

BLUE SAIL▶

VISITORS PLACES DESTINATIONS

## CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE APPENDIX

TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH VISIT. SLEEP. CYCLE. REPEAT DESTINATION PLAN

REPORT FOR  
NORTH DERBYSHIRE/ NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE VISITOR ECONOMY CONSORTIUM

JANUARY 2018



The European Agricultural Fund  
for Rural Development:  
Europe investing in rural areas

## CONTENTS

1	LOOPS AND SHORT ROUTES.....	3
---	-----------------------------	---

# 1 LOOPS AND SHORT ROUTES

The Destination Plan for *Visit. Sleep. Cycle. Repeat* recommends creating strong hubs, that can strengthen the destination offer and which encourage and support informal cycling activity by the two target markets for the project area – Fun Families and Active Adults. A suite of loops and linear short routes have been identified, some of which link together hubs and connect the three elements of the Creswell Crags-Welbeck-Clumber hub. The majority of these routes require some further infrastructure investment to complete missing sections or to upgrade existing access from paths to cycling. Some routes have missing sections. All require an audit to identify signing and interpretation needs. We anticipate there will be three tiers of investment:

- ▶ Completion of missing sections/upgrading – to be prioritised to ensure circular loops and short routes are completed in line with the development of the hubs to deliver a mix of different cycling experiences
- ▶ Signing so they are easy to follow – this might be as simple as a colour coded marker – it will be important not to clutter existing routes with unnecessary waymarking, while ensuring cyclists feel confident about using the route. Many of the loops are making use of existing trails with interpretation but there may be gaps that require more experiences e.g. explanation of view, some interactive features on fun family trails
- ▶ Promotional materials that encourage visitors to use the trails and provide information about the length of the loop/route, relatively level of difficulty and what there is to see and do.

The first task is to undertake a detailed audit to quantify and cost the infrastructure and signing and interpretation needs for these loops and routes and identify more short to medium length routes.


As part of this work the following key links and gaps have been identified:

- ▶ Creswell Crags and Welbeck (linking hub sites) – currently requires crossing the busy A60 road
- ▶ Creswell – Welbeck – Clumber (linking hub sites) current route is Robin Hood Way – improvement in signage and surfacing would be beneficial (at January 2018, Nottingham County Council are looking to secure £15,000 to undertake some of this work)
- ▶ Completing and formalising the link from Grassmoor to Chesterfield and making use of the new greenways
- ▶ Creswell Crags to the Archaeological Way – requires formalising use for cycling of the final link

- ▶ Overcoming the gap north of Pleasley Vale to Wood Lane on the Archaeological Way
- ▶ Improving a short stretch in Pleasley Pit Country Park to complete a loop
- ▶ Upgrading sections of the Cuckoo Way to accommodate cyclists
- ▶ Reclaiming the Clowne Branch Line, which recently secured planning permission. The £1.7M project is expected to be complete in 2020 and is subject to a stage 2 ERDF funding bid.

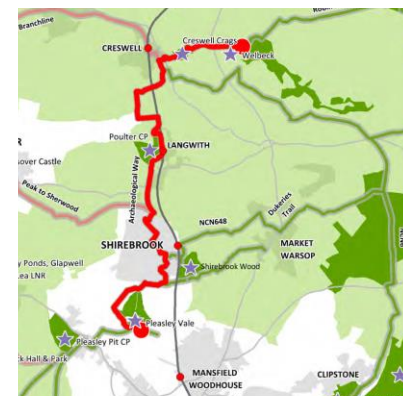
The table below provides further detail on the loops and short linear routes where cyclists can retrace their journey. It shows how they will encourage visitors to explore the heritage of the area and the main spend opportunities (current and proposed) along the trails and at the hubs. **Red text** indicates stretches that require upgrading or gaps to be completed.


Maps provided by Derbyshire County Council and used with their permission for and on behalf of the Council and their project partners

ACTIVE ADULTS				
Loops and routes	Distance	Places of Interest	Spend opportunities	
<b>Route 1</b> Pleasley Vale Gap to link with Wood Lane Shirebrook Dukeries Trail Church Warsop Clumber Via Robin Hood Way (re-designation required/A60 overcome) Welbeck Creswell Crags Gap to link with Archaeological Way Poulter Shirebrook Gap to link from Wood Lane Pleasley Vale	46km (28 miles)	Clumber Park – extensive parkland and trails  Creswell Crags – views and museum  Poulter Country Park – meadows, trails and great views.  Interpretation and sculptures along Archaeological Way	At Pleasley Vale hub – Outdoor Activity Centre (existing with future expansion) Café (future) Cycle hire (future) Visitor attraction (future)  Clumber – café, shop, bike hire  Creswell Crags Museum (paid entry) with café and gift shop  Facilities in Shirebrook village – shops/ pub Facilities in Church Warsop village – shops/ pub  Welbeck Estate facilities including gallery/The Portland Collection, farm shop, café and occasional Welbeck Abbey State Room Tours (current)  Cycle hire at Welbeck (future)	

Loops and routes	Distance	Places of Interest	Spend opportunities
<b>Route 2</b> Pleasley Vale Gap to link with Wood Lane Shirebrook Poulter Gap to link with Archaeological Way Creswell Crag Clowne Branch Line (when fully open) Staveley/Poolsbrook Trans Pennine Trail to Chesterfield Gap between Chesterfield and Grassmoor Tibshelf Teversal Option to visit Hardwick Pleasley Pit Pleasley Vale	62km (37 miles)	Poulter Country Park – meadows, trails and great views.  Interpretation and sculptures along Archaeological Way  Views at Creswell Crag Chesterfield attractions  Grassmoor – trails, wildlife, meadows, fishing  Pleasley Pit and Country Park – pond and pools, wildlife watching  Chesterfield Canal, waterside landscape mixed habitat wildlife watching, fishing, boating, trip boats.	Pleasley Vale hub facilities – as above  Facilities in Shirebrook – shops, pub  Creswell Crag Museum (paid entry) with café and gift shop (current – extension planned)  Poolsbrook - cafe  Facilities in Chesterfield  Hollingwood Hub Cafe Tapton Lock Visitor Centre on Chesterfield Canal  Grassmoor – bike hire/café (future)  Pub in Teversal  Hardwick Hall National Trust attraction with café, events programme etc (current), Hardwick Inn  Mining Museum with café (events also held on neighbouring field)




Loops and routes	Distance	Places of Interest	Spend Opportunities	
<b>Route 3 – Pleasley Vale to Welbeck</b> Pleasley Vale Gap to link with Wood Lane Shirebrook Poulter Gap to link with Archaeological Way Creswell Crags Welbeck Retrace route to Pleasley Vale	33km (20 miles)	Poulter Country Park – meadows, trails and great views.  Interpretation and sculptures along Archaeological Way  Creswell Crags – views	Pleasley Vale hub facilities – as above  Facilities in Shirebrook– shops, pub  Creswell Crags Museum (paid entry) with café and gift shop (current – extension planned)  Welbeck Estate facilities including gallery/The Portland Collection, farm shop, café and occasional Welbeck Abbey State Room Tours (current)	

Loops and routes	Distance	Places of Interest	Spend opportunities	
<b>Route 4</b> Clumber Worksop/Chesterfield Canal Once route along Canal is fully accessible Rother Valley Country Park Trans Pennine Trail Staveley/Poolbrook Clowne Branch Line (when fully open) Creswell Craggs Via Robin Hood Way (re-designation required/A60 overcome) Welbeck Via Robin Hood Way (re-designation required/A60 overcome) Clumber	55km (33 miles)	Clumber Park – extensive parkland and trails  Canal heritage  Rother Valley Country Park – trails, range of activities, nature  Poolbrook Country Park – trails, lake, adventure playground  Creswell Craggs – views	Clumber – café, shop, bike hire  Facilities along the Canal  Rother Valley – bike hire, café, shop, activities  Poolbrook - cafe  Creswell Craggs Museum (paid entry) with café and gift shop  Welbeck Estate facilities including gallery/The Portland Collection, farm shop, café and occasional Welbeck Abbey State Room Tours (current)  Cycle hire at Welbeck (future)	



Loops and routes	Distance	Places of Interest	Spend opportunities
<b>Route 5</b> Clumber Worksop/Chesterfield Canal Once route along canal is fully accessible Rother Valley Country Park Trans Pennine Trail Staveley/Poolsbrook Trans Pennine Trail to Chesterfield Gap between Chesterfield and Grassmoor Tibshelf Teversal Option to visit Hardwick Pleasley Pit Pleasley Vale Gap to link with Wood Lane Shirebrook Dukeries Trail Church Warsop Clumber	90km (54 miles) – aspirational route for this market, given distance	Clumber Park – extensive parkland and trails  Canal heritage  Rother Valley Country Park – trails, range of activities, nature  Poolsbrook Country Park – trails, lake, adventure playground  Chesterfield attractions  Chesterfield Canal, waterside landscape mixed habitat wildlife watching, fishing, boating, trip boats.  Grassmoor – trails, wildlife, meadows, fishing  Pleasley Pit and Country Park – pond and pools, wildlife watching. Pleasley Vale	Clumber – café, shop, bike hire  Facilities along the Canal  Rother Valley – bike hire, café, shop, activities  Poolsbrook - cafe  Facilities in Chesterfield  Hollingwood Hub Cafe Tapton Lock Visitor Centre on Chesterfield Canal  Grassmoor – bike hire/café (future)  Pub in Teversal  Hardwick Hall National Trust attraction with café, events programme etc (current)  Mining Museum with café (events also held on neighbouring field)  Pleasley Vale hub facilities – as above  Facilities in Shirebrook – shops, pub  Facilities in Church Warsop– shops, pub



Loops and routes	Distance	Places of Interest	Spend opportunities	
<b>Route 6 – Welbeck Estate (but can start at a number of points)</b> Lady Margaret's Hall Norton Hazel Gap Clumber Park Hotel Hardwick Village Clumber Robin Hood Way South Lodge Creswell Craggs Lady Margaret's Hall  Route requires permissions and planning and to overcome Robin Hood Way/A60 crossing.	32 km (19.2 miles)	Creswell Craggs – views  Clumber Park – extensive parkland and trails	Welbeck Estate facilities including gallery/The Portland Collection, farm shop, café and occasional Welbeck Abbey State Room Tours  Cycle hire at Welbeck (future)  Clumber – café, shop, bike hire  Creswell Craggs Museum (paid entry) with café and gift shop	

FUN FAMILY			
Routes	Distance	Places of Interest	Spend opportunities
<b>Route 1 - From Pleasley Vale to Pleasley Park</b> Pleasley Vale Forge Lane (would benefit from upgrading) Gap to link with Wood Lane Return through Pleasley Park	4km (2.5 miles)	Pleasley Park – attractive wood managed by Forestry Commission	At Pleasley Vale hub – Outdoor Activity Centre (existing with future expansion) Café (future) Cycle hire (future) Visitor attraction (future)
<b>Route 2 – From Pleasley Vale to Brook Park</b> Forge Lane - as above Gap to link with Wood Lane as above Brook Park Littlewood Lane & return	8km (5 miles)	Brook Park – meadows with wildlife watching	As for Route 1 above
<b>Route 3 – From Pleasley Vale to Oxclose Wood</b> Pleasley Vale Meden Trail Outgang Lane (v. quiet road) Oxclose Wood & return	8km (5 miles)	Oxclose Wood – network of paths with views towards Hardwick Hall	As for Route 1 above
<b>Route 4 – From Pleasley Vale to Pleasley Pit</b> Pleasley Vale Meden Trail to Pleasley Village Road section & short hill climb through Village to Pit Lane Pleasley Pit Car Park & return	8km (5 miles)	Pleasley Pit and Country Park – pond and pools, wildlife watching	As for Route 1 above Pleasley Village facilities Mining Museum with café (events also held on neighbouring field)

Routes	Distance	Places of Interest	Spend opportunities
<b>Route 5 – Pleasley Vale to Silverhill Wood</b> Pleasley Vale Meden Trail to Pleasley Village Road section & short hill climb through Village to Pit Lane Pleasley Pit Car Park Teversal Trail Silverhill Wood & return	10km (6 miles)	Pleasley Pit and Country Park – pond and pools, wildlife watching.  Silverhill Wood with trails, wildlife watching and miner statue at summit	As for Route 1 above Mining Museum with café (events also held on neighbouring field) Teversal Trails Visitor Centre with café Pub in Teversal
<b>Route 6 – Pleasley Vale to Shirebrook Wood</b> Pleasley Vale Forge Lane – <b>as above</b> Gap to link with Wood Lane – <b>as above</b> Shirebrook Wood & return	11km (6.5 miles)	Shirebrook Wood – large open meadows and scenic wetland valley to explore	As for Route 1 above Facilities in Shirebrook village – shops/pub
<b>Route 7 – Pleasley Trails Network</b> Pleasley Vale Meden Trail to Pleasley Village Road section & short hill climb through Village to Pit Lane Pleasley Pit car park Teversal Trail Link track Skegby Trail & return	12.5km (7.5 miles)	Pleasley Pit and Country Park – pond and pools, wildlife watching. .	As for Route 1 above Pleasley Village facilities Mining Museum with café (events also held on neighbouring field) Teversal Trails Visitor Centre with café Pub in Teversal
<b>Route 8 – Pleasley Vale to Hardwick Hall</b> Pleasley Vale Pleasley Pit Via Teversal Trail ( <b>or Rowthorne Trail is re-designated</b> ) Hardwick & return	14km (8.5 miles)	Pleasley Pit and Country Park – pond and pools, wildlife watching.	Mining Museum with café (events also held on neighbouring field) Pub in Teversal Hardwick Hall National Trust attraction with café, events programme etc Hardwick Inn

