**Briefing Note:** Calder Hebble Navigation towpath improvements

There are plans to improve a stretch of the Calder Hebble Navigation, approximately 2km between Bridge 1 at Sowerby Bridge Basin and Hollas Lane Bridge.

The improvements are an element of the Canals project, a programme of works across West Yorkshire being delivered as part of the second phase of CityConnect, in partnership with Canal and River Trust and Calderdale Council.

Public consultation for the scheme opens on Monday 27 March and will take place for 3 weeks, closing on 16 April. We are inviting local people to give their feedback on proposals which will include improvements such as;

* Resurfacing – using a sealed surface to improve protection against water erosion and create a path which will allow people to use it all year round.
* Widening the towpath – where possible the width of the towpath will be increased to allow people to pass comfortably.
* Coping Stones – where these have become overgrown and uneven they will cleared or removed, cleaned and rebedded.
* Improved Signage – will be created for the canal. It aims to promote positive user behaviours and warn of areas where extra care is needed.

Upgrades to the towpath will provide local communities with a convenient option to travel away from the roads for utility, employment and leisure. CityConnect is committed to improving cycling routes around West Yorkshire and is working towards the vision of West Yorkshire being recognised as a great region for cycling.

During the consultation there will be two public consultation events; people are invited to come and view the plans, meet the CityConnect Team and the Canal and River Trust designers and leave their feedback.

The events are;

* Thursday 6 April in Sowerby Bridge at Happy Days Cycles, Town Hall Street from 4pm until 7pm
* Tuesday 11April in Sowerby Bridge Wharf at Cobblestones Bar and Grill from 11:30am until 2:30pm

People will also be able to comment on the proposals via;

* **The interactive website** which will display more information and a map of the proposals, comments can then be left directly on these maps at [www.cyclecityconnect.co.uk/projects/calderdale-canals/](http://www.cyclecityconnect.co.uk/projects/calderdale-canals/).
* **Emailing:** cityconnect@westyorks-ca.gov.uk
* **Writing to**: CityConnect Team, Wellington House, 40 – 50 Wellington Street, Leeds, LS1 2DE.

If you would like to receive a hard copy of the consultation information or would like any further information, please email cityconnect@westyorks-ca.gov.uk