

City of York Council
Equalities Impact Assessment

Who is submitting the proposal?

Directorate:		City of York Council - Place	
Service Area:		Transport	
Name of the proposal :		Riverside Path	
Lead officer:		Shoaib Mahmood	
Date assessment completed:		18/02/2025	
Names of those who contributed to the assessment :			
Name	Job title	Organisation	Area of expertise
Luke Oddy	Principal Engineer	AECOM	Traffic Engineering / PM
Maddie Harkness	Engineer	AECOM	Traffic Engineering
Dave Smith	Access officer	City of York Council	
Shoaib Mahmood	Project Manager	City of York Council	

Step 1 – Aims and intended outcomes

1.1	<p>What is the purpose of the proposal? Please explain your proposal in Plain English avoiding acronyms and jargon.</p>
	<p>The Jubilee Terrace to Scarborough Bridge Riverside Path is a key route on the cycle network connecting the west of the city with the city centre and the Scarborough Bridge River crossing. As part of the York Central development an alternative high-quality off-road route unaffected by river flooding will be provided but it will not replace the importance of the riverside route to local residents and cyclists. The aspiration is to enhance provision for pedestrians and cyclists along the existing Riverside Path, catering for all users including those with mobility impairments.</p>
1.2	<p>Are there any external considerations? (Legislation/government directive/codes of practice etc.)</p>
	<p>The path will form part of the highway boundary and as such should accord with the relevant design standards listed below (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycle Infrastructure Design LTN 1/20 • Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) • Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works (MCHW) • Specification for Highway works (SfHW) • Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016 (TSRGD) • Manual for Streets • Structural Eurocodes • Building Regulations • design for crime prevention guidance • Relevant CYC Design Guidelines <p>CYC Accessible Seating Review and Inclusive Design Framework</p>

1.3	Who are the stakeholders and what are their interests?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Users of the path (Cyclists / Pedestrians) & Residents – Segregation, personal security, impact of flooding, legibility of provision, wayfinding, conflict between motorists / pedestrians and cyclists at Jubilee Terrace. - St Barnabus Primary School / Parents / Children – Access to / from school, parking issues, crossing facilities, segregation of users. - St Barnabus Church – Access to / from Church. - Vicarage – Access to / from Vicarage <p>Other stakeholders highlighted within Jubilee Terrace to Scarborough Riverside Path Consultation Report, AECOM, Feb 2023 and the Riverside Path Improvement Scheme Consultation Report, February 2025</p> <p>A copy of the consultation report is appended. A high level summary is provided below.</p>
1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What results/outcomes do we want to achieve and for whom? This section should explain what outcomes you want to achieve for service users, staff and/or the wider community. Demonstrate how the proposal links to the Council Plan (2019- 2023) and other corporate strategies and plans.
	<p>While the path is currently well used by pedestrians and cyclists, it is well known that there are a number of barriers to people using the route such as; inconsistent lighting, lack of CCTV, lack of seating and rest areas.</p> <p>The path is closed on average of 14 days per year. Frequent flooding leads to the closure of the path with additional journey times for users. End to end users will experience a 4–6-minute additional journey time depending on their end destination. With 2589 daily users impacted, keeping the path accessible for additional days will have a positive impact.</p> <p>The aims of the project are to improve the path, where feasible, by introducing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improved lighting and security • widening or segregating the riverside path, to reduce the likelihood of conflict between pedestrians and cyclists • raising the level of the path, in particular at low points, to reduce the impact of river flood events • provide more seating and rest areas along the route • restricting parking and traffic movement on Jubilee Terrace to reduce conflict between motor vehicles and path users

Step 2 – Gathering the information and feedback

2.1	<p>What sources of data, evidence and consultation feedback do we have to help us understand the impact of the proposal on equality rights and human rights? Please consider a range of sources, including: consultation exercises, surveys, feedback from staff, stakeholders, participants, research reports, the views of equality groups, as well your own experience of working in this area etc.</p>
Source of data/supporting evidence	Reason for using
<p>Jubilee Terrace to Scarborough Riverside Path Consultation Report, AECOM, Feb 2023.</p>	<p>Project specific feedback on initial proposals - A total of 444 consultation responses were received. This is made up of 441 responses via the online or hard copy response form, and three emails. Five hard copy response forms were received after the close of the consultation. They were not included in the analysis in this report but were read and considered by the project team.</p> <p>This document contains a breakdown of these responses, including quantitative and qualitative data identifying common themes. It also includes a brief summary of the type of respondent, including their stated use of the path, frequency of use, as well as other demographic data.</p>
<p>Riverside Path Improvement Scheme Consultation Report, February 2025</p>	<p>The February 2025 Consultation Report summarises the findings of the public consultation (Appendix B).</p> <p>The Riverside Path Improvement Scheme Consultation ran from 6th November to 1st December 2024, offering multiple engagement opportunities for the public. Two in-person drop-in events were held on 12th and 21st November at St Barnabus Church in York, which were well-attended, while a low-attended online event took place on 14th November to accommodate those facing challenges with time or accessibility.</p> <p>A survey was created to capture public feedback, available both online and in paper form at several local venues, receiving 636 total responses with 12 of the responses submitted via paper copies. Three emails were also received through a dedicated mailbox. The aim of the consultation was to gather input for the scheme's detailed design stage, with responses categorised into key themes.</p>

	<p>The scheme was split into three sections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Section A covers the extent of Jubilee Terrace which connects Kingsland Terrace to Cinder Mews, 2. Section B1 covers the western end of the existing active travel pathway which runs alongside a wide expanse of grassed area for around 400 metres. 3. Section B2 covers the eastern end of the existing active travel pathway which runs along the top of an existing pitched stone revetment through to Scarborough Bridge for around 300 metres. <p>The survey for the Riverside Path Improvement Scheme showed strong support for the proposed designs, particularly in Sections B1 and B2.</p> <p>In Section A, 64.4% of responses believed the design would reduce conflict between pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles, with 58.7% supporting the design.</p> <p>In Section B1, 90.6% felt the design met the objectives of reducing conflict, and 94.4% supported a segregated path for pedestrians and cyclists.</p> <p>Section B2 received support for measures like raising the footpath to reduce flooding and improving visibility through the bridge.</p> <p>Overall, 85.6% of responses supported the full design.</p> <p>Free-text responses highlighted concerns in Section A about parking, safety and lighting in Section B1, and cyclist-pedestrian interactions in Section B2.</p>
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Step 3 – Gaps in data and knowledge

3.1	What are the main gaps in information and understanding of the impact of your proposal? Please indicate how any gaps will be dealt with.	
Gaps in data or knowledge		Action to deal with this
Feedback on current proposals from local residents and users of the path		Second round of public consultation following completion of Preliminary Design.

Step 4 – Analysing the impacts or effects.

4.1	Please consider what the evidence tells you about the likely impact (positive or negative) on people sharing a protected characteristic, i.e. how significant could the impacts be if we did not make any adjustments? Remember the duty is also positive – so please identify where the proposal offers opportunities to promote equality and/or foster good relations.		
Equality Groups and Human Rights.	Key Findings/Impacts	Positive (+) Negative (-) Neutral (0)	High (H) Medium (M) Low (L)
Age	Improved segregation between pedestrians and cyclists, all ages will reduce conflict and improve safety for all users.	+	H
	Improved resting places for all users, elderly who may need to stop and rest more often.	+	H
	Improved resting places for all users, areas to socialise and stop along the route, all ages.	+	M
	Improved lighting may help people feel safer along the path, all ages.	+	H
	Improved signage, wayfinding and tactile paving, all ages will benefit from clearer directions and correct infrastructure.	+	M
	Removal of parking along Jubilee Terrace for pedestrians and cyclists, all ages will reduce conflict and improve safety for all users.	+	H
	Removal of parking along Jubilee Terrace for motorists, all ages. Potentially more impactful to elderly and people with children to reduce instances of conflict and risk of collision.	+	H

	Removal of parking along Jubilee Terrace for motorists, all ages. Negative impact for older persons without a blue badge, as they will no longer be able to park along Jubilee Terrace.	-	M
Disability	Improved segregation between pedestrians and cyclists, will reduce conflict and improve safety for all users.	+	H
	Improved resting places for disabled users will provide sufficient locations to stop and rest along the route.	+	H
	Improved lighting may help people feel safer along the path, all users including those with disabilities.	+	H
	Improved signage, wayfinding and tactile paving, particularly those who are blind and partially sighted to make navigating the area safer and more accessible.	+	M
	Formalisation of disabled bays with sufficient yellow box clearance at Jubilee Terrace will benefit blue badge holders in comparison with the existing noncompliant bays.	+	H
	Introduction of parking restrictions on Jubilee Terrace, will create more space for blue badge holders to park. Blue badge have exemption of 3 hours on double yellow lines.	+	H
Gender	Improved lighting will help people to feel safer along the path – Women / girls in particular as highlighted from public consultation.	+	H
Gender Reassignment	Impacts considered neutral.		
Marriage and civil partnership	Impacts considered neutral.		

Pregnancy and maternity	Improved lighting will help people to feel safer along the path, particularly those who are typically more vulnerable during pregnancy and maternity / with children.	+	H
	Improved segregation between pedestrians and cyclists, all users but particular those who are more vulnerable during pregnancy and maternity / with children.	+	H
Race	Impacts considered neutral.		
Religion and belief	Improved pedestrian access to St Barnabus Church	+	L
Sexual orientation	Impacts considered neutral.		
Other Socio-economic groups including :	Could other socio-economic groups be affected e.g. carers, ex-offenders, low incomes?		
Carer	Improved segregation and lighting	+	M
Low income groups	Improved access via means of active travel	+	M
Veterans, Armed Forces Community	Impacts considered neutral.		
Other	Impacts considered neutral.		
Impact on human rights:			
List any human rights impacted.	N/A		

Use the following guidance to inform your responses:

Indicate:

- Where you think that the proposal could have a **POSITIVE** impact on any of the equality groups like promoting equality and equal opportunities or improving relations within equality groups
- Where you think that the proposal could have a **NEGATIVE** impact on any of the equality groups, i.e. it could disadvantage them
- Where you think that this proposal has a **NEUTRAL** effect on any of the equality groups listed below i.e. it has no effect currently on equality groups.

It is important to remember that a proposal may be highly relevant to one aspect of equality and not relevant to another.

High impact (The proposal or process is very equality relevant)	There is significant potential for or evidence of adverse impact The proposal is institution wide or public facing The proposal has consequences for or affects significant numbers of people The proposal has the potential to make a significant contribution to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights.
Medium impact (The proposal or process is somewhat equality relevant)	There is some evidence to suggest potential for or evidence of adverse impact The proposal is institution wide or across services, but mainly internal The proposal has consequences for or affects some people The proposal has the potential to make a contribution to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights
Low impact (The proposal or process might be equality relevant)	There is little evidence to suggest that the proposal could result in adverse impact The proposal operates in a limited way The proposal has consequences for or affects few people The proposal may have the potential to contribute to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights

Step 5 - Mitigating adverse impacts and maximising positive impacts

5.1	Based on your findings, explain ways you plan to mitigate any unlawful prohibited conduct or unwanted adverse impact. Where positive impacts have been identified, what is been done to optimise opportunities to advance equality or foster good relations?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Street lighting proposed.- Segregation of pedestrian / cycle facilities encourages good relations between user groups.- Removal of parking along Jubilee Terrace reduces the risk of conflict between pedestrians / cyclists and motorists.- Further public consultation to encourage local input / foster good relations.	

Step 6 – Recommendations and conclusions of the assessment

6.1	Having considered the potential or actual impacts you should be in a position to make an informed judgement on what should be done. In all cases, document your reasoning that justifies your decision. There are four main options you can take:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- No major change to the proposal – the EIA demonstrates the proposal is robust. There is no potential for unlawful discrimination or adverse impact and you have taken all opportunities to advance equality and foster good relations, subject to continuing monitor and review.	

- **Adjust the proposal** – the EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. This involves taking steps to remove any barriers, to better advance quality or to foster good relations.
- **Continue with the proposal** (despite the potential for adverse impact) – you should clearly set out the justifications for doing this and how you believe the decision is compatible with our obligations under the duty
- **Stop and remove the proposal** – if there are adverse effects that are not justified and cannot be mitigated, you should consider stopping the proposal altogether. If a proposal leads to unlawful discrimination it should be removed or changed.

Important: If there are any adverse impacts you cannot mitigate, please provide a compelling reason in the justification column.

Option selected	Conclusions/justification
<p>No major change to the proposal the EIA demonstrates the proposal is robust. There is no potential for unlawful discrimination or adverse impact and you have taken all opportunities to advance equality and foster good relations, subject to continuing monitor and review.</p>	<p>Proposals are considered to provide a betterment to the existing situation on a number of factors for multiple user group, as detailed within the assessment above.</p> <p>Therefore, the EIA is not considered to demonstrate unlawful discrimination or adverse impacts.</p>

Step 7 – Summary of agreed actions resulting from the assessment

7.1	What action, by whom, will be undertaken as a result of the impact assessment.		
Impact/issue	Action to be taken	Person responsible	Timescale
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Step 8 - Monitor, review and improve

8. 1	How will the impact of your proposal be monitored and improved upon going forward? Consider how will you identify the impact of activities on protected characteristics and other marginalised groups going forward? How will any learning and enhancements be capitalised on and embedded?
	The impact of the proposal will be informed by the two public consultations conducted in December 2022 and November 2024, ensuring that input from protected characteristics groups and other marginalised communities has been considered. Any key findings from these surveys may help refine the final design, and ongoing discussions during the detailed design stage could provide further opportunities to address specific needs. Lessons learned from this process may also help shape future projects and improve inclusive design practices where relevant.