

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING

24 July 2012

Report of the Strategic Director – Environmental Services

**ADDITION TO THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2012/13 - PENNINE
BRIDLEWAY NATIONAL TRAIL – OFFER OF GRANT FOR
CONSTRUCTION 2012/13: MONKS ROAD TO HIGH LANE,
PARISH OF CHARLESWORTH (HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT)**

(1) **Purpose of the Report** To seek Cabinet approval to accept an offer of grant aid from Natural England to construct a section of the Pennine Bridleway between Monks Road and High Lane, Parish of Charlesworth. Also, to include the £247,000 expenditure, 100% grant-aided by Natural England, in the Capital Programme 2012/13.

(2) **Information and Analysis** The Pennine Bridleway National Trail is being implemented by Derbyshire County Council on behalf of Natural England. It is purpose built for horse riders, mountain bikers and walkers, ensuring a quality experience in terms of the design, construction and vista. 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.

Natural England has recently offered Derbyshire County Council £247,000 grant aid to construct approximately 3.3km of new bridleway from Monks Road to High Lane in the Parish of Charlesworth. This offer is subsequent to two previous offers from Natural England for survey and design work on the Glossop section totalling £105,000. Acceptance of these previous offers was approved by Cabinet on 2 August 2011 and 1 November 2011 (Minute nos 239/11 and 325/11 respectively).

(3) **Financial Considerations** The offer for the construction of the Trail between Monks Road and High Lane is as follows:-

Scheme	Grant offered	% of costs
Construction of approximately 3.3km new bridleway from Monks Road to High Lane, Derbyshire (estimate Oct 2010)	£234,000	100
Increase estimated Retail Price Index (RPI) @ 5.5%	£13,000	100
Total	£247,000	£247,000

Previous grant offers from Natural England are funding on-going surveys (£19,000) and design and supervision (£11,500) of the Monks Road to High Lane scheme.

Future maintenance of the Pennine Bridleway is eligible for 75% grant-aid from Natural England. The 25% contribution from Derbyshire County Council will come from existing revenue budgets. Maintenance of these features will come under the remit of the Pennine Bridleway Maintenance Officer.

(4) **Human Resources Considerations** As detailed within the report. The design and supervision of the scheme will be undertaken by the County Council's Consultancy and Contracting Section and the Pennine Bridleway Officer, employed by Derbyshire County Council, funded in full from the Natural England grants.

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

(6) **Property Considerations** There are no property considerations associated with this report.

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

(7) **Key Decision** No.

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

(9) **Background Papers** Memorandum of Agreement for Pennine Bridleway National Trail Works funded by the Lottery Sports Fund from Middleton in Derbyshire to Long Preston, North Yorkshire on File ROW 43.1.1.

Offer of grant aid from Natural England dated 23 June 2011, Ref GRA/12/07/001 on file ROW43.2.1.

Offer of grant aid from Natural England dated 7 September 2011, Ref GRA/12/07/018 on file ROW43.2.1.

Offer of grant aid from Natural England dated 14 May 2012, Ref GRA/12/07/020 on file ROW43.2.1.

Officer contact details – Jenny Southwell, extension 39655.

(10) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That:

- 10.1 Approval be given to accept grant aid of £247,000 from Natural England to construct the Pennine Bridleway between Monks Road and High Lane in the Parish of Charlesworth.
- 10.2 The expenditure of £247,000 be included in the 2012/13 Capital Programme.

Ian Stephenson
Strategic Director – Environmental Services