

**Outdoor Access Improvement Plan
Business Plan Year 3 [2015_16]:
End of year progress report**

**Central
Bedfordshire**

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Your countryside

**The Outdoor Access
Improvement Plan for Central
Bedfordshire 2013 to 2031**

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8.3 Action Plan

Connecting Spaces ... taking you through the landscape

| H | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------|--|--------------------|------|----|-----------------|--------------|--|
| H Aim 1 – A Well Maintained Network | | | | | | | | |
| H Outcome 1 – Rights of Way to be available and unobstructed | | | | | | | | |
| H | Ref N° | Deliverable | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress |
| H | 1.1.1 | Create a regular volunteer programme to survey paths enabling communities to identify their priorities. | Access Development | | JW | | | |
| yr3 | | Develop programme of works for the Chiltern Society including links to other vol groups such as P3 and Ramblers RIPPLE | | MF | DL | Medium | | Complete - group established with good attendance and variety of work complete |
| H | 1.1.2 | Create a Maintenance Policy that outlines standards for path maintenance. Assess the network against these standards and establish a works programme to ensure paths meet standards. | ROW | | CN | DL | | |
| yr3 | | Policy signed off by Head of Service and Portfolio Holder | | CN | DL | Medium | Amber | Held up by possible link into Highways Maintenance Plan |
| H | 1.1.3 | FLAGSHIP PROJECT:Dogs in the Countryside Project. Establish a new partnership / initiative to raise awareness with Dog Owners about dog control and fouling issues, reducing the affect on the public of these issues. | Access Development | | JW | | | |
| yr3 | | See Breathing Spaces | | | | | Green | |
| H Outcome 2 – Rights of Way to be signed from the road and waymarked as necessary | | | | | | | | |
| H | 1.2.1 | Establish a new programme of winter gap and signage clearance to ensure that major growth is cut back over the winter. | ROW | | DL | | | |
| yr3 | | No action planned for 15/16 | | | | | | Could be a wider programme with new position within Highways |
| H | 1.2.2 | Establish a signage programme, working with local communities to identify paths that would benefit from distance and destination detail on fingerposts. | ROW | ROWO | DL | | | |
| yr3 | | No action planned for 15/16 | | | | | | More a case of officers now having a default of always looking for d/d details when replace/erect new. |
| H | 1.2.3 | Paths on urban fringe waymarked so that users don't require maps. | ROW | ROWO | DL | | | |
| yr3 | | Tie to Green Wheel projects at Flitwick and Etonbury | | ROWO | DL | Medium | Amber | Wider progress of projects held up by lose of Access Development team in recent restructure |
| H | 1.2.4 | Waymarking of paths incorporated into regular surveying. Volunteers trained and then encouraged to monitor and replace waymark discs in their local area. | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | |
| yr3 | | No Actions planned for 15/16 | | | | | | |

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| H | Aim1 - Quality Measures | | | | | | | |
| H | Ease of use [BVPI178 criteria] | ROW | MF | DL | | | Surveys complete - 73.6% full year figure [down on 2014 but comparable to adjacent authorities] | |
| H | | | | | | | | |
| H | Aim 2 – A Better Defined and Recorded Network | | | | | | | |
| H | Outcome 1 – All Public Rights of Way to be legally recorded by the 2026 DEFRA deadline | | | | | | | |
| H | Ref N ^o | Deliverable | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress |
| H | 2.1.1 | Increase the resolution of anomalies per annum | ROW | ROWO | DL | | | |
| yr3 | | At least 10 anomalies to be resolved in 2015/16 | ROW | ROWO | DL | medium | Amber | 6 anomalies resolved in 15/16. |
| H | 2.1.2 | Process Town and Country Planning Act (TCPA) applications within 4 months of receipt | ROW | ROWO | DL | | | |
| yr3 | | Maintain 100% of applications | ROW | ROWO | DL | medium | | Complete - All applications received have been processed promptly |
| H | 2.1.3 | Improve the Council's performance in determining 'Definitive Map Modification Orders' (DMMOs) within 12 months. Reduce receipt back log | ROW | AM | DL | | | |
| yr3 | | Process Modification orders to assist Leighton Buzzard regeneration | ROW | AM | DL | medium | | Complete - all necessary orders processed to confirmation |
| yr3 | | DMMO cases in Everton and Toddington [Workhouse Lane] | ROW | AM | DL | medium | Green | Report to committee for Everton case. Toddington lower priority under new criteria. |
| H | 2.1.4 | Improve the Council's performance on Public Path Orders (PPO) determination to less than 12 months | ROW | AM | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | Six of the 10 applications yet to be determined [the Back Log] will be processed | | AM | DL | medium | Red | Consultations still to start |
| H | 2.1.5 | Check that all rights of way are recorded on the definitive map. Establish a 'Lost Ways' project that uses volunteers to undertake historical research. | ROW | AM | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | Following lack of interest in record office training, look at Shefford as a pilot parish to establish the level of work | ROW | AM | DL | low | Red | No progress - overtaken by other priorities |
| Yr3 | | Level of work will form bid for second DMO post | ROW | AM | DL | high | Red | No progress - overtaken by establishing maternity cover for mid area officer |
| H | 2.1.6 | Consolidate the Definitive Map and Statement every 3 years | ROW | CW | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | No action planned for 15/16 | | | | | | Next consolidation shaping up to be winter 2016 |
| H | Outcome 2 – Definitive Maps are created for the Excluded areas of Biggleswade and Dunstable | | | | | | | |
| H | 2.2.1 | In line with the Excluded Area Strategy, investigate, map and record rights of way within Dunstable and create a new or add to the existing Definitive Map | ROW | AM | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | Dunstable Area to be commissioned historical research 2015/16 | ROW | AM | DL | low | Red | No progress - knock on effect of larger workload than expected for Biggleswade Area |
| H | 2.2.2 | In line with the Excluded Area Strategy, investigate, map and record rights of way within Biggleswade and create a new or add to the existing Definitive Map | ROW | AM | DL | | | |
| yr3 | | The claim for prow at The Crown PH site | | AM | DL | high | Green | Order made June 2016 |
| yr3 | | Saffron Court claim and 30+ other quick wins | | GH | AM | medium | Green | Orders to be made September 2016 |

| H | Ref N° | Deliverable | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress |
|--|--------|--|--------------------|------|----|-----------------|--------------|--|
| H Aim 3 – A well connected network | | | | | | | | |
| H Outcome 1 – Level of connectivity of the public path network is increased | | | | | | | | |
| H | 3.1.1 | Initially focusing in the Ivel Valley framework area, work with communities to review their local network, GI Planning and local parish / town planning to prioritise local and strategic connectivity issues | Access Development | | JW | | | |
| yr3 | | No Actions Proposed 2015/16 | | | | | | |
| H | 3.1.2 | Working with communities seek to identify the path network that provides access to schools, facilities, transport hubs and key visitor destinations– for incorporation into the Local Area Transport Plan [LATP] and Capital Programme | ROW | ROWO | DL | | | |
| yr3 | | No action likely in 2015/16 | | | | | | Repositioning of ROW in Highways may created opportunities during consultation for LTP 4 |
| H | 3.1.3 | Review public rights of way road and rail crossings. Undertake public use and evidence analysis to identify critical crossing locations and propose improvements as part of future LATP programs and Capital | ROW | ROWO | DL | | | |
| yr3 | | Rail crossings ECML and East-West Rail projects | | ROWO | DL | Medium | Amber | Both projects have slowed due to changes in priorities for Network Rail |
| H | 3.1.4 | Undertake assessment, and where necessary improve, Greensand Ridge walk / ride, the Kingfisher Way and the Icknield Way path and Trail, to reduce dangerous crossings and road sections | Access Development | | JW | | | |
| yr3 | | Undertake review of Icknield Way crossing points and document proposals - linked to NHR2 | | | JW | Medium | Red | No progress to date. |
| H Outcome 2 – Bridleway connectivity is increased | | | | | | | | |
| H | 3.2.1 | FLAGSHIP PROJECT - Produce a plan to increase bridleway connectivity in south west Central Bedfordshire - working with Cycling and Horse riding communities to propose and deliver new network links | Access Development | | JW | | | |
| yr3 | | No Action Proposed 2015/16 | | | | | | |
| H | 3.2.2 | FLAGSHIP PROJECT Produce a plan to increase bridleway connectivity in east Central Bedfordshire - working with Cycling and Horse riding communities to propose and deliver new network links | Access Development | DL | JW | | | |
| yr3 | | Langford Wind farm - Complete path dedication | | AG | DL | medium | Amber | Paperwork being processed by Legal |
| H Outcome 3 - Further severance of the network is minimised | | | | | | | | |
| H | 3.3.1 | Develop a connectivity policy to protect the network from severance and unacceptable mitigation / diversion levels. | Access Development | SH | JW | | | |
| yr3 | | No action proposed 2015/16 | | | | | | |
| H Aim 4 – A more accessible network of routes | | | | | | | | |
| H Outcome 1 – Public Rights of Way will be more accessible to users | | | | | | | | |
| H | Ref N° | Deliverable | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress |
| H | 4.1.1 | Promoted walks promoted by the Council should be stile free and have distance/destination signposting | Access Development | DL | JW | | | |

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| yr3 | | Greensand Ridge Walk - last structures to be removed | | DL | JW | Low | Green | Down to just to two stiles on the whole route |
| yr3 | | Develop Programme for structures on the Kingfisher Way | | JW | JW | Low | Green | BRCC close to finalising their commissioned review and proposals for the Kingfisher Way |
| H | 4.1.2 | Review and update the Least Restrictive Access policy. Use this to develop a matrix which ensures that the network is as accessible as possible | Access Development | | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Least Restrictive Access Policy to be reviewed and updated | Access Development | | JW | Low | Red | No progress to date. |
| H | 4.1.3 | Create seating and resting points on frequently used urban fringe paths and promoted routes | Access Development | | JW | | | |
| yr3 | | No action likely in 2015/16 | | | | | | |
| H | 4.1.4 | Work with local communities to identify internal paths that can be surfaced to improve accessibility to amenities, village hall, church, view point or historic feature. Seek to include these within the LATP process | ROW | ROWO | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | No action likely in 2015/16 | | | | | | Repositioning of ROW in Highways may created opportunities during consultation for new LATP |
| H | 4.1.5 | Reduce the number of restrictive structures on the network; seek to remove structures no longer needed for stock management and upgrade stiles to gaps or gates. | ROW | ROWO | DL | | | |
| yr3 | | Chalgrave - Identify one path to remove structures and focus on promoting this to neighbouring landowners | | DL | DL | medium | Amber | NFU failed to meet promises. Handed to P3 group to discuss direct with farmers |
| H | 4.1.6 | Create public art at key locations on the Greensand Ridge Walk and other promoted routes to reflect local community or heritage and to enhance the environment. | Access Development | | | | | |
| yr3 | | Reinstate Poem on Stone Monolith at Woburn - competition | | JW | JW | Low | Red | Options have been explored with Woburn Heritage Centre. Seeking to work into proposals for the Greensand Landscape project |

H Breathing Spaces... oases of calm at the heart of

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| H Aim 5 – Well managed Countryside Spaces | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--|--------------------------|-------|----|-----------------|--------------|---|
| H Outcome 1 – Countryside sites will be managed to a good state of repair, with visitors understanding the sites and their management and having regard to the intrinsic qualities of the landscape | | | | | | | | |
| H | Ref N ^o | Deliverable | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress |
| H | 5.1.1 | All Level 1 and 2 Countryside sites (19 sites) will have an up to date management and development plan. The local community will be involved in the development of these plans and information will be accessible to them on the plans and their implementation (4 new management plans plus updates required) | | | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | 5.1.1.3 | New plan for Blue Waters / Plaiters Way Finish drafts for Centenary Wood, Flitwick Wood, Campton Wood Finish SSSI sites. | Sites | Sites | CB | High | Green | Blue Waters, Plaiters Way, Centenary Wood - completed. Baulk Wood, Henlow Common/Langford Meadow updated. Flitwick and Campton Woods - some progress has been made on Flitwick and Campton but need to be slipped into 16/17 SSSI's still awaiting review of Countryside Stewardship. Defer to 2016/17 |
| H | 5.1.2 | All Level 3 and 4 Countryside sites (41 sites) will have an up to date management plan/ statement. The local community will be involved in the development of plans for sites with public access and information will be accessible to them on the plans and their implementation (20 sites covered. 21 New Plans/Statements plus updates required). | Sites | | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | 5.1.2.4 | Finish Jubilee Wood and Etonbury Wood. New statements for Mentmore Gardens, Cranfield, Redbourne Wood, Wood End Triangle, Chequers How End, Shenley Hill Updates for existing Toddington Borehole and Flitton Moor management plans. | Sites | Sites | CB | High | Green | Jubilee / Etonbury Wood - Both sites - ongoing, initial planting works completed, on to the Infrastructure for visitors, to include interpretation etc. Statements but updates completed for Biggleswade Linear Wood, Saxon Gate Pocket Park and Drovers Spinney Drafts started for remaining sites - subject to Service/Sites review |
| H | 5.1.3 | Welcome signage and/or interpretation will familiarise people with the site, its management, who is responsible and will encourage people to explore and discover | Sites | | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | 5.1.3.3 | Complete Baulk Wood, Drovers Spinney and Saxon Gate Pocket Park. Update Flitwick Wood and Centenary Wood. | Sites | Sites | CB | High | Green | New Boards done for Centenary Wood, Walkers Green. Saxon Gate Pocket park and Baulk drafts complete and to be installed in 16/17. Drovers to be done in 16/17 with Shefford Town Council Project. No progress Flitwick Wood - slip to 2016/17 |
| Yr3 | 5.1.3.4 | Major projects at Marston Thrift and Flitton Moor. | Sites | Sites | CB | High | Green | Flitton Moor completed and barn is spectacular. New barn kitted out with 8 info / interp boards with local wildlife, geology, history, art information. Marston Thrift - Ongoing clearance works as agreed with Natural England - phase 1 / fencing/surface works. |
| H | 5.1.4 | FLAGSHIP PROJECT - Dogs in the Countryside Project. Develop a new initiative to target Dog fouling, dog control and on site litter | Sites | | LB | | | |
| Yr3 | 5.1.4.3 | DCO fouling signs to be erected on Rights of Way finger posts (2130 in total) with help of volunteers. All CAS countryside sites and partner sites (NT, GST, WT, RSPB, NE) to be signed at entrances (approx. 100 sites). | | SH | LB | High | Green | CAS sites 100% signed. Partner sites 100% signed where requested. Rights of Way complete |
| Yr3 | 5.1.4.4 | Promote dog awareness at events, continue trial spraying, develop local countryside dog code (dependant on appearance of national guidance) and progress appointment of part-time Warden (with funding from partners) | Sites | LB | CB | High | Complete | Poo spraying campaign at Tiddenfoot with good success. Reminder campaign at Baulk. Keep Britain Tidy Eyes posters purchased and erected at Tiddenfoot and Baulk. Other sites to be targeted. National code still not available. Dog Fun area completed at Rushmere and Responsible Dog Owner leaflet for the park. |
| Yr3 | 5.1.4.5 | Work with CBC Legal and AVDC to resolve issues with orders on AV side of Rushmere | Sites | LB | CB | High | Amber | Awaiting AVDC to take PSPOs forward when they tackle town centres. Assistance has been offered - No further progress |
| H | 5.1.5 | Establish new systems to record and manage the countryside sites tree inspections. Seek to improve work programming and health and safety management. | Sites | | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | | Continue to monitor recorded sites and manage the high risk trees and manage the H&S tree budget | Sites | | CB | High | Amber | Ongoing issues with mobile app and IT security |
| H | 5.1.6 | Undertake a review of the management of our SSSI's and County Wildlife Sites to establish new guidelines for the management of the Council's sites. All council sites will be managed to achieve favourable/favourable recovering condition status. | Sites | | CB | | | Information Gather |
| Yr3 | 5.1.6.4 | Continue to monitor and manage key species and features at each site, gaining consent as necessary from Natural England. Marston Thift - ride management to encourage Black Hairstreak, deer control. Glebe Meadows- ongoing thistle management and improved grazing regime. Maulden Church Meadow- thistle and grassland management to encourage spread of wildflowers. | Sites | | CW | | Green | Consent achieved, works on going regarding ride/glade clearance at marston Thrift Ongoing works concerning Glebe meadow grazing agreed/implemented Maulden Church meadow - ongoing improvement works - site improving. |
| H | 5.1.7 | Undertake a review of the management of our SSSI's and County Wildlife Sites to establish new guidelines for the management of the Council's sites. All council sites will be managed to achieve favourable/favourable recovering condition status. | Sites | | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | 5.1.7.3 | Heritage Team and Assets to programme review - | Heritage and Archaeology | | CB | Low | | No action planned in 2015/16 |

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|-----|-------|---|--------------------|----|----|------|-----------------|---|
| H | 5.1.8 | Seek to implement and operate control measures to reduce anti social behaviour, regulate access and alleviate nuisances, on countryside sites and rights of way in order to ensure that all enjoy their visit | Sites | | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | | No Action identified for 15/16 | | | | | | Ongoing issues regarding Traveller Encampments / Fly Grazing and Illegal motorcycle activities in the countryside |
| H | 5.1.9 | FLAGSHIP PROJECT - Develop improved visitor facilities for Houghton Hall Park | Access Development | HR | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Gain Authority 'Permission to Start' from HLF, manage reporting to Board and HLF and the claiming of funding | | JW | JW | High | Complete | Permission to Start granted June 2015 |
| Yr3 | | Tender and Commission Visitor Centre Construction | | PB | JW | High | Green | Tender evaluation delayed due to implication of 'Environmental' items installed in to tender evaluation. |
| Yr3 | | Commission Landscape main contractor | | EA | JW | High | Complete | Landscape works started Feb 2016 |

| H Outcome 2 – Visitors will know the location of their nearest space and be aware of their travel choices | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------|-----|----|-----------------|--------------|---|
| H | 5.2.1 | Travel plans will be developed for our category 1 sites, ensuring that local people are aware and confident to access the sites by walking, cycling and other sustainable methods (e.g. car share). | Access Development | JW | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | | Manage the delivery of Travel Plan for Rushmere | | JW | JW | Low | Green | Rushmere Travel Plan group established 2015 actions identified and allocated / outstanding input from staff that have now left authority, needs to be carried forward as part of future HLF application. |
| Yr3 | | Review and update Travel Plan for Dunstable Downs gateway Centre - National Trust to act as Travel Plan coordinator for site | | JW | JW | Low | Green | To be discussed as agenda item at September Management Group. To discuss at newly formed MAG meetings |
| H Outcome 3 - Existing sites will be enhanced to meet the demands of local communities and the growth agenda | | | | | | | | |
| H | 5.3.1 | A review of existing landholdings will be undertaken with the view of identifying adjacent land that could be justifiably acquired to consolidate existing landholdings, and widen the activities that each site offers. | Access Development | | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | 5.3.1.3 | Assess the potential and aspiration for each site and short report prepared - Expected completion November 2014 | Sites | CLW | CB | Medium | | Will be progressed following implementation of new staff structure and pending service review |
| H | 5.3.2 | Enhance existing and create new facilities on site, e.g. trails, litter/waste bins, toilets, play facilities, public art, car parking, visitor centres to cater for increased use - in line with Leisure Strategy standards and user / nonuser demands | Sites | | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | 5.3.2.8 | Work with Leighton Linlade TC to develop facilities at Tiddenfoot WP / Black Barn stables | Access Development | PB | JW | Medium | Green | No further progress due to Restructure, not high on the to do priorities in context of service review and capital programme works |
| Yr3 | 5.3.2.9 | Undertake land management works, access improvements and erect new interpretation on the new s106 land at Grovebury quarry and Southern Meadows | Sites | PB | CB | Medium | Green | Seeking S106 in principle sum from Planning |
| Yr3 | 5.3.2.10 | Replace volunteers shelter and interpretation at Flitton Moor | Sites | LB | CB | Medium | Green | Barn erected after necessary consents gained. Fitted out with information board and seating. Friends group secured funding with CBC financial support. Brick work, benches and cladding carried out by volunteers, |
| Yr3 | 5.3.2.11 | Enhancements to Etonbury Wood | Sites | CLW | CB | Medium | Green | Benches installed, ongoing discussions regarding car parking / location / Countryside spaces near to new Bridleway route. On going discussion concerning footbridge in from Arelsey development. |
| Yr3 | 5.3.2.12 | Enhancements of visitor facilities at Rushmere Park | Access Development | JW | CB | Medium | Green | In partnership with the GST construct new access to Centre including landscaping completed, undertake improvements to access road awaiting Assets development. Extend play facilities - identified as low priority compared to infrastructure. Develop business for Kitchen extension CBC money secured - awaiting GST/Leader grant application, seek to programme for 2016 assets capital programme / nos 2015 slippage. |
| Yr3 | 5.3.2.13 | Support the Bedford Estate and the GST regarding the development of a new Visitor Hub at Aspley Woods | Access Development | JW | CB | Medium | Green | Actively working with the Estate and private enterprise partner to develop there Project Plan and Business Plan, likeley that planning permission sought 2016/17. |
| Yr. 3 | 5.3.2.14 | New vehicular access to Langford Riverside to allow site to be managed (plus allow for permissive path along River between Langford and Biggleswade and provide access to construct Tarmac bridge) | Sites | LB | CB | High | Green | Initial plans not viable due to complex ownership of access track. Land purchase being investigated with legal. Other options are available, having on going discussions with assets / options of future development in the area. |
| Yr3 | 5.3.2.15 | Continue to enhance facilities at Jubilee Wood | Sites | CLW | CB | Medium | Green | Notice broads in place and water trough has been put in. Inspection passed by Forestry Commission. Benches in. Replacement of trees that have not established this winter 2015. |
| Yr 3 | 5.3.2.16 | Development of new site at Froghall Wood | Sites | CLW | CB | Medium | Green | Woodland establishing, spraying to prevent over topping by weeds completed this summer and mowing of rides to prevent thistle spread and bring in to management. Fencing of Corridor tender set to go out this autumn and area will be rabbit fenced and gates for field access put into place. |
| Yr. 3 | 5.3.2.16 | New fence at Marston Thrift | Sites | TS | CB | High | Green | Details for Tender for works has been preliminary approved by Natural England and County Archaeologist, position of new kissing gate still to be approved by County Archaeologist though in discussions, then tender will go out August for work to be completed by November. |
| H Aim 6 – Commons, Village Greens and Access Areas will be legally defined with | | | | | | | | |
| H Outcome 1 – People will know where their nearest Common, Village Green and Access Area is and are confident of how they can use them. | | | | | | | | |
| H | Ref N ^o | Deliverable | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress |
| H | 6.1.1 | Work with local communities to promote existing Commons | ROW | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Beeston Green - review current position and opportunities for Orchard Development | Sites | SFH | JW | Low | Green | Business & Regeneration have commissioned BRCC to progress, minimal input from Countryside Service |
| H | 6.1.2 | Maintain the register of commons and village greens, increasing availability of access and web accessibility | ROW | CW | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | Scan all Common Land and Village Green maps and register documents | | CW | DL | Medium | Amber | Complete by winter 2016 - on schedule |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------|--|--------------------|----|----|--------|----------|---|
| H | 6.1.3 | In line with government legislation help communities register new Village Greens | ROW | CW | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | Process forthcoming applications in Heath and Reach | ROW | CW | DL | Medium | Amber | Applications still to be received from PC |
| H | 6.1.4 | Ensure that all open access areas are clearly signed and promoted and where appropriate covered by byelaws | Sites | | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | | Monitor site signage and maintain 100% where signs exist | Sites | LB | CB | Low | Complete | Assessment Made - Sites still signed |
| H | 6.1.5 | Manage and promote open access areas in CBC ownership or under a scheme of management in accordance with Aim 5 | Access Development | LB | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Ensure signage, interpretation and access is available to all sites for the authorised users - linked to 5.1.3 | Sites | LB | JW | Low | Complete | Assessment Made - Sites still signed |

Local Spaces... the greenspace on your doorstep

| Aim 7 – More people volunteering | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|---|--------------------|-----|-----------------|--------------|----------|--|
| Outcome 1 – More people will be aware and taking opportunities to volunteer on the environmental initiatives in their area | | | | | | | | |
| Ref N° | Deliverable | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress | |
| H | 7.1.1 | The People Projects Partnership (P3) scheme will continue to be resourced, supported and developed. There will be an increase in community volunteers within existing P3 groups and in the number and range of activities in the scheme | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Based on Estimated 500 current volunteers seek to increase by 5% (stretch 10%) | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Green | Ongoing. Some groups (FOTWP/FoSC/FOLW and G&G P3) have recruited new members, est. 1% increase so far in 2015. See below for training courses. Very small increases in numbers of volunteers. |
| H | 7.1.2 | The skills and roles of P3 groups will be extended and diversified. | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Full rollout of P3 Training Programme | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Green | P3/Friends training pilot in progress with success, full roll-out next year. 4 run so far this year with average attendance of 6 per course. Carried out inhouse - Steve Halton, courses run to date have included Bird Chorus, Woodland surveying, Grassland surveying/identifying. |
| H | 7.1.3 | P3 groups will be encouraged to work with and organise events with other groups (scouts, guides, WI, Rotary Club, schools etc.) to support community cohesion | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Commission GST and BRCC to deliver through output programme | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Green | 2 groups working with schools on wildlife surveys of sites (FOLW and F&G). |
| H | 7.1.4 | The 'Friends of' programme that is operated through our countryside sites will continue to be resourced, maintained and extended to other sites | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Develop 1 new formalised or Ad-hoc 'friends of' group | | | | | Red | Not realised to date. |
| H | 7.1.5 | A new 'Junior Friends of' scheme will be established – which will seek to develop the interest of young people in the natural environment | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | 7.1.5.3 | Explore opportunities to pilot project with Friends groups/local schools/cubs/youth groups etc. | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Amber | Commissioned partners in P3 management through SLA - in progress - not realised to date. Look to explore opportunities with Children Services - 'Forest Schools' in future years. |
| H | 7.1.6 | Increase the involvement of the Youth Parliament and the Young Inspectors as a mechanism of scoping and facilitating an increase in youth engagement with, and enhancements to, the sites and countryside access. | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Meet with Young Inspectors initiative to develop pilot project - work initially on 2 sites. | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Red | Ongoing joint project with WT - 3 tasks held in Houghton Regis area. Stopped - due to lack of capacity/changes. Need to review to re-align with future activities at new HHP visitor centre. |
| H | 7.1.7 | Site management and development plans / statements will clearly identify the tasks that volunteers can support | Sites | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | All 2015/16 reviews of site Management Plan to include volunteer section | Sites | SFH | CB | | Green | Ongoing - feed into new management plans. |
| H | 7.1.8 | Consult with other groups using volunteers to identify best practice in managing their volunteer base | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Complete review of national websites and best practice examples to apply to volunteer groups and P3 Scheme. | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Red | Working to set up internal CBC 'Volunteer Group' to take this forward. Stopped - due to lack of capacity/changes. Need to align with future 'Partnership' activities. |
| H | 7.1.9 | As part of our P3 and 'friends of' initiatives we will establish a regular programme of training called 'Step this way'. This will invest in and support volunteer development. | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Training Programme Established (14 events programmed) | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Amber | 2015 pilot proving very successful (see above). Full rollout will follow in 2016/17. Carried out inhouse - Steve Halton, courses run to date have included Bird Chorus, Woodland surveying, Grassland surveying/identifying. (approx 40 people had attended). Stopped - due to lack of capacity/structural changes |
| H | 7.1.10 | Support communities in achieving Green Flag Awards (community awards for their management of Council owned site). | Sites | SFH | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | 7.1.10.3 | Submit Tiddenfoot Waterside Park for Green Flag Community Award | Access Development | PB | SFH | | Complete | Done - judge visited in May 2015, Tiddenfoot received a Community Green Flag award |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|--|---|--------------------|------|-----|-----------------|--------------|---|
| Yr3 | 7.1.10.4 | Submit Rushmere for Country Park Accreditation, seek Green Flag Award 2016/17 | Access Development | JW | JW | | Amber | Accessibility Audit produced and reviewed by MAG and Board. Current works stopped due to restructure changes. |
| H | 7.1.11 | With review of the first two years of community payback on prow, extend into sites | Sites | LB | LB | | | |
| Yr3 | 7.1.11.3 | Continue to support the work of the National Trust on CBC southern Sites | Sites | LB | LB | | Green | No progress in 2015/15 due to restructure / staffing changes - realignment of work loads / capacities. |
| H | Aim 8 – Increased Town and Parish Council involvement in countryside sites and | | | | | | | |
| H | Outcome 1 – Town and Parish Councils have more opportunities to be involved in the management and development of local sites and public path network. | | | | | | | |
| H | 8.1.1 | Scope the level of involvement that Town and Parish Councils want to have with the management of countryside sites and rights of way. Within resources available seek to adapt delivery to meet community needs. | sites | LB | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | | No further work planned for time being | Sites | LB | CB | | Red | no actions - will form part of Service Review 2016/17 |
| H | 8.1.2 | Develop a reporting system for Town and Parish councils and ward members which will review performance and seek discussion and agreement on proposed future work and priorities. | ROW | RT | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | Rights of Way Officers to meet with each parish in their area once a year | ROW | ROWO | DL | medium | Red | Look for joint working with Area Stewards |
| Yr3 | | Site Officers to meet with each community linked with sites once a year | sites | PB | SFH | | | Ongoing - working with rest of Sites Team. |
| H | 8.1.3 | Establish information, guides and training to inform and coach community leaders in issues relating to the management of Rights of Way and Countryside sites, link with the 'Step this way' volunteer training programme. | Access Development | DL | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Complete development of a RoW management guide for Central Bedfordshire and Town / Parish council (members) - linked with 10.3.5 | ROW | DL | DL | | Red | No action. Make priority for DL in 2016_17 |
| H | 8.1.4 | Ensure that Town and Parish Councils are represented on major sites user forums and flagship projects steering groups established on major sites or initiatives | Sites | | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | 8.1.4.3 | Ensure that Forums are established for Flagship projects | Access Development | CB | JW | Medium | | No progress to date |
| H | Aim 9 – Countryside Access will contribute to supporting the rural economy | | | | | | | |
| H | Outcome 1 – Local Businesses have more opportunities to benefit from the development of sites and Rights of Way. | | | | | | | |
| H | Ref' N° | Deliverable | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress |
| H | 9.1.1 | Literature supporting promoted walks will show the location of relevant local businesses | Access Development | JW | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | All reprinted will show selected and relevant local businesses on maps | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Red | Stopped |
| H | 9.1.2 | Ensure that our walks and rides link with and/or start and finish at appropriate local business or community centres. | Access Development | JW | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Review all leaflets seek to identify easy wins and ensure that these alterations are made in this years reprints. | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Green | Completed |
| H | Outcome 2 - Visitor numbers to Central Bedfordshire countryside sites will increase | | | | | | | |
| H | 9.2.1 | Seek to work with councils - targeting Greensand Ridge Area as a priority - to replicate the success of Sandy Town Councils bid to become a 'Walkers are Welcome Town'. | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Amphill or Leighton Linlade Town Councils to be approached during 2014/15 | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Red | Stopped - due to capacity / restructure |
| Yr3 | | Through the Town and Parish Council groups seek to promote Sandy Walkers are Welcome scheme and raise awareness of scheme generally - initial targeting of GSR communities | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Green | Ongoing - will develop as part of wider Greensand NIA and 'Secrets of the Sands'. No longer 'Sites' direct input / funding due to restructure/capacity. Being progressed by the RoW team. |
| H | 9.2.2 | A range of events showcasing local produce and products, e.g. Farmers Markets, will be held on our countryside sites to encourage a wider range of visitors. | Access Development | JW | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | | Continue to support Farmers Market at Dunstable Downs | Access Development | JW | CB | | Red | No update due to staff having left authority |
| Yr3 | | Work with GST and NT to promote locally sourced foods through Rushmere Park and Dunstable Downs | Access Development | JW | CB | | Red | No update due to staff having left authority |

| H Outcome 3 - Employment opportunities for the Local Area will be maximised | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------|---|--------------------|-----|----|-----------------|--------------|--|--|
| Yr3 | Ref N° | Deliverable | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress | |
| H | 9.3.1 | Endeavour to employ any part-time wardens from the surrounding area subject to the personnel specification being met | ROW | DL | DL | | | | |
| H | | Continue to operate and train Apprentice | ROW | DL | DL | High | | Complete - begun priority modules under Level 3 course. Promoted to provide maternity cover for Mid area | |
| H Aim 10 – More people have access to good quality information and are aware of | | | | | | | | | |
| H Outcome 1 – People will be able to access information about local sites and promoted routes | | | | | | | | | |
| H | 10.1.1 | Maintain and increase the quality of our existing promoted walking and cycling leaflets and work with the British Horse Society to enhance their riding routes , increasing online availability and quality of all routes | Access Development | CW | JW | | | | |
| H | | Update as needed | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Green | Ongoing - contact made with BHS. Work as part of 'Secrets of the Sands' project. | |
| H | 10.1.2 | Enhance access to routes and site information through the use of Apps and other online mediums (e.g. QR Codes, GPS etc.) | Access Development | CW | JW | | | | |
| H | | Develop guidelines for application of QR codes on all CBC interpretation and apply to all future work. | Access Development | CW | JW | | | Reconsider. QR 'old hat' | |
| H | 10.1.3 | Seek to enhance the provision of online information about local sites and promoted routes, ensuring that we learn from best practice in other areas. | Sites | SFH | JW | | | | |
| H | | Marketing group to continually review best practice from other areas and to advise improvements that should be made to service delivery / marketing | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Green | Ongoing - Libraries and Lesiure now sit on Marketing Group. | |
| H | 10.1.4 | Produce a new general 'walks, rides and places to visit' leaflet for general distribution, that will point to our web site for downloads | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | | |
| H | | Produce new general guide / leaflet - link with health and physical activity promotion | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Green | Needs to be progressed with new engagement from the 'Active Lifestyles' team, tie in to LNP / Health Walks? In discussions with oportunities to merge with Obesity Strategy launch or the Bedfordshire and Luton Local Nature Partnership (Jackie Golding) who are seeking to hold an event on Health in late 2015 | |
| H | 10.1.5 | Continue to develop routes that promote family cycling and cycle tourism in Central Bedfordshire, working with colleagues and partners to ensure that there is a range for all needs across the area 'Cycle Central'. | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | | |
| H | | Review options for the creation of a route to connect from Leighton Linlade to Letchworth to make a southern connection from the southern end of the Greensand Cycle way and National Cycle route 12 - seek to develop as opportunities allow. - 2014 >2024 | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Red | No Action to date / Stopped - not high priority for Countryside Service | |
| H | | Develop and Re - Launch Scenic Route | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Red | No Action to date / Stopped - not high priority for Countryside Service | |
| H | | Launch the 'Greensand Cycle Way' | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Green | Completed. | |
| H | 10.1.6 | Continue to support the www.letsgo.org .uk web site that promotes routes and sites in Bedfordshire with links to accommodation providers and other related information | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | | |
| H | | Continue part funding of www.letsgo.org.uk and attendance at Steering Group | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Complete | Looking at Viewranger app as a product to locate all CBC walks as a central point. | |
| H | | Continue part funding of the Bedfordshire Walking festival 2015 | ROW | DL | JW | medium | Complete | 7 walks by staff | |
| H | 10.1.7 | Seek to identify more accessible routes that can facilitate access for family groups with push chairs and people with limited mobility. Promote via our online access trails | Access Development | LB | JW | | | | |
| H | | Launch 10 mapped 'All Access Routes' in 2015 | Access Development | LB | JW | | Green | Routes on Website | |
| H | | Seek to promote standard for adoption by all Green Infrastructure Partners in Central Bedfordshire 2013/14 | Access Development | JW | JW | | Red | No Action to Date / stopped - not high priority for Countryside Service after restructure. | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--------------------|-----|-----|--|----------|---|
| H | 10.1.8 | Seek to improve information, branding and awareness of the Greensand Ridge Walk and Cycle Route | Access Development | JW | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Support the submission of a stage 2 Landscape Partnership HLF bid - ensuring liabilities are minimised | Access Development | JW | JW | | Green | DL has been nominated to Greensand Landscape Partnership Board - SFH has been removed from as project sponsor for the 'Reveiling the Ridge' theme due to Resturcture / capacities of new Countryside Sites team. |
| H | 10.1.9 | Support P3 and Friends Groups to promote countryside access in their own areas (e.g. locally produced leaflets, interpretive panels etc.) | Access Development | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Facilitate the development of leaflets and interpretation with community groups | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Red | Unlikely to happen due to restructure / future service review. |
| H | Outcome 2 – There will be an increased level of awareness of facilities close to where people live | | | | | | | |
| H | 10.2.1 | Have a presence at selected events in Central Bedfordshire either directly or via our partnerships | Access Development | | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Attendance at Canal Festival | | LB | CB | | Complete | |
| Yr3 | | Attendance at Rushmere Summer Fayre | | LB | JW | | Complete | |
| Yr3 | | Attendance at Eid Festival | | LB | SFH | | Complete | |
| Yr3 | | Attendance at Rushmere Christmas Fayre | | | | | | |
| Yr3 | | Attendance at events Re - Houghton Hall Park | | EA | JW | | Green | Part of the HLF project development led by Project Manager. |
| H | 10.2.2 | Encourage and support Friends and P3 groups to attend local and community events to promote countryside access | Sites | SFH | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | | Work with Friends to set up local, site-based, events - 1 per annum. | Access Development | SFH | CB | | Green | Ongoing with Sites Team. Event at Baulk Wood. |
| H | 10.2.3 | Support skill development within communities and groups through the 'Step this way' training programme | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Red | No Resources |
| H | 10.2.4 | Develop outreach programmes with communities that are local but under-represented on the Councils sites, either directly or in conjunction with local partners. | Access Development | SFH | JW | | Red | No Resources |
| Yr3 | | See 7.1.9, above. | | | | | Amber | 2015 pilot proving very successful (see above). Full rollout will follow in 2016/17. Carried out inhouse - Steve Halton, courses run todate have included Bird Chorus, Woodland surveying, Grassland surveying/identfying. (approx 40 people had attended). Stopped - due to lack of capacity/structuaral changes |
| H | 10.2.5 | Develop outreach programmes with communities that are local but under-represented on the Councils sites, either directly or in conjunction with local partners. | | SFH | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | Continue to support Eid at 2 festivals on Dunstable Downs. | access development | SFH | JW | | Complete | Ongoing -attending Eid Festival on 2nd August 2015. |
| H | Outcome 3 – People will have good access to technical information about rights of way issues and the management of their local sites | | | | | | | |
| H | 10.3.1 | Online problem reporting for Public Rights of Way created | ROW | CW | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | CAMs extension to provide Web reporting for Sites and Rights of Way | | PB | DL | | Amber | Require IT support in planned development |
| H | 10.3.2 | Information about rights of way processes will be available on line (temporary closures / diversion orders / how to guides) | ROW | CW | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | Make use of the corporate refresh of the web pages to comply with this information | | GF | CW | | Green | Officers reviewed pages responsible for as part of Corporate refresh |
| H | 10.3.3 | Provide information on permissive paths [ppas] and cycle tracks in addition to the definitive network to provide a full picture of countryside access | ROW | CW | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | Continue to show permissive path agreements on online mapping. Digitise and launch cycle track data by winter 2015 | ROW | CW | SFH | | Amber | Work with colleagues to be carried out later in year. |
| H | 10.3.4 | Develop a guide for Town & Parish Councils and Community leaders on the management and roles and responsibilities of Rights of Way and wider countryside access | ROW | DL | JW | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|--|--------------------|-------|----|------|----------|---|
| Yr3 | | Draft - a guide for Town & Parish Councils and Community leaders on the management and roles and responsibilities of Rights of Way and wider countryside access | Access development | DL | JW | High | Red | Look to remove - repeating 8.1.3 |
| Aim 11 – Support and Provide Environmental Education opportunities | | | | | | | | |
| Outcome 1– Parents and schools will have informed access to the natural environment | | | | | | | | |
| H | 11.1.1 | New parental support / e-learning web provision will be developed to promote informed family access in the natural environment. | | | | | | |
| Yr3 | | No action planned for 2015/16 | | | | | | |
| H | 11.1.2 | Continue to support our partners in the delivery of educational events e.g. Bug Lab / Run Wild and Forest Schools | sites | sites | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | | Greensand Commissioned to deliver Bugs Lab | sites | | PB | | Complete | Bugs lab delivered across 5 CBC sites - Flitwick Wood, Centenary Wood, Houghton Hall park, Linslade Wood and Tiddenfoot |
| Yr3 | | NT deliver Run Wild every first Sunday - throughout the year | sites | | LB | | Complete | Delivered by NT every Month and supported by the National Trust '50 things' programme |
| H | 11.1.3 | Introduce schools to their local green spaces; either facilitate through partners or provide direct support | Access Development | | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | No action planned for 2015/16 | | | | | | |
| H | 11.1.4 | Through our partners we will promote the use of countryside sites by schools for educational activity | | | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | | Existing SLA's will have an action point related to the development of the education agenda | Sites | LB | CB | | Green | SLA's renewed for the coming year - performance under review every 3 months |
| Yr3 | | We will work with the NT and the GST to develop Dunstable Downs and Rushmere Park as an educational base - seek to develop education centre at Rushmere Park 2013 - 16 | sites | JW | CB | | Green | Monitored through MAG and Board at Rushmere and Management Group at DD. |
| Yr3 | | Through our partners we will promote the use of countryside sites by schools for educational activity | sites | sites | CB | | Green | Work done with Wildlife Trust and Youth Parliament. |

Healthy Spaces... which encourage us to get

| H Aim 12 – Countryside Spaces and Rights of Way will facilitate play, | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--|--------------------|-------|----|--------------|--|
| H Outcome 1 – Strategies and new delivery partners will recognise the positive and cost effective role that countryside access plays in the health and wellbeing of the population | | | | | | | |
| H | Ref N ^o | Deliverable | Team | R | A | Progress RAG | Progress |
| H | 12.1.1 | Ensure the health benefits that countryside access offers are properly documented in all relevant strategies and policy statements | Access Development | JW | JW | | |
| Yr3 | | Opportunities will be optimised as they emerge | Access Development | | JW | | As opportunities arise, following restructure this needs to be reviewed, to work closer with Lifestyles & Activities team. |
| Yr3 | | Incorporate into Public Health Obesity Strategy | Access Development | JW | JW | Green | Progress works in to the Local Nature Partnership (LNP) |
| H Outcome 2 – Countryside Access will be a place to play and enjoy, with children and young people rediscovering and appreciating the natural environment | | | | | | | |
| H | 12.2.1 | Continue to develop 'Run Wild' natural play events at countryside sites | Sites | sites | CB | | |
| Yr3 | | Events planned for Rushmere, Baulk Wood and Dunstable Downs | Sites | LB | JW | Green | Ongoing annual events |
| Yr3 | | Continue to operate Monthly Events at Dunstable Downs | Sites | JW | JW | Green | 50 things to do before you are 11 3/4 is progressing well, with regular events and youth engagement, part of the National Trust annual events programme. |
| H | 12.2.2 | Develop and promote the use of formal (as appropriate) and natural play facilities on countryside sites | Sites | JW | CB | | |
| Yr3 | | Seek to investigate opportunities to install play equipment and investigate Highwire Options at Rushmere Park - prepare business case | Access Development | JW | JW | Green | On going play equipment opportunities, agreed to dismiss Highwire options due to restrictions of capital Programme and need to develop the business case. |
| Yr3 | | Extend sculpture trail at Rushmere to connect both Visitor Centres | Access Development | | JW | Green | Ongoing opportunities, subject to funding opportunities, look to review / undertake works and look to deliver in 2016/17 |
| H Outcome 3 – Activities and events that promote Health and Physical Activity on countryside sites will promote the use of the wider landscape | | | | | | | |
| H | 12.3.1 | Review pilot to install outdoor gym equipment on National Trust Partnership sites; look to extend the installation of fitness equipment and resources to other sites if positively evaluated | Sites | JW | CB | | |
| Yr3 | | Once installed, work with National Trust to review usage and success of equipment - Chase to resolve outstanding actions 2016/16 | Sites | PB | JW | Red | National Trusts failed to complete the delivery of this in 2014 - this has now been identified as a priority to address in 2016/17. Outcome of review / structure changes / resources to manage / monitor. |
| H | 12.3.2 | Support the use of our sites for exercise programmes and events e.g. military fitness, BLACKS / North Face – Single track and assault trail run. | sites | JW | CB | | |
| Yr3 | | Enable and support the National Trust to continue to deliver programmes on partnership sites | | | | Green | Continued support is provided to NT. |
| Yr3 | | Scope the development of Park Run at Dunstable Downs - 17/18 | | | | Green | Land Tenancy has now transferred back to the National Trust, Headland Development in progress to enable route creation. |
| Yr3 | | Pilot and seek to Launch Parkrun at Rushmere - October 2015 | | | | Green | Initial 'Park Run' pilot was successful, weekly Park Run events took place for the remainder of the year and have proven to be popular. |
| Yr3 | | Seek options and opportunities in the east of Central Bedfordshire | | | | Green | Initial discussions with Shuttleworth Trust re Parkrun, possibilities but want to see how Rushmere / Dunstable Downs Develops no further progress in 2015/16. |
| H | 12.3.3 | Develop and promote orienteering events and permanent courses on suitable countryside sites | Sites | LB | CB | | |
| Yr3 | | Seek to Run Xplore events on 4 CBC Countryside sites in a partnership with Physical Activity Team | | JW | PB | Green | In discussion, one site identified currently |
| H | 12.3.4 | Develop 1 mile exercise walks as part of 'walk 4 life' NHS programme. Ensure that every community has a route. | Access Development | DL | JW | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|--------|---|--------------------|-----|----|----------|--|
| Yr3 | | 4 more Walk a Mile routes to be developed (1 per area) | | DL | DL | Red | No longer relevant following restructure |
| Yr3 | | Countryside sites to investigate oportunities | Sites | LB | | Amber | Sites to consider actions 'Explorer' activities through active lifestyles team. |
| H | 12.3.5 | FLAGSHIP PROJECT - Develop a new initiative, in partnership with Leisure Strategy outputs to support and extend Central Bedfordshire Health Walks programme and seek wider opportunities to support health and wellbeing outputs through outdoor and countryside access activities. | Access Development | | JW | | |
| Yr3 | | Seek to develop simple hand-out on the health benefits of walking and Openspace, for predominantly internal use (See | Access Development | SFH | JW | Complete | Hand out developed by CSH |
| Yr3 | | Hold seminar with Centre for Sustainable Health Care to promote health benefits of the Natural Environment. | Access Development | SFH | JW | Green | In discussions with and merge with Obesity Strategy launch or the Bedfordshire and Luton Local Nature Partnership (Jackie Golding) who are seeking to hold an event on Health in 2016. |
| Yr3 | | Negotiate additional funding for Health Walks from Physical activity / public health. | Access Development | | JW | Amber | Discussions between CAS / Physical Activity Team and BRCC who operate the Health Walking programme under CBC commission. Proposals are in development for programme extensions. |

H Growing Spaces... productive spaces

| H Aim 13 – The quantity and quality of rights of way and | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------|---|--------------------|-----|----|-----------------|--------------|---|
| H Outcome 1 – The Council will understand the needs of users and non users and the role that the site and access routes play in the green infrastructure network. This will steer future management and site development. | | | | | | | | |
| H | Ref N° | Deliverable | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress |
| H | 13.1.1 | Countryside Site surveys will be undertaken every 3 years on major sites and every 5 years on the lower profile sites, with an action plan developed and publicised locally | | | | | | |
| Yr3 | | Rushmere Park, Stockgrove and The Swiss Garden to be surveyed in 2015 | | CB | CB | High | Green | Surveys scheduled for late Spring/Summer 2015 |
| Yr3 | | 2 Level smaller sites - Whipsnade Heath and Etonbury Wood to be surveyed in 2015 | | CB | CB | High | Green | Surveys scheduled for Spring 2015 |
| H | 13.1.2 | Rights of way [telephone and site] surveys undertaken every 3 years. Used to inform resource allocation and OAIP action plan reviews | ROW | DL | | | | |
| Yr3 | | No Actions 2015/16 | | | | | | No funding until 2017/18 |
| H | 13.1.3 | A detailed assessment of the needs of users and stakeholders of the rights of way network will be undertaken every 5-10 years | ROW | JW | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | No Actions 2015/16 | | | | | | |
| H | 13.1.4 | Establish and operate User Forums on all major sites and projects | Sites | | | | | |
| Yr3 | | Establish new forum with Flitwick TC for the Flitwick GW. | Access Development | GH | JW | Medium | Red | Dependent on replacement officer being found with the loss of both GH and JW |
| H | 13.1.5 | A study will be undertaken with an academic partner into the development of a model that can project the expected use of countryside facilities from new development | Access Development | | | | | |
| Yr3 | | No Actions 2015/16 | | | | | | |
| H | 13.1.6 | FLAGSHIP PROJECT - Greenspace master planning and accessible landscapes - develop a new approach to promoting access to selected areas of Central Bedfordshire, this master planning approach will look to both improve the quality of access and the visitor experience - initial work to focus in the Ivel and Ouzel Valleys and in the Chalk Arc around Luton, Dunstable and | Access Development | | | | | |
| Yr3 | | Continue development of Brogbrough lake and Landfill Cycle plan. | Access Development | JW | JW | High | Green | Cycle plan proposals developed and meeting scheduled with Local Councillors to discuss concept, development methodology, funding and possible timeline. Needs to be reviewed due to lead officer no longer employed at CBC. |
| Yr3 | | Finalise and consult the Stotfold, Arlesey and Fairfield Green Wheel (Etonbury Wheel) | Access Development | CLW | JW | Medium | Green | BRCC commissioned to deliver Greenwheel initiatives, Arlesey / Etonbury plan to be consulted in 2016/17 and as to how it informs the Arlesey Cross Proposals. |
| Yr3 | | Develop and Consult on Flitwick Green Wheel / Green and Natural Space Plan | Access Development | GH | JW | Low | Red | Dependent on replacement officer being found with the loss of both GH and JW |
| H | 13.1.7 | Sites will be categorised and a clear vision developed, for the standards of management and future development of each site. This will be linked to supporting the implementation of the Leisure Strategy | sites | PB | CB | | | |
| Yr3 | | Undertake Review of leisure strategy and develop categorisation management standards for CAS countryside sites | | PB | JW | Low | | To be reviewed after internal restructure |
| Yr3 | | Work with colleagues within Leisure Policy to develop a 'design guide' for greenspace development within new developments | | PB | JW | Low | | To be reviewed after internal restructure |
| H | 13.1.8 | Standards and Specifications will be drawn up to support for the delivery of linear access routes in new developments to support and supplement the Design Guide. | ROW | | DL | | | |
| Yr3 | | ROW Standards for developers | | GH | DL | medium | | Complete - details to developers and online |

| Outcome 2 – New sites will be established to meet the demands of increased housing | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|---|--------------------|-----|----|------|-------|---|
| H | 13.2.1 | Monitor planning applications to ensure that the quality and quantity of green space and rights of way provision meets agreed standards | | | JW | | | |
| Yr3 | | New Country Park at Flitwick | | GH | JW | | Green | Country Park Designed and Consultation started March 2015, currently rdeveloping establishment cost schedule, funding options paper to be established later in 2015/16 |
| Yr3 | | Clophill Lakes - Facilitating development proposals | | JW | JW | | Green | See 13.2.2 (Below) |
| Yr3 | | Houghton Regis North (NRH 1 and 2) | | PB | JW | | Green | Continue to respond to Applications, limited opportunity to gain any contributions due to changes in Planning conditions/requirements |
| Yr3 | | Leighton Buzzard East, Pratts Quarry, Grovebury, Church meadows | | PB | JW | | Green | Continue to respond to Applications, limited opportunity to gain any contributions due to changes in Planning conditions/requirements |
| Yr3 | | New Country Park at Ampthill - Redbourne | | CLW | JW | | Green | Initial Plan submitted by developer - no further progress |
| Yr3 | | Support the scoping and possible development of a Blue Lagoon Country Park | | JW | JW | | Green | Continue to support tenant, currently focusing on public access to and around the site. With Master Planning of future proposals to be developed early 2016 |
| Yr3 | | New Land at Arlesey Cross to provide connection to Etonbury Wood | | JW | JW | | Green | initial discussions have taken place / initial proposed alignment of bridge over bypass and location within wooded area. |
| H | 13.2.2 | New countryside sites in areas identified in the Leisure Strategy and the Green Infrastructure Plan will be developed to meet deficits in location and types of sites available | | | | | | |
| Yr3 | | Seek to develop proposals to deliver new Countryside site at Clophill Lakes | Access Development | JW | CB | High | Green | Developers have submitted initial pre - app for Country Park with facilitating development, this has been responded to and meeting with Planner and Developer established, no further progress. |

Fundraising Plan to Support Business Plan Objectives

| Chapter | Aim/ Outcome | Ref N° | Deliverable | Actions | Potential Funding Streams | £ required | Timescales |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------|--|--|--|------------|--------------|
| Connecting Spaces | Aim 1, Outcome 1 | 1.1.3 | FLAGSHIP PROJECT: Establish a new partnership / initiative to raise awareness with Dog Owners about dog control and fouling issues, reducing the affect on the public of these issues. | Identify potential funding to support roll out of project; scope of project dependent on funding available | Franchise opportunities | | May-14 |
| Connecting Spaces | Aim 2, Outcome 1 | 2.1.5 | Check that all rights of way are recorded on the definitive map. Establish a 'Lost Ways' project that uses volunteers to undertake historical reseach. | Explore opportunities for external funding to support the project | | | Mar-14 |
| Connecting Spaces | Aim 4 , Outcome 1 | 4.1.6 | Arts programme created for Bigglewade Green Wheel - targeting eastern development | Identify potential funding to support arts programme | | | TBA |
| Breathing Spaces | Aim 5, Outcome 1 | 5.1.3 | Welcome signage and/or interpretation will familiarise people with the site, its management, who is responsible and will encourage people to explore and discover | Assess viability of securing external funding/ advertising income for welcome signage | Chilterns SDF/ Sponsorship & Advertising/ Princes Countryside Fund | | Mar-14 |
| Breathing Spaces | Aim 5, Outcome 1 | 5.1.7 | Undertake a review of the management of ancient monuments on the Council's countryside sites and ensure Management and Development Plans cover the protection, maintenance and promotion of these sites. | Proactively advice PM of any funding available to support ancient monuments; seek funding to support aspirations and activity stemming from Management & Development Plans | | | Mar-14 |
| Breathing Spaces | Aim 5, Outcome 1 | 5.19 | FLAGSHIP PROJECT - Develop improved visitor facilities for Houghton Hall Park | i) If successful at Round 1, develop Round 12 bid to support project activity ii) If unsuccessful at Round 1, seek feedback and look to resubmit in combination with S106 bid iii) Agree and manage lease/ income from carpark extension iv) Create business plan for HHP financial sustainability/ Heritage Hub | HLF/ S106 | | Aug-14 |
| Breathing Spaces | Aim 5, Outcome 3 | 5.3.2 | Enhance existing and create new facilities on site, e.g. trails, litter/waste bins, toilets, play facilities, public art, car parking, visitor centres to cater for increased use - in line with Leisure Strategy standards and user / nonuser demands | Actions to be determined following adoption of Leisure Strategy | | | 2014 onwards |
| Local Spaces | Aim 9, Outcome 1 | 9.1.1 | All reprints of leaflets will show selected and relevant local businesses on maps | Opportunities will be reviewed for advertising linked to a review of funding (this will follow on from this years reprint - into 2013/14) | | | May-14 |
| Local Spaces | Aim 10, Outcome 1 | 10.1.2 | Investigate current opportunities and developments to use mobile technology (apps etc). | Secure funding to establish one app | | | Mar-14 |
| Local Spaces | Aim 10, Outcome 1 | 10.1.4 | Produce new general guide / leaflet - 2014/15 link with health and physical activity promotion | Identify any potential funding/ advertising income | | | May-14 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|--------|--|--|--|--|--------------|
| Local Spaces | Aim 11, Outcome 1 | 11.1.1 | Develop new initiative to promote parental learning and to link with partners existing school and youth learning resources. To be developed as PDFs initially with a view to developing a website. | Identify funding for website and social media campaign | | | Mar-14 |
| Local Spaces | Aim 11, Outcome 1 | 11.1.4 | We will work with the NT and the GST to develop Dunstable Downs and Rushmere Park as an educational base - seek to develop education centre at Rushmere Park 2013 - 16 | Support funding bids led by the GST where required | | | May-16 |
| Healthy Spaces | Aim 12, Outcome 2 | 12.2.2 | Continue to develop play and exercise offer at Rushmere Park. | Funding applications made to secure facilities at Rushmere Park | | | Mar-14 |
| Growing Spaces | Aim 13, Outcome 1 | 13.1.6 | FLAGSHIP PROJECT - Greenspace master planning and accessible landscapes - develop a new approach to promoting access to selected areas of Central Bedfordshire, this master planning approach will look to both improve the quality of access and the visitor experience - initial work to focus in the Ivel and Ouzel Valleys and in the Chalk Arc around Luton, Dunstable and Houghton Regis | Actions to stem from individual plans | | | 2014 onwards |
| Growing Spaces | Aim 13, Outcome 2 | 13.2.2 | Through Greenspace and Landscape master planning seek to identify opportunities to create new green spaces. Seek opportunities at Sundon Quarry and others as emerge. | Proactively identify potential funding sources for land purchase and site development. | | | Mar-14 |

Generic and Core Activities

| Aim | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|--|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----|----|-----------------|--------------|---|
| Ref N° | Deliverable | Resources | Timescale | Partners | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress |
| | Section 106 Management | £ | Short | NT,GST,W T, BRCC,HRT C, ST, MVT | Support | CR | CB | | | |
| Yr2 | S106 schemes - monitor allocation and ensure schemes are progressed and spend occurs | £ | Mar-14 | NT,GST,W T, BRCC,HRT C, ST, MVT | Support | CR | DL | medium | Green | Ongoing |
| Yr3 | S106 schemes - monitor allocation and ensure schemes are progressed and spend occurs | £ | Mar-15 | NT,GST,W T, BRCC,HRT C, ST, MVT | Support | CR | JW | | | Ongoing - staff / structure chages impct on Spending Officer activity role. |
| | JLAF management and Monitoring | £ | Short | Various | | CR | JW | | | |
| Yr2 | LAF - management of Forum and production of annual report | £ | Mar-14 | Various | Access Development | JW | CB | | | Draft Annual Report Proforms for 12/13 produced. To be submitted to Natural England once approved by JLAF |
| Yr3 | LAF - management of Forum and production of annual report | £ | Mar-15 | Various | Access Development | CR | JW | | | |
| | Fundraising | £ | Short | Various | | HR | JW | | | |
| Yr2 | Continue to identify and process fund raising schemes/bids | £ | Mar-14 | Various | Access Development | HR | JW | | | OAIP Business Plan now includes section on Fundraising |

| Aim | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|--|-----------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----|----|-----------------|--------------|--|--|
| Ref N° | Deliverable | Resources | Timescale | Partners | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress | |
| Yr3 | Continue to identify and process fund raising schemes/bids | £ | Mar-15 | Various | Access Development | HR | JW | | | Bids submitted to Bidwell West for Dunstable Downs extension and Houghton Hall Park - NOT AWARDED. But subsequently a further £200k has been identified in s106. Country House Foundation, bid submitted and unsuccessful. GI s106 bid submitted and awarded. HLF bid awarded for £2.2m and permission to start granted. | |
| | Capital Programme bids and monitoring | ££ | Short | NT,GST,W T, BRCC,HRT C, ST | ROW | CR | CB | | | | |
| Yr2 | Implementation of 2014/15 Capital Programme | ££ | Mar-14 | NT,GST,W T, BRCC,HRT C, ST | Support | LA | CB | | | Capital programme spend being closely monitored. Regular meetings with the CBC Capital Programme Manager and with Countryside Access Officers | |
| Yr3 | Implementation of 2015/16 Capital Programme | ££ | Mar-15 | NT,GST,W T, BRCC,HRT C, ST | Support | CR | CB | | | Ongoing - staff / structure changes impact on Spending Officer activity role. | |
| | Revenue budgets and monitoring | £ | Short | | Support | LA | CB | | | | |
| | Set up new cost centres, ensure spend in each centre is correct and monitor year spend | £ | Mar-14 | | Support | LA | CB | | | New cost centres established. | |
| | Dissegregate CAS budget to reflect composition of restructured service | | Mar-15 | | Support | LA | CB | | | New Cost Centres / wbs codes created after re-aligning budget slip between Highways / Countryside (Leisure) | |
| | CAS 500 | £ | Short - Long | | | HR | CB | | | | |
| Yr2 | Update CAS 500 paper to reflect changing circumstances | £ | Mar-14 | | Access Development | HR | CB | | | Update deferred, overtaken by budget savings. Service restructure may affect further consideration of schemes. | |

| Aim | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|--|-----------|-----------|----------|--------------------|----|----|-----------------|--------------|--|
| Ref' N° | Deliverable | Resources | Timescale | Partners | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress |
| Yr2 | Discussions with Milton Keynes Council regarding joint working | £ | Mar-14 | | Access Development | KO | CB | | | Discussions complete. Further progress unlikely |
| | Site Storage and base | £ | Short | | | | | | | |
| Yr2 | Complete relocation of Site Storage Base to Clophill Nursery | £ | Mar-14 | | ROW | CN | CB | | | Completed |
| | Staff Development - Training & PDRs | £ | Short | | | | CB | | | |
| Yr2 | All staff to have PDR and Reviews | £ | Mar-14 | | | | CB | | | All PDR's carried out. Reviews to be undertaken around December/January. |
| Yr2 | Training identified in PDR's actioned | £ | Mar-14 | | | | CB | | | Training included in Division Matrix |
| Yr3 | All staff to have Your Year Reviews and training programmed in | £ | Mar-15 | | | | CB | | | All Reviews carried out in May/June and training programmed in |

| Aim | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|--|-----------|-----------|----------|------|-----|----|-----------------|--------------|--|
| Ref N° | Deliverable | Resources | Timescale | Partners | Team | R | A | Priority Rating | Progress RAG | Progress |
| | Risk and Health and Safety | £ | Short | | | | | | | |
| Yr2 | Risk Assessments - look at standard generic forms to cover CBC involvement on supervising contracts/jobs | £ | Mar-14 | | | CN | CB | | | No longer required with changes in Procurement processes |
| Yr2 | Undertake Information Asset Risk Assessment | £ | Mar-14 | | | | CB | | | Assessment completed |
| Yr2 | Work closely with Risk/insurance Team to reduce potential claims | £ | Mar-14 | | | | CB | | | Liaison with Insurance Team on a case by case basis |
| Yr3 | Work closely with Risk/insurance Team to reduce potential claims | £ | Mar-15 | | | | CB | | | Liaison with Insurance Team on a case by case basis |
| | Self Service | £ | Short | | | LA | CB | | | |
| Yr2 | All staff trained and operating Self Service | £ | Jul-14 | | | | CB | | | All staff trained in Self Service |
| | CAS relocation to Priory House | £ | Short | | | LA | CB | | | |
| Yr2 | Manage relocation to ensure continued efficient running of Service | £ | Mar-14 | | | LA | CB | | | Complete |
| | Marketing | £ | Short | | | SFH | CB | | | CCC |
| Yr3 | social media | | Mar-15 | | | CW | JW | | | Ongoing |

| Officer | Team | Priority | RAG | Officer2 |
|---------|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| CB | ROW | High | Red | CB |
| JW | Sites | Medium | Amber | JW |
| DL | Access Development | Low | Green | DL |
| LA | Support | | Amber | LA |
| ROWO | ALL | | Complete | KO |
| Sites | | | | HR |
| KO | | | | |
| HR | | | | SFH |
| | | | | CR |
| SFH | | | | PB |
| CR | | | | CLW |
| PB | | | | LB |
| CLW | | | | TS |
| LB | | | | GH |
| TS | | | | RT |
| GH | | | | AG |
| RT | | | | MF |
| AG | | | | CN |
| MF | | | | AM |
| CN | | | | CW |
| AM | | | | SS |
| CW | | | | GF |
| SS | | | | SL |
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