

Appendix 6 – Walking Infrastructure Review

Aim

To establish the use and accessibility of the walking network in the Telford & Wrekin borough. Through conducting a site visit, the quality of certain routes shall be evaluated and categorised into their most appropriate use.

Methodology

Sites were established based on a review of Open Street maps¹ walking routes and the Travel Telford Cycling Map² in relation to the geographical focus areas (Active North, Attractive Centre and Accessible South). It was recognised that the assessment being undertaken by the cycling audit at the same time would cover a number of shared-use routes, therefore attention was focused more on walking-only routes and where there were connections to various landmarks, local centres, town centres or industrial parks.

To assess the whole of the Telford and Wrekin borough appropriately, a number of small local centres were reviewed to ensure the focus areas were representative of the region as a whole.

As such, the following sites chosen were:

| Site | Area | Site | Area |
|------|---------------------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1 | Lilleshall | 7 | High Ercall |
| 2 | Newport (Church Aston) | 8 | Longdon upon Tern |
| 3 | Forton (outside of borough) | 9 | Wellington |
| 4 | Newport/Harper Adams University | 10 | Oakengates |
| 5 | Tibberton | 11 | Telford |
| 6 | Waters Upton | | |

At each site, an evaluation was conducted using the following survey template:

Walking Survey

Site:

Reason for site choice: Residential walking connections

Route focus:

In this section, rate on a 1-5 scale (1 being poorest quality, 5 being no change needed) and/or make comments when necessary. Please also provide any relevant photos as evidence.

Areas to comment/focus on:

Lighting:

Security:

Signage Quality (rustiness, readability etc.):

Surface Quality: Accessibility of the road/walkway: Number of adjacent cyclists (please refer to QoS ratings):

Connectivity to areas:

Directness:

Severance/barriers:

Type of route:

Any other comments:

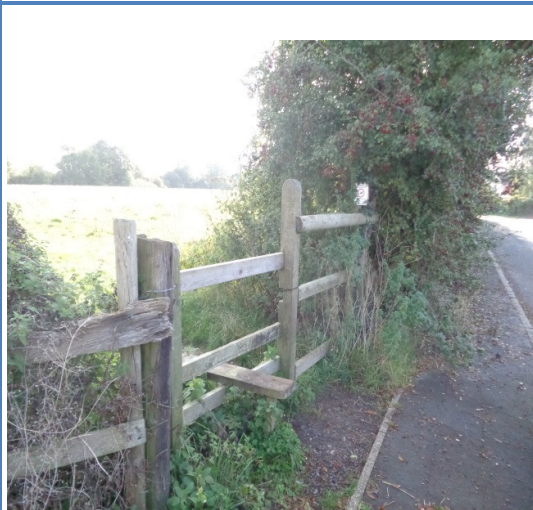
Evidence:

Results

Trends of route use were found to be:

- Sites 1,3 and 5-8 were mostly used for recreational purposes being country walks through green space
- Site 2 and 4 (Newport region) displayed an area of both recreational and commuter uses of walking paths, including linkages between Newport town and Harper Adams University
- Sites 9-11 were more urbanised and therefore the primary use for most routes was

Evidence of these findings was captured through the use of photos, examples as shown.



Example of a style along a walkway in Lilleshall



Canal walk linking Newport and Harper Adam's University

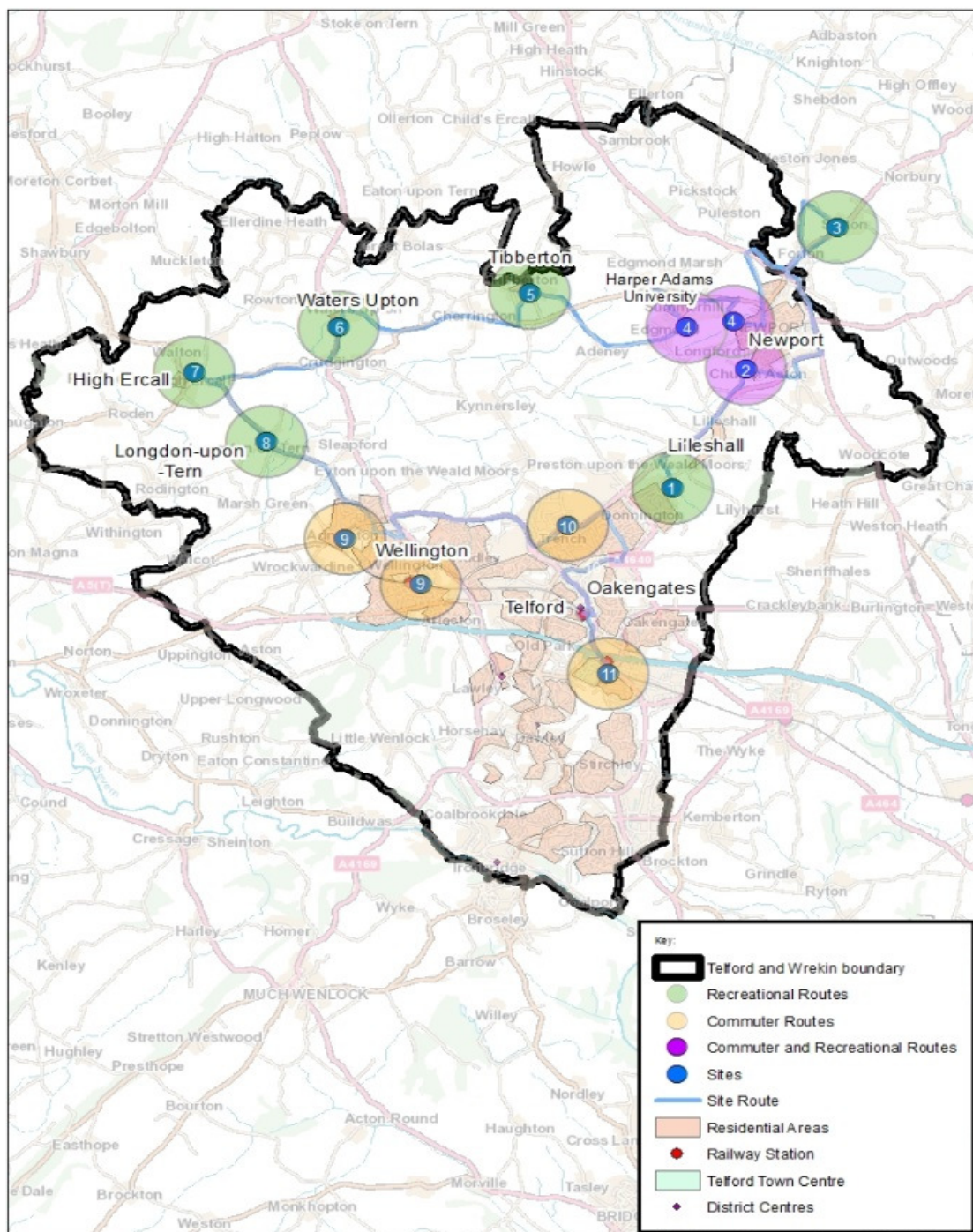


Overgrown walking route in Wellington



Off-road walking and cycling route adjacent to the M54

To compliment these results, the following map was created:



¹<http://www.openstreetmap.org/search?query=telford#map=12/52.6566/-2.4242&layers=C>

²http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/1743/walking_and_cycling_map_of_telford_and_wrekin