

Agenda Item No. 7(l)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

3 November 2015

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

**PENNINE BRIDLEWAY NATIONAL TRAIL -
OFFER OF GRANT AID FROM NATURAL ENGLAND (HIGHWAYS,
TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE)**

(1) **Purpose of Report** To seek Cabinet approval to accept a £190,000 offer of grant aid from Natural England for the continued development of the Pennine Bridleway National Trail through Derbyshire and the addition of the scheme in the 2015-16 Capital Programme.

(2) **Information and Analysis** The Pennine Bridleway is a National Trail, purpose built for horse riders, mountain bikers and walkers. In Derbyshire, the Trail is being implemented by the County Council on behalf of Natural England. When fully open, it will begin at Middleton Top and Hartington Station, Derbyshire and end at Byrness in Northumberland, a distance of 350 miles.

The majority of the Pennine Bridleway in Derbyshire is open, although the section through Glossop remains a missing link for horse riders, with alternative routes, mostly on road, signposted for walkers and cyclists. In 2007, a new route for the Pennine Bridleway through Glossop was identified and approved by the Secretary of State. This route is mainly off-road, through rough pasture or along existing tracks.

The Council is currently concentrating its efforts on the design, acquisition and management work to construct part of the route between Monks Road, near Charlesworth, and High Lane in Simmondley. The total estimated costs for this section of the route are £239,640, to which the £190,000 grant will contribute. The remaining project costs in this financial year can be met from the funding already secured through the Local Transport Plan for helping to provide the missing link.

(3) **Financial Considerations** The £190,000 offer of grant aid from Natural England will make a significant contribution towards the continuing development of the Pennine Bridleway. The remaining project costs of

£49,640 can be met from within the approved 2014-15 Local Transport Plan Capital Programme.

(4) **Environmental, Health and Transport Considerations** The implementation of the Pennine Bridleway National Trail will improve the network of opportunities for sustainable transport and recreation in Derbyshire.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources and property considerations.

(5) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details – Gill Millward, extension 39656.

(6) **Key Decision** No.

(7) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(8) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That Cabinet:

- 8.1 Agrees to accept the offer of grant aid of £190,000 from Natural England to design and construct part of the route of the Pennine Bridleway National Trail between Monks Road, near Charlesworth, and High Lane in Simmondley.
- 8.2 Approves the inclusion of the scheme in the 2015-16 Capital Programme.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment