

## ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member and Advisers for Regeneration and Development.</b>
2.	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014</b>
3.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Templeborough to Kimberworth Cycle Route</b>
4.	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Environment and Development Services</b>

### 5. Summary

To seek approval to introduce a new off road cycle path between Centurion Street and the Rotherham to Sheffield Canal towpath, to allow a new, direct cycle route to be signed between Templeborough and Kimberworth.

### 6. Recommendations

It is recommended Cabinet Member resolve that:

- i) **detailed design and construction is undertaken to provide a new cycle path from Centurion Street to the Rotherham to Sheffield Canal towpath with a 3 metre wide, waterproof surface constructed of tarmacadam or similar material.**
- ii) **cycle signage is provided for a new cycle route between Templeborough and Kimberworth.**

### 7. Proposals and Details

It is proposed to introduce a new cycle route between Templeborough and Kimberworth which will also provide a link to the recently improved Rotherham to Sheffield canal towpath. This was briefly outlined in the Rotherham to Sheffield canal towpath Cabinet Member report approved on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

The scheme involves the introduction of a 3m wide, bound, waterproof surface constructed of tarmacadam or similar material between Centurion Street in Templeborough and the canal towpath. This section of the route is currently in a poor condition with no hard surface and becomes very muddy during wetter months. Part

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of this route falls within Sheffield and the above proposals have been agreed with landowners.

The improvements would allow a longer cycle route to be signed from Sheffield road in Templeborough along Bessemer Way and Centurion Street to the canal towpath, and along Steel Street and Psalters Lane towards Kimberworth. The route is outlined on the attached drawing number 126/17/TT274. The scheme will provide a new cross town cycle route to the south east of Rotherham town centre improving sustainable access between the residential areas of Kimberworth/ Holmes and employment in Templeborough. The route will also provide direct access to the canal towpath and employment in the Lower Don Valley.

## **8. Finance**

The works are estimated to cost £50,000.

This will be funded from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

If improvements to the route between Centurion Street and the towpath are not introduced this would remain inadequate for commuting and leisure cyclists to use, particularly during wetter months. There would also be no adequate direct cycle route between the residential areas of Kimberworth / Holmes and Templeborough.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Introducing this new cycle route will have a number of LSTF and LTP benefits. The route will provide improvements to Rotherham's cycle network and together with the promotion of this route will encourage more cycling to employment and for leisure in the Don Valley. This is inline with the major LSTF and LTP priority of supporting economic growth. Encouraging cycling will also help to reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality which is another important objective in the LSTF and LTP. Cycling also improves health and fitness which is an important aim in the LSTF and LTP, and a major objective for the NHS.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

Consultation has been undertaken with landowners regarding the introduction of a cycle route from Centurion Street to the canal towpath and no objections have been received.

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