

REPORT TO: ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 23rd SEPTEMBER 2013
REPORT ON: GREEN CIRCULAR AND CORE PATH IMPROVEMENTS 2013
REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT
REPORT NO: 368-2013

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to undertake improvements to the Green Circular and Core Path network.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the committee approves the improvement works and authorise the City Engineer to arrange for this work to be undertaken via the Roads Maintenance Partnership with Tayside Contracts.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Director of Corporate Services advises that the costs of £63,668.72 can be met from allowances within the 2013/14 capital plan for Environmental/Paths for All and from funding agreed from the Sustrans Community Links fund to 50% of costs to a maximum of £30,000 for this project.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Reference is made to Article III of the Environment Committee of 29th October 2012 when approval was given for Dundee Outdoor Access Strategy 2012-2017.
- 4.2 The Green Circular walking and cycle route runs for 26 miles around the city and is highly regarded as an important local and regional asset in the promotion of leisure and active travel. Sections of the route are included within the Sustrans National Cycle Network. In addition Dundee has a network of Core Paths throughout the city and the Land Reform (Scotland) Act requires that Core Paths are kept open and promoted.
- 4.3 Following a recent survey, improvements have been prioritised to be undertaken this year in reinstating a section of the Green Circular at Balmuir near Trottick which was damaged by the flooding in December 2012. A section of the Core Path eroded by storm water in the same area at Balmuir will also be improved forming a cycle path link from the Green Circular to the housing at William Fitzgerald Way. The surface will be finished with bitumous macadam to reduce future maintenance costs.
- 4.4 The proposed works are to be carried out in line with the Outdoor Access Strategy and Core Path Plan and to national cycleway standards.
- 4.5 The Chief Executive approved these works to be undertaken through the Road Maintenance Partnership with Tayside Contracts and a quotation of £63,668.72 has been received from Tayside Contracts for this work.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is attached to this report.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Chief Executive, the Director of Corporate Services, Director of City Development and Head of Democratic and Legal Services have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Dundee Outdoor Access Strategy 2012-2017

7.2 Equality Impact Assessment.

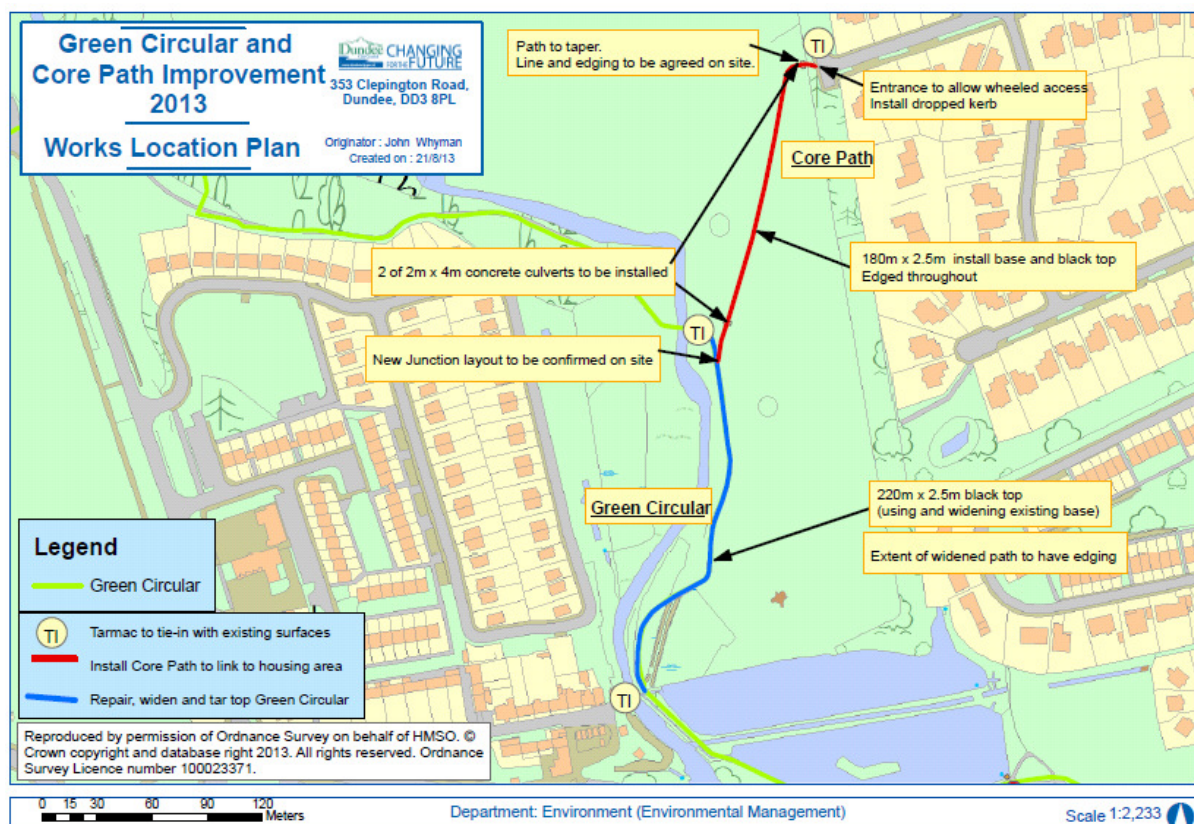
Ken Laing
Director of Environment

Gary Robertson
Head of Environmental Management

14th August 2013

Appendix 1

Location Map



Equality and Diversity Rapid Impact Assessment Tool

Part 1

Date of assessment 08/08/13	Title of document being assessed: 368-2013 - Green Circular and Core Path Improvements 2013
1) This is a new policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed (If yes please tick box) <input type="checkbox"/>	This is an existing policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed? (If yes please tick box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2) Please give a brief description of the policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed.	The purpose of the report is to receive approval for capital expenditure for the projects which aim to improve access on the Green Circular and Core Paths.
3) What is the intended outcome of this policy, procedure, strategy or practice?	More people using the Green Circular and Core Paths.
4) Please list any existing documents which have been used to inform this Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment.	Dundee City Council Outdoor Access Strategy 2012-2017
5) Has any consultation, involvement or research with protected characteristic communities informed this assessment? If yes please give details.	No
6) Please give details of council officer involvement in this assessment. (E.g. names of officers consulted, dates of meetings etc)	John Whyman, Outdoor Access Officer
7) Is there a need to collect further evidence or to involve or consult protected characteristics communities on the impact of the proposed policy? (Example: if the impact on a community is not known what will you do to gather the information needed and when will you do this?)	No

Part 2

Which protected characteristics communities will be positively or negatively affected by this policy, procedure or strategy?

NB Please place an X in the box which best describes the "overall" impact. It is possible for an assessment to identify that a positive policy can have some negative impacts and visa versa. When this is the case please identify both positive and negative impacts in Part 3 of this form.

If the impact on a protected characteristic communities are not known please state how you will gather evidence of any potential negative impacts in box Part 1 section 7 above.

	Positively	Negatively	No Impact	Not Known
Ethnic Minority Communities including Gypsies and Travellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender Reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or Belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People with a disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy & Maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part 3

<p>1) Have any positive impacts been identified? (We must ensure at this stage that we are not achieving equality for one strand of equality at the expense of another)</p>	<p>If yes please give further details Yes. The projects will improve facility for people with mobility issues, including repairing damaged surfaces and poorly drained which will improve accessibility for those with mobility needs. Path design exceeds Access for All standards for width, gradient and surface. A width restricting barrier will be altered, easing access by wheelchairs and push chairs</p>
<p>2) Have any negative impacts been identified? (Based on direct knowledge, published research, community involvement, customer feedback etc. If unsure seek advice from your departmental Equality Champion.)</p>	<p>If yes please give further details None</p>
<p>3) What action is proposed to overcome any negative impacts? E.g. involving community groups in the development or delivery of the policy or practice, providing information in community languages etc. see Good Practice on DCC equalities web page</p>	<p>Please give further details N/A</p>
<p>4) Is there a justification for continuing with this policy even if it cannot be amended or changed to end or reduce inequality without compromising its intended outcome? (If the policy that shows actual or potential unlawful discrimination you must stop and seek legal advice)</p>	<p>If yes please give further details N/A</p>
<p>5) Has a 'Full' Equality Impact Assessment been recommended? (If the policy is a major one or is likely to have a major impact on protected characteristics communities a Full Equality Impact Assessment may be required) Seek advice from your departmental Equality Champion.</p>	<p>If yes please give further details N/A</p>
<p>6) How will the policy be monitored? (How will you know it is doing what it is intended to do? e.g. data collection, customer survey etc.</p>	<p>The Green Circular is audited by the Countryside Rangers twice a year and a report submitted to the Outdoor Access Officer. All the improvement work will be checked on completion of the contract and 12 months after completion.</p>

Part 4


Name of Department or Partnership: Environment Department

Type of Document

Human Resource Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strategy/Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Change Papers/Local Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guidelines and Protocols	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

• **Contact Information**

Manager Responsible		Author Responsible	
Name	Peter Sandwell	Name	John Whyman
Designation	Environmental Asset Manager	Designation	Outdoor Access Officer
Base	353, Clepington Road	Base	353, Clepington Road
Telephone	434798	Telephone	434769
Email	peter.sandwell@dundeecity.go.uk	Email	john.whyman@dundeecity.gov.uk

Signature of author of the policy:	N/A	Date
Signature of Director:		Date 11/09/13
Name of Director / Head of Service:	Ken Laing	
Date of next policy review:	N/A	