

Midlothian Core Paths Plan consultation.

Spokes Dalkeith's response to Midlothian Council's consultation on core paths, which appeared online at <https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/core-paths> and which closed on 14th December 2020.

This was the second round of consultation on a proposed update to the [Midlothian Core Paths Plan \(PDF\)](#) first published in 2009, in line with the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

A further consultation on the Draft Plan is proposed to take place in 2021.

In Eskbank, a new core path is shown from Dalhousie Road to the north west corner of Esk Valley Terrace. However, NCN 1 actually goes via the junction of College Medway and Dalhousie Road, and the core path should probably follow the same route.

The southern end of the Roslin-Shawfair path is already a core path, but is also shown on the map of proposed new core paths. The section between Dryden Farm and Manse Road is included in the existing network (but not on the map of proposals). We hope that this doesn't mean this section is proposed for removal.

A connection between the Roslin-Shawfair path and Kaimes View in Danderhall is marked as included in the existing plan as "aspirational", but not included with the rest of the Roslin-Shawfair path on the proposed plan – we think it should be.

If the core path alongside the A7 were extended further south, as far as council boundary, this would facilitate journeys to/from destinations to the east of the A7, such as Tynehead.

There are gaps in the network which could possibly be filled in:

- Between the paths alongside the A6106 and the A68.
- Along the B6392 (Bonnyrigg distributor road).
- Along the A703.
- Along the A7, at Newtongrange/Gorebridge.

Finally, there are a number of "aspirational" paths in the council's [Active Travel Strategy](#) which it may be useful to include as aspirational core paths as well. For example:

- The Roslin-Peebles path (RR4).
- The Lasswade viaduct (BL12).
- The eastwards continuation of the Roslin-Shawfair path along the old railway line at Millerhill (DS2).
- The proposed cycleway between Lasswade and Edinburgh (BL4).
- The proposed cycleway parallel to the bypass between Straiton and Hillend (LB6).

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Submitted 14th December 2020.