

Rights of Way Improvement Plans Resulting from Housing Developments

Where there are new housing developments new paths will be needed to:

- Mitigate the effects of the developments on the safety and amenity of existing routes
- Encourage sustainable transport on foot, by cycle and by wheel chair users.
- Support the health and wellbeing of both the residents of the new houses and the general public by providing accessible leisure routes for walkers, cyclists and equestrians including those with disabilities.

Mitigation measures which may be necessary include:

- Multi-user off-carriageway routes alongside narrow lanes which will carry additional traffic
- Alternative rural routes to replace those affected by urban development
- Safe crossing points where routes for pedestrians, cyclists or horse riders cross busy roads

For Sustainable Transport direct all weather routes will be needed for pedestrians and cyclists, including those with disabilities, between:

- Houses and local shops and major retail centres
- Houses and local places of employment
- Houses and railway stations
- Houses and schools and colleges

For their health and wellbeing people must be able to get access to and enjoyment from the countryside without needing to use their cars. New developments will need permeable boundaries leading to:

- A network of routes of varying lengths suitable for equestrians, cyclists and pedestrians including dog walkers, families and those with disabilities
- Connections to longer distance routes for equestrians, cyclists and walkers

To protect the rural economy equestrian establishments need connections to the public bridleway network without the need to ride through new urban developments or along busy roads.

Since new housing developments will be permanent these new routes need to be made equally permanent by dedication as Public Rights of Way

St Albans Access Forum

January 2017