegate authority to the Corporate Director for Community Services to accept any funding from Arts Council England and sign the associated Funding Agreement;**
- (3) to commit £328,000 for the project and design team fees for the remainder of the project, and delegate authority to the Corporate Director for Community Services to extend appointments and enter any further agreements to appoint the project and design team as required;**
- (4) subject to the Arts Council England bid being successful, to:**
 - (a) approve a Council contribution of £1.73 million as match funding for the Royal Centre Transformation Project;**

- (b) amend the Capital Programme to include the Royal Centre Transformation Project;**
- (c) procure a building contractor and delegate authority to the Corporate Director for Community Services to enter into a contract up to the value of £2.893 million.**

Reasons for decisions

To apply for the remaining £1.491 million of a total application of £1.608 million towards the £3.2 million transformation project.

Extending the appointments of the project team will allow the project to continue over the evaluation period, prepare for the procurement of a building contractor and prepare for enabling works to take place in the Box Office and Kiosk. A second extension will cover the period from the announcement for the remainder of the project if the scheme progresses.

Adding the scheme to the Capital Programme will commit the Council to funding its share of the development costs.

Other options considered

Not submitting the Stage Two bid was rejected as it would mean that abortive costs will have been incurred and the opportunity to secure the external funding to improve the Theatre Royal and Royal Concert Hall would be lost, along with the chance to increase its financial resilience.

18 NOTTINGHAM CASTLE AND FUTURE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MUSEUM AND GALLERY SERVICES - KEY DECISION

The Board considered the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture's report seeking approval to transfer the management of Nottingham Castle to a not for profit organisation, such as a Trust, and retaining the management of the remaining Museum and Gallery services in-house, in line with Focus Consultants Options Appraisal report commissioned as a result of the previous report on the management of Nottingham Castle and Heritage Lottery Fund bid considered by Executive Board on 19 November 2013.

RESOLVED to

- (1) note that transferring the management of Nottingham Castle to a not for profit organisation is, in part, to support the current Stage Two Heritage Lottery Fund bid work for the development of Nottingham Castle, the largest heritage development project in the UK;**
- (2) approve commencing a process of transfer for Nottingham Castle to a suitable not for profit organisation(s), to become the future management operator, and to retain the rest of the Museum and Gallery Service in-house;**

- (3) approve the development of a Full Business Case (FBC) to support the transfer process and to report back to Executive Board if the option agreed falls outside of the Council's current Medium Term Financial Plan;**
- (4) grant dispensation from Contract Procedure Rule 5.1.2, in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.29, to appoint specialist advisers for legal, finance and VAT, as required to support the development of the FBC and the operator selector process, including the required full contract and legal documentation;**
- (5) delegate authority to the Corporate Director for Community Services, in liaison with the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture, to negotiate suitable lease, contract and terms and conditions with the selected organisation(s) to best support the long-term sustainability of the City's cultural offer and best protect Nottingham City Council's and citizens interests;**
- (6) commit up to £0.150 million as funding towards supporting the FBC and selection process, and the appointment of specialist advisers, as set out in the exempt appendix and section 5 of the report;**
- (7) note that through any negotiations, ownership of Nottingham Castle and its museum collections displayed within, remain the property of Nottingham City Council on behalf of its citizens.**

Reasons for decisions

To enable the authority to implement the changes recommended in the Options Appraisal commissioned from Focus Consultants Limited to assist the Council determine the most cost and tax efficient future delivery models for the operational management of the Council's current Museum and Gallery Service.

Other options considered

The Options Appraisal considered a wide range of ways the service could be managed including:

1. remaining in-house;
2. transferring all of the Museum and Gallery Service to a not for profit organisation;
3. transferring Nottingham Castle to a not for profit organisation and retain the rest of the Museum and Gallery Service in-house;
4. integrating with an existing third party/established Trust;
5. contracting out to a commercial private sector provider.

All of the options were scored against a detailed list of criteria and all, except the preferred option (3), were rejected as they did not meet the Council's requirements.

19 APPOINTMENT OF CONCESSION OPERATOR FOR NOTTINGHAM CITY CAVES - KEY DECISION

The Board considered the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture's report requesting agreement for the continuation of the Egalitarian Trust managing the Nottingham City of Caves on behalf of Nottingham City Council, and granting them a 20 year lease to enable them to undertake future investment and development of the attraction.

RESOLVED to

- (1) grant dispensation from Contract Procedure Rule 5.1.2, in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.29, to enable the appointment of the Egalitarian Trust to take place outside of the Council's standard procurement and tendering procedures for the selection of a management operator, due to the linked interdependence of the Galleries of Justice attraction and operation of that to the City of Caves attraction;**
- (2) delegate authority to the Director of Sport and Culture, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture, and Deputy Leader/Portfolio Holder for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration, to agree terms and complete a 20 year lease with the Egalitarian Trust in respect of the City of Caves attraction;**
- (3) agree that a base annual income rental, reviewed every five years, along with an agreed profit share is received by the City Council, on the terms set out in the exempt appendix.**

Reasons for recommendations

The Egalitarian Trust has, for the last seven years, started to create a resilient business model to help sustain its heritage operation. The income from the City of Caves attraction has been a key cornerstone for the Trust in this transition.

The City of Caves attraction has benefited from being linked to the Galleries of Justice and its professional teams to better articulate the caves history and the role caves played in the emergence of early Nottingham from around 900 AD.

Granting a long-term lease will enable the Trust to invest in the sites and also approach heritage bodies, and other Trusts and Foundations, to secure funding to further develop the offer.

Other options considered

The City of Caves attraction being managed by the owners of the Broadmarsh Centre was rejected as they did not see this as part of their core business.

Offering the management of the City of Caves attraction out to market as an open competitive tender was rejected because of the uncertainty around the development works needed to take place at the Broadmarsh Centre, and the well-established inter-linkage of the caves offer to the award winning Galleries of Justice attraction.

20 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the remaining item in accordance with section 100a(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the basis that, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

21 ROYAL CENTRE TRANSFORMATION PROJECT - ARTS COUNCIL BID - KEY DECISION - EXEMPT APPENDIX

The Board considered the exempt appendix to the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture's report.

RESOLVED to note the information contained within the exempt appendix.

Reasons for decisions

As detailed in minute 17.

Other options considered

As detailed in minute 17.

22 NOTTINGHAM CASTLE AND FUTURE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MUSEUM AND GALLERY SERVICES - KEY DECISION - EXEMPT APPENDIX

The Board considered the exempt appendix to the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture's report.

RESOLVED to note the information contained within the exempt appendix.

Reasons for decisions

As detailed in minute 18.

Other options considered

As detailed in minute 18.

23 APPOINTMENT OF CONCESSION OPERATOR FOR NOTTINGHAM CITY CAVES - KEY DECISION - EXEMPT APPENDIX

The Board considered the exempt appendix to the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture's report.

RESOLVED to note the information contained within the exempt appendix.

Executive Board - 21.07.15

Reasons for decisions

As detailed in minute 19.

Other options considered

As detailed in minute 19.

**24 DEVELOPMENT OF COMMERCIAL OPTIONS FOR WASTE AND ENERGY
- KEY DECISION**

The Board considered the Deputy Leader/Portfolio Holder for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration and Portfolio Holder for Energy and Sustainability's exempt report.

RESOLVED to approve the recommendations in the report.

Reasons for decisions

As detailed in the report.

Other options considered

As detailed in the report.

25 COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR FLEET SERVICES - KEY DECISION

The Board considered the Portfolio Holder for Jobs, Growth and Transport's exempt report.

RESOLVED to approve the recommendations in the report.

Reasons for decisions

As detailed in the report.

Other options considered

As detailed in the report.

Agenda Item 4

EXECUTIVE BOARD – 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

Subject:	Review of 2015/16 Revenue and Capital Budgets at 30 June 2015 (Quarter 1)		
Corporate Director(s)/ Director(s):	Geoff Walker, Director of Strategic Finance		
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Graham Chapman, Deputy Leader/Portfolio Holder for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration		
Report author and contact details:	Theresa Channell, Head of Strategic Finance 0115 8763649 theresa.channell@nottinghamcity.gov.uk		
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Subject to call-in
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Reasons:	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Income	<input type="checkbox"/> Savings of £1,000,000 or more taking account of the overall impact of the decision
			<input type="checkbox"/> Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Capital
Significant impact on communities living or working in two or more wards in the City			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Total value of the decision: Nil			
Wards affected: All	Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s): Throughout April – June 2015		
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:			
Cutting unemployment by a quarter			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):			
This report provides an up to date assessment of the Council's current and forecast year end financial position for the General Fund revenue account, Capital Programme and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) based on activity to the end of June 2015.			
Strong financial planning and management are essential in the Council's work to commission, enable and provide value for money services to citizens to deliver corporate priorities.			
Exempt information:			
None			
Recommendation(s):			
1 To note:			
a) the overall current (medium case) forecast net overspend of £1.650m, as set out in paragraph 2.2 and Appendix A;			
b) the management action being taken to control the identified cost pressures across services, as set out in Appendix B;			
c) the progress on the implementation of cost reductions and pressures as set out in paragraph 2.5;			
d) the forecast working balance of £3.951m on the HRA, as set out in paragraph 2.7;			
e) the forecast position on the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 2.9;			
f) the Capital Programme projections at Quarter 1, as set out in paragraph 2.9;			

	g) the additions to the Capital Programme listed in Appendix E; h) the variations to the Capital Programme listed in Appendix F; i) the refreshed Capital Programme, including schemes in development, as set out in paragraph 2.9 (tables 7,8 and 9).
2	To approve the movements of resources set out in paragraph 2.6 and Appendix D.
3	To note and endorse the allocations from the corporate contingency as set out in paragraph 2.4.

1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 It enables formal monitoring of progress against the 2015/16 budget and the impact of actual and planned management action.
- 1.2 The approval for virements of budgets is required by corporate financial procedures.

2 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

2.1 The 2015/16 revenue budget was approved by City Council in March 2015. This periodic report summarises the current assessment of the Council's forecast outturn of the General Fund and HRA. Some report tables may not sum exactly due to rounding.

2.2 **General Fund Revenue**

Forecasting is risk-based, reflecting the diverse nature of the Council's activities and the wide range of issues impacting on the financial position. Table 1 shows the current forecast using best, medium and worst case scenarios and is based on the ledger position as at 30 June 2015 updated for known factors. Appendix A provides more detail and Appendix B explains the main variances.

OUTTURN VARIANCE 2014/15 £m ¹	PORTFOLIO	(UNDER) / OVER SPEND		
		BEST £m	MEDIUM £m	WORST £m
(4.286)	Adults, Health and Community Sector	0.000	0.195	0.195
(1.592)	Community Services and HR	(1.971)	(0.507)	0.164
0.972	Early Intervention and Early Years	(0.516)	0.586	1.263
(0.452)	Energy and Sustainability	0.250	0.250	0.250
0.230	Jobs, Growth and Transport	(0.879)	(0.175)	0.046
(0.622)	Leisure and Culture	(0.280)	(0.067)	(0.067)
(0.556)	Planning and Housing	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.252	Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration	0.561	0.643	1.467
(0.781)	Schools	0.000	0.000	0.000
(6.835)	TOTAL PORTFOLIOS	(2.835)	0.925	3.318
(0.639)	Corporate budgets	0.000	0.725	0.725
(7.474)	NET COUNCIL POSITION	(2.835)	1.650	4.043
Change – best to medium		4.485		
Change – medium to worst				2.393

Notes 1: outturn before carry forwards 2. Figures in brackets are underspends

2.3 General Reserves

These provide a financial safety net to cover above-budget costs during the year. Variations in forecast outturn will impact on general reserves. Underspends increase reserves and overspends decrease them. Table 2 shows the potential impact of the current medium case forecast variance on general reserves.

TABLE 2: POTENTIAL IMPACT ON GENERAL RESERVES	
ITEM	£m
Balance at 01.04.15	9.500
Decrease in Reserves to medium case	1.650
Estimated Reserves at 31.03.16 (medium case)	7.850

The minimum level of opening reserves for 2015/16 was set at £9.500m. If general reserves fall below the minimum defined level, the shortfall has to be replenished when setting the budget for the following year. The recommended minimum level for next year will be advised by the Chief Finance Officer (CFO) based on the prevailing risk assessment of the financial position at that time.

Given the very challenging outlook for the medium term, officers are being advised to secure as many efficiency savings as possible in the current year and to optimise income in order to support the Council's work in the future.

The level of reserves and the process for reserve transfers is currently being reviewed and reserve transfers for 2015/16 will be reported to Executive Board later in the year.

2.4 Corporate Contingency

This enables management of the financial impact of issues that were not reflected when the budget was set. It is allocated under the delegated authority of the CFO in consultation with the Deputy Leader using designated criteria. Services are required to accommodate unforeseen expenditure and/or income shortfalls from within their cash limited budgets, only seeking allocations where this is proven to be impossible. Contingency is £2.000m in 2015/16 and Table 3 shows the allocations approved by the CFO and Deputy Leader up to the date of despatch of this report:

TABLE 3: CONTINGENCY ALLOCATED IN 2015/16	
Item	Amount £m
Neighbourhood Tree Removal and Improvement Programme	0.030
Support for the Civic Strand of the International Strategy	0.020
TOTAL	0.050

This leaves a remaining balance of £1.950m, although there are several pending applications which will be reported as part of the next monitoring report.

2.5 Cost reductions and pressures

Cost Reductions

The 2015/16 budget includes new cost reductions of £25.033m. At this stage £2.255m is not expected to be achieved against the original proposals, although £1.468m is expected to be achieved through alternate management action within directorates.

Table 4 summarises achievement by portfolio in implementing these cost reductions.

TABLE 4: NEW COST REDUCTIONS INCLUDED IN 2015/16 BUDGET						
PORTFOLIO	2015/16 Total £m	Position at 30.06.15 £m	Anticipated year end position	Not expected to be achieved		Achieved from alternate source
			£m	£m	%	£m
Adults, Health and Community Sector	(8.524)	(2.065)	(8.259)	0.265	3.11	0.265
Community Services and HR	(1.737)	(0.430)	(1.737)	0.000	0.00	0.000
Early Intervention and Early Years	(2.707)	(0.212)	(2.013)	0.694	25.64	0.537
Energy and Sustainability	(0.700)	(0.113)	(0.700)	0.000	0.00	0.000
Jobs, Growth and Transport	(2.535)	(0.634)	(2.535)	0.000	0.00	0.000
Leisure and Culture	(0.997)	(0.324)	(0.997)	0.000	0.00	0.000
Planning and Housing	(0.400)	(0.100)	(0.400)	0.000	0.00	0.000
Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration	(7.208)	(1.297)	(5.911)	1.296	17.98	0.666
Schools	(0.226)	(0.056)	(0.226)	0.000	0.00	0.000
TOTAL	(25.033)	(5.232)	(22.778)	2.255	9.01	1.468

Pressures

£0.759m of pressures are included within the 2015/16 budget and are expected to be used by 31 March 2016.

2.6 Movement of Resources

Transfers of services between directorates and/or portfolios are reflected within the monitoring figures. Some transfers are before the change in Executive arrangements approved at Council in May so refer to previous portfolios that were in place until then. These movements of resources now require approval and are detailed in Appendix D.

2.7 HRA Budget

The HRA budget was approved by City Council in March 2015 and budgeted for a working balance of £4.000m brought forward at 31 March 2015 and closing balance of £4.000m at 31 March 2016. The working balance acts as a contingency to cover unexpected significant expenditure or loss of income.

Working Balance Brought Forward - increase of £0.307m

The actual position of the Working Balance carried forward from 2014/15 was £4.307m, which is an increase of £0.307m from that reported in the Budget.

Retained Housing: Increase of £0.289m

Provision for charges included within Public Sector Housing Capital Programme required to be charged to revenue. This includes costs of council tax, security and waste disposal to be met by a reduction to Direct Revenue Financing.

Direct Revenue Financing: Reduction of £0.289m

Reduction to Direct Revenue Financing to meet capital scheme costs charged to revenue.

Service Charge Income: Reduction of £0.356m

Includes a reduction due to service charges in being claimed in advance of 2015/16 (£0.371m) that relate to an increase in service charges from Furnished Properties (£0.015m).

Table 5 shows the revised working balance at 31 March 2016.

Table 5: HRA WORKING BALANCE	
	£m
Estimated balance at 31 March 2016	4.000
Add	
Increased working balance b/f 2014/15	0.307
Reduced Direct Revenue Finance	0.289
	4.596
Less	
Increased Retained Housing - Council Tax, Security & Waste Disposal	(0.289)
Reduced service charge income	(0.356)
Revised working balance 2015/16	3.951

2.8 Debtors Monitoring (Appendix C)

Housing Rents

The Q1 Housing Rents collection rate (97.17%) is slightly below the target of 98.40% and last year's performance (97.58%).

Realignment within the teams, together with the launch of a campaign targeting tenants who received the Responsible Tenant Reward last year but have not reduced their debt since, and improvements in IT systems to make the reviewing process quicker and more effective, should have the effect of increasing collection rates.

Council Tax

Collection rate is 0.40% above the Q1 profiled target of 25.90% and is 0.10% ahead of the same period in 2014/15. In monetary terms an additional £ 1.3m has been collected in the first quarter of this financial year compared to 2014/15.

National Non- Domestic Rates (NNDR)

The collection rate is 2.08% above the Q1 collection target of 29.20%, in monetary terms this equates to an additional £2.5m collected in Q1, compared to the same period in 2014/15.

Sundry Income

The percentage of debts collected within 90 days in the 12 months to June 2015 was 79.40% which is below that for the same period last year (84.00%).

The debtor day indicator (which shows how quickly debts are recovered) is currently 31 days. This is better than the target (32.30) but lower than performance in 2014/15 for the equivalent period.

Management action is targeted on the application of receipts and the 90 day collection percentage should improve over future periods.

Adult Residential Services

The Q1 collection rate of 95.42%, whilst being lower than the 97.50% target, compares with last year's Q1 figure (95.90%).

Estates Rents

The collection rate of 96.80% compares with last year's Q1 figure of 96.84% but is slightly below the set target of 97.50%.

2.9 Capital Programme Update

The outturn report stated an updated overall Capital Programme for 2015/16 of **£213.617m** for the General Fund and **£71.373m** for the HRA. Schemes have since been approved totalling **£39.995m**. Identified variances include net slippage of **£16.510m** and other variances totalling **£0.459m**.

Table 6 shows the revised programme for each portfolio. Taking into account the additions and other variances, the overall forecast for 2015/16 is **£246.191m** for the General Fund and **£61.855** for the HRA. Actual spend for Q1 is **£35.162m** which is 11.4% of the forecast outturn.

Portfolio	Outturn at 31/03/2015 £m	New Approvals £m	Slippage etc £m	Other £m	Forecast Outturn £m	Actual Spend £m
Public Sector Housing	71.373	0.060	(9.633)	0.055	61.855	8.522
Local Transport Plan	25.781	(0.400)	(1.787)	(0.161)	23.433	1.971
Education/Schools	19.215	0.200	(0.168)	(0.759)	18.488	2.607
All Other Services	168.651	40.135	(4.922)	0.406	204.270	22.062
Total	285.020	39.995	(16.510)	(0.459)	308.046	35.162

New Approvals 2015/16

Scheme amendments and additions of **£39.995m** have been approved and included in the programme for 2015/16. In addition **£20.201m** and **£0.478m** additions have been included for 2016/17 and 2017/18 respectively.

Details of significant approvals are listed below

£27.451m for Bioscience Expansion. This scheme will increase the provision of laboratory space dedicated to the Bioscience sector, increasing job and apprenticeship opportunities and developing a key Eastside area. The scheme is to be funded by grant from the Local Enterprise Partnership and prudential borrowing that will be repaid by the rental income stream.

£4.500m for IT Improvement Programme. This programme will update IT infrastructure that has come to the end of its useful life; allowing the Council to operate a technical

environment that is fit for purpose and compliant with Public Service Network security standards

£4.080m for Property Investment Acquisition. This is a commercial property purchase that will provide a future income stream for the Council.

£5.000m for Loan to Support Further Education Sector. The Council is acting as a lender in order to support New College Nottingham in the completion of their Basford Hall development and implementation of their financial recovery plan. Future repayments from New College Nottingham will cover the cost of the loan.

£6.700m for Loan to Nottingham City Homes. This loan will allow Nottingham City Homes to purchase 52 new build family homes in Radford to provide for social rent. The funding route will allow the Council to develop and build additional houses in other sites within the City.

A complete list of additions to the Capital Programme is attached at **Appendix E**.

The programme has also been amended to include the following:

Slippage

Overall net slippage to the programme is **£16.510m** including the following schemes:

Public Sector Housing Programme - **£9.218m** slippage identified in quarter 1 on a range of works to be carried out on Public Housing. This includes **£4.111m** slippage on Installation of Solar Panels due to a re-profiling and re-approval of the scheme after a change in financial assumptions. **£4.026m** of slippage has been identified on the Building a Better Nottingham programme; this programme is made up of a number of new build schemes that have been re-profiled to match the latest expected project timetable.

Slippage on other services includes:

Solar Panel Installation at Queens Drive and Colwick Park and Ride sites have slipped by a total **£2.163m**; these scheme are currently undergoing further feasibility studies and start of work on site has been re-profiled into 2016/17.

Highfield Park Refurbishment has slippage of **£0.950m**; this scheme has been re-profiled to match the latest programme of works.

A complete list of Variances are shown in **Appendix F**

Public Sector Housing (HRA) Capital Programme

The Public Sector Housing Programme has been updated to reflect the **£9.633m** net slippage identified in Quarter 1 and total additions to the programme of **£1.255m**.

Table 7 sets out the updated programme and resources.

TABLE 7 : PUBLIC SECTOR HOUSING - CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND RESOURCES						
PORTFOLIO	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m	Total £m
Public Sector Housing						

Programme	61.855	71.344	52.852	42.020	34.382	262.453
Total Programme	61.855	71.344	52.852	42.020	34.382	262.453
Resources Available						
Resources b/fwd	45.301	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	45.301
Prudential Borrowing	0.000	0.000	4.000	9.000	0.000	13.000
Grants & Contribution	3.458	3.995	0.653	1.307	0.815	10.228
Direct Revenue Financing	30.069	30.069	30.069	30.069	30.069	150.345
Major Repairs Reserve	6.635	6.987	8.371	8.371	8.371	38.735
Capital Receipts secured	1.837	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.837
Resources	87.300	41.051	43.093	48.747	39.255	259.446
Unsecured Capital Receipts	5.513	5.546	3.546	1.200	0.700	16.505
Total Resources	92.813	46.597	46.639	49.947	39.955	275.951
Future commitment to maintaining decency	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	13.498	13.498
Cumulative (Surplus)/Shortfall	(30.958)	(6.211)	0.002	(7.925)	(0.000)	(0.000)

The overall programme is balanced, however, the introduction of the Welfare Reform and Work Bill and the resulting changes to rent charges to tenants will have a detrimental impact on the overall Public Sector Housing capital programme going forward. A full review into the effects of this will be carried out.

General Fund Capital Programme

The General Fund capital programme has been updated for the total additions of **£59.419m** and net slippage identified in Quarter 1 of **£6.877m**. The resource projections have also been updated including those that are likely to be generated by capital receipts.

Table 8 shows the revised programme for each portfolio. Projects in development arising from the investment strategy have been approved pending business cases are also included.

TABLE 8 : GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME						
PORTFOLIO	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m	Total £m
Local Transport Programme	23.433	22.081	19.607	0.000	0.000	65.121
Education / Schools	18.488	5.647	0.000	0.000	0.000	24.135
Other Services	204.270	49.457	14.305	14.683	8.638	291.353
Projects in Development	77.585	89.622	46.800	19.800	1.500	235.307
Total Programme	323.776	166.807	80.712	34.483	10.138	615.916

The five year programme totals **£615.916m** which includes **£235.307m** of schemes in development approved pending business cases.

Table 9 shows the financing of the capital programme as at quarter 1. The programme predicts a small surplus of **£2.558m**; this represents 0.415% of the total programme and will be used as a contingency against the programme.

TABLE 9 : GENERAL FUND CAPITAL FINANCING						
PORTFOLIO	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m	Total £m
Resources b/fwd	33.819	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	33.819
Prudential Borrowing	205.521	114.537	51.203	9.496	2.094	382.851
Grants & Contribution	56.162	42.849	26.839	19.850	6.494	152.194
Internal Funds / Revenue	17.010	1.193	1.135	1.650	1.494	22.482
Secured Capital Receipts	2.113	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.113
Subtotal Resources	314.625	158.579	79.177	30.996	10.082	593.459
Capital Receipts Unsecured	15.308	6.136	2.700	0.870	0.000	25.015
TOTAL RESOURCES	329.934	164.715	81.877	31.866	10.082	618.474

Cumulative (Surplus)/Shortfall	(6.157)	(4.066)	(5.231)	(2.614)	(2.558)	(2.558)
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3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 No other options were considered as the Council is required to ensure that, at a corporate level, expenditure and income are kept within approved budget levels and this report sets out how this is being managed.

4 FINANCE COMMENTS (INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

- 4.1 Financial implications appear throughout the report.
- 4.2 The financial plans and budgets support delivery of the Council Plan. Monitoring the financial position in parallel with service plan activity helps to ensure the delivery of corporate priorities. The Council has developed a robust approach to providing value for money and efficiency savings to support the delivery of the Council Plan and the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

5 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT COMMENTS (INCLUDING RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES, AND INCLUDING LEGAL, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS)

- 5.1 Continuous review and management of the budget and associated performance issues mitigate the risk of not achieving corporate priorities.
- 5.2 The five year proposed programme is ambitious and will require the Council to use much of its available resources. Substantial investment of this nature will result in the Council being exposed to additional risks as follows:
- a 52% increase in the authority's borrowing over the next five years;
 - exposure to interest rate changes; a 0.5% increase in interest rates will increase the cost of borrowing by c£0.700m per annum;
 - major schemes have a long pay back period which will require the use of reserves in the early years to fund short term deficits in business plans;
 - the cost of feasibility studies are all undertaken at risk;
 - schemes may not cover their costs or make the desired return.

5.3 In order to manage these risks the following key principles will be adopted in managing the programme:

- new projects (unable to cover their costs) added to the programme, will result in an existing project being removed or amended;
- all projects must have a robust and viable full business case, which considers and includes whole life costing and revenue implications;
- all schemes will be subject to robust and deliverable business plans and models which demonstrate the necessary return on investment required;
- the decision to progress schemes will be dependent on securing the stated level of external funding or grant as appropriate;
- new projects will be considered where the Council can make a return on investment;
- where new sources of external funding/grants become available, the programme will be revisited;

All schemes will be subject to an independent internal 'Gateway review process'

5.4 The City Council recognises the importance of individual and collective accountability and requires managers to formally acknowledge their responsibilities. Financial management is an integral aspect of effective leadership and good management, relevant councillors and managers are required to participate fully in all aspects of capital investment plans.

5.5 Corporate Directors will be accountable for the success and deliverability of all capital projects within their remit; including:

- ownership of business cases and any subsequent changes to them;
- ensuring that capital projects are delivered in line with agreed targets and resources;
- the successful outcome and benefits realisation of capital projects.

6 SOCIAL VALUE CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 None

7 REGARD TO THE NHS CONSTITUTION

7.1 Not Applicable

8 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

Has the equality impact been assessed?

- (a) not needed (report does not contain proposals for new or changing policies, services or functions, financial decisions or decisions about implementation of policies development outside the Council)
- (b) No
- (c) Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in any attached EIA.

9 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN WRITING THIS REPORT (NOT INCLUDING PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS OR CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION)

9.1 None

10 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN THIS REPORT

10.1 Medium Term Financial Plan 2015/16 - 2017/18 - Executive Board 24 February 2015

11 OTHER COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE PROVIDED INPUT

Tina Adams - Capital and Taxation Manager
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BUDGET MONITORING 2015/16 - (Q1 – period to end June 2015) £m

	POSITION TO 30 JUNE 2015				YEAR END FORECAST					
	Updated Estimate	Profiled Estimate	Actual + Commitments	Variance	Est'd Outturn (BEST CASE)	Est'd Outturn (MEDIUM)	Est'd Outturn (WORST CASE)	Variance (under)/over to BEST CASE	Variance (under)/over to MEDIUM	Variance (under)/over to WORST CASE
PORTFOLIO	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adults, Health & Community Sector	93.223	29.978	29.626	(0.352)	93.223	93.418	93.418	0.000	0.195	0.195
Community Services & HR	23.714	5.585	12.324	6.739	21.960	23.207	23.661	(1.971)	(0.507)	0.164
Early Intervention & Early Years	53.914	16.090	17.737	1.647	53.398	54.500	55.177	(0.516)	0.586	1.263
Energy & Sustainability	6.091	2.099	6.106	4.007	6.341	6.341	6.341	0.250	0.250	0.250
Jobs, Growth & Transport	13.897	(13.184)	5.056	18.240	13.017	13.721	13.943	(0.879)	(0.175)	0.046
Leisure & Culture	10.293	2.645	0.597	(2.048)	10.013	10.226	10.226	(0.280)	(0.067)	(0.067)
Planning & Housing	3.399	(1.274)	(2.111)	(0.837)	3.399	3.399	3.399	0.000	0.000	0.000
Resources & Neighbourhood Regeneration	22.492	8.292	20.006	11.715	23.054	23.135	23.959	0.561	0.643	1.467
Schools	2.268	5.298	(6.744)	(12.042)	2.268	2.268	2.268	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total Portfolios	229.291	55.529	82.598	27.069	226.673	230.216	232.392	(2.835)	0.925	3.318
Corporate Budgets	26.523	5.159	27.168	22.008	26.523	27.248	27.248	0.000	0.725	0.725
Total General Fund	255.814	60.689	109.766	49.077	253.196	257.464	259.640	(2.835)	1.650	4.043

Portfolio Variances +/- £50k (medium case)**Adults, Health & Community Sector Portfolio – overall variance £0.195m
ADVERSE****Adults £0.195m overspend**

Reconfiguration of a 2015/16 strategic choice. This related to a capital investment into a new Learning Disability provision. An alternative proposal is being developed for 2016/17 as part of the budget process.

**Early Intervention and Early Years Portfolio – overall variance £0.586m
ADVERSE****Children’s Social Care £1.765m overspend**

Demographic increases in Children in Care +£2.826m and a delay in the implementation of the plan to achieve Big Ticket +£0.537m.

This overspend has been partially mitigated by the use of grant and carry forwards. Service activity is being undertaken to mitigate the balance in relation to:

- Minimising the impact of demographic growth through early intervention.
- Ensuring safeguarding packages are fit for purpose.
- Driving the delivery of transformation programmes.

Vulnerable Children’s & Families -£0.677m underspend

A majority of this underspend relates to slippage in recruitment; this has been due to service redesign, Big Ticket impact and to mitigate the demographic increase in Children’s Social Care.

**Community Services & HR Portfolio – overall variance £0.507m
FAVOURABLE****Licensing; Trading Standards & ASB - £0.106m underspend**

Management of staff vacancies within the service.

Parking; Permits; Bus Lane Enforcement - £0.323m overspend

Overspend due to pressures on the income target within Parking Enforcement. Budgets are being reviewed to identify in year savings.

Uniformed Services - £0.138m underspend

Management of staff vacancies within the service.

Commercial & Neighbourhood Services £0.671m underspend

Positive action on growing sales and controlling costs as indicated in business plans has led to this improving net budget position in traded areas. The best case is based on the Business Plan targets from the department.

Community Cohesion £66k overspend

Overspend due to loss of external funding. The team is currently working through plans to bring in on budget and to identify in year savings.

Jobs, Growth & Transport Portfolio – overall variance £0.175m FAVOURABLE

Commercial & Neighbourhood Services £0.175m underspend

Details relating to the outturn position for Commercial & Neighbourhood Services as a whole are included within the Community Services & HR Portfolio section within this Appendix.

Leisure & Culture Portfolio – overall variance £67k FAVOURABLE

Royal Centre £0.280m underspend

Greater than budgeted ticket sales for the Royal Concert Hall and Theatre Royal.

Markets £0.213m overspend

Unplanned increase in service charges.

Resources & Neighbourhood Regeneration Portfolio – overall variance £0.643m ADVERSE

Property Asset Management - £0.863m overspend

Slippage in the programme for Strategic Asset Management Big Ticket savings of £3.363m is forecast. The programme has been re-profiled from 3 years to 5 years requiring the use of reserves of £2m in 2015/16. This and other one-off underspends has reduced the in year overspend to £0.863m.

IT – £57k underspend

The service is presently undergoing a restructure and has held some vacancies open whilst this is implemented.

Corporate budgets – overall variance 0.725m overspend

Enviroenergy - £0.100m overspend

The shortfall on income is due to reduced utility sales, based on customers being more energy efficient. In year spend is currently under review, and the EE board is discussing pricing options

Corporate Savings (Productivity) £0.625m overspend

Projected shortfall against cost reductions. Work is ongoing with HR and departments to identify further savings.

APPENDIX C

Debtors - Performance Review – Q1 2015-16		Q1 June
BVPI 66a - Housing Rent Collection (%) <i>(cumulative - current tenants only)</i>		
	<i>(arrears + debit)</i> Actual	97.17
	Target	98.40
	Last Year Actual 2014-15	97.58
BVPI 9 - Council Tax Collection (%)		
	<i>(in year cumulative)</i> Actual	26.30
	Target	25.90
	Last Year Actual 2014-15	26.20
BVPI 10 - NNDR Collection (%)		
	<i>(in year cumulative)</i> Actual	31.28
	Target	29.20
	Last Year Actual 2014-15	27.90
Sundry Income Collection (%)		
	<i>(12 month rolling average)</i> Actual	79.40
	Target	99.00
	Last Year Actual 2014-15	84.00
Sundry Income Debtor Days -General		
	Actual	31.00
	<i>(12 month rolling average)</i> Target	32.30
	Last Year Actual 2014-15	29.60
Estates Rents Collection (%)		
	Actual	96.80
	<i>(12 month rolling average)</i> Target	97.50
	Last Year Actual 2014-15	96.84
Adult Residential Services Collection (%)		
	Actual	95.42
	<i>(12 month rolling average)</i> Target	95.90
	Last Year Actual 2014-15	95.90

VIREMENT 2015-16 REQUIRING EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVAL

APPENDIX D

Details	Net Amount £m	Department		Portfolio	
		From	To	From	To
Virements prior to changes in Portfolio arrangements					
Realignment of Strategic Choices	0.001	within Children & Adults		Children's Services (CHS)	Adults, Commissioning & Health (ACH)
	0.030	Resources	Children & Adults	Resources & Neighbourhood Regeneration (RNR)	ACH
	0.030	within Communities		Planning & Transportation (PLT)	Community Services (CYS)
DDMs and Budget Reallocation	0.026	within Children & Adults		CHS	ACH
Lunch Club	0.164	Communities	Children & Adults	CYS	ACH
Drug Aware	0.050	within Children & Adults		Strategic Regeneration & Schools (SRS)	ACH
Post transfer Human Resources / Quality & Commissioning	0.042	Chief Executive	Children & Adults	CYS	ACH
Councillors Services (residual realignment)	0.001	Children & Adults	Resources	CHS	RNR
Glenbrook Management Centre	0.041	Children & Adults	Development & Growth	CHS	RNR
Dedicated Schools Grant Realignment	0.411	within Children & Adults		CHS	SRS

Details	Net Amount £m	Department		Portfolio	
		From	To	From	To
Transfer of Services resulting from changes in Portfolio arrangements					
Community Centres	1.174	within Communities		Community Safety, Housing & Voluntary Sector (CSHVS)	Adults, Health Community Sector (ADH)
Quality & Commissioning (Procurement)	0.468	within Childrens & Adults		ACH	Jobs, Growth & Transport (JGT)
Internal Communications	0.052	within Chief Executive		RNR	Community Services & HR (CSH)
Human Resources	4.996	within Chief Executive		RNR	CSH
Local Communities	0.277	within Communities		CSH	RNR
Front Line Equipment Budget	1.276	within Communities		CSHVS	CSH
Business Development	0.484	within Communities		CSHVS	CSH
Environmental Health & Safer Housing	2.199	within Communities		CSHVS	CSH
Community Cohesion	0.152	within Communities		CSHVS	CSH
Uniformed Services	3.072	within Communities		CSHVS	CSH
Parking; Permits; Bus Lane Enforcement	0.414	within Communities		CSHVS	CSH
Licensing; Trading Standards & Anti-Social Behaviour	0.842	within Communities		CSHVS	CSH
Crime & Drugs Partnership	0.250	within Childrens & Adults		CSHVS	CSH
Children & Adults Directorates	1.294	within Childrens & Adults		CHS	Early Intervention & Early Years (ELY)
Vulnerable Children & Families	8.964	within Childrens & Adults		CHS	ELY

Details	Net Amount £m	Department		Portfolio	
		From	To	From	To
Children's Social Care	43.504	within Childrens & Adults		CHS	ELY
One Nottingham	0.152	within Childrens & Adults		RNR	ELY
Customer Access Programme	0.146	within Chief Executive		RNR	Energy & Sustainability (ESU)
Waste & Recycling Team	0.221	within Communities		ESU	CYS
Quality & Commissioning	0.443	within Childrens & Adults		RNR	JGT
Tourism	0.274	within Communities		JGT	Leisure & Culture (LCT)
Commercial Services	14.003	within Communities		PLT	JGT
Highways & Energy Infrastructure	0.741	within Communities		PLT	JGT
Trading Operations	2.067	within Communities		PLT	JGT
Street Lighting	5.057	within Development & Growth		PLT	JGT
Public Transport	0.881	within Development & Growth		PLT	JGT
Concessionary Fares	14.269	within Development & Growth		PLT	JGT
Traffic Safety & Development	0.292	within Development & Growth		PLT	JGT
Transport Strategy	0.231	within Development & Growth		PLT	JGT
Housing Strategy	0.966	within Development & Growth		CSHVS	Planning & Housing (PLN)
Housing Options	0.960	within Development & Growth		CSHVS	PLN
Adaptations & PAD Scheme	0.030	within Development & Growth		CSHVS	PLN
Building Control	0.040	within Development & Growth		PLT	PLN
Planning	0.187	within Development & Growth		PLT	PLN
Planning Strategy	0.405	within Development & Growth		PLT	PLN
NET Project	0.004	within Development & Growth		PLT	PLN
Traffic Safety & Development	0.173	within Development & Growth		PLT	PLN

Details	Net Amount £m	Department		Portfolio	
		From	To	From	To
Quality & Commissioning	0.714	within Childrens & Adults		CSHVS	PLN
Building Schools for the Future	0.448	within Development & Growth		SRS	Schools (SCH)
Children & Adults Directorates	1.820	within Childrens & Adults		SRS	Schools (SCH)
Virements since change in Portfolio arrangements					
Contact Centre	0.050	within Communities		CSH	JGT
Centralise Trading Ops Head of Service budgets	0.039	within Communities		CSH	JGT
Communities Exec Support to Organisational Transformation	0.043	Communities	Chief Executive	LCT	CSH
Business Support Realignment	0.028	Resources	Communities	RNR	LCT
Organisational Transformation - Executive Support	0.041	Development & Growth	Chief Executive	RNR	CSH
Customer Access Programme	0.017	Resources	Chief Executive	within RNR	
Realign Strategic Choice	0.150	Communities	Corporate Budgets	within RNR	
Adjustment to Salary Budget (part) for Marketing & Communications	0.036	Children & Adults	Chief Executive	within RNR	
Leadership Budget	0.009	Chief Executive	Children & Adults	within RNR	
	115.150				

APPENDIX E

ADDITIONS					
Public Sector Housing					
Scheme	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	Total £m
Lenton New Build	0.000	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.500
Church Square - Decommissioning / Leaseholders	0.060	0.180	0.000	0.000	0.240
Church Square - Demolition	0.000	0.300	0.000	0.000	0.300
Church Square - Transfer of Savoy Workshops	0.000	0.215	0.000	0.000	0.215
Total - Public Sector Housing	0.060	1.195	0.000	0.000	1.255

Local Transport Plan					
Scheme	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	Total £m
Transfer to Economic Development	(0.400)	(0.300)	(0.200)	0.000	(0.900)
Total Local Transport Plan	(0.400)	(0.300)	(0.200)	0.000	(0.900)

Education / Schools					
Scheme	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	Total £m
Schools Structural Improvements	0.228	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.228
Schools Legionella Protection	0.210	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.210
Schools Roof Repair	0.684	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.684
Schools Heating/Boiler Repair	0.687	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.687
Schools Access	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.200
Maintenance - Contingency Fund	0.118	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.118
Block Allocation - Maintenance Grant	(1.603)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(1.603)
PCP - Greenfields Primary	(0.026)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.026)
Stanstead Primary - Electrical Supply	(0.110)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.110)
Crabtree Primary - Asbestos Removal	(0.015)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.015)
Health and Safety - Contingency	(0.173)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.173)
Total Education / Schools	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.200

Scheme	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	Total £m
Adults, Commissioning & Health					
Assistive Tech - Just Checking Units	0.039	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.039
Adult Social Care Block Fund	(0.120)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.120)
Long Meadow Improvements	0.553	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.553
Smartphones / Opticare	0.107	0.107	0.108	0.000	0.322
Total Adults Commissioning & Health	0.579	0.107	0.108	0.000	0.794

Leisure and Culture					
Harvey Hadden	0.113	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.113
Woodthorpe Grange Retail Nursery Unit	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.050
Victoria Embankment/Meadows Recreation Ground	0.388	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.388
Pirate Park Improvements	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.060
Stockhill Park - New Playground	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.050
Play Areas	0.015	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.015
Gym Equipment	0.014	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.014
Clifton Leisure Centre - Invest to Grow	0.019	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.019
Wilford Cemetery - New Burial System	0.112	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.112
Greenline Fitness Hoops	0.017	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.017
Total Leisure and Culture	0.838	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.838

Jobs, Growth and Transport					
Pay on Foot Machines	0.530	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.530
Total Jobs, Growth and Transport	0.530	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.530

Energy and Sustainability					
Solar Panels - Ken Martin	0.242	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.242
Solar Panels - Daykene Street	0.031	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.031
Solar Panel - Harvey Hadden	0.168	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.168
Trent Basin Wall Improvements	0.325	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.325
Total Energy and Sustainability	0.766	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.766

Community Services					
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Community Provision in the Dales	0.032	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.032
Total Community Services	0.032	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.032

Resources & Neighbourhood Regeneration					
17-18 Salisbury Square	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.070
Retail Park Acquisition	4.080	0.000	0.000	0.000	4.080
Imps to 30 Woolpack Lane	0.043	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.043
Acq of Leasehold - Brook Street	1.046	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.046
Loan to Support Further Education	5.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	5.000
Gresham Works Imps	0.150	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.150
Byron House Refurbishment	2.470	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.470
Radford Flats Sale - Loan to NCH	6.700	0.000	0.000	0.000	6.700
Project Evolution (Carefirst)	1.464	1.299	0.000	0.000	2.763
IT - Improvement Programme	2.250	2.250	0.000	0.000	4.500
PC Hardware	0.700	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.700
Agile Working	(0.253)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.253)
Camberley Road Lorry Park	0.439	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.439
Total Resources & Neighbourhood Regeneration	24.159	3.549	0.000	0.000	27.708

Strategic Regeneration & Development					
Broadmarsh Redevelopment	2.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.000
Expansion of Bioscience	11.231	15.650	0.570	0.000	27.451
Strategic Regeneration & Development	13.231	15.650	0.570	0.000	29.451

Scheme	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	Total £m
Total Public Sector Housing	0.060	1.195	0.000	0.000	1.255
Total Local Transport Plan	(0.400)	(0.300)	(0.200)	0.000	(0.900)
Total Education / Schools	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.200
Total Other Services	40.135	19.306	0.678	0.000	60.119
Total Capital Programme	39.995	20.201	0.478	0.000	60.674

OTHER VARIANCES				
Public Sector Housing				
Scheme	Slippage £m	Acceleration £m	Savings £m	Other £m
St Ann's Estate Action- Stonebridge Park (NCH) - scheme re-phased due to project timetable	(0.541)	0.000	0.000	0.000
IT Development Programme	(0.024)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Installation of Solar Panels - programme has been re- profiled and re-approved after change in financial assumptions	(4.111)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Adaptations for disabled persons - schemes rephased in line with external work requests	(0.516)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Building a Better Nottingham - a number of new build schemes re-profiled into future years	(4.026)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Woodthorpe and Winchester CHP - scheme progressing ahead of schedule	0.000	0.020	0.000	0.000
Affordable Homes - Garage Sites - New Build - scheme progressing ahead of schedule	0.000	0.390	0.000	0.000
Office Improvements - provision for scheme no longer necessary	0.000	0.000	(0.200)	0.000
Mortgage Protection - provision no longer necessary	0.000	0.000	(0.625)	0.000
Acquisition of Sheltered Housing Scheme - additional fees related to acquisition	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.055
Total - Public Sector Housing	(9.218)	0.410	(0.825)	0.055

Local Transport Programme				
Scheme	Slippage £m	Acceleration £m	Savings £m	Other £m
Local Growth Fund Schemes - programme of schemes re- profiled to match latest work programme	(2.100)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Better Bus Area Schemes - schemes progressing ahead of schedule	0.000	0.313	0.000	0.000
Various adjustments to match schemes to actual grant received	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.161)
Total - Local Transport Plan	(2.100)	0.313	0.000	(0.161)

Education / Schools				
Scheme	Slippage £m	Acceleration £m	Savings £m	Other £m
Forest Fields Primary Reorganisation - savings identified during quarter 1	0.000	0.000	(0.168)	0.000
Reduction in Maintenance Grant Block Fund - adjusted to match actual grant	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.385)
Transfer Early Years (2 yr olds) to Other Services	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.374)
Total Education / Schools	0.000	0.000	(0.168)	(0.759)

Other Services				
Scheme	Slippage £m	Acceleration £m	Savings £m	Other £m
Adults, Commissioning & Health				
Hazel Hill - scheme no longer in capital plans	0.000	0.000	(0.550)	0.000
Total Adults, Commissioning & Health	0.000	0.000	(0.550)	0.000

Leisure and Culture				
Melbourne Park Pavilion Imps – bid for additional funding delayed	(0.050)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Highfields Park - Refurbishment - project timetable re-profiled	(0.950)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Mountfield Drive / Hazel Hill Park Imps - scheme re-phased into 16/17	(0.041)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Playground Improvements - removal of residual balances	0.000	0.000	(0.053)	0.000
Newstead Abbey - Vision for Future - part of programme postponed	0.000	0.000	(0.090)	0.000
Total Leisure and Culture	(1.041)	0.000	(0.143)	0.000

Jobs, Growth and Transport				
The Chapel and Theatre - Mapperley Hospital - to be treated as revenue expenditure	0.00	0.00	0.000	(0.040)
Total Jobs, Growth and Transport	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.040)

Energy and Sustainability				
Solar Panels-Queens Dr Park & Ride Site - currently undergoing further feasibility studies, start of work re-profiled into 2016/17	(0.927)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Solar Panels-Colwick Park & Ride Site - currently undergoing further feasibility studies, start of work re-profiled into 2016/17	(1.236)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total Energy and Sustainability	(2.163)	0.000	0.000	0.000

Resources & Neighbourhood Regeneration				
St Ann's JSC - scheme rephased into 16/17	(0.043)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Marlstones - Demolition - savings on fees	0.000	0.000	(0.027)	0.000
Acq Property - Upper Parliament St - savings on fees	0.000	0.000	(0.003)	0.000
Acq of Hilton House, Waterway St - savings on fees	0.000	0.000	(0.001)	0.000
Acq of Property - Carlton Road - savings on fees	0.000	0.000	(0.003)	0.000
Roof - Units 7-8 Salisbury Square - savings on fees	0.000	0.000	(0.030)	0.000
Property Trading additional fees	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.019
Total Resources & Neighbourhood Regeneration	(0.043)	0.000	(0.064)	0.019

Planning and Housing				
Disabled Facilities Grants - There is currently a backlog of assessments caused in part by a growing demand for this service. Expecting increased referrals.	(0.869)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Stonebridge - charged to HRA in 14/15	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.053
Total Planning and Housing	(0.869)	0.000	0.000	0.053

Early Intervention & Early Years				
Transfer Early Years (2 yr olds) from Education / Schools	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.374
Total Early Intervention & Early Years	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.374

Strategic Regeneration and Development				
Daykene Street Factory	(0.008)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Property Acquisitions – savings on fees	0.000	0.000	(0.027)	0.000
Project Management – savings on fees	0.000	0.000	(0.014)	0.000
Total Early Intervention & Early Years	(0.008)	0.000	(0.041)	0.000

Scheme	Slippage £m	Acceleration £m	Savings £m	Other £m
Total Public Sector Housing	(9.218)	0.410	(0.825)	0.055
Total Local Transport Plan	(2.100)	0.313	0.000	(0.161)
Total Education / Schools	0.000	0.000	(0.168)	(0.759)
Total Other Services	(4.124)	0.000	(0.798)	0.406
Total Capital Programme	(15.442)	0.723	(1.791)	(0.459)

EXECUTIVE BOARD – 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

Subject:	Rights of Way Improvement Plan		
Corporate Director(s)/ Director(s):	David Bishop, Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Development and Growth Sue Flack, Director for Planning and Transport		
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Nick McDonald, Portfolio Holder for Jobs, Growth and Transport		
Report author and contact details:	John Lee, Rights of Way Officer, Traffic and Safety Tel: 0115 8765246 Email: john.lee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk		
Key Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Subject to call-in	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Reasons:	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenditure <input type="checkbox"/> Income <input type="checkbox"/> Savings of £1,000,000 or more taking account of the overall impact of the decision	<input type="checkbox"/> Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Capital	
Significant impact on communities living or working in two or more wards in the City			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Total value of the decision: Nil			
Wards affected: All	Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s): Throughout the process		
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:			
Cutting unemployment by a quarter			<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City			<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down			<input type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing			<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs			<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities			<input type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):			
The review and renewal of Nottingham's Rights of Way Improvement Plan provision will deliver improvements to the rights of way network which support sustainable transport options, the local economy, encourage healthy lifestyles and improve citizens' health and wellbeing.			
Exempt information: None.			
Recommendation(s):			
1 To review Nottingham's Rights of Way Improvement Plan adopted in 2007 (ROWIP1) against the matters identified at paragraph 5.1.2 below.			
2 To amend ROWIP1 by adoption of Nottingham's second Rights of Way Improvement Plan in the form attached to this report entitled ROWIP2 Adoption Draft 2015.			

1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 In November 2007 the City Council published ROWIP1 which had been formally adopted by the City Council the previous month. The publication of this document was in compliance with its statutory duty under section 60 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. As required by the legislation, it contained a statement of action for improving and managing the local rights of way "off road" network (footpaths, cycle paths, byways, bridleways, canal towpaths and riverside walkways) to meet the current and future likely needs of the public. It was the City Council's intention at the time of its adoption that ROWIP1 would have a five year lifespan in line with the then Local Transport Plan (LTP1) and covered the

period 2006/7 to 2010/11, though the legislation requires that a rights of way improvement plan has to be reviewed (and, if necessary, amended) only every ten years (please see paragraph 5.1.1 below). In the light of the expiry of the five year period for ROWIP1 and other local circumstances, it is appropriate for ROWIP1 to be reviewed now and its amendment considered.

- 1.2 Since publication of ROWIP1, to help deliver a sustainable integrated transport system across Nottingham, there have been a number of changes to the City Council's transport objectives which are set out in the current Local Transport Plan (LTP). These objectives support the City Council's strategic priorities and emphasise the importance of an accessible, safe and attractive transport system. For example, improving cross-city transport link and access and infrastructure on pedestrian and cycle routes will encourage citizens to take up active travel options, be more physically active and improve health, wellbeing and quality of life. In turn, these improvements will support the local economy, businesses and economic growth.
- 1.3 To align the ROWIP process with the City Council's transport objectives and strategic priorities, a revised statement of action and policy listing has been incorporated into a new rights of way improvement plan (ROWIP2) which is attached to this report. These actions support the LTP, the Council Plan 2012 – 2015 (the new Council Plan 2015 – 2019 is due to be published later this year) and the Nottingham Plan to 2020 (Sustainable Communities Strategy). Additionally, Chapter 2 of ROWIP2 Adoption Draft 2015 includes a number of improvements made since ROWIP1 was published.

2 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 Statutory guidance produced by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) advises highway authorities of steps which should be taken to carry out the assessment. Amongst these are the collation and considerations of requests for improvements to the network and data on the condition of the network. The DEFRA guidance also advises that a survey be undertaken to assess the nature and scale of the present and future likely needs of the public in relation to the rights of way network. It further advises that the highway authority identifies other relevant information including other plans and strategies for the area and that the surveys be given sufficient publicity to ensure public awareness and participation.

Preparation of the draft ROWIP 2: February to April 2013

- 2.2 To carry out an assessment of the matters identified at paragraph 5.1.2 below, between February and April 2013 a user questionnaire was made available on-line on the City Council's own website and the generic consultation web site, Nottingham Insight. With the help of the Nottingham Local Access Forum and the City Council's Park Rangers service, promotional posters were placed along primary walking, cycling and equestrian routes, along with libraries, health centres and information points providing details of where the questionnaire could be viewed and completed. In response 339 completed questionnaires and 4 separate responses were returned, and where appropriate and relevant, this information was included in the first draft ROWIP2. The questions and responses are replicated in Chapter 5 of ROWIP2 Adoption Draft 2015.

2.3 On 3 April 2014 Councillor Jane Urquhart, the then Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transportation, approved the draft ROWIP2 for public consultation. The process of consultation took place in two stages as follows:

Stage 1: May to August 2014

2.4 In line with the guidance from DEFRA, between May and August 2014 the first ROWIP2 draft, along with an online survey, was made available for public inspection and comment via the City Council's and Nottingham Insight's web sites. Again, promotional posters provided details of where the draft ROWIP2 could be viewed and a response form completed.

2.5 The survey asked consultees whether the statement of actions in the draft ROWIP2 included sufficient improvements to make the rights of way network suitable for the present and future likely needs of the public, whether the draft ROWIP2 would increase the opportunities for exercise and other forms of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the authority's area and whether the draft contained sufficient emphasis on improving access for all including disabled users.

2.6 The survey also asked consultees to rank each individual action in the statement of actions in order of priority (high, medium or low).

2.7 Finally, respondents were invited to comment on the rights of way network, specifically and generally. (For the purpose of this report, the stage 1 survey is available to view at <http://gossweb.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/survey/rowip2>).

2.8 In total 33 consultation responses were received at this stage. Of these, 12 respondents ranked the individual actions in order of priority and also provided comments. 17 respondents provided comments only without ranking the actions in priority and 3 respondents ranked the actions in priority but did not provide comments. 1 response was received via email rather than through the online consultation.

2.9 The comments received from 28 respondents are summarised at Appendix 1, together with observations from the City Council's Rights of Way Officer on those responses. In summary the key points raised include the following:

- the need for departments to be more joined up when delivering improvements;
- the importance of providing clear information on how to report problems on the network;
- doing more to understand the specific needs of disabled users;
- being more aware of the potential impact on the environment and local communities when improving existing paths, creating new paths, carrying out summer maintenance and cutting back encroaching vegetation.

2.10 A number of comments were received from residents of the Nottingham Park Estate regarding proposals which may relate to the Park, although no specific proposals in the draft ROWIP2 would have affected the Park Estate.

2.11 In relation to the ranking of actions in order of priority, those considered by consultees at this stage to be the most important were (1) public paths orders/agreements to formally record public rights of way on the definitive map

and statement (2) clearly signing and publicising the network (3) maintaining and cleansing the network and (4) improving routes for walkers, cyclists and equestrians, including those with a disability. Full details of the survey responses in relation to the ranking of actions in order of priority is attached at Appendix 2.

- 2.12 All consultation responses received during the stage 1 consultation were considered, and where relevant and appropriate, were incorporated in the ROWIP2 second draft.
- 2.13 Nottingham Local Access Forum (NLAF) was set up pursuant to the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. It is a statutory advisor to the City Council and includes representatives from landowner and rights of way user groups. NLAF has been involved in the preparation of ROWIP2 throughout. A NLAF ROWIP sub-group was set up in April 2013 to feed comments into the process and it was most recently consulted on the draft ROWIP2 in January 2015. Its comments were incorporated into the second draft ROWIP2 prior to its publication and the formal consultation between February and April 2015.

Stage 2: February to April 2015

- 2.14 On 4 February 2015 notice of the statutory consultation for the second draft ROWIP2 was published in two newspapers (Post Lite and Nottingham Post) circulating in the local area and ran from 4 February to 30 April 2015. Following a request from citizens in Dunkirk and Lenton Ward, the consultation was extended to the 18 May 2015. As above, the draft was available on-line and promotional posters provided details of where it could be viewed and a response form completed.
- 2.15 As with stage 1, the survey asked consultees to rank the individual actions in the statement of actions in order of priority (high, medium or low). The survey also invited comments on the rights of way network, specifically and generally. (For the purpose of this report, the stage 2 survey is available to view at <http://gossweb.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/survey/ROWIPfinalhys>).
- 2.16 In total 14 responses were received to this stage (12 in response to the on-line consultation and 2 by email). Of these 14 responses, 9 ranked the actions in order of priority and provided comments, 3 provided comments to the online consultation but did not rank the actions in order of priority and 2 provided comments only by email.
- 2.17 The comments received from the 14 respondents are summarised at Appendix 3, together with observations from the City Council's Rights of Way Officer on those responses.
- 2.18 In relation to the ranking of actions in order of priority, those considered by consultees at this stage to be the most important were (1) protecting and enhancing Nottingham's historic alleyways and (2) clearly signing and publicising the network. Full details of the survey responses in relation to the ranking of actions in order of priority is attached at Appendix 4.
- 2.19 Where appropriate and relevant, the consultation responses were incorporated into the ROWIP2 Adoption Draft 2015.

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 ROWIP1 (and its statement of actions) could be retained in its current format. This option was however rejected for the following reasons:

- As detailed at paragraph 1.1 above, at the time of adopting ROWIP1 in November 2007 the intention was for a five year improvement plan (though the statutory requirement is to review the improvement plan after ten years i.e. for Nottingham, before November 2017). Therefore the existing ROWIP1 (including its statement of actions) is out of date and the assessment undertaken for ROWIP2 and consultation responses received bear this out;
- Changes to the Council's transport objectives and strategic priorities since 2007 have also rendered ROWIP1 obsolete.

4 FINANCE COMMENTS (INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

4.1 There are no direct financial implications or value for money issues arising from the recommendations within this report. Should Executive Board approve the ROWIP2 for adoption, the next stage will be to work with Area Committees, local citizens, residents and user groups to identify improvements to the rights of way network. The cost of an improvement scheme will be contained within the LTP allocations for rights of way, which is subject to ongoing review and change.

5 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT COMMENTS (INCLUDING RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES, AND INCLUDING LEGAL, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS)

5.1 Legal Implications

5.1.1 Under section 60(3) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, the City Council is required to make a new assessment of the matters identified at paragraph 5.1.2 below, to review ROWIP1 and to decide whether or not to amend it. The legislation requires that these actions be carried out no later than ten years after publication of the first rights of way improvement plan (ROWIP1). For Nottingham this would be prior to November 2017.

5.1.2 The assessment must include the following:

- (a) the extent to which local rights of way meet the present and likely future needs of the public;
- (b) the opportunities provided by local rights of way (and in particular cycle tracks) for exercise and other forms of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the authority's area;
- (c) the accessibility of local rights of way to blind or partially sighted persons and others with mobility problems.

5.1.3 On a review of ROWIP1, the City Council must decide whether or not to amend it. If it decides to amend it, the revised ROWIP must be published as amended. If it decides to make no amendments to ROWIP1, it must publish a report of its decision and of the reasons for it.

5.1.4 The legislation requires that a draft rights of way improvement plan as amended shall be published, and a notice of how a copy of the draft can be inspected or obtained and representations made on it be published in two or more local newspapers circulating in their area.

5.1.5 The legislation also requires that before reviewing a rights of way improvement plan, the highway authority consults the Local Access Forum.. It requires that such other persons as the local authority may consider appropriate also be consulted.

5.1.6 Under delegation number 183 in the Scheme of Delegation the responsibility for preparing and publishing the ROWIP is delegated to the Corporate Director for Development and Growth jointly with the Director for Planning and Transport.

5.2 Crime and Disorder Act Implications

ROWIP2 Policy 29 provides that the City Council shall not implement an improvement scheme where advice from the relevant authorities shows it is likely to increase anti-social behaviour, crime or disorder. Additionally, Policy 26 promotes the City Council's *guide to public rights of way, planning and development* and the importance of public routes having good quality design, including the principles of "designing out crime".

6 SOCIAL VALUE CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 The recommendations within this report do not have any implications for the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

7 REGARD TO THE NHS CONSTITUTION

7.1 ROWIP2 includes a commitment to improve the rights of way network by making it more open, accessible and attractive which in turn will encourage more citizens to get out and about and enjoy Nottingham's rights of way network and open and green spaces. This will help the City Council deliver its priority for a healthy Nottingham and improve the quality of life of its citizens.

8 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

8.1 Has the equality impact been assessed?

(a) not needed (report does not contain proposals for new or changing policies, services or functions, financial decisions or decisions about implementation of policies development outside the Council)

(b) No

(c) Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached at Appendix 5

8.2 Due regard will be given to the equality implications identified in the ROWIP's EIA and in the delivery of all rights of way improvement schemes. The EIA is attached to this report.

8.3 ROWIP2 gives particular emphasis to improving routes for disabled users where environmental and physical conditions allow, supporting the principles of “inclusive access” including appropriate gradients, ramps (as opposed to steps) no unnecessary physical barriers or other objects, sufficient resting points and clear signage, thereby making the rights of way network open, attractive and accessible by all.

9 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN WRITING THIS REPORT (NOT INCLUDING PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS OR CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION)

9.1 None

10 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN THIS REPORT

10.1 Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/contents

10.2 Guidance on Rights of Way Improvement Plans, Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs dated November 2007
<http://archive.defra.gov.uk/rural/documents/countryside/prow/rowip.pdf>

10.3 Local Transport Plan (LTP3) www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/transportstrategies

10.4 Report to the meeting of the City Council held on 15th October 2007 entitled “Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2006/7 to 2010/11”
<http://committee.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/CeListDocuments.aspx?Committeeld=155&MeetingId=769&DF=15%2f10%2f2007&Ver=2>

10.5 Minutes of the meeting of the City Council held on 15th October 2007
[http://committee.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/Data/City%20Council/20071203/Agenda/\\$071015%20-%2030571.doc.pdf](http://committee.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/Data/City%20Council/20071203/Agenda/$071015%20-%2030571.doc.pdf)

10.6 Natural England www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/inclusivetcm2-27716_tcm6-4032.pdf

10.7 The Council Plan 2012 – 2015
<http://gossweb.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/nccextranet/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=27471&p=0>

10.8 The Nottingham Plan to 2020 (Sustainable Communities Strategy)
www.onenottingham.org.uk/index.aspx?articleid=5486gal

10.9 Delegated decision of Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transportation dated 3 April 2014

10.10 Questionnaires in 2013 and 2015 surveys on ROWIP2 (see paragraphs 2.7 and 2.14 of this report)

11 OTHER COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE PROVIDED INPUT

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APPENDIX 1

Summary of written comments received to stage 1 consultation (May to August 2014)

<u>Policy Number (where response is specific to a Policy)</u>	<u>Summary of comments</u>	<u>Officer observations on comments</u>
N/A	<p>I respect the effort that has gone into this document, it has much good content and reflects well on an authority that, even in these tough times, is doing the right thing in promoting alternatives to car use. HOWEVER pavements are rights of way too - should be one strategy for all? And there are often more problems with pavements (bad surfaces, A boards, illegally parked vehicles etc.) than on the actual rights of way network.</p> <p>Look at adapting surfaces to users, i.e. improving paths and tarmac for cyclists and wheelchairs. Eliminate potholes, move drain covers to kerb instead of in the road surface. Create cycle paths separate from main carriageway.</p> <p>As well as the current plans, I'd like to see specific details of new routes. For example: Making it mandatory to fit a cycle path alongside all new tram lines, and recommended along all new roads.</p>	<p>The ROWIP focuses on improvements to the off-road rights of way network (footpaths, bridleways etc) and therefore excludes on-road routes and pavements adjacent to the road. The Nottingham Cycle Action Plan 2012 – 2015 (and forthcoming Nottingham Cycle Design Guide) focuses on the design and improvements to on-road routes (www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/transportstrategies). No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p> <p>The issue of A boards and other potential obstructions is covered by Policy 33 and vehicles blocking or parking on rights of way are dealt with under Policy 30. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p> <p>Draft ROWIP2 does not include site specific improvements and the reason for this is given at paragraph 1.1 of the Adoption Draft. Site specific improvements will form part of the next stage of the ROWIP2 process, including working with local communities, user groups and Area</p>

	<p>As somebody who might cycle more if the conditions were better this is wholly inadequate. If cyclists and pedestrians are to share when there are more than a handful of either there needs to be paths with decent widths. The River Leen route is nice enough, but not terribly wide and the new section looks like this will be particularly serious. Also stop using "motorcycle barriers" which make life difficult for cyclists and block access for people in wheelchairs.</p>	<p>Committees to identify improvements. Where appropriate, cycle and pedestrian paths have been provided along the NET Tram Lines 2 and 3. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p> <p>When constructing new rights of way, where environmental and/or physical constraints allow, the City Council follows national design standards, including widths, gradients and surface materials. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p> <p>Policy 24 provides where there is a locally identified need, and physically and/or environmental constraints allow, all new paths shall accommodate all users (mobility scooters, cyclists, horse riders and pedestrians) including a suitable width, surface and no barriers. Policy 30 covers improving existing routes for walkers, cyclists, and equestrians including those with a disability. The use of motorcycle barriers and other objects which may impact on disabled users and cyclists is covered by Policy 27. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p>
N/A	Lack of ambition, confused strategies, poor interdepartmental communication, lack of positive leadership the public having major problems defining different people's responsibilities, poor communication,	Policy 25 (and table 25): Regarding poor communication and contact ability, all new signage will include information on where to report a problem. The remaining points are

	poor contact ability. I feel fresh thinking and a new approach to push forward ROWIP2 and for the Nottingham City Council to comply with its statutory duty.	generic comments. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
N/A	<p>Are we to have a path on the north bank of the Trent east of Trent Bridge? This has been talked about for so long.</p> <p>Extend the scope to include the routes east of the city along A52, Holme Pierrepont, Sandy Lane, up to Grantham Canal and along the Grantham canal. Including the redevelopment area of Cotgrave works.</p> <p>Well done for what has been done. Can we have more please, e.g. open the old mineral line from the new Gedling Country Park to Colwick Country Park. Also from Bestwood Country Park to Calverton.</p>	These comments relate to improvements outside of Nottingham City and are therefore outside the scope of the ROWIP2. These have been referred to Nottinghamshire County Council. Where joint working is required, Policy 30 includes a commitment to work with neighbouring councils to develop long distance routes. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
N/A	More waste bins and dog mess notices, quick clean-up of glass on cycle paths.	The problem with dog fouling was highlighted in the assessment process and Policy 28 covers this issue. Additionally, dog fouling "hot spots" on rights of way are referred to the City Council's Neighbourhood Services to be included in the Fido neighbourhood cleansing programme. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
N/A	I like to walk around the lakes but, as I am disabled, it would be very much easier if there were more benches at reasonable distances apart instead of all in one place	This relates to Colwick Country Park and was forwarded to the Council's Parks and Open Spaces service area. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
N/A	Fishermen often block the canal with their long poles	This has been forwarded to the Canal and River

	and fishing paraphernalia. They act as though they own the canal.	Trust who are responsible for the management of the Nottingham and Beeston canal. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
N/A	I think it is a political tool being used by power hungry individuals to further their own personal motives.	This is a generic comment. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
Policy 25 (Signing and way marking).	<p>[The City Council should carry out] consultation with landowners before cycle routes and maps are handed out by Nottingham City council.</p> <p>In order to let citizens know where they can legally walk.....the City Council should ensure that Ordnance Survey is given sufficient information to enable public rights of way to be shown on the 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 maps (for example the footpaths through Colwick Woods</p>	<p>This relates to the Nottingham cycle maps North and South which include routes through the Park Estate. These routes have been removed from the cycle maps. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p> <p>Policy 25 amended to read as follows: Keep Ordnance Survey records up to date with modifications to the network as required.</p>
N/A	Many paths will never be fit for disabled people because they are unfit for able bodied walkers. Not enough is done to ensure paths are fit for use.	Improving routes for disabled users and promoting “access for all” and the “least restrictive option” is adequately covered by Policies 24, 27, 28, 30 and 33. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
N/A	None of the 13 actions listed have quantifiable actions associated. For this to be effective and useful you need to explain what you are going to do, and how you will meet the actions. I would suggest targets, and defined actions rather than vague statements to 'identify priorities...'	The reason for not including “quantifiable actions” within ROWIP2 is explained under paragraph 1.1 of the Adoption Draft. Site specific improvements will form part of the next stage of the ROWIP process, including working with local communities, user groups and Area Committees to identify local needs and carrying out

		improvements as necessary. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
N/A	[The ROWIP] should include commitments to define what you are going to change. i.e. what are the activities you will undertake to improve ROW A or path B.	As above. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
N/A	Design standards setting out what kind of surface routes should have, minimum widths, amount of signage, information in signs etc.	When constructing new paths, where environmental and/or physical constraints allow, the City Council follows national design standards, including widths, gradients and surface materials. Information on rights of way signage (including where to report a problem) is included under Table 6 of the ROWIP and is supported by Policy 25. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
N/A	NCC should concentrate on allocating cycle lanes throughout the city first, on public roads. Woeful lack of cycling provision.	This is a generic comment. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
Policy 24 (creating new public rights of way)	"Paths should provide circular routes ...". The survey design was fundamentally flawed and the conclusion that recreational walkers outnumber purposive walkers is unjustified. Therefore, the policy to provide circular routes as opposed to linear routes has no basis. Increasing recreational walking will not reduce car usage, but promoting foot commuting will reduce traffic congestion and carbon emissions. Linear paths are required to encourage purposive walking to and from	Policy 24 and table 7 amended to read as follows: recreational routes should be circular as opposed to linear and commuter routes should be as direct as possible, follow key desire lines and link to other key routes.

		places of work and study. The River Leen linear park should be made a priority.	
N/A		Pedestrian access to the first tram line was ignored in the planning stage and was inadequate at some stops. Plans for the two new tram lines should be inspected to check whether lessons have been learnt	As part of the NET Tram Lines 2 and 3, the City Council's Traffic and Safety service is carrying out safety audits on all proposed paths and "as built" inspections on all newly created paths. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
Policy (publication ROWIP)	21 of	The objections raised in January 2011 & July 2010 i.e. my representations on the LTP(3) & its Challenges and Options stage, still stand.	<p>Having reviewed the objections raised to the LTP3 consultation, the paragraph which appears to be the most relevant to the consultation for ROWIP2 is as follows: <i>development of multi-user paths linked to flood defence schemes</i>** - <i>'Paths' that weren't previously there can bring-in a set of problems/ unwanted blights.</i> - <i>This** would be an awful harming act against wildlife, Nature and aesthetics, if it were applied to the Fairham Brook corridor in and around the local area here.</i></p> <p>There is already a public footpath (also used by cyclists) running along Fairham Brook between Silverdale and Clifton and there are no plans as part of the ROWIP process to create new paths along this watercourse.</p> <p>Subject to approval from the City Council's Executive Board, Policy 21 is a commitment to publish ROWIP2. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p>

<p>Policy 22 (applications to modify the Definitive Map and Statement).</p>	<p>It follows that pushing-for paths and access 'here, there 'n' everywhere' wouldn't be/ isn't always beneficial/positive.</p>	<p>Policy 22 indicates what priority may be given amongst applications which have been submitted under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The duty of investigation itself is a statutory duty. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p>
<p>Policy 24 (creation of new public rights of way).</p>	<p>Robust consultation and/or planning rules ought to be observed - rather than 'creation of new public rights of way' regularized retrospectively (cite e.g. Clifton Wood rubble-track); on its proposed Action[s], constraints requires emphasis, so not to allow where inappropriate/ contentious; objection, footpaths ought not be blanket-recorded as bridleway or byway - altered in this way, away from their present context inter alia.</p> <p>Having looked through the proposed policies and actions we are very concerned, and so this is an objection to Policy 24 Action - Box 4, as we envisage parts of Clifton's semi-rural environment being eroded through this plan/proposal.</p>	<p>Policy 24 amended to read as follows: The City Council shall, subject to all statutory highway and planning requirements, and where there is an identified benefit to local citizens and users of the network, use its discretionary powers under the Highways Act 1980 to make Orders and Agreements to formally record public rights of way on Nottingham's definitive map and statement.</p> <p>A reply has been sent to the citizen explaining that there are no plans affecting Clifton (Trent Valley Way) and in the event that the City Council receives a request to upgrade a footpath to a bridleway or byway (to legally accommodate equestrians and cyclists as well as pedestrians) full public consultation will be carried out as part of the formal process. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p>

Policy 25 (signing and publicity)	Clifton, Silverdale & Wilford, Grove Farm/R. Trent, area(s), with their semi-rural and green space aspects require an understated, low-key treatment and approach, so that frontline countryside isn't objectionably eroded/urbanized; in this regard certain sensitive locations don't want (overly) promoting so not to spoil their tranquillity and/or biodiversity.	Policy 25 is a commitment to adequately sign, waymark and promote public rights of way. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
Policy 27 (use of barriers on rights of way)	Off-road motorbikes, and fly-tipping, are a problem/blight, to curtail in the Clifton area.	Dealing with motorcycles, the use of motorcycle barriers and other objects which may impact on disabled users and cyclists is covered by Policy 27. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.
Policy 28 (maintenance and cleansing)	Cutting-back 'vegetation' [native flora & biodiversity] isn't necessarily the way forward, what about instead sensitive litter-picking.	Litter picking would not address vegetation which encroaches on and/or obstructs a path. However, for clarify Policy 28 has been amended to read as follows: Keep routes open and accessible by cutting back marginal vegetation at least 3 times per year (generally between April and September) taking account of the potential impact on wildlife and habitats, the conservation status of the site/area and relevant guidance.
Policy 29 (crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour)	Sensitive thought to locality [its] surrounding environment [dark(er) landscape] concerning light-pollution/lighting, 'helpful to see this included in the policy.	ROWIP2 already provides for requests for street lighting to be considered on a case by case basis taking into account the local circumstances and potential light pollution No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.

<p>Policy 30 (Improving routes for all users including those with disabilities)</p> <p>Policy 31 (Improving health, wellbeing and quality of life)</p> <p>Policy 33 (street clutter and “clutter busting”)</p>	<p>Table 2: scheme /Figure 22: Objection, the Fairham Brook [semi-rural/ wildlife] watercourse & its corridor ought not to be urbanized in any way.</p> <p>[Section 3.3, page 12] [bullet 5]: It ought to be recognized that ‘Quality of life’ regarding ‘natural environment, needs not to erode or damage continuity / accustomations [extant] sense of place and sense of escape.</p> <p>Clutter mustn’t impair e.g. outer-suburb and/or Greenbelt/greenspace aesthetics either.</p>	<p>There are no improvement plans for this river corridor. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p> <p>No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p>
<p>N/A</p>	<p>The ROWIP reads very well and covers and summarises all the main issues and opportunities that arise from Nottingham’s public rights of way and wider access network. As you are obviously aware, users of the network don’t stop at the administrative boundary between the City and the County, and there are a number of cross boundary issues and opportunities. A number of these have already been addressed; however, I hope that we (including the two Local Access Forums) can continue to work together on these matters to improve opportunities for all. I note</p>	<p>No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p>

	<p>that there are some ambitious but hopefully achievable actions in your Statement of Action, and in my view, you have covered all the main functions and issues.</p> <p>In summary, the ROWIP is an excellent, very well presented and useful document highlighting both your statutory responsibilities and the wider opportunities with the ultimate aim of improving access for all members of the community.</p>	
N/A	<p>7 identical responses received with the following content:</p> <p>I am concerned about proposals that may relate to the Nottingham Park Estate as I feel that these would fundamentally change the nature of the environment and its impact on an historic conservation area.</p> <p>We have read the above document on the council's web site. On the whole we are in agreement in principle with the improvements. However, can you confirm whether or not it is the council's hope to include the Park Estate in the document, bearing in mind the recent details of a Cycle Route through the Park, published on the web site, published as a leaflet and about which, I understand, members of the Board of Nottingham Park Estate knew nothing.</p>	<p>A reply was sent to each of the consultees asking for further details of the specific proposals which may relate to the Nottingham Park Estate. To date, no responses have been received. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p> <p>A reply was sent to each of the consultees confirming there are no specific plans which affect the Park Estate. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p>
N/A	<p>I was pleased to see to-day that progress is being made in clarifying rights of way and continuing to improve the condition of certain paths and rights of way. Subject to the usual financial constraints, could I</p>	<p>A reply was sent to the citizen explaining that the ROWIP is not intended to provide site specific improvements for the reasons given above. In the event that funding is made available, this</p>

	<p>ask you to view the terrible and dangerous condition of the path from the car park down to the riverside path in Clifton Village which has continued to deteriorate since I explained the situation to you last year, There are now deep ruts of up to 8/9 inches towards the bottom of the path which is constantly flooded in the Winter months. I hope you can improve the situation in this attractive green belt area.</p>	<p>section of bridleway will be considered for improvements. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p>
N/A	<p>I was cycling along the canal towpath adjacent to London Road and saw the notice of consultation posted there. On Trent Bridge and many other similar stretches / examples where there is a wide pavement, cyclists should be encouraged (and in fact required) to use the pavement and this could be made expressly clear by dividing the pavement into pedestrian and cycling halves. At its simplest it is a white line and a couple of signs. So wouldn't cost much.</p> <p>Following receipt of reply from City Council, the consultee commented further as follows: I can see why Trent Bridge is difficult. The principle still holds for other pavements where the roads are not suitable for cyclists.</p>	<p>Reply sent to the consultee advising that overall, the cost to convert the height of the parapets on Trent Bridge would be substantial and parts of the outbound footways would need to be widened therefore making this quite an expensive scheme to implement. No change made to the first draft ROWIP2.</p> <p>The design and suitability of cycle routes on the road and pavement will be covered by the Nottingham Cycle Design Guide due to be published later this year.</p>

APPENDIX 3

Summary of written comments received to stage 2 consultation (February to May 2015)

<u>Policy Number (where response is specific to a Policy)</u>	<u>Summary of comments</u>	<u>Officer's observations on comments</u>
N/A	<p>I am up in NG6 7AS and would highlight the fact that cyclists or bikers frequently ride around on the roads and pavements without lights. Very often in the pitch dark and wearing black or dark coloured clothing. Making them very hard to spot if you are driving a car. Also when they come up behind you riding on the pavement – when you are walking along.</p> <p>These people are a menace to both themselves and to others on the public highway, be it the pavement or the road. Frequently very young people and teenagers. Sometimes older people.</p> <p>Low Wood Road, Apollo Drive and Armstrong Road are the areas where I have seen it most frequently.</p> <p>The council needs to operate a strong and vigorous campaign to ensure that road safety amongst cyclists is enforced and the culprits apprehended.</p>	<p>This is a generic comment which refers to cycling on roads and pavements and is not therefore within the scope of the ROWIP. No change made to the amended draft ROWIP2.</p>

	The police should also be strongly encouraged, by the council, to mount a campaign on this subject.	
N/A	I know I have missed the consultation period but for many years I've enjoyed the walk up the canal towpath from Meadow lock at Trent Bridge into City centre. Increasingly am shocked by the dog mess from Meadow Lock to beyond the first bridge. We hope some procedure will be written into the new plans for this area to deter a flagrant disregard of dog owners civil responsibility towards our environment! Is this to do with increased presence of moored houseboats and their dogs possibly being allowed to roam?	<p>This has been forwarded to the Canal and River Trust who manage the Nottingham and Beeston canal.</p> <p>Additionally, based on the responses to the User Questionnaire, Policy 28 provides that by working with Area Committees and local communities to identify paths where dog fouling is persistent, the City Council will carry out enforcement and/or publicity / education campaigns to deal with the problem. No change made to the amended draft ROWIP2.</p>
N/A	Regarding the notice which I have seen on the footpath which runs from Kingsdown Mount, and adjoins the footpath maintained by Broxtowe Council, I have spoken to you in the past regarding the unsatisfactory state of this path. The steps have been most beneficial for walking, but are now beginning to deteriorate. Needless to say this part leading up to the steps is and has always been very rough, and in a dangerous state during the winter and even in the summer if there is rain.	Funding from the LTP to improve this section of footpath (including the steps) has been approved. Subject to no changes to the budget stream, the work will be carried out during 2015/16 financial year. The consultee has been advised. No change made to the amended draft ROWIP2.

N/A	I would like to see more cycle / walking trails created using old railway lines. These would be ideal for able bodied and disabled users alike due to their flat terrain. Lines such as the old mineral line from the former Gedling Colliery etc would be ideal.	There is one disused rail corridor in Nottingham which runs adjacent to Hucknall Road, from Arnold Road to the city boundary with Ashfield. This route was identified during ROWIP1 and the surface has been upgraded and signage installed (see figure 3, page 4 of ROWIP2). No change made to the amended draft ROWIP2.
N/A	Stop building on all our green belt and maintain our parks to a decent standard. Reinstate the footpaths on Broxtowe Park and commit to never building on it!	This is a generic comment and does not refer to the rights of way network. However, as part of ROWIP1 the City Council formally adopted "A guide to public rights of way, planning and development" (www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/transportstrategies) No change made to the amended draft ROWIP2.
N/A	Almost no mention of Broxtowe Country Park where many of the footpaths have almost completely washed away, even the new path has been overgrown in parts. There are several leaning trees in danger of falling down onto the paths.	During June 2015 the main path through Broxtowe Country Park was inspected and no erosion issues were identified. The trees have been reported to the City Council's Parks team. No change made to the amended draft ROWIP2.
N/A	There needs to be more focus on how these connect with main infrastructure (existing roads). It is fine improving the paths but only if they connect at both ends.	This is covered by Policies 24 and 30. No change made to the amended draft ROWIP2.

Policy 25 (signing and way marking)	Need to provide walking routes throughout the city as open data as part of the councils commitment to Open Data. Need to ensure the data set used by Walkit.com for walking routes in the Greater Nottingham area is accurate and up to date - at least a 6 monthly review. Need a commitment to cross boundary working with the Nottinghamshire County Council to ensure effective maintenance and signing of routes throughout "Greater Nottingham" the Big Wheel area.	The Self-Guided Walking Leaflets produced by the Nottingham Local Access Forum for Wollaton Park, Martins Pond LNR and Colwick Woods LNR are available on line at www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/localaccessforum www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/awalkinthepark www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/article/23089/Walking-in-Nottingham and www.nottsguidedwalks.co.uk . Since 2007 a number of LTP funded signing schemes have been completed across Greater Nottingham, "the Big Track" (www.thebigwheel.org.uk/maps/big-track/) and associated routes. The new footbridge across "the Loop" at Colwick Park, linking Gedling Borough to Nottingham, was built in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council. No change made to the amended draft ROWIP2.
N/A	About the dog mess problems, there only seems to be an entry for "cleansing" - so why aren't there more of those red bins to be installed? How can we expect dog owners to be more responsible, when they can cite the lack of bins for not bothering to clear the mess?	This is covered by Policy 28. No change made to the amended draft ROWIP2.
N/A	Any temporary diversions to rights of way should be adequately signed. Often, if there is signage for say a shared use pedestrian/cycle route, then any diversions are only showing what pedestrians should do - cyclists are forgotten.	This is a generic comment. No change made to the amended draft ROWIP2.
N/A	Opening up more of Wollaton Park with footpaths whilst still respecting the wildlife.	The paths through Wollaton Park are permissive as opposed to public (see paragraph 4.2, page 17 of ROWIP2).

	<p>Shared use for cyclists and walkers is not the answer, it is not ideal for either party. Segregation is required.</p> <p>As a cyclist A Frame Barriers are horrific, other means should be used. I have in the past had to un-wedge a pensioner and his bike from one.</p>	<p>During the design stage of new cycle paths and infrastructure, the availability of space and the safety of users of shared and segregated routes are included in a Road Safety Audit.</p> <p>The use of barriers and other objects on rights of way is covered by the City Council's separate "Policy on the use of barriers on rights of way". Policy 27 includes reference to the barrier policy. No change made to the amended draft ROWIP2.</p>
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APPENDIX 2

ROWIP2: stage 1 survey results May to August 2014

Have your say on:

Nottingham's Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2014

Following public consultation in 2013 Nottingham City Council now have Nottingham's 2nd Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP2). The City Council's Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transportation has given her approval for the next stage of public consultation. This will commence on 19th May and will end on 11th August 2014. The Draft plan can be downloaded from the City Council's website at www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/transportconsultations

We would like you to comment on the Draft plan; your views will help us produce the final version. If you wish to comment, please complete the following questions.

PLEASE NOTE: The ROWIP2 process is only concerned with footpaths, bridleways, canal towpaths, riverside walkways and any other path that is an "off-road" route. Pavements and footways next to the road are not included.

If you wish to discuss a specific problem on a Right of Way in Nottingham, please phone 0115 8765246 or email john.lee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Alternative formats: This document can be made available in large print, braille, tape or computer disc and can be provided in alternative languages on request, please phone 0115 8765246 or email john.lee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Q1 Are you responding as..?

96.0% an individual

4.0% on behalf of an organisation

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please write the name below
100.0%

Q2 How do you mainly use Nottingham's Rights of Way network?

44.0% Walk

4.0% Run

48.0% Cycle

0.0% Mobilty scooter

4.0% Ride a horse

Q3 Do you think the Draft ROWIP2 meets the needs of different Rights of Way users? (e.g. disabled users, walkers, cyclists, horse riders etc)

53.8% Yes

46.2% No

If NO, please tell us why not in the box below.

(Please include the Chapter heading(s) and page number(s) you are commenting on)

100.0%

Q4 To help improve Nottingham's Rights of Way network, the Draft ROWIP2 includes a number of Policies and Actions (i.e. pages 31 to 37, Policy ROWIP 21, Policy ROWIP 22 and so on). By ticking the boxes below, please rank each proposed action into High, Medium or Low priority to you.

	High	Medium	Low
Policy ROWIP 21	36.8%	42.1%	21.1%
Policy ROWIP 22	45.0%	40.0%	15.0%
Policy ROWIP 23	42.1%	31.6%	26.3%
Policy ROWIP 24	75.0%	20.0%	5.0%
Policy ROWIP 25	75.0%	15.0%	10.0%
Policy ROWIP 26	45.0%	20.0%	35.0%
Policy ROWIP 27	36.8%	47.4%	15.8%
Policy ROWIP 28	80.0%	15.0%	5.0%
Policy ROWIP 29	42.1%	36.8%	21.1%
Policy ROWIP 30	85.0%	10.0%	5.0%
Policy ROWIP 31	55.0%	35.0%	10.0%
Policy ROWIP 32	47.6%	33.3%	19.0%
Policy ROWIP 33	55.0%	20.0%	25.0%

Q5 Do you think there are other improvements that should be covered in the final ROWIP2?

60.9% Yes

39.1% No

If YES, please tell us the other improvement you would like to see covered
(Please include the Chapter heading(s) and page number(s) you are commenting on)

100.0%

About you:

Q6 Please tick the statement which best describes you. I am:

57.7% Male

30.8% Female

11.5% Prefer not to say

Q7 Please tick the statement which best describes you. I am:

0.0% Under 20

3.8% 20 to 29

15.4% 30 to 39

34.6% 40 to 49

7.7% 50 to 59

23.1% 60 to 74

3.8% 75+

11.5% Prefer not to say

Q8 Are your day to day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?

11.5% Yes, limited a lot

3.8% Yes, limited a little

76.9% No

7.7% Prefer not to say

Q9 Please tick the statement which best describes you. I am:

- 80.8% White
- 0.0% Mixed
- 0.0% Asian
- 0.0% Black
- 0.0% Other
- 19.2% Prefer not to say
- Other, please state
- 0.0%

What happens next with the ROWIP2 Consultation Draft?

All the responses will be reviewed and incorporated into the final Draft where appropriate. The final ROWIP2 will then be presented to the Council's Executive Board for approval and adoption later this year.

Q10 Please include your contact details if you would like to receive a summary of the responses to the ROWIP2 Consultation Draft.

- Name 100.0%
- Postal Address - 100.0%
- including FULL
- Postcode
- E mail address 100.0%

Data Protection: All personal details will be kept strictly confidential. Your comments may be made available for public inspection but will remain anonymous. They will not be used for anything other than the stated purposes.

Thank you for having your say about Nottingham's Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2.

APPENDIX 4

ROWIP2: stage 2 survey results February to April 2015

This report was generated on 19/08/15, giving the results for 12 respondents.
A filter of 'All Respondents' has been applied to the data.

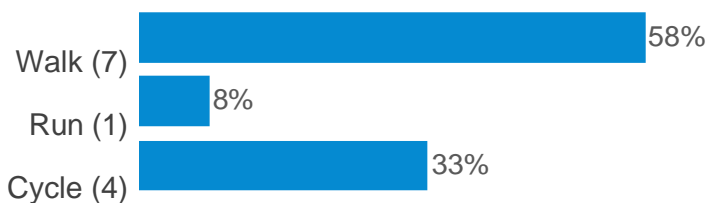
The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Are you responding as..?  100%

an individual (12)

on behalf of an organisation (-)

How do you mainly use Nottingham's Rights of Way network?



Mobility scooter (-)

Ride a horse (-)

Other, please state

walk and run

Do you think the Draft ROWIP2 meets the needs of different Rights of Way users? (e.g. disabled users, walkers, cyclists, horse riders etc)



If NO, please tell us why not in the box below.

(Please include the Chapter heading(s) and page number(s) you are commenting on)

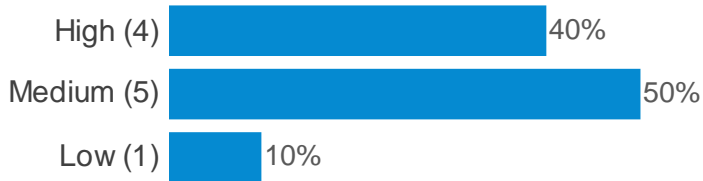
but it is a big step in the right direction.

section 4.7 need to have a budget for MAINTAINING the facilities, rather than putting in cycle tracks then never sweeping, gritting in icy weather. this does not happen unless a member of public complains and even then often nothing is done.

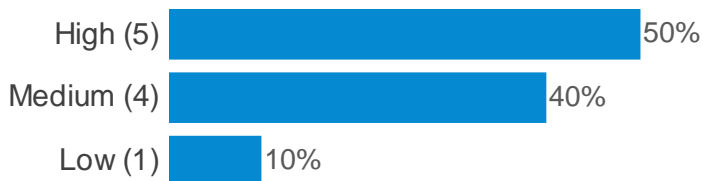
Do not have confidence that the closure of footpaths for works such as tram development will consult with and listen to users and provide alternate facilities that are suitable for cyclists and pedestrians. Not sure developers have enough incentive to retain walking routes when they develop

Almost no mention of Broxtowe Country Park where many of the footpaths have almost completely washed away, even the new path has been overgrown in parts. There are several leaning trees in danger of falling down onto the paths!

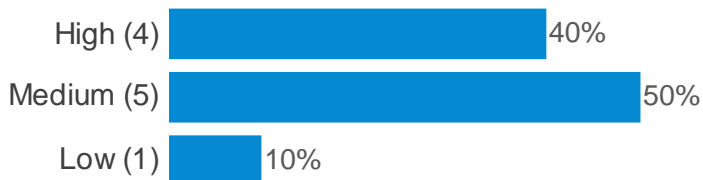
To help improve Nottingham's Rights of Way network, the Draft ROWIP2 includes a number of Policies and Actions (i.e. pages 31 to 37, Policy ROWIP 21, Policy ROWIP 22 and so on). By ticking the boxes below, please rank each proposed action into High, Medium or Low priority to you. (Policy ROWIP 21)



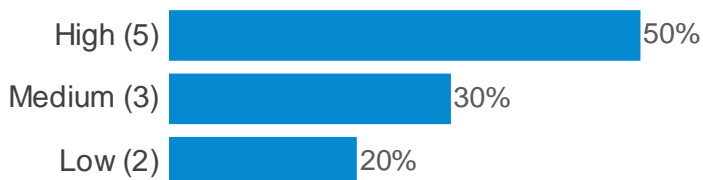
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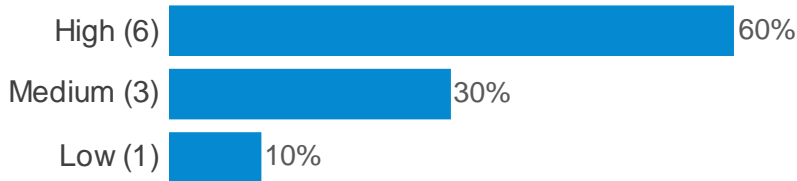
To help improve Nottingham's Rights of Way network, the Draft ROWIP2 includes a number of Policies and Actions (i.e. pages 31 to 37, Policy ROWIP 21, Policy ROWIP 22 and so on). By ticking the boxes below, please rank each proposed action into High, Medium or Low priority to you. (Policy ROWIP 23)



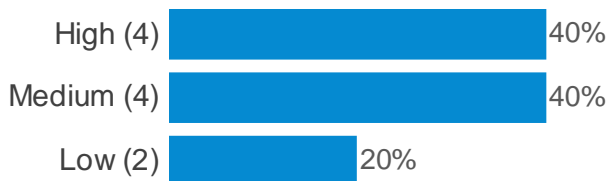
To help improve Nottingham's Rights of Way network, the Draft ROWIP2 includes a number of Policies and Actions (i.e. pages 31 to 37, Policy ROWIP 21, Policy ROWIP 22 and so on). By ticking the boxes below, please rank each proposed action into High, Medium or Low priority to you. (Policy ROWIP 24)



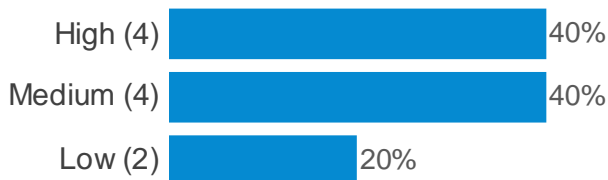
To help improve Nottingham's Rights of Way network, the Draft ROWIP2 includes a number of Policies and Actions (i.e. pages 31 to 37, Policy ROWIP 21, Policy ROWIP 22 and so on). By ticking the boxes below, please rank each proposed action into High, Medium or Low priority to you. (Policy ROWIP 25)



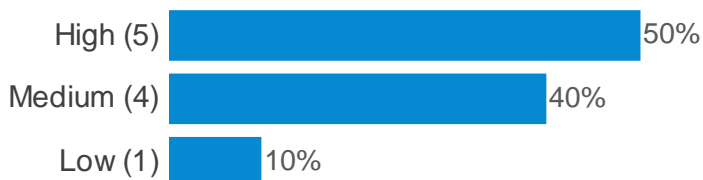
To help improve Nottingham's Rights of Way network, the Draft ROWIP2 includes a number of Policies and Actions (i.e. pages 31 to 37, Policy ROWIP 21, Policy ROWIP 22 and so on). By ticking the boxes below, please rank each proposed action into High, Medium or Low priority to you. (Policy ROWIP 26)



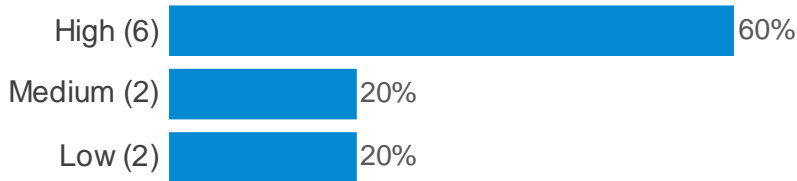
To help improve Nottingham's Rights of Way network, the Draft ROWIP2 includes a number of Policies and Actions (i.e. pages 31 to 37, Policy ROWIP 21, Policy ROWIP 22 and so on). By ticking the boxes below, please rank each proposed action into High, Medium or Low priority to you. (Policy ROWIP 27)



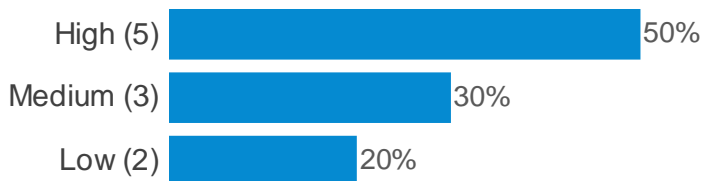
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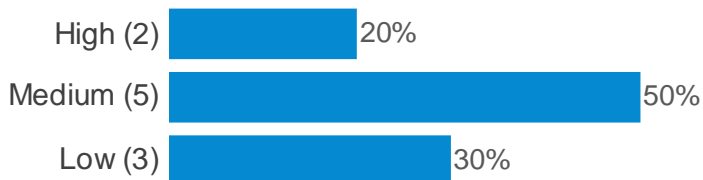
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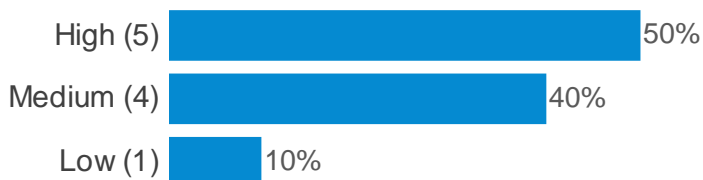
To help improve Nottingham's Rights of Way network, the Draft ROWIP2 includes a number of Policies and Actions (i.e. pages 31 to 37, Policy ROWIP 21, Policy ROWIP 22 and so on). By ticking the boxes below, please rank each proposed action into High, Medium or Low priority to you. (Policy ROWIP 30)



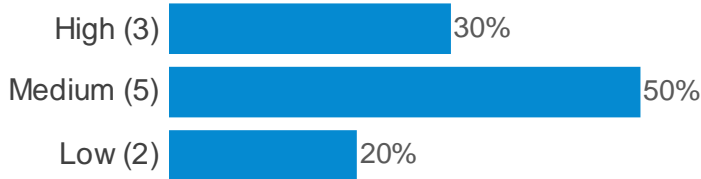
To help improve Nottingham's Rights of Way network, the Draft ROWIP2 includes a number of Policies and Actions (i.e. pages 31 to 37, Policy ROWIP 21, Policy ROWIP 22 and so on). By ticking the boxes below, please rank each proposed action into High, Medium or Low priority to you. (Policy ROWIP 31)



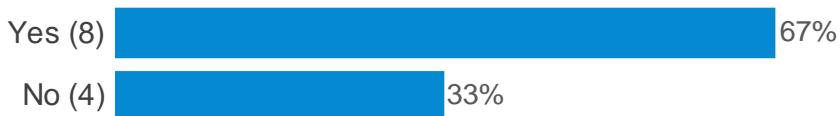
To help improve Nottingham's Rights of Way network, the Draft ROWIP2 includes a number of Policies and Actions (i.e. pages 31 to 37, Policy ROWIP 21, Policy ROWIP 22 and so on). By ticking the boxes below, please rank each proposed action into High, Medium or Low priority to you. (Policy ROWIP 32)



To help improve Nottingham's Rights of Way network, the Draft ROWIP2 includes a number of Policies and Actions (i.e. pages 31 to 37, Policy ROWIP 21, Policy ROWIP 22 and so on). By ticking the boxes below, please rank each proposed action into High, Medium or Low priority to you. (Policy ROWIP 33)



Do you think there are other improvements that should be covered in the final ROWIP2?



If YES, please tell us the other improvement you would like to see covered (Please include the Chapter heading(s) and page number(s) you are commenting on)

Opening up more of Wollaton Park with footpaths whilst still respecting the wildlife. Shared use for cyclists and walkers is not the answer, it is not ideal for either party. Segregation is required. As a cyclist A Frame Barriers are horrific, other means should be used. I have in the past had to un wedge a pensioner and his bike from one.

any temporary diversions to rights of way should be adequately signed. often, if there is signage for say a shared use pedestrian/cycle route, then any diversions are only showing what pedestrians should do - cyclists are forgotten.

About the dog mess problems, there only seems to be an entry for "cleansing" - so why aren't there more of those red bins to be installed? How can we expect dog owners to be more responsible, when they can cite the lack of bin for not bothering to clear the mess?

Need to provide walking routes through out the city as open data as part for the councils commitment to Open Data. Need to ensure the data set used by Walkit.com for walking routes in the Greater Nottingham area is accurate and up to date - at least a 6 monthly review Need a commitment to cross boundary working with the Nottinghamshire County Council to ensure effective maintenace and signing of route throughout "Greater Nottingham" ... the bigWheel area

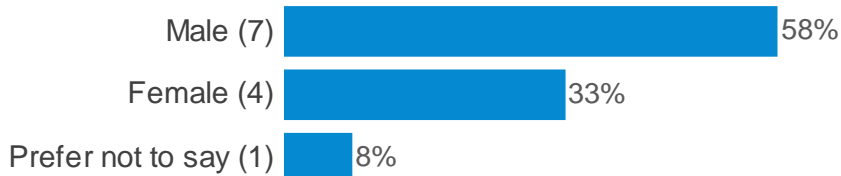
There needs to be more focus on how these connect with main infrastructure (existing roads). It is fine improving the paths but only if they connect at both ends.

Stop building on all our green belt and maintain our parks to a decent standard. Reinstate the footpaths on Broxtowe Park and commit to never building on it!

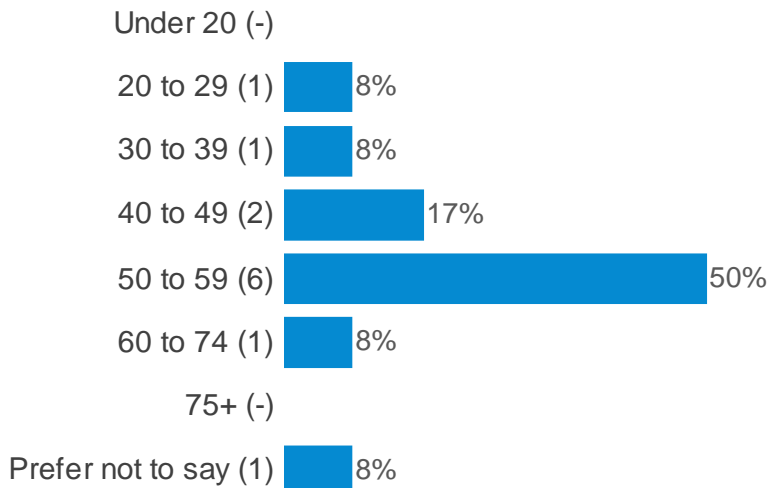
On canal towpaths. Provision of dog and other waste receptacles . Regular removal of litter. Removal of dog waste. Lighting. CCTV to deter dog fouling and other anti social behaviour at known problem points e.g. London Road canal close to the trent.

Rowip 28: In respect of footpath from Kingsdown Mount through to Heather Rise, Wollaton. This needs to properly maintained particularly from Kingsdown Mount where the path is uneven and can be very muddy/slippy following wet weather. This has been compounded by cyclists using the path as a thoroughfare, which in itself can be dangerous to walkers. Ideally the path should be tarmac to make it safe for all users

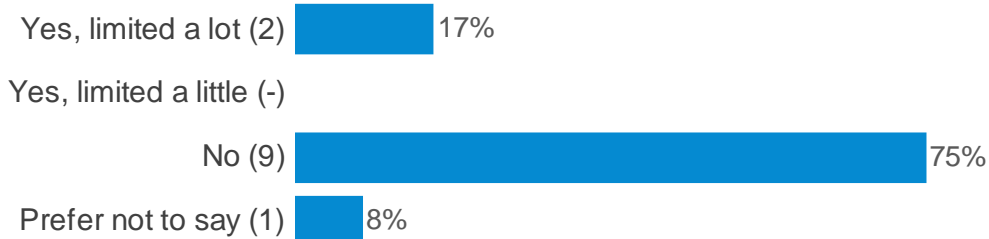
Please tick the statement which best describes you. I am:



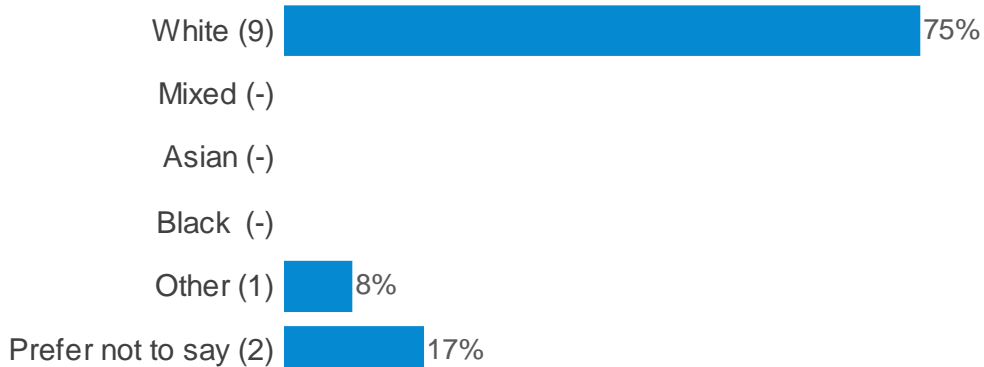
Please tick the statement which best describes you. I am:



Are your day to day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?



Please tick the statement which best describes you. I am:



Please include your contact details if you would like to receive a summary of the responses to the ROWIP2 Consultation Draft. (Name)

Please include your contact details if you would like to receive a summary of the responses to the ROWIP2 Consultation Draft. (Postal Address - including FULL Postcode)

Please include your contact details if you would like to receive a summary of the responses to the ROWIP2 Consultation Draft. (E mail address)

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APPENDIX 5: ROWIP2 Equality Impact Assessment

Name and brief description of proposal / policy / service being assessed				
Nottingham's second Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP2). This sets out the City Council's actions for improving the "local rights of way" network (includes footpaths, riverside walkways, cycle paths, bridleways and byways) and supports the priorities of the Local Transport Plan to help deliver a sustainable transport system which is inclusive to all citizens. For further information please refer to Chapter 1 "Setting the Scene".				
Information used to analyse the effects on equality				
The Nottingham Local Access Forum includes disabled users of the local right of way network. The forum has been fully engaged in the preparation of ROWIP2. The related document "Statement of Policy for the Use of Barriers on Rights of Way" is a direct result of the first ROWIP which covered the period 2007 to 2011. This Policy highlights the implications for disabled users and makes it clear when the Council should and should not use physical barriers to deal with unauthorised vehicles such as motorcycles and quad bikes.				
The National Highways and Transport Public Satisfaction (NHT) Survey 2010 ranked Nottingham within the top five Councils for its performance on improving public access. Part of this assessment included how easy (or difficult) it is for disabled citizens to use the network.				
	Could particularly benefit (X)	May adversely impact (X)	How different groups could be affected: Summary of impacts	Details of actions to reduce negative or increase positive impact (or why action not possible)
People from different ethnic groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parents and guardians using push chairs and double buggies may find physical barriers difficult to negotiate. ROWIP2 (Policy ROWIP 27) provides a commitment to actively promote the Statement of Policy for the Use of Barriers on Rights of Way which will reduce any adverse impact on this user group. Due to the potential adverse impact on blind and partially sighted citizens ROWIP Policy 33 includes a commitment to remove unnecessary Street Clutter. Older people who rely on a mobility aid such as an electric scooter may find they cannot physically get through a particular design of barrier. The Statement of Policy for the Use of Barriers on Rights of Way will reduce any adverse impact on this user group.	The Statement of Policy for the Use of Barriers on Rights of Way will help increase the positive impact. ROWIP2 provides the commitment to actively promote the Statement of Policy. The Council's Rights of Way Officer within the Traffic and Safety Service Area will be responsible for ensuring this commitment is ongoing The Council will continue to produce information on accessible walking routes including a the Definitive Map of rights of way on NOMAD (Nottingham Online Mapping and Data system)
Men, women (including maternity/pregnancy impact), transgender people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Disabled people or carers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
People from different faith groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Lesbian, gay or bisexual people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Older or younger people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Other (e.g. marriage/civil partnership, looked after children, cohesion/good relations, vulnerable children/adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

APPENDIX 5: ROWIP2 Equality Impact Assessment

Outcome(s) of equality impact assessment:

No major change needed Adjust the policy Adverse impact but continue Stop and remove the policy/proposal

Arrangements for future monitoring of equality impact of this proposal / policy / service:

ROWIP2 will be fully reviewed in 2020 and amended where necessary to take account of any specific positive or adverse equality impacts it may have had.

The Statement of Policy for the Use of Barriers on Rights of Way will be formally reviewed every three years from its implementation. It will also be subject to ongoing monitoring and review and may be amended in the interim as and when considered appropriate. In preparing the succeeding Policy, regard will be had to data and information collated over the operating period of the current Policy together with trends and the outcome of related initiatives from both local sources and nationally issued information and guidance.

Approved by (manager signature): Caroline Stylianou



Date sent to equality team for publishing:

April 2013

John Lee, tel: 0115 8765246 email: john.lee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Nottingham Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP2)



Adoption Draft 2015



NOTTINGHAM RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (ROWIP2)

ADOPTION DRAFT 2015

For further information on this document, public rights of way or the Nottingham Local Access Forum please contact:

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Email: john.lee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/rightsofway

David Bishop
Corporate Director for Development and Growth
Nottingham City Council
Loxley House
Station Street
Nottingham
NG2 3NG

If you require this information in an alternative language, large font, Braille, audio tape or text only version please call 0115 8765246

NOTTINGHAM RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (ROWIP2) ADOPTION DRAFT 2015

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Front cover images

Top left Holgate, Clifton Village, top right "The Big Track", bottom left Clumber Street (City centre) and bottom right Fairham Brook, Silverdale

Chapter 1: Setting the Scene

1.1 Introduction

Section 60 of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 placed a duty on the City Council to prepare and publish a Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP1¹) which was published November 2007. Since that time, there have been a number of changes to public rights of way legislation and the City Council's strategic priorities. ROWIP2 now reflects these changes and support the priorities of the current Local Transport Plan (LTP3)², the Council Plan 2012 – 2015³ and The Nottingham Plan to 2020 (Sustainable Communities Strategy)⁴. Additionally, ROWIP2 includes a number of improvements made during ROWIP1.

The geographical area of ROWIP2 is shown at Figure 1 on page 2. Figure 1 also shows the City Council's 8 Area Committees, their Locality and Wards. Being a strategic document, the ROWIP does not make detailed appraisals of each route. It provides a framework to work with the Area Committees, Neighbourhood Management Teams, the Nottingham Local Access Forum (see below), local citizens and users of the network. The Plan will:-

- ❖ Take a holistic approach to improve the network; and
- ❖ Investigate site specific problems and identify practical solutions

The ROWIP focuses on “off road” routes (i.e. footpaths, cycle paths, bridleways and byways) as opposed to pavements running alongside the carriageway and therefore excludes Primary Pedestrian Routes within the City Centre.

1.2 Statutory Requirements

The relevant legislative provisions require the City Council to assess the following:-

- ❖ The extent to which local rights of way meets the present and likely future needs of citizens
- ❖ The opportunities provided by local rights of way for exercise, recreation, day to day commuting and travel and the enjoyment of Nottingham
- ❖ The accessibility of local rights of way for citizens who are blind, partially sighted or have mobility problems

1.3 The Nottingham Local Access Forum (NLAF)

The NLAF⁵ was set up under the CROW Act 2000 and were instrumental in helping deliver ROWIP1 and continue to monitor its progress. Throughout ROWIP2 reference will be made to the contribution from the NLAF where appropriate. Figure 2 on page 3 shows the relationship between the NLAF and the development of ROWIP2. Specific comments are included in the “Input from the NLAF”.

¹ www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/rightsofway

² www.nottinghaminsight.org.uk/d/94332

³ www.nottinghaminsight.org.uk/insight/search/unified_search.aspx?q=big wheel

⁴ www.nottinghaminsight.org.uk/insight/search/unified_search.aspx?q=big wheel

⁵ www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/localaccessforum

Localities and Area Committees

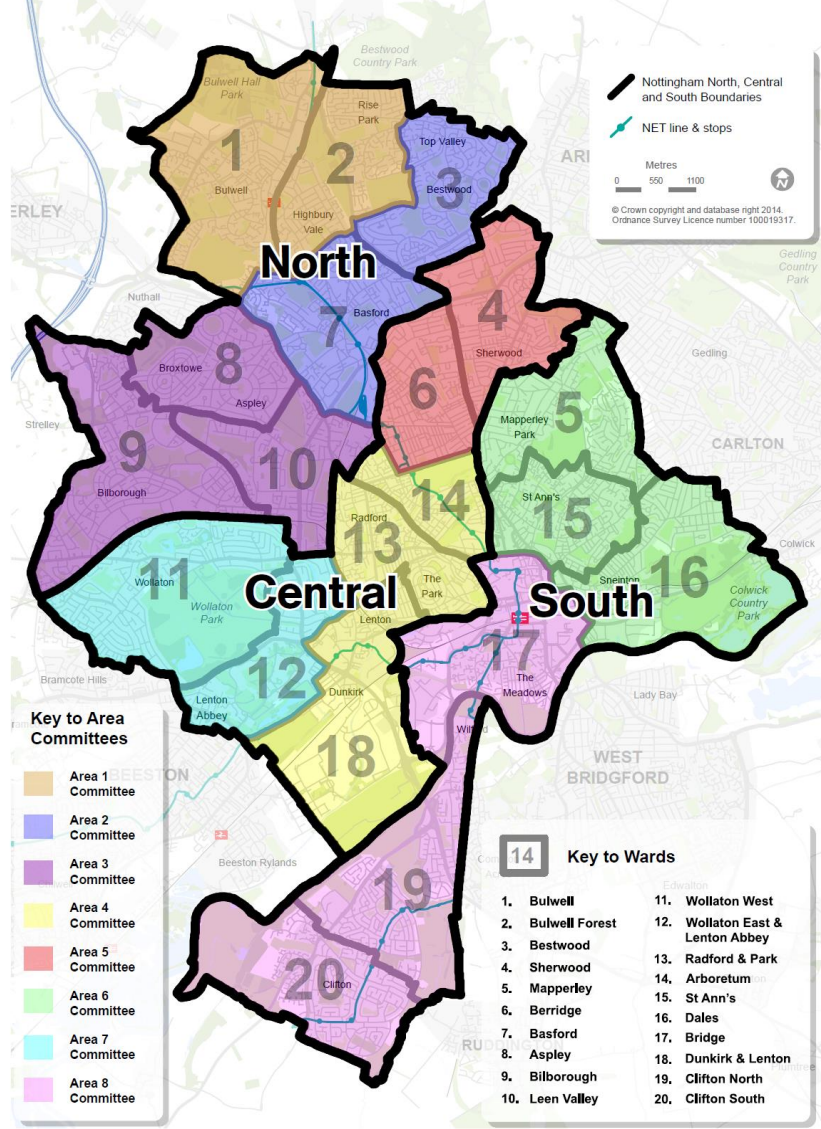


Figure 1: Geographical Area of ROWIP2 and the City Council's 8 Area Committees, their Locality and Wards

North Locality:

- ❖ Bulwell and Bulwell Forest
- ❖ Basford and Bestwood
- ❖ West Area Committee (Leen Valley, Aspley and Bilborough)

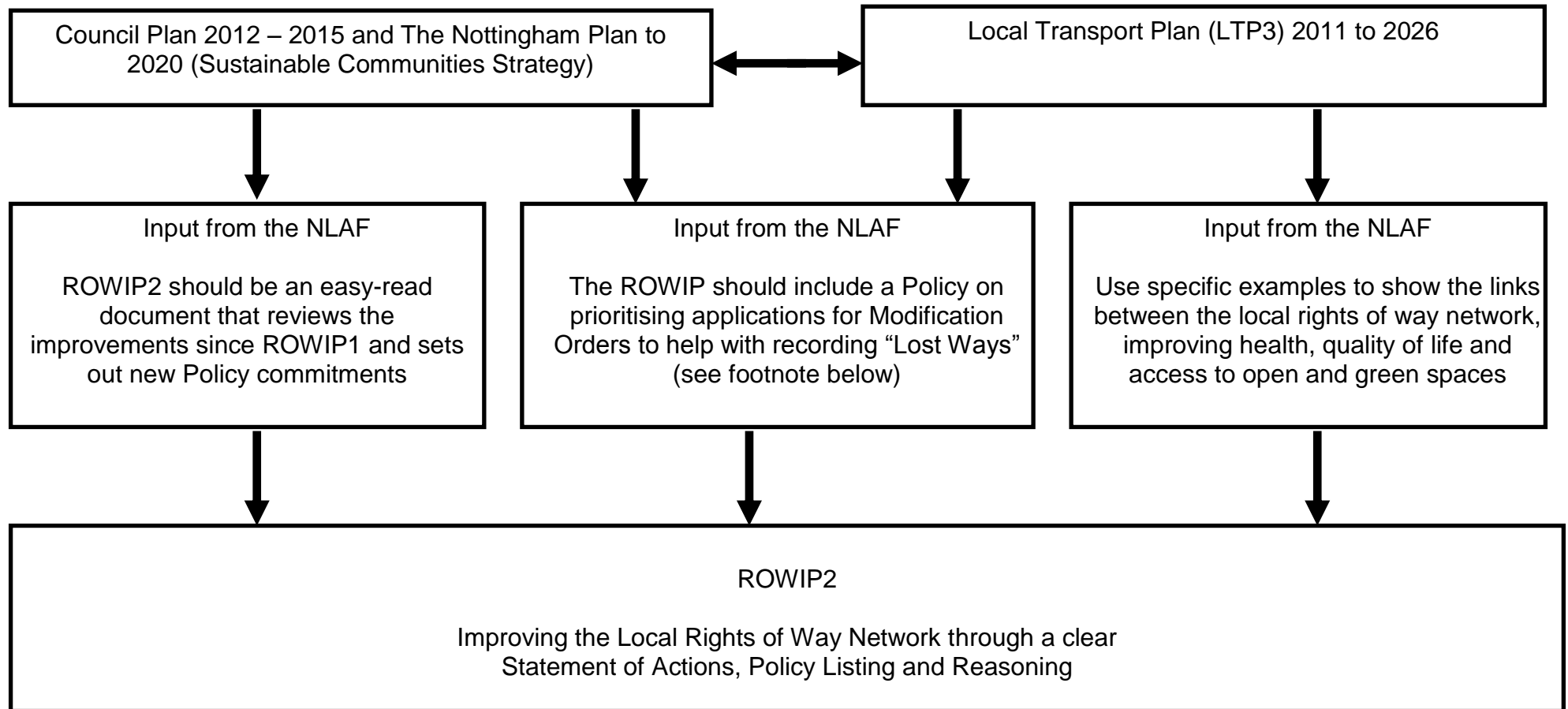
Central Locality:

- ❖ Berridge and Sherwood
- ❖ Arboretum, Dunkirk and Lenton, Radford and Park
- ❖ Wollaton East & West and Lenton Abbey

South Locality:

- ❖ Area Committee East (ACE) Dales, Mapperley and St Ann's
- ❖ Area 8 Committee (Bridge, Clifton North and South)

Figure 2: Informing and developing ROWIP2



Page 85

“Lost Ways” - the incompleteness of the legal record of public rights of way has been a contentious subject for many years and the CROW Act 2000 sought to address this. It provided a ‘cut-off date’ of 1st January 2026, so that unrecorded pre-1949 public rights of way known as “lost ways”, if claimed on documentary evidence alone, would cease to exist if not recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement by this date.

Chapter 2: Improvements during ROWIP1

2.1 What we achieved during ROWIP1

Table 1 summarises the policies which helped deliver the improvements during ROWIP1. Although ROWIP2 sets out further Policy commitments (see Chapter 7, page 31 below) ROWIP1 policies are still applicable and are therefore carried forward.

Table 1

<u>ROWIP1 Policy No.</u>	<u>Summary of Policy / improvements</u>	<u>Action(s) completed</u>
ROWIP 1	Publish ROWIP1 during November 2007	√
ROWIP 2, 3, 4	Public rights of way, planning and development	√
ROWIP 5, 6	Legally defined (recorded in the Definitive Map and Statement)	√
ROWIP 7, 8, 9	Properly maintained	√
ROWIP 10	Promotion and publicity	√
ROWIP 11, 12, 13	Crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour	√
ROWIP 14, 15, 16, 17	Walking, cycling, horse riding and mobility access	√
ROWIP 18	Citizens who do not use the network	√
ROWIP 19	Health, well being and quality of life	√

2.2 Improvements schemes during ROWIP1

The following provides details of a number of improvements made during ROWIP1.

2.2.1 Hucknall Road (disused rail corridor)

This scheme upgraded around 1000 metres of path, which was previously a muddy un-surfaced route. This route offers an “off-road” alternative to Hucknall Road and provides users with an opportunity to enjoy the wildlife and

open space aspects along this Local Nature Reserve. All main access points have been signed.



Figure 3: part of the surface improvements along the disused rail corridor

2.2.2 Colwick Woods

The entrance to the woods from the Colwick Road footpath is extremely steep and the wrought iron gate (see figures 4 and 5 below) was difficult to use due to eroded mud collecting around the bottom of the gate. These two factors discouraged potential users accessing the woods at this point. The aim of the improvement scheme was to make this entrance more attractive and easy to use which would encourage more citizens to visit the site from this point.

The site periodically suffers from motorcycles and quad bikes and following discussions with the Friends of Colwick Wood, the City Council's Parks Development Team and the local Police a motorcycle barrier was installed which would deter these vehicles. The following Figures show the entrance before and after the improvements.



Figure 4: (before) mud washed down hill during heavy rain and collects around the gate making it virtually impossible to open. Users then had to climb up the stone wall on the left hand side



Figure 5: (after) the gate has been removed. To make access for motorcycles and quad bikes more difficult, a motorcycle barrier "A Frame" has been installed



Figure 6: (after) handrail and sleeper steps have been installed along the steepest section. This has improved the overall accessibility of the path and reduced runoff and erosion

Unfortunately, even with the improvements, due to the very steep gradients the footpath is unsuitable for prams, push chairs and mobility scooters.

2.2.3 Colwick Country Park Footbridge

During 2010, the NLAf investigated small scale schemes to improve links to open and green spaces. This resulted in the footbridge which crosses a stream called “The Loop” and connects Colwick Country Park to Gedling Borough. The scheme was completed in 2014.

Figure 7: footbridge at Colwick Country Park



2.2.4 River Leen Access and Biodiversity Study: (Basford to Bulwell)

The River Leen runs through the City Council's Wards of Bulwell, Basford, Radford and Lenton (see figure 1 page 2). In 2010 the City Council commissioned a study to improve access and biodiversity along the corridor which set out a strategy for this underused asset. It was apparent that, in order to successfully and sustainably improve public access, enhancement and protection of wildlife habitat and biodiversity must also be a priority.

Based on this study, the City Council and other neighbouring Council's made a successful bid for Growth Point (Green Infrastructure)⁶ funding which helped create a traffic free route from Nottingham (in the south) to Kirkby in Ashfield (in the north). Working with Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, the scheme in Nottingham included:-

- ❖ Constructing 350 metres of crushed stone path along a well used muddy desire line which links to an existing bridleway and forms part of National Cycle Network (NCN) 6
- ❖ Habitat and biodiversity improvements to benefit the Leen's wildlife population
- ❖ Reinstating an overgrown section of "cinder" footpath
- ❖ Installing signage to and from Bulwell and Basford including access to the nearby Tram stops

The location of the River Leen scheme is shown on Figures 8 and 9 below.

⁶ www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=5768



Figure 8: section of new bridleway created along the River Leen which forms part of National Cycle Route 6. This new section was then added to the Definitive Map and Statement. This new route bypasses a number of Motorcycle Inhibitor Barriers and horse stiles, making the route more attractive and accessible

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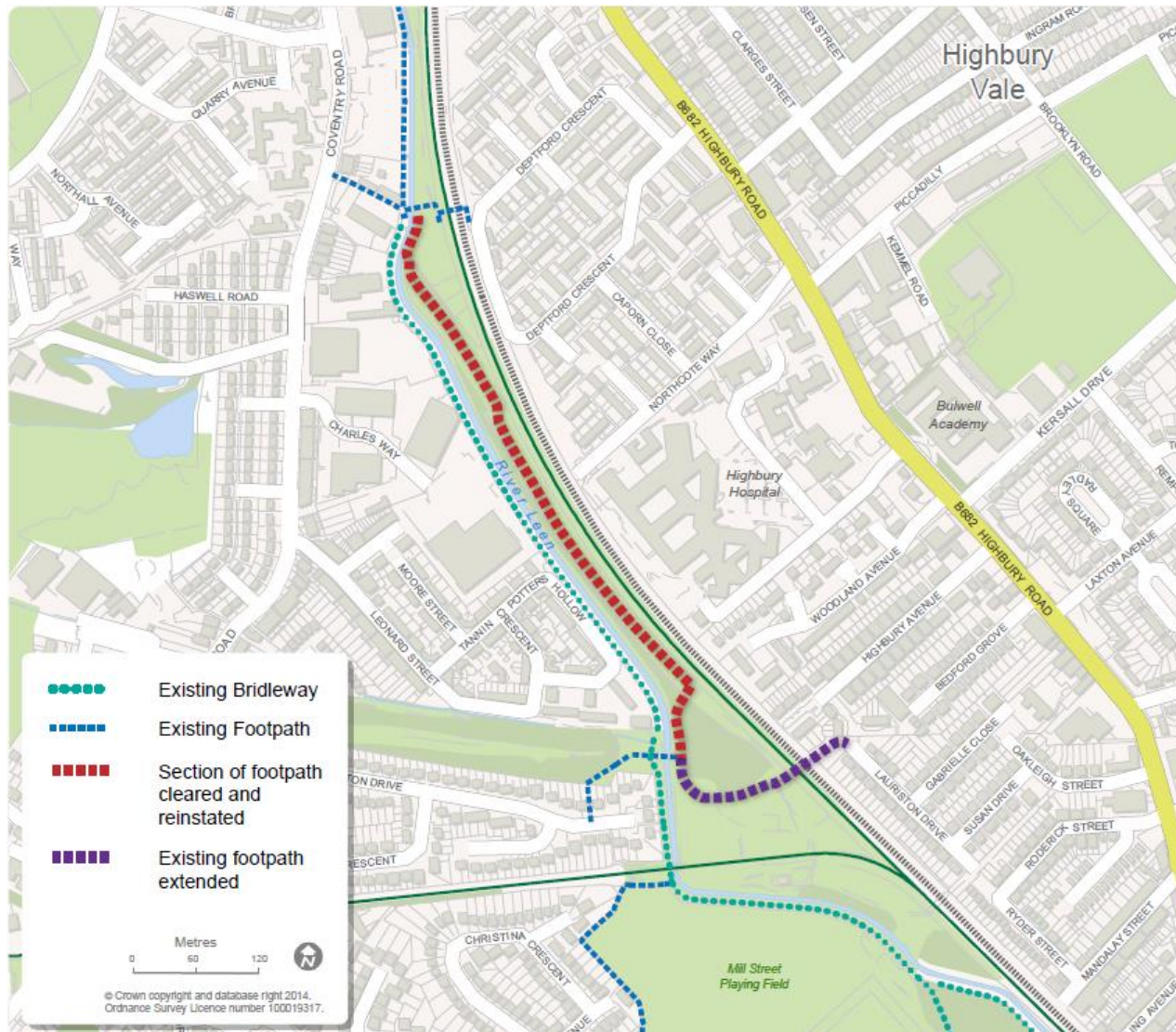


Figure 9: section of “cinder” path cleared and reinstated. This section extended an existing footpath which was then added to the Definitive Map and Statement

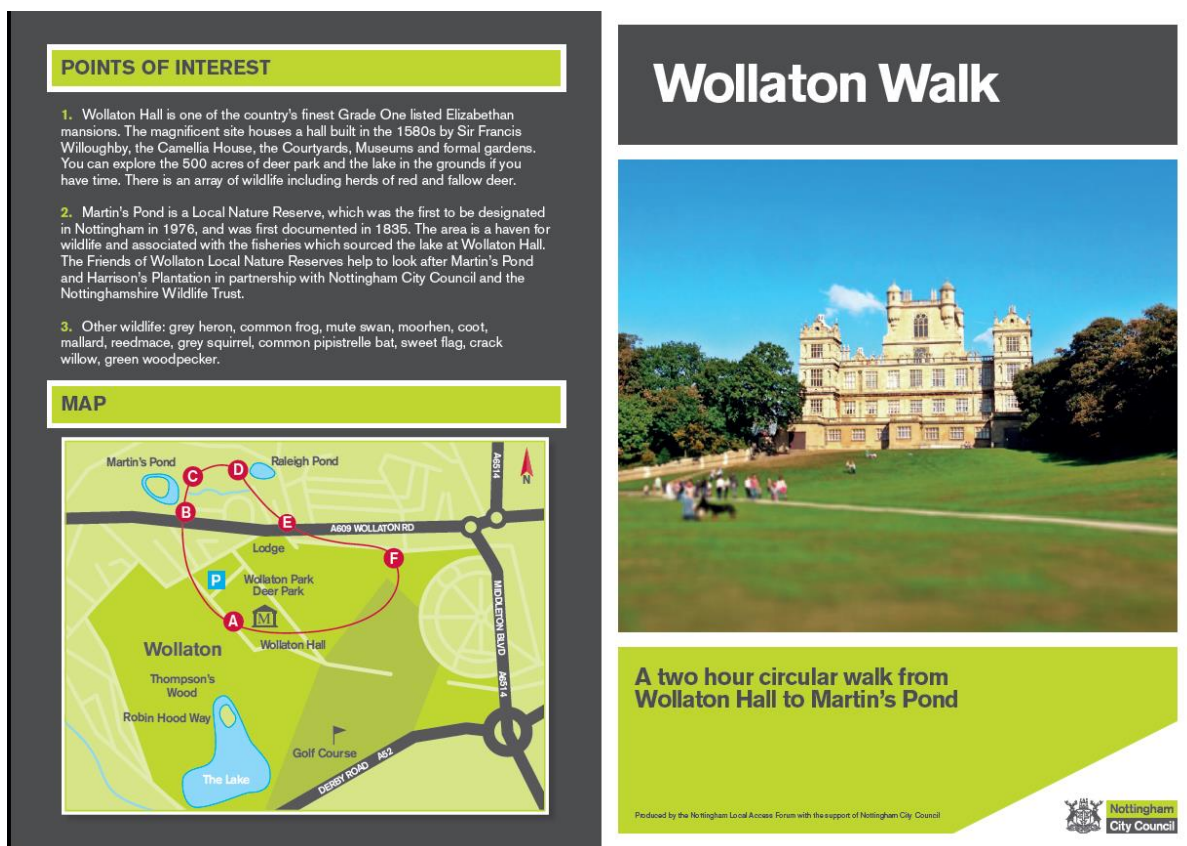
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2.2.5 Wollaton Hall to Martins Pond Local Nature Reserve: Self-Guided Walking Leaflet

Two of the priorities within the Council Plan 2012 – 2015 and The Nottingham Plan to 2020 is a “Healthy Nottingham” and to improve the quality of life of Nottingham’s citizens. The ROWIP1 survey identified Wollaton Park and Martin’s Pond Local Nature Reserve as the top two sites which citizens like to visit when using the local rights of way network. In response to this, during 2013 the NLA Forum commenced a project to produce a self-guided walking leaflet linking these two key destination sites. The Wollaton Leaflet is shown below.

The Forum intends to produce similar leaflets for all City Council Wards (see figure 1, page 2), including sites in Clifton (incorporating Trent Valley Way and the Local Nature Reserve) Silverdale (incorporating Fairham Brook) and Sneinton (incorporating Colwick Woods). Due to the locality and proximity of the Wards, each Leaflet may cover more than one Ward. The Leaflets will be available on the City Council’s Web Site and will encourage more people to get and about in Nottingham while promoting the local rights of way network and the work of the Forum.

Figures 10: Wollaton Self Guided-Walk Leaflet produced by the Nottingham Local Access Forum (showing front and back cover).



Chapter 3: ROWIP2 policy context

3.1 *Safe, Clean, Ambitious, Proud*

In 2009 ROWIP1⁷ received a National Award from Natural England for its integration with the Local Transport Plan (LTP2) and is cited in their Good Practice Note⁸. This chapter sets out how ROWIP2, through working with Area Committees⁹, Neighbourhood Management Teams, the Nottingham Local Access Forum, local citizens and other partners, will help achieve the 2030 Vision to make Nottingham *safe, clean, ambitious and proud*. The 8 Area Committees, which are shown at Figure 1 page 2, will help identify local priorities.

3.2 Council Plan 2012 – 2015 and The Nottingham Plan to 2020

The six priority headings within the Council Plan 2012 – 2015 are fully aligned with the Strategic Priorities within The Nottingham Plan to 2020 (Sustainable Communities Strategy). Our priority headings for the 2030 Vision are:-

- ❖ World Class Nottingham
- ❖ Work in Nottingham
- ❖ Safer Nottingham
- ❖ Neighbourhood Nottingham
- ❖ Family Nottingham
- ❖ Healthy Nottingham

ROWIP2 will help deliver these priorities.

3.3 Links between ROWIP2 and LTP3

The Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011 to 2026¹⁰ sets out 5 Goals for delivering a sustainable transport system in Nottingham; these are:-

- ❖ Reducing carbon emissions
- ❖ Supporting economic growth
- ❖ Promoting equality of opportunity
- ❖ Contributing to better safety, security and health
- ❖ Improving quality of life and a healthy natural environment

There are clear links between the local rights of way network and the LTP3 Goals. ROWIP2 has the potential to play its part in helping to deliver a sustainable transport system. For example, by making the local rights of way

⁷ www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/transportstrategies

⁸LTP and ROWIP Integration Good Practice Note Natural England 2009
www.naturalengland.org.uk/publications

⁹The City Council is split into 3 Localities (North, Central and South) and has 8 Area Committees covering 20 Wards.

¹⁰ www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/transportstrategies

more attractive and accessible it will encourage sustainable and active travel options such as walking and cycling for access to:-

- ❖ Existing and new housing areas
- ❖ Open and green spaces and the wider countryside
- ❖ Local amenities, shops, public transport, health services
- ❖ Commercial / industrial developments
- ❖ Key employment sites
- ❖ Schools, colleges and training facilities

Based on the results of the User Questionnaire (see Chapter 6 below) ROWIP2 has reviewed user behaviour and specifically; whether citizens walk, cycle or ride a horse, the type of environment they prefer, what puts them off using the network and where improvements should be made to encourage more use. The Plan will therefore:-

- ❖ Encourage citizens to take up outdoor recreational pursuits such as walking, cycling and/or horse riding
- ❖ Encourage more walking and cycling for commuting and day to day travel
- ❖ Encourage more citizens to enjoy Nottingham's open and green space network; and
- ❖ Reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality; which in turn will
- ❖ Contribute to better health and well being and therefore improve the quality of life of Nottingham's citizens

Table 2 on page 14 includes examples of ROWIP schemes which support LTP3.

Table 2: Examples of ROWIP2 schemes to support LTP3

LTP3 GOALS

RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK

EXAMPLE OF ROWIP2 SCHEME

Reducing carbon emissions	Support active travel solutions by encouraging more people to cycle and walk especially for local journeys	Create new links to the existing network improve entrance points, signage and publicity which in turn will increase a person's willingness and confidence to walk and cycle more often
Supporting economic growth	Improve sustainable access options to new / existing housing areas, key employment sites, public transport nodes, schools, colleges etc	Work with large employers such as the University of Nottingham to deliver access improvements to and through their sites, for example Grove Farm (the Big Track ¹¹)
Promoting equality of opportunity	When dealing with unauthorised mechanically propelled vehicles on the local rights of way network, supporting the principles of 'access for all' and the "least restrictive option" ¹²	Review all existing motorcycle barriers and remove them if no longer required or replace them with the "least restrictive option"
Contributing to better safety, security and health	Increase the options for citizens to access health and social care which in turn will influence healthy life style choices	Create safe / improve existing off-road routes to encourage first time walkers, cyclists and horse riders to promote healthy lifestyle choices
Improving quality of life and a healthy natural environment	A well maintained and signed network will improve access to open and green spaces and the wider countryside	Create more circular routes to link to open and green spaces, for example linking the River Trent to the River Leen and Fairham Brook

¹¹ The Big Track is a 10 mile traffic free circular route incorporating parts of the River Trent and Nottingham and Beeston Canal www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=44230&p=0

¹² Please refer to the City Council's Statement of Policy for the use of Barriers on Rights of Way <http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=929>

3.4 Health, Wellbeing and Quality of Life Benefits

A key priority of the City Council is to improve the health, wellbeing and quality of life of Nottingham's citizens which is reflected throughout LTP3. Research by the Department of Health¹³ suggests that Britain will become a mainly obese nation by 2050, unless there are significant changes in nutrition and physical activity. 50% of Nottingham's population is currently classified overweight with almost 20% categorised as clinically obese. There is a multitude of research which highlights the health and quality of life benefits of walking and cycling but, until more recently, there was very little research on the benefits of horse riding. The following summarises the benefits of these three physical activities.

3.4.1 Walking

Regular walking, like all aerobic exercise, can have a dramatic effect on cardio respiratory fitness. Walking, particularly in pleasant surroundings, has been shown to improve self esteem, relieve symptoms of depression and anxiety, and improve mood. Many General Practitioners (GP's) are now prescribing gentle walking for people suffering from a range of physical and mental health conditions. Please see www.ramblers.org.uk/info/everyone/health.html

Figure 11: City centre ancient alleyway



3.4.2 Cycling

Cycling offers enormous potential to help improve public health. As well as improving physical health, cycling has a positive affect on emotional health, improving levels of well-being while reducing a range of medical symptoms on a daily basis. Providing there are the right facilities in the right places, cycling can become part of everyday activity, rather than having to find additional time for exercise. Please see www.dft.gov.uk/cyclingengland/health-fitness/health-benefits-of-cycling/ and Dr Adrian Davis NHS Bristol and Bristol City Council: Research Report 5 Updated March 2010

Figure 12 Shared use route



¹³ www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-physical-activity-guidelines

3.4.3 Horse riding

Horse riding has both physical and psychological benefits. For example, catching horses in the field, mucking out, tacking up and then riding encourages physical activity and contact with horses has a calming and positive psychological effect which creates a sense of well being. These benefits are recognised by the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA). Many physiotherapists recommend regular sessions of gentle movement on horseback in place of conventional physical therapy sessions to provide valuable muscle stimulation. For further information please see www.bhs.org.uk

Figure 13: Clifton Grove



4.0 Chapter 4: Current Provision

4.1 The Definitive Map and Statement

In order that everyone, including walkers, riders and landowners alike, know which ways are public rights of way, Parliament has required local authorities, known as surveying authorities, to record those rights on special maps and statements, known as Definitive Maps and Statements. All known public footpaths, bridleways and byways should, by law, be recorded on the Map and Statement. The inclusion of a public right of way on the Map and Statement is a record only of the existence of those rights. Other rights may exist (e.g. private rights) but may not be recorded. The Map and Statement is therefore conclusive evidence in law only of the public rights shown and of no other rights.

4.2 Classification of public rights of way

A public right of way is a way over which the public have a legal right to pass and re-pass at all times of the day and night in perpetuity, and includes the following classifications:-

- ❖ Public footpath - a way over which the right of way is on foot
- ❖ Public bridleway - a way over which the right of way is on foot, horse back, leading a horse, pedal cycle and in some instances to drive animals
- ❖ Byway open to all traffic (BOAT) - is a carriageway and therefore a right of way for vehicles, but one used mainly for the purposes for which footpaths and bridleways are used
- ❖ Restricted byway - a way over which the right of way is on foot, on horse or leading a horse and on a vehicle (other than mechanically propelled) including pedal cycles and horse drawn carriages

Additionally, due to their importance of providing useful links to the public rights of way network (i.e. paths recorded in the Map and Statement) the following permissive routes (which are open to the public with the permission of the landowner) are considered as part of the local rights of way network:-

- ❖ Canal towpaths (e.g. Nottingham and Beeston Canal)
- ❖ Routes across formal public parks and open spaces which are open to the public during the day and closed at night (e.g. Wollaton Park)

4.3 Public rights of way and the local rights of way network

In the context of ROWIP2, it may help at this stage to explain the differences and similarities between the “public rights of way” network and the “local rights of way” network.

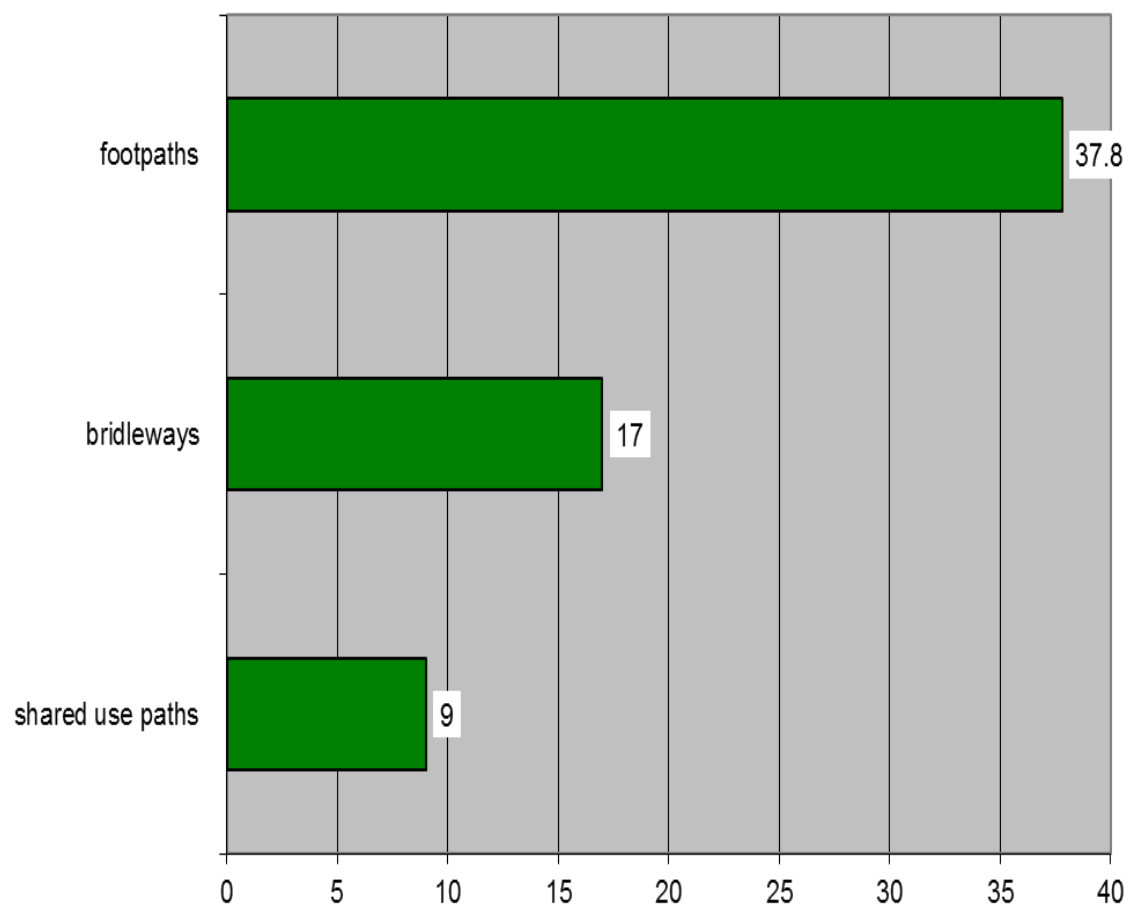
- ❖ Public rights of way (footpaths, bridleways and byways) are (or ought to be) recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement.

- ❖ The local rights of way network includes public rights of way as well as other routes to which the public have access (e.g. permissive routes), not recorded in the Map and Statement.

4.4 Available length of local rights of way

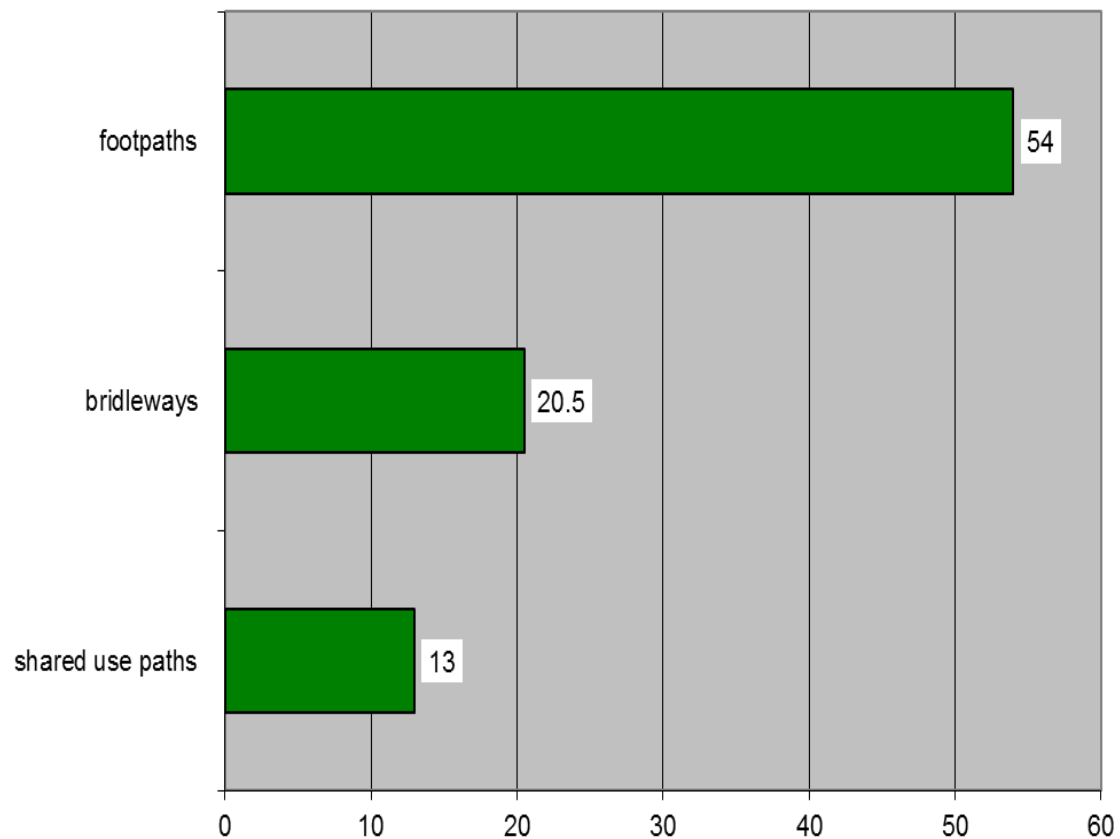
ROWIP1¹⁴ included details of the total length in kilometres of local rights of way in 2007 and their respective classifications. This included all routes recorded on the Map and Statement along with “off-road” shared use paths (i.e. not including routes along the carriageway and footways/pavements).

Figure 14: Total length (km) of local rights of way in 2007



¹⁴ ROWIP 2006/7 to 2010/11 Chapter 6 Current Provision Page 2
<http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/transportstrategies>

Figure 15: Total length (km) of local rights of way in 2015



Figures 14 and 15 above show that since 2007 the footpath network has increased by 16.2km, bridleways by 3.5km and shared use paths by 4km.

4.5 Legally defined

The incompleteness of the legal record of public rights of way (the Definitive Map and Statement) nationally has been a contentious subject for many years. The Statement of Actions (see Chapter 7 below) includes a commitment to add public ways to the Map and Statement which will ensure they are identified, legally recorded and protected for future generations to enjoy. This will enable the City Council to work towards the 2026 statutory cut-off date introduced by Section 53 of the CROW Act 2000. This prevents any claim from being successfully made to add a pre-1949 public right of way to the Map and Statement after 1st January 2026, if the claim is based solely on documentary evidence. If this is not addressed unrecorded public rights of way that form part of Nottingham's historic network may be lost to the public forever. Additionally, this commitment will focus resources on fulfilling the Council's duty under Section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to keep the Definitive Map and Statement under continuous review.

4.6 Well publicised

ROWIP1 included a commitment to correctly sign and waymark the public rights of way network. ROWIP2 will continue to meet these obligations and this commitment is therefore carried over to ROWIP2.

4.7 Properly maintained

ROWIP1 included a commitment to formalise an inspection and maintenance programme for remote¹⁵ off road” routes recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement. During 2013 a methodology was agreed to create a Condition Register of all structures to include concrete and wooden steps, hand rails, short span bridges (not more than 20 metres in length), horse stiles and hand gates. To create the Register the following actions are carried out:-

- Carry out a desk based assessment to identify the type of structure and their locations
- Undertake site visits to determine whether the structure is safe and fit for purpose. Photographs of the structure are catalogued against the date of the assessment
- Any concerns reported to the City Council’s Bridges and Structures team, and repairs carried out as required
- Based on the above, prepare a Register of structures

¹⁵ The term “remote” refers to paths that are located away from built up areas and are more rural in characteristic and includes routes such as the Trent Valley Way, Colwick Wood, Fairham Brook, River Leen and parts of the “Big Track”

Chapter 5: Consultation for ROWIP2 - Responses to the User Questionnaire

5.1 Public consultation and data collection for ROWIP2

In order that the Statement of Actions (see Chapter 8 below) reflects the aspirations of current and future users of the network, during 2013 a User Questionnaire was available on-line via the Consultation web site (Nottingham Insight www.nottinghaminsight.org.uk/). To bring this to the attention of users, with the help of the NLA and the Council's Park Rangers, ROWIP2 Posters were placed along primary walking, cycling and riding routes, along with libraries, health centres and information points providing details of where the questionnaire could be viewed and completed. In response 339 questionnaires were completed along with 4 separate responses. This is a relatively small sample size and the results therefore should be treated with some caution.

Other information which has been taken into account in the preparation of ROWIP2 includes:-

- ❖ Applications for Modification Orders and Public Path Orders
- ❖ Requests for improvements from the City Council's Area Committees, user groups and individuals
- ❖ Other key Plans and Strategies including Council Plan 2012 – 2015, The Nottingham Plan to 2020 (Sustainable Communities Strategy) and LTP3

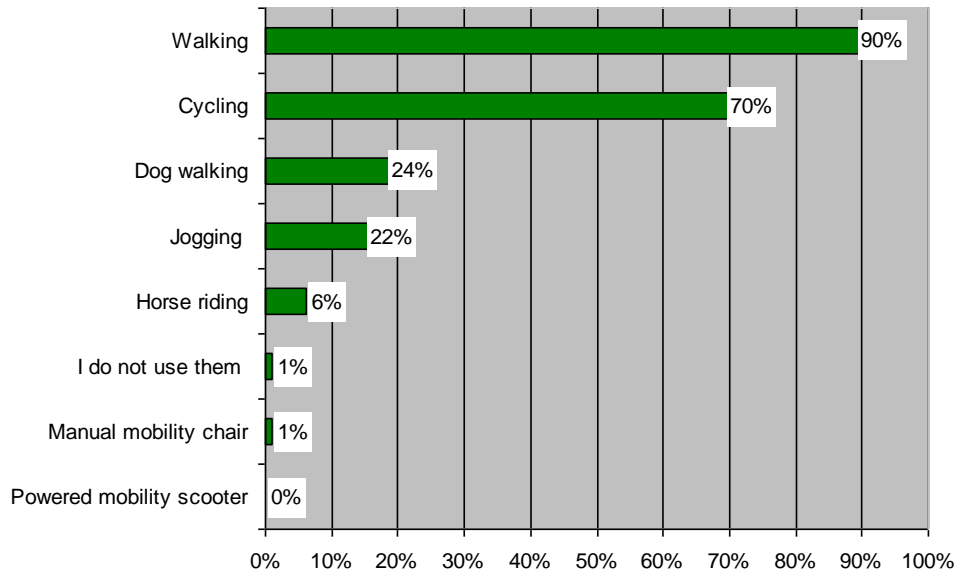
5.2 Responses to the ROWIP2 User Questionnaire

This information helped provide a "snap shot" of how Nottingham's citizens make use of the network (walk, cycle or ride), how often they use the network (daily, weekly, or very rarely), where they tend to use the network (location, particular landscape, destination site) and what improvements they think the City Council should make to the network (better maintenance, cleansing, signage and location and type of new routes). The survey also identified the reasons why citizens do not use the network and what improvements, if any, would reverse this trend.

The majority of the questions were multiple choice and the following are the key findings which informed the Statement of Actions for ROWIP2. At the end of this chapter there is a summary of these findings.

Question 1: How do you currently use Nottingham's public rights of way?

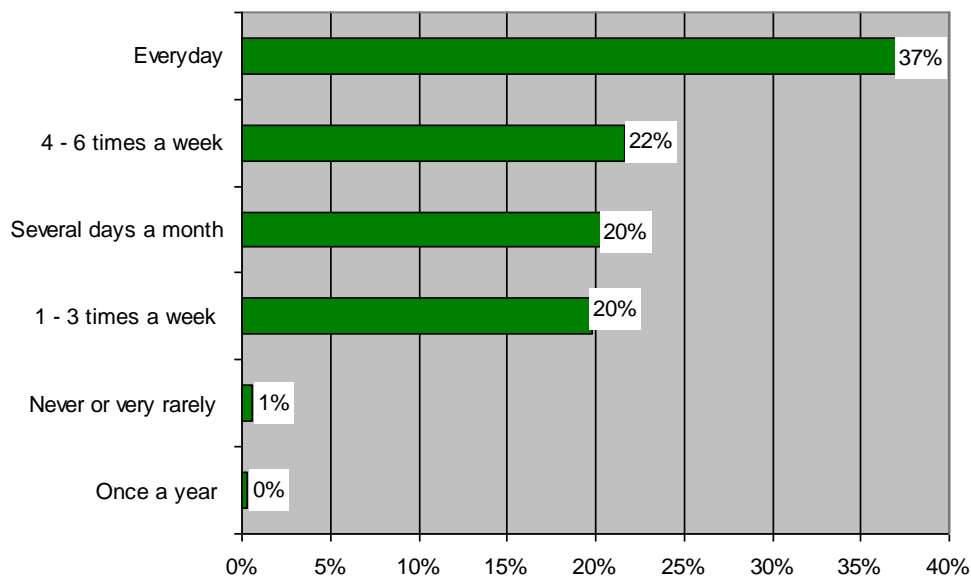
Figure 16



From the responses, 90% use the network on foot (with 22% jogging) 70% cycle, 6% ride a horse, 1% use a manual mobility chair and 1% do not use the network. 24% of users are accompanied by a dog which may be related to why 43% of respondents indicated (see figure 19 below) they are put off using certain routes due to dog fouling.

Question 2: How often do you use Nottingham's public rights of way?

Figure 17



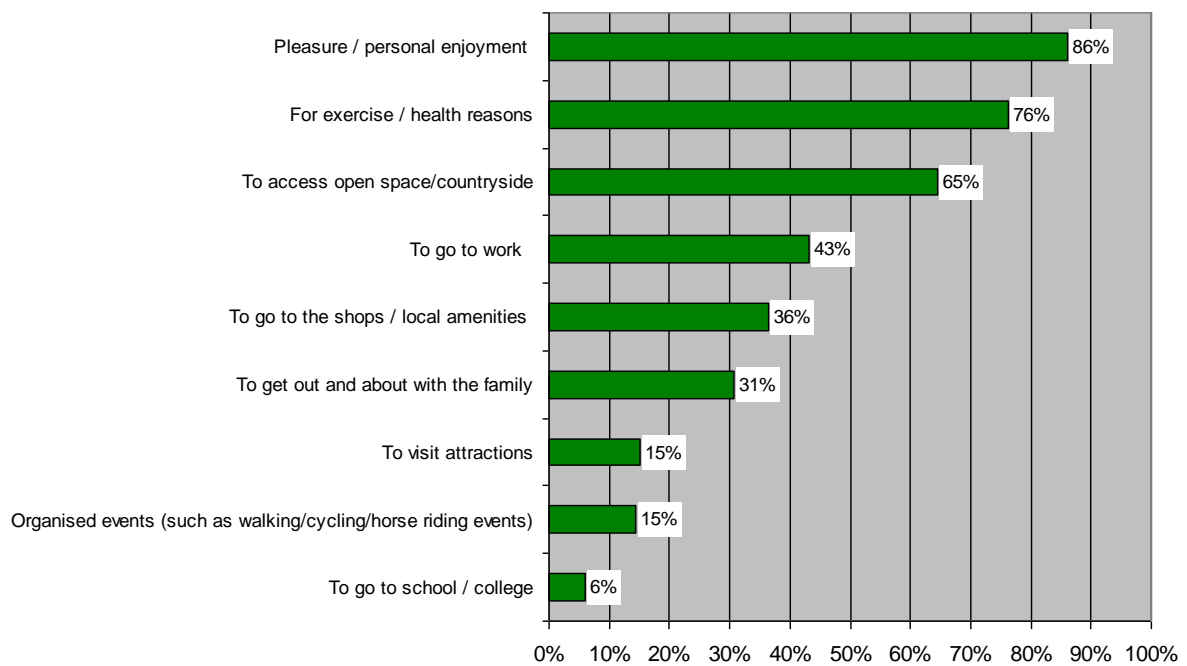
This shows that 37% of respondents use the network everyday, 22% use it 4 - 6 times a week, 20% 1 - 3 times a week, and a further 20% use it several days a week. 1% of respondents never or very rarely use the network.

Question 3: Please tell us which public rights of way in Nottingham you use.

The responses show the following recreational and commuter routes are used the most; “The Big Track” (Nottingham and Beeston Canal), River Leen (Bulwell and Basford) and Trent Valley Way (Clifton and Wilford). The following recreational sites were used the most; Bulwell Hall Park, Colwick Park and Martin’s Pond Local Nature Reserve, Wollaton.

Question 4: What are your main reasons for using Nottingham’s public rights of way?

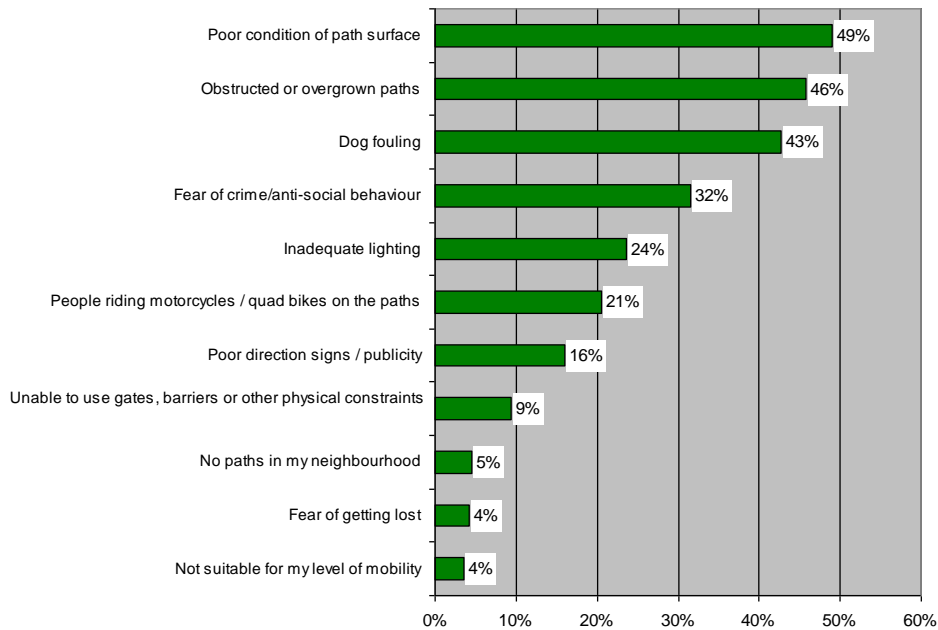
Figure 18



The responses show that 86% use the network for pleasure / personal enjoyment, 76% use it for exercise / health reasons, 65% to access open spaces / countryside and 43% to travel to work.

Question 5: Does anything put you off using Nottingham's public rights of way?

Figure 19



In response to what puts citizens off using the network, the top 4 reasons are; poor condition of path surfaces 49%, obstructed or overgrown paths 46%, dog fouling 43% and fear of crime and anti-social behaviour 32%.

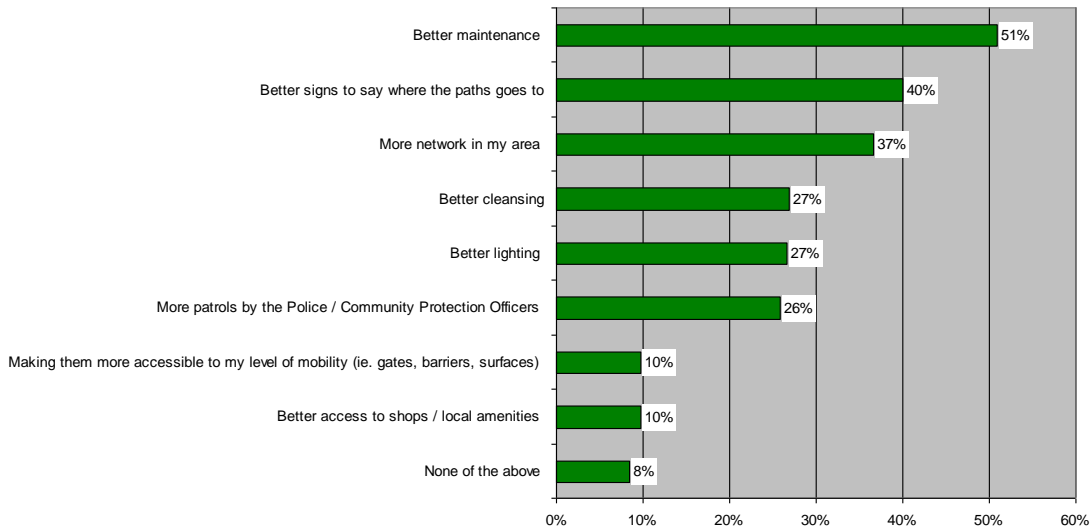
Question 6: Please provide details for your answer to Q5. For example, if you ticked “poor signage” or “motorcycles and quad bikes” please describe where the path is, using street names, house numbers or Ordnance Survey grid reference points.

The following are a selection of comments covering routes used for walking, cycling and horse riding.

- ❖ Big Track overgrown last year, Clifton flyover park and ride area
- ❖ New Road Railway Bridge [footpath] tends to have fly tipping problems but I'll continue to use it whatever as it is a good route
- ❖ I walk along Queen's Walk most days and the amount of dog mess is terrible
- ❖ There is lots of litter which pools together at certain drainage points along the Canal. It looks horrible and ruins what could be a scenic and beautiful part of the city
- ❖ Dog fouling mostly prevalent around path from Darley Avenue and Alfreton Road
- ❖ Gates on bridleway impossible to open whilst mounted.....With physical limitations it's impossible for me to remount from the ground these days so that route is off limits to me as a solo rider.
- ❖ Improve the environment of some of the city centre routes

Question 7: What would make you use Nottingham’s public rights of way more often?

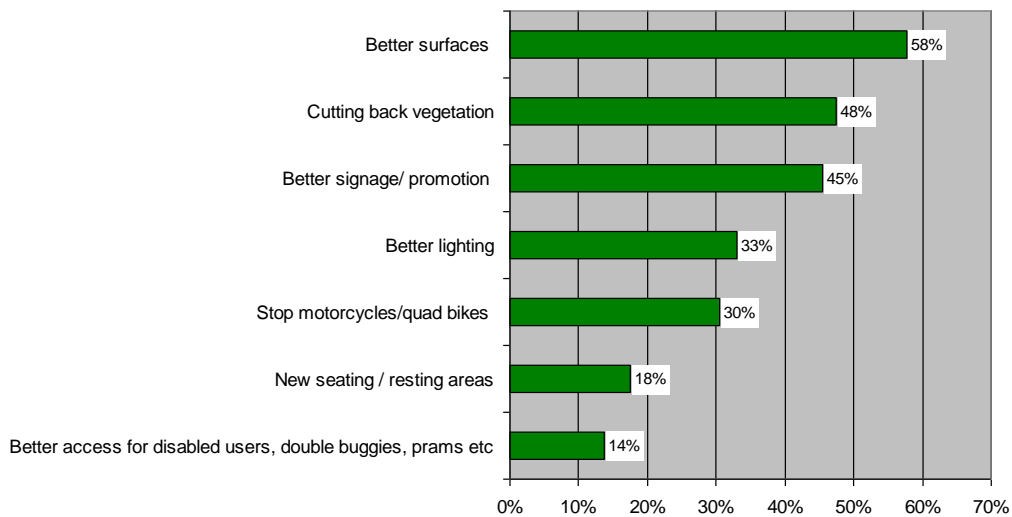
Figure 20



The top 3 responses to question 7 are better maintenance 51%, better signage 40% and more network in my area 37%.

Question 8: To help improve Nottingham’s public rights of way, what would be your top 3 priorities?

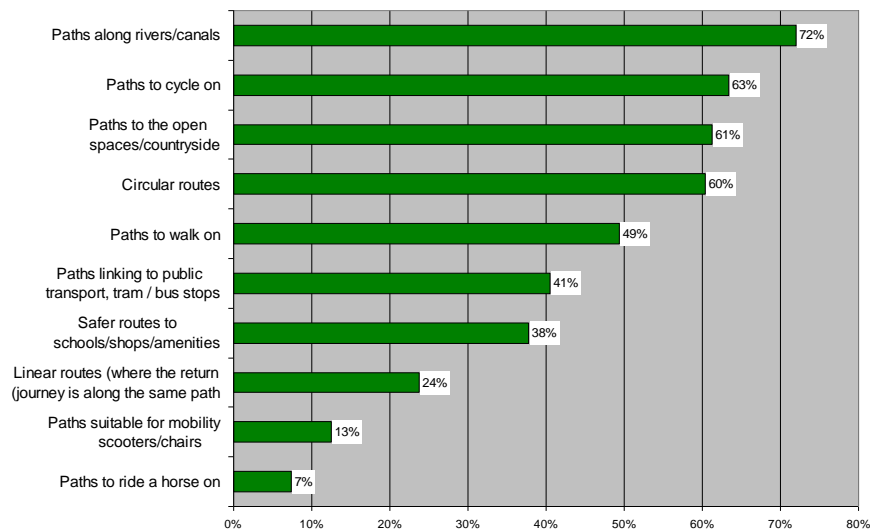
Figure 21



The top 3 priorities are better surfaces 58%, cutting back vegetation 48% and better signage / promotion 45%.

Question 9: What type of new public rights of way would you like to see created in Nottingham?

Figure 22



The top 4 priorities for new routes are paths along rivers / canals 72%, paths to cycle on 63%, paths to open spaces / countryside 61%, paths to walk on 49% and the preference is for more circular routes 60%, as opposed to linear routes 24%.

Question 10: Gender profile of respondents

The responses show that 56% of respondents are male and 44% female.

Question 11: Age profile of respondents

The responses show that 90% of respondents are aged between 30 and 74, 7% aged between 20 and 29 and under 20's account for 1% of respondents.

Question 12: To which of these ethnic groups does the respondent belong?

Table 3

White - English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish, British	92%
White - Irish	1%
White - Gypsy Traveller	1%
White - Other	3%
Mixed - White & Black Caribbean	0%
Mixed - White & Black African	0%
Mixed - White & Asian	1%
Mixed - Other	0%
Asian - Indian	1%
Asian - Pakistani	0%
Asian - Bangladeshi	0%
Asian - Kashmiri	0%
Asian - Chinese	0%
Asian - Other	0%
Black - African	0%

Black - Caribbean	1%
Black - Other	0%
Arab	0%

Question 13: Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

The responses show that 7% of respondents consider themselves to be disabled.

Question 14: if you are disabled, what would make using Nottingham's public rights of way easier?

The responses include:-

- ❖ Better surfaces and forewarning of potential obstacles
- ❖ Seats, resting points
- ❖ Cutting back overgrown paths
- ❖ Easier to use gates, stiles and structures
- ❖ More information on suitable routes
- ❖ Making more paths suitable for mobility scooters
- ❖ Less barriers and other obstacles

Question 15: Which particular public rights of way do you find difficult to use and why?

The following are a selection of the responses:-

- ❖ Big Track, Highfields, Wollaton and Colwick Park, cars blocking paths and entrances.
- ❖ We love cycling around Wollaton Park however access to the side gate on Derby Road by bike is particularly challenging, especially with children
- ❖ The canal between Carrington Street and Lenton Lane. Good surfaces (when it's not icy) but poorly lit.
- ❖ Broxtowe Country Park is a bit intimidating due to its size and isolation
- ❖ As a cyclist, there is a lovely path along the canal to London Rd but then it stops and comes onto a very narrow pavement. How does one proceed from there?
- ❖ Most paths with gates are impossible with a child trailer.
- ❖ South bank of the Trent from Clifton Bridge out towards Barton in Fabis
- ❖ All are easy to use, unless it is snowing/icy.
- ❖ Footpath overgrown where it passes behind the Nottingham Belfry hotel.
- ❖ Poor under-bridge section in Dunkirk on canal tow-path. Poor visibility and often flooded.
- ❖ There is a general (and increasing) issue with dog mess, acute on University Boulevard and the cut-through between Lace Street and the science park in particular.
- ❖ Path alongside Hucknall Road fouled with dog mess, litter and household rubbish.
- ❖ Some (almost all) of the paths around Colwick Park/Woods are impassable when it's muddy. Also it's inaccessible from Sneinton Boulevard with a pushchair, as there are lots of steps.

Question 16: Responses grouped by City Council Ward

Table 4

City Council Ward	Total
Arboretum	5
Aspley	2
Basford	9
Berridge	12
Bestwood	1
Bilborough	5
Bridge	16
Bulwell	5
Bulwell Forest	16
Clifton North	22
Clifton South	15
Dales	10
Dunkirk and Lenton	5
Leen Valley	7
Mapperley	10
Radford and Park	5
Sherwood	22
St. Ann's	3
Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey	4
Wollaton West	22
N/A (responses with no post code)	143
Grand Total	339

This shows that most respondents live in Clifton North Ward 22%, 22% Sherwood Ward and 22% Wollaton West Ward. For City Council Wards please see Figure 1 on page 2.

5.3 Survey Conclusions

Based on the responses to the questionnaire, tables 4, 5 and 6 provides a summary of the Actions and Policy commitments to address the reasons why citizens are put off using the network, how citizens think the existing network should be improved and the type of new public rights of rights of way which should be created.

Table 5: Reasons why citizens are put off using public rights of way

<u>Reasons</u>	<u>Action(s) / ROWIP2 Policy</u>
Poor condition of path surfaces	Policy ROWIP 28
Paths obstructed by barriers / other obstacles	Policy ROWIP 27 and 33
Paths obstructed by vegetation	Policy ROWIP 28
Poor signage	Policy ROWIP 25
Dog fouling	Policy ROWIP 28
No network in the area	Policy ROWIP 24 and 30

Fear of crime / anti-social behaviour	Policy ROWIP 26 and 29
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Table 6: Improving existing public rights of way

<u>Improvements</u>	<u>Action / ROWIP2 Policy</u>
Repair surface defects as soon as possible	Policy ROWIP 28
Cut back vegetation 3 times per year (generally between April and September)	Policy ROWIP 27
Replace missing signs as soon as possible (preferably replace with signs showing distance, direction, destination and information on where to report a problem)	Policy ROWIP 25
Make routes more suitable for disabled users	Policy ROWIP 28, 30 and 33

Table 7: Creating new public rights of way

<u>New path(s) / location(s)</u>	<u>Action / ROWIP2 Policy</u>
Paths to and along rivers and canals	Policy ROWIP 24 and 30
Paths for walking and cycling	Policy ROWIP 24 and 30
Paths to open spaces and the countryside	Policy ROWIP 24 and 30
Recreational routes should be circular as opposed to linear and commuter routes should be as direct as possible, follow key desire lines and link to other key routes	Policy ROWIP 24 and 30
Paths should be free from obstructions, barriers and other obstacles	Policy ROWIP 27
To accommodate all categories of user paths should be recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement as bridleway or byway as opposed to footpath	Policy ROWIP 24 and 30

Chapter 6: Access and Use of the Network

6.1 Influencing use of the network

Generally, using the network is influenced by:-

- ❖ Network availability (influences frequency and duration of use)
- ❖ Well signed and publicised (helps with confidence / knowing you are going the right way and that your use is legal)
- ❖ A citizen's mobility and ease of access (barriers/obstacles and availability of resting points)
- ❖ Fragmentation of the network (interruption by other land uses)
- ❖ Personal safety / security and good design¹⁶
- ❖ Attractiveness of entrance / exit points
- ❖ Maintenance and cleansing (including better surfaces, cutting back vegetation, including around signs which may be obstructed, and where necessary, enforcement action to deal with persistent dog fouling)

These factors will affect a person's experience and therefore influence their current and future use of the network.

6.2 Making the network more accessible

To encourage more use, the network should be:-

- ❖ Attractive (especially at the entrance / exit points)
- ❖ Well maintained / cleansed
- ❖ Well signposted
- ❖ Free from barriers, obstacles and accessible to all
- ❖ Good lighting / well lit (where appropriate)
- ❖ Direct route, alignment (following desire lines) and convenient

This type of network is likely to be used more frequently and for longer periods than one that is poorly maintained / cleansed, poorly signed with barriers.

6.3 Using the network

From the ROWIP2 User Questionnaire responses (see Chapter 5 above) most respondents use the network everyday, mainly on foot for a number of different reasons which is, in part, dependent on its availability, accessibility and attractiveness. For example, the network is used to travel to work, school or college, to access open spaces, local amenities, shops, visit attractions or part of an organised event. The majority of use is for pleasure and personal enjoyment and for exercise and health reasons.

¹⁶ See page 9 of the City Council's Guide to Public Rights of Way, Planning and Development <http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=23850&p=0>

Chapter 7: ROWIP2: Statement of Actions and Policy Listing and Reasoning

The following sets out the City Council's Actions to improve public rights of way rights and the local rights of way network from 2015 onwards. Where relevant the Policy is a direct response to the ROWIP2 user Questionnaire responses (see Chapter 5 above). Each Action includes a Policy which provides the framework for meeting the targets along with the reasoning behind it.

7.1 Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP2)

Policy ROWIP 21	
The City Council will publish ROWIP2 in 2015. The improvements within ROWIP2 will help deliver the priorities of LTP3, the Council Plan 2012 – 2015 and The Nottingham Plan to 2020	
<u>Action</u>	<u>When</u>
ROWIP2 published	2015
<p>Reason: to comply with the City Council's statutory duty under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000</p> <p>Reason: to deliver improvements which support the City Council's priorities for a <i>safe, clean, ambitious, proud city</i>, helping to deliver a <i>World Class, Safer, Neighbourhood, Family, Healthy</i>, Nottingham</p>	

7.2 Applications to modify the Definitive Map and Statement

Policy ROWIP 22
<p>The City Council will investigate all applications made under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 for Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMO) and make Orders to add, delete, upgrade or downgrade ways to/from the Definitive Map and Statement</p> <p>Generally, applications for DMMO's will be dealt with in order of receipt, although priority may be given to the following applications (in no particular order):-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) applications to add pre-1949 ways to the Map and Statement, where the application is supported by documentary evidence only (see Chapter 4 Paragraph 4.5 for full explanation) (2) ways that are regularly used for recreation / physical exercise (3) ways that are used for commuting (4) where applications are received in close succession, the application supported by the higher number of User Evidence Forms (5) ways which are either obstructed, at risk of obstruction or otherwise not open to the public

The City Council will continue to research enactments, instruments or any other events, and in cases where the evidence justifies such action, make Orders to modify the Definitive Map and Statement accordingly	
<u>Action</u>	<u>When</u>
Use statutory powers to keep Definitive Map and Statement under continuous review	2015 onwards
Investigate DMMO's applications in order of receipt unless 1 – 5 above are relevant	2015 onwards
<p>Reason: to fulfil the City Council's statutory duty as surveying and highway authority</p> <p>Reason: to work towards meeting the 2026 cut off date introduced by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000</p> <p>Reason: to protect Nottingham's historic public rights of way network</p> <p>Reason: to help deliver a <i>World Class, Neighbourhood, Healthy</i>, Nottingham</p>	

7.3 Applications for Public Path Orders

Policy ROWIP 23	
<p>Generally, applications for Public Path Orders (PPO's) for the stopping up or diversion of a public right of way made under the Highways Act 1980 and the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 shall be dealt with in order of receipt, although priority may be given to the following applications (in no particular order):-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) where an application relates to a proposed development that will help deliver a <i>Neighbourhood</i> Nottingham and/or <i>World Class</i> Nottingham (2) where there is a clear benefit to the local rights of way network (e.g. creation of a new way or improving an existing way) (3) creation / improvement of a recreational route which will help deliver a <i>Healthy</i> Nottingham (e.g. ways that link to open spaces/countryside) (4) creation / improvement of a commuter route 	
<u>Action</u>	<u>When</u>
Process applications for PPO's on a first come first served basis unless 1 – 4 above are relevant	2015 onwards
<p>Reason: to maximise the potential benefits to Nottingham's citizens</p> <p>Reason: to help deliver a <i>World Class, Neighbourhood, Family, Healthy</i>, Nottingham</p>	

7.4 Creation of new Public Rights of Way

Policy ROWIP 24
The City Council shall, subject to all statutory highway and planning requirements, and where there is an identified benefit to local citizens and

users of the network, use its discretionary powers under the Highways Act 1980 to make Orders and Agreements to formally record public rights of way	
Action	When
Make Creation Orders and Creation Agreements	2015 onwards
The City Council shall, when using these powers, take account of Policy ROWIP29	2015 onwards
New routes shall, where environmental and/or physical constraints allow, be suitable for users of mobility scooters and other mobility aids	2015
Paths which are likely to be used mainly for recreational purposes, where environmental and/or physical constraints allow, should be circular	2015
Paths which are likely to be used mainly for day to day commuting purposes should, where environmental and/or physical constraints allow, be direct, follow key desire lines and link to other key routes	2015
To accommodate all categories of user, where environmental and/or physical constraints allow, paths shall be recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement as bridleway or byway as opposed to footpath	2015
<p>Reason: to ensure all citizens know where they can walk, cycle and ride</p> <p>Reason: to protect the walking, cycling and riding network</p> <p>Reason: to help deliver a <i>World Class, Safer, Neighbourhood, Family, Healthy</i>, Nottingham</p>	

7.5 Signed and Well Publicised

Policy ROWIP 25	
The City Council will sign and waymark all public rights of way where necessary and promote the local rights of way network through corporate publications and other media	
Action	When
Signing and waymarking	2015 onwards
Publish City (south and north) cycling maps	2015 onwards
Publish self guided walking leaflets for key destination sites	2015 onwards

Keep Ordnance Survey records up to date with modifications to the network as required	
<p>Reason: to fulfil the City Council’s statutory duty under the Countryside Act 1968</p> <p>Reason: to promote the network and encourage more citizens to get out and about in Nottingham</p> <p>Reason: to encourage less confident users to use local rights of way</p> <p>Reason: To let citizens know where they can walk, cycle and ride, either along public routes and/or permissive routes</p> <p>Reason: to help deliver a <i>Safer, Neighbourhood, Family, Healthy, Nottingham</i></p>	

7.6 Public Rights of Way, Planning and Development

Policy ROWIP 26	
The City Council will promote its Guide to Public Rights of Way Planning and Development (adopted 20 July 2010)	
Action	When
Advise all planners, developers, designers and architects etc to take account of this guidance	2015 onwards
<p>Reason: to advise those involved with the design and implementation of new developments to understand the importance of good quality design of public rights of way and the law that protects them</p> <p>Reason: to protect Nottingham’s Public Rights of Way network</p> <p>Reason: to help deliver a <i>World Class, Safer, Neighbourhood, Family, Healthy, Nottingham</i></p>	

7.7 Use of Barriers on Rights of Way

Policy ROWIP 27	
Requests for “barriers” will be assessed using the Statement of Policy for the use of Barriers on Rights of Way (adopted January 2012)	
Action	When
Implement the Policy	2015 onwards
<p>Reason: to ensure a consistent and fair approach which is proportional to the problem and promotes the “least restrictive” option and “access for all”</p> <p>Reason: to help deliver a <i>Safer, Neighbourhood, Family, Healthy, Nottingham</i></p> <p>Reason: to help the City Council carry out its duty under the Equality Act 2010</p>	

7.8 Properly Maintained and Properly Cleansed

Policy ROWIP 28	
The City Council will inspect and maintain all public rights of way recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement	
Action	When
Keep up to date a Condition Register of all structures	2015 onwards
Inspect and maintain all public rights of way to a standard which is consistent with its day to day use and classification	2015 onwards
Keep routes open and accessible by cutting back marginal vegetation at least 3 times per year (generally between April and September) taking account of the potential impact on wildlife and habitats, the conservation status of the site/area and relevant guidance	2015 onwards
Working with Area Committees and local communities identify paths where dog fouling is persistent and carry out education and/or publicity and/or enforcement campaigns, which ever is considered the most appropriate	2015 onwards
<p>Reason: to ensure the network is safe, healthy and fit for its intended use and purpose</p> <p>Reason: to help deliver a <i>World Class, Safer, Neighbourhood, Family, Healthy</i>, Nottingham</p>	

7.9 Crime, Disorder and Anti-Social Behaviour

Policy ROWIP 29	
The City Council will not implement a Rights of Way Improvement scheme where advice from the relevant authorities shows it is likely to increase anti-social behaviour, crime or disorder	
Action	When
As part of the preparation and consultation for a proposed scheme collate evidence from relevant authorities	2015 onwards
Ensure schemes do not offer opportunities to commit crime, disorder or anti-social behaviour and the principles of “designing out	2015 onwards

crime” and Policy ROWIP 26 are taken into account	
Requests for street lighting on existing routes and newly created routes will be considered on a case by case basis including their locality, surrounding environment and potential light pollution	2015 onwards
Reason: to help deliver a <i>World Class, Safer, Neighbourhood, Family, Healthy</i> , Nottingham	

7.10 Improving routes for walkers, cyclists and equestrians including those with a disability

Policy ROWIP 30	
The City Council will continue to work towards providing a network which is safe and easy to use by all citizens and will improve existing ways and create new ways where there is a locally identified benefit	
The City Council will, where physical and/or environmental constraints allow, remove gaps in the network by creating new paths to link to the wider walking, cycling and riding network	
The City Council will support its partners to develop long-distance multi-user routes along the River Trent and other water courses in Nottingham	
Action	When
To develop schemes that encourage citizens to walk and cycle more often and these routes shall be suitable for disabled users where physical and/or environmental constraints allow	2015 onwards
New seating and/or resting areas will be considered where there is an identified local need	2015 onwards
Motorised vehicles persistently blocking entrances to a path and/or parking on the path will be subject to enforcement action. Where appropriate, entrance points will be protected by the introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order and/or vehicle restriction measures	2015 onwards
Work with neighbouring Councils to develop long distance routes	2015 onwards
Reason: to encourage citizens to walk and cycle for pleasure, recreation, commuting and day to day journeys	
Reason: to help deliver a <i>World Class, Safer, Neighbourhood, Family, Healthy</i> , Nottingham	

7.11 Improving Health, Wellbeing and Quality of life

Policy ROWIP 31	
The City Council will deliver Rights of Way Improvement schemes that encourage active travel options, promote physical exercise and offer opportunities to access open and green spaces	
Action	When
Develop and implement schemes.	2015 onwards
Reason: to help deliver a <i>World Class, Safer, Neighbourhood, Family, Healthy</i> , Nottingham	

7.12 City Centre Historic Alleyways

Policy ROWIP 32	
The City Council will protect, and wherever possible, improve the historic alleyways in the City Centre as set out in the Nottingham City Centre Urban Design Guide (adopted May 2009)	
Action	When
Identify priority alleyways to be improved	2015 onwards
Reason: to preserve the City Centre's historic public rights of way network	
Reason: to retain the unique character of Nottingham's street scene	
Reason: to help deliver a <i>World Class</i> Nottingham	

7.13 Street Clutter and "Clutter Busting"

Policy ROWIP 33	
The City Council shall not erect unnecessary street furniture and will remove redundant items in accordance with the current City Centre Streetscape Design Manual (adopted September 2004)	
Action	When
Identify priority areas that suffer from unnecessary clutter and remove these items	2015 onwards
Reason: redundant and/or unnecessary street furniture may obstruct the free passage of pedestrians, cyclists, people with limited mobility, the blind and partially sighted	
Reason: to ensure unnecessary street furniture does not spoil Nottingham's unique and historic character	
Reason: to help the City Council carry out its duty under the Equality Act 2010	
Reason: to help deliver a <i>World Class</i> Nottingham	

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EXECUTIVE BOARD – 22 SEPTEMBER 2015 Agenda Item 6

Subject:	Loan to Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club		
Corporate Director(s)/ Director(s):	Glen O’Connell, Corporate Director for Resources		
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Graham Chapman, Deputy Leader/Portfolio Holder for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration		
Report author and contact details:	Jeff Abbott, Head of Corporate Finance jeff.abbott@nottinghamcity.gov.uk 0115 8763648		
Key Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Subject to call-in	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Reasons: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditure <input type="checkbox"/> Income <input type="checkbox"/> Savings of £1,000,000 or more taking account of the overall impact of the decision			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Capital
Significant impact on communities living or working in two or more wards in the City			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Total value of the decision: £2,700,000			
Wards affected: All		Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s): 9 September 2015	
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:			
Cutting unemployment by a quarter			<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour			<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City			<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre			<input type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down			<input type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport			<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing			<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities			<input type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens			<input type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):			
<p>Nottingham City Council has a history of working in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club (NCCC) and its other partner local authorities. The Council recognises the benefit that the community gains economically from a thriving, world renowned, international cricket ground.</p> <p>NCCC have requested a further loan of £8.1 million from the three principal partners: Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottingham City Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council, to undertake further ground improvements. These ground improvements will enable NCCC to continue to compete in providing international cricket fixtures in Nottinghamshire. The requested loan will be split equally between the three authorities and the loan element of £2.7m from the City Council will ensure that NCCC can continue with its next phase of ground development. This will include media and player facilities and improved ground capacity and hospitality.</p> <p>The repayment term will be over 20 years and at a commercial rate of interest. Both Nottinghamshire County Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council will be considering this request on the same terms and subject to their own Cabinet/Committee approval. The loan will be secured against NCCC’s assets.</p>			
Exempt information:			
None			
Recommendations:			
1 To approve a secured loan of £2.7m, repayable over 20 years with an interest rate set at the prevailing Public Works Loans Board rate at the time the agreement is signed plus 2%.			

2 To delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Finance, in consultation with the Legal Services Manager, to agree the final repayment schedule and legal agreement.

1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 To enable NCCC to make ground improvements which will continue to attract events which contribute to the economy of the City.

2 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

2.1 Trent Bridge, the home of NCCC, is a world famous cricketing landmark and is universally regarded as one of the finest cricket venues. The ground has hosted county and test cricket since 1838 and is the world's third oldest Test ground.

2.2 NCCC has invested heavily over the last 25 years in order for the Trent Bridge ground to retain test cricket venue status. The most notable developments include the £7.2 million Trent Bridge Cricket Centre, also known as the Radcliffe Road Stand, which opened in 1998, the £2 million Fox Road Stand, which opened in 2002 and the £8.2 million Bridgford Road Stand, which opened in 2008. On-going investment in the ground is seen by NCCC as essential if it is to retain test match venue status, as it competes with other ambitious cricket clubs in the country.

2.3 The Council recognises the socio-economic benefits of NCCC continuing to be a major international sporting venue and has previously provided loan funding of £1.23m, with an expected final repayment date of 31 December 2027. There is currently £1.025m loan principal outstanding and interest is charged at a rate of 3%. All scheduled repayments have been met.

2.4 NCCC is seeking to invest £8.1m in a new media facility, in refurbishing the Pavilion and William Clarke Stand and in the Lady Bay development, with works to be carried out during the winters of 2015 to 2017. This will ensure facilities compete with other grounds and NCCC has requested that Rushcliffe Borough Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council provide a loan equivalent to £2.7m from each authority.

2.5 Discussions between NCCC and finance representatives from each council have led to provisional agreement of the following terms, subject to final approval of the following:

- the term of the loan would be 20 years, with no payment holiday periods;
- the whole loan would be secured as a charge on the NCCC ground and other assets; and
- the interest rate is to be fixed at the Public Works Loans Board rate for 20 year annuities (prevailing at the time of the legal agreement) plus 2%; at 19 August 2015 the total rate would have been 5.06%.

2.6 The loan is to be provided on a 'commercial basis' and in the context of the other socio-economic benefits derived from having a modern test ground facility in the City area.

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The other options are to either not progress with the loan or to negotiate changes in either the repayment term or the interest rate applied. These are not

being progressed as negotiations already undertaken have confirmed that NCCC is comfortable with the loan terms outlined above at paragraph 2.5.

4 FINANCE COMMENTS (INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

- 4.1 Although financial implications are largely covered above, if the 5.06% interest rate at 19 August is applied as a guide, the Council would accrue £1.624m in interest over the 20 years of the loan.
- 4.2 The proposed loan terms require repayment on an annuity basis, where the interest element of the repayment reduces each year as the principal is repaid. Applying the rate quoted within this report, the average annual interest paid by NCCC over the term of the loan would be around £0.081m, whereas the annual interest cost to the City Council of borrowing £2.7m over 20 years would be £0.043m, with the annual difference of £0.038m reflecting the cost of the risk borne by the City Council.

5 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT COMMENTS (INCLUDING RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES, AND INCLUDING LEGAL, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS)

- 5.1 The biggest risk is potential default on the loan. A review of the most recent accounts, combined with the fact that there is no history of loan default, gives a degree of surety in this regard. In addition, the loan will be secured against NCCC assets, which are considered to be sufficient for this purpose following a review undertaken by Nottinghamshire County Council.
- 5.2 A loan agreement needs to be negotiated and agreed with NCCC based on the loan terms set out in the report. It is understood following discussions with the report author that the interest rate is sufficient to ensure it is not state aid. Initial due diligence on the title for the cricket ground has identified a charge giving priority in favour of another lender. Permission of that lender may be required to enable the City Council to register its charge and it needs to be confirmed that there is sufficient security for the City Council's loan. As each of the three councils is making a loan of equal value and taking a charge an agreement between the three councils would be advantageous.

6 SOCIAL VALUE CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 There is a range of direct economic, reputation and community benefits deriving from the redevelopment of Trent Bridge for the City and the region. These include the continued involvement of NCCC in community programmes that benefit the City and its residents. The development will also protect and enhance the significant economic impact delivered by an active test cricket ground, to both the City and region.
- 6.2 In addition, retention of test match and international status will sustain and enhance the reputation and image of the City for an international audience.

7 REGARD TO THE NHS CONSTITUTION

- 7.1 Not applicable

8 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

Has the equality impact been assessed?

- (a) not needed (report does not contain proposals for new or changing policies, services or functions, financial decisions or decisions about implementation of policies development outside the Council)
- (b) No
- (c) Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

9 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN WRITING THIS REPORT (NOT INCLUDING PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS OR CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION)

9.1 Presentation delivered by the Chief Executive of NCCC when introducing the application for the development loan

9.2 NCCC annual accounts: Financial Year ending 30 September 2014

10 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN THIS REPORT

10.1 None

11 OTHER COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE PROVIDED INPUT

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Hugh White, Director of Sport and Culture
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Subject:	Renewable Energy Framework		
Corporate Director(s)/ Director(s):	Andy Vaughan, Strategic Director for Commercial and Neighbourhood Services		
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Alan Clark, Portfolio Holder for Energy and Sustainability		
Report author and contact details:	Mark Bradbury, Infrastructure Delivery Manager mark.bradbury@nottinghamcity.gov.uk 0115 8761353		
Key Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Subject to call-in	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Reasons: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditure <input type="checkbox"/> Income <input type="checkbox"/> Savings of £1,000,000 or more taking account of the overall impact of the decision			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revenue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capital
Significant impact on communities living or working in two or more wards in the City			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Total value of the decision: £22,550,000.00			
Wards affected: All		Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s): 26 th August 2015	
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:			
Cutting unemployment by a quarter			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour			<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre			<input type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport			<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing			<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events			<input type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities			<input type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):			
<p>This report outlines the requirements for Nottingham City Council (NCC) to procure a Renewable Energy Framework to enable the delivery of renewable energy infrastructure with a core focus on the Solar Photo Voltaic (PV) programme city wide.</p> <p>The delivery of these works is a key part of the City Council’s commercialism strategy and the in-sourcing of delivery works where it is economically advantageous to do so. However, there are occasions when it’s necessary for the Council to sub-contract due to the specialist nature of works, capacity constraints or financial expediency. The current Renewable Energy Framework comes to an end in October 2015 and the proposed framework will replace the existing one.</p> <p>The proposed framework agreement will also allow the Council to purchase the materials, scaffolding and support necessary to deliver the solar energy programme.</p> <p>The framework consists of 5 lots, namely, (1) materials (2) supply and fit, (3) specialist design, (4) resource support and (5) scaffolding. Each of these lots will enable the Council to focus on in-house delivery where appropriate. The estimated value of the 4 year framework is £20.35 million of which £6.0 million is already approved. The programme of delivery for the remaining sum is currently in development and will support the Council’s strategic energy strategy and be subject to individual business case approval.</p> <p>Following initial contact from a number of local authorities looking to replicate our innovative internal delivery it is proposed that the total value of the framework be increased to £45.10 million to allow other contracting bodies (i.e. local authorities) to use the framework agreement on</p>			

payment of a fee. The suppliers on the framework will not be guaranteed any supply through the framework.

Exempt information: None

Recommendation(s):

- (1) To approve the procurement of a 4 year Solar PV framework for renewal energy split into 5 lots as set out in the main body of the report.
- (2) To approve the awarding of the framework to the suppliers successful in completing the fully OJEU (Official Journal of the European Union) and NCC compliant tendering process.
- (3) To delegate authority to award individual call-off contracts from the framework to the Strategic Director of Commercial and Neighbourhood Services within appropriate approval limits set out in financial regulations.

1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 The framework will enable the delivery of the Council's ongoing ambitious Solar PV programme up until 2020. This is in line with the City's Energy Strategy by meeting a proportion of the required PV installations. It will also help to reduce the Council's dependency on fossil fuels, reduce carbon emissions and utility costs, contribute to energy security and save money on energy bills.
- 1.2 It support the Council's strategic Energy Strategy objective to provide affordable heating, the Carbon Management Plan's commitments to reduce Council CO₂ emissions by 31% by 2020, and the Council's priority of job creation and reducing energy bills.
- 1.3 As part of the Council's commercialism agenda, this framework will also be opened up for other local other authorities to utilise for a fee. This demonstrates the Council's leadership in the energy arena, its commitment to effective partnership working, and could also provide a new revenue stream.

2 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 The renewable energy delivery programme developed by the Council seeks to install solar panel infrastructure to Council owned buildings and land. The delivery programme is an ideal fit with the Council's commercialism strategy by providing an invest to save opportunity, whilst also delivering council projects through a highly skilled, in-house team within the Highways & Energy Infrastructure (HEI) Team.
- 2.2 This installation team has already gained Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) accreditation and National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting (NICEIC) accreditation. These qualifications and industry standards are a prerequisite to access FIT payments. The FIT scheme is intended to encourage the uptake of small scale renewable and low-carbon technologies up to a total installed capacity (TIC) of 5MW located in England, Wales and Scotland. The FIT scheme creates an obligation for certain Licensed Electricity Suppliers to make tariff payments for the generation and export of renewable and low carbon electricity.
- 2.3 The Council's current Renewable Energy Framework comes to an end in October 2015. That framework agreement was procured in 2011 for the delivery of Solar PV schemes only. To enable continuation of the installations a new framework is required but this time with the inclusion of services and materials to support the in-

house delivery team. The new framework will enable the continuation of proving value for money delivery of these schemes

- 2.4 The decision to let a new framework has stemmed from a lack of national/regional frameworks suitable for delivery, especially to support our innovative in-house delivery team. Due to these factors, it is proposed that the framework agreement is made available to all public bodies with a fee of 0.5% of total orders being charged for the use of the framework. The level of interest from other Councils is unknown at this stage.
- 2.5 It is proposed that the framework agreement is broken down into the following lots to align with Highway and Energy infrastructure’s flexible delivery model. Materials to support in house delivery, supply and installation to deliver schemes when internal resources are at full capacity, resource support to build on the in-house team to deliver larger projects, and specialist design to assist the in-house team in moving into more specialist areas without committing to full time resources prior to continuous work flow.

Solar PV Framework					
No.	Lots	Framework Partners	Estimated value of works 2016 - 2020 (4 Years)		
			NCC (million)	Partnering Authorities (million)	Total
1	Materials	3	10.00	10.00	20.00
2	Supply and Installation	3	6.00	6.00	12.00
3	Labour	3	2.00	2.00	4.00
4	Specialist Design	3	0.50	0.50	1.00
5	Scaffolding	3	2.00	2.00	4.00
Total			20.50	20.50	41.00

OJEU limit	
Additional 10% estimate for non programmed works	4.10
Total Estimated works for OJEU	45.10

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Not delivering the Solar PV programme was rejected, as it forms part of the Council’s commercialism strategy.
- 3.2 Doing nothing was rejected, as it would offer no contribution to the policy commitments or energy strategy.

4 FINANCE COMMENTS (INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

- 4.1 There are currently approved Solar PV schemes with a total value of £10.432m within the Council Capital Programme, the letting of this framework contract will facilitate the delivery of these and future schemes.
- 4.2 All future schemes that will utilise this framework will be subject to individual approval within the Council decision making process based on a business case demonstrating an appropriate level of return to the Council. The returns made from these schemes will contribute towards the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan within the Energy and Waste Big Ticket.
- 4.3 The framework does not guarantee any value of supply to successful contractors, therefore, the Council is not committed to any expenditure. The approved schemes will need to be reviewed pending the outcome of the procurement exercise, if there are any significant variations that require additional approvals these will need to be obtained via the appropriate process.
- 4.4 A competitive procurement process will enable the Council to ensure that it obtains value for money in the procurement of materials for Solar PV schemes and maximises the returns from such schemes.

5 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT COMMENTS (INCLUDING RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES, AND INCLUDING LEGAL, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS)

- 5.1 The only risk lies in not having these robust procurement methods in place to align with NCC delivery programme. HEI is responsible for identifying, managing and mitigating the programme delivery and associated risks. These are managed in line with the corporate risk management framework and mitigated through effective programme management and partnership working.
- 5.2 There are no significant legal issues arising from the report. Given the total estimated value of the project, a full tendering exercise will be undertaken through OJEU and in compliance with the Council's constitutional documentation.
- 5.3 Legal Section will assist in the preparation of appropriate framework terms and conditions and provide support during the procurement process.

6 SOCIAL VALUE CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 Not applicable

7 REGARD TO THE NHS CONSTITUTION

- 7.1 Not applicable

8 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

- 8.1 Has the equality impact been assessed?

- (a) not needed (report does not contain proposals for new or changing policies, services or functions, financial decisions or decisions about implementation of policies development outsi



the Council)

- (b) No
(c) Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in any attached EIA.

9 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN WRITING THIS REPORT (NOT INCLUDING PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS OR CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION)

9.1 None

10 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN THIS REPORT

10.1 None

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