

**18 March 2024****TITLE OF REPORT: Progress of Rights of Way Matters****REPORT OF: Strategic Director, Corporate Services and  
Governance and Strategic Director, Housing  
Environment and Healthy Communities**

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**Purpose of the Report**

1. To update Committee on the progress of Rights of Way cases, plus the principle works carried out on the network between July 2023 and March 2024.

**Background**

2. The rights of way matters are set out in Appendix 2.

**Recommendations**

3. It is recommended that the Committee note the report and the updates highlighted in bold.

**1. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**2. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**3. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**5. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**6. SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**7. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**8. WARD IMPLICATIONS**

Chopwell and Rowlands Gill, Blaydon, Ryton Crookhill and Stella, Whickham North, Lamesley, Crawcrook and Greenside, Dunston Hill and Whickham South and Sunnyside, Winlaton and High Spen, Pelaw and Heworth South, Windy Nook and Whitehills, Wardley and Leam Lane.

**9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Nil

## Current Matters

Item No	Case	Ward	Application/ Proposal	Progress/Action
1	North View	Winlaton & High Spen	Definitive Map Modification Order	<b>DMMO has been sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for determination as an opposed Order.</b>
2	Application to add a bridleway between RB 44 and Derwent Walk	Whickham North, Blaydon	Definitive Map Modification Order	The Definitive Map Modification Order has been drafted and waiting for instruction to advertise it. This matter is currently being reviewed.
3	Claim at Thomas Street Eighton Banks Right of Way 62	Lamesley	Definitive Map Modification Order	The Order has been made but objections have been received. The papers have been prepared and the Order will be sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for determination in due course. This matter is currently being reviewed.
4	Clarty Lane – Upgrade public footpath LA/33 to bridleway	Lamesley	Definitive Map Modification Order	<b>Documents being prepared to submit DMMO to Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for determination as an opposed Order.</b>
5	Cushy Cow Lane – Upgrade public footpath RY/27 to bridleway	Ryton Crookhill Stella Crawcrook Greenside	Definitive Map Modification Order	<b>Documents being prepared to submit DMMO to Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for determination as an opposed Order.</b>
6	Claim for a bridleway at Barlow Lane, Barlow	Winlaton High Spen Crawcrook Greenside	Definitive Map Modification Order	An application was received on 26th March 2020 to record a Bridleway onto the Definitive Map and Statement at Barlow Lane, Barlow. On 19th July 2021, Committee approved the making of a DMMO to add the claimed bridleway from Barlow Lane, Greenside to Barlow Lane, Barlow. Order to be made and advertised.
7	Blackhall Mill to Chopwell Upgrade public footpaths BL/11/1, BL/19/1, BL/19/2 and BL/19/3 to bridleway	Chopwell Rowlands Gill	Definitive Map Modification Order	An application was received on 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2020 to upgrade public footpaths BL/11/1, BL/19/1, BL/19/2 and BL/19/3 to bridleway status at Blackhall Mill and Chopwell. The application is currently being investigated, evidence to be reviewed and a Report will be prepared for Committee in due course.
8	Claim for a bridleway at Horsegate, Chopwell	Chopwell Rowlands Gill	Definitive Map Modification Order	An application was received on 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2020 to record a Bridleway onto the Definitive Map and Statement at Horsegate, Chopwell. The application is currently being investigated, evidence to be reviewed and a Report will be prepared for Committee in due course.
9	Mill Lane Urpeth to Riding Lane – claim to upgrade footpaths to a bridleway	Lamesley	Definitive Map Modification Order	An application was received on 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2021 to upgrade public footpaths LA/25, LA/26/1 and LA/26/2 to bridleway status at Mill Lane Urpeth to Riding Lane. The application is currently being investigated, evidence to be reviewed and a Report will be prepared for Committee in due course.
10	Extinguishment of	Whickham North	Public Path	Following approval of Committee on 21st November 2022, the

	Bridleway WH/62 and Footpath WH/194 – Derwent Walk Country Park	Whickham South & Sunnyside	Extinguishment Order	Order was made on 18th January 2023. The objection period ended on 20th February 2023. Awaiting confirmation as to whether objections will be withdrawn. If the objections are withdrawn, the Order will be confirmed. If not, the Order will be sent to the Secretary of State for determination.
11	Claim for a footpath at Low Spen Woods, Rowlands Gill	Chopwell and Rowlands Gill	Definitive Map Modification Order	<b>Being brought to this Committee meeting.</b>

**PRINCIPAL WORKS CARRIED OUT ON THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK – July 2023 and March 2024.**

July 2023	Replacement fence line Long Bank- LA/46	Take down and install 442 metres of stock net fencing with 9 straining posts.
July 2023	Install new fence line Greenside-RY/32	Install 58 metres of stock net fencing.
July 2023	Replacement fence line Kibblesworth Bank- LA/72a	Take down and install 152 metres of stock net fencing.
July 2023	Replacement fence line Watergate Park fencing WH/83	42m take down dispose and install.
July 2023	Replacement fence line Watergate Park fencing WH/83	82m take down dispose and install.
July 2023	Replacement fence line Watergate Park fencing WH/83	42m take down dispose and install.
July 2023	Replacement fence line Watergate Park fencing WH/83	82m take down dispose and install.
July 2023	PROW identified defects	Repaired.
July 2023	Works to Pockerly LA/20	Strimming of vegetation and removing all fencing, barriers, gateway.
August 2023	Strimming commenced	Strimming of the PROW network commenced.
September 2023	Strimming commenced	Strimming of the PROW network commenced.
January 2024	Blaydon 69 Step Replacement	Replacement of 15 steps and 5 stobs on BL69 in Blaydon Burn.
January 2024	B98 Bridge Repair	Replacement of single deck plank on footbridge on B98 in Chopwell Woods.
January 2024	Fallen tree on RY/68/1	Tree made safe and removed.
January 2024	Right of Way la720/8/9/10 (west of Kibblesworth)	Lay and consolidate 40mm crusher run whinstone stone to fill in the wash out running from the bottom of the footpath to the timber grip.  To clean off and remove the silt to expose the timber grips running up the path, helping to divert the rainwater off the footpath.

<b>February 2024</b>	<b>Flailing programme of Rights of Way network</b>	<b>Failing back PROW in various locations throughout Gateshead.</b>
<b>February 2024</b>	<b>Red Kite Waymarker Post</b>	<b>Replacement of waymarker post and signs on Red Kite trail off Thornley Lane, Rowlands Gill.</b>
<b>February 2024</b>	<b>Tree removal at Beggars Wood</b>	<b>Remove fallen elder obstructing PROW at Beggars Wood.</b>

**PLANNED WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT ON THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK – March 2024 and July 2024**

<b>Lamesley 72</b>	<b>Sections at Kibblesworth and Birtley</b>	<b>Resurfacing and drainage work.</b>
<b>Ryton 76</b>	<b>Sections from Wylam to Ryton</b>	<b>Resurfacing.</b>
<b>Lamesley 48</b>	<b>Black Lane from Waverley Road to Western View</b>	<b>Resurfacing.</b>
<b>Whickham 63</b>	<b>Landslip at Hollinside / Derwent Walk</b>	<b>Possible closure and rerouting of the public right of way.</b>

**AREAS OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK WITH ASB/MOTORBIKE ISSUES**

<b>Ryton Golf Club</b>	<b>Ryton</b>	<b>Ongoing motorbike issues.</b>
<b>Whitehills</b>	<b>Leam Lane/Whitehill Drive</b>	<b>Motorbike misuse and fly tipping. Access restrictions have been damaged. Repairs to boundary fence and gates are ongoing.</b>
<b>Dene Road</b>	<b>Rowlands Gill</b>	<b>Ongoing motorbike issues pathway behind the industrial estate off Whinfield Way in Highfield.</b>