

QD19 Greenways

Development within the setting of a Greenway will be required to contribute to the provision and / or enhancement of the network, proportional to the development and its potential impact on the Greenway. Planning permission will not be granted for proposals that are likely to hinder the provision of a proposed section or harm the existing Greenway network or its objectives.

- 3.84 Greenways have been defined by the Countryside Agency as 'largely car-free off-road routes connecting people to facilities and open spaces in and around towns, cities and to the countryside for shared use by people of all abilities on foot, bike or horseback, for commuting, play or leisure' (Countryside Agency¹ leaflet: 'Greenways - the way to go'). Greenways create links between urban features such as open spaces, shopping centres, schools, public transport nodes and recreation and employment areas. With time they can change people's perception of how to move around a city and make an important contribution to sustainable transport objectives. Greenways also link important nature conservation sites in and around the urban area, incorporating suitable landscaping where necessary to improve habitat connectivity, accessibility, local air quality and water permeability.
- 3.85 The multi-functional objectives of Greenways incorporate benefits to tourism and civic image, recreation and healthy living, urban and rural landscaping and economic regeneration. Because 'Greenways' integrate many objectives, implementation demands a high degree of partnership working with local people and businesses and an integrated policy approach.
- 3.86 The creation of traffic-free routes connecting a range of facilities, where the routes themselves also provide opportunities for recreation, landscaping and nature conservation, is an important potential benefit of the Brighton & Hove Greenways. Developments within the setting of a Greenway will be expected to contribute to such routes by creating connections where none currently exist and / or by enhancing existing routes.
- 3.87 The setting of Greenways includes the wider urban landscape of adjoining back gardens, open spaces, downland or nearby residential and commercial properties, which contribute to the character of the Greenway. In applying Policy QD19, the planning authority will usually take 'the setting of a greenway' to be within 100m either side of the centre line, as shown on the Proposals Map.
- 3.88 Other features that may be included in the Brighton & Hove Greenway Network are:
- safe routes to school;
 - traffic calmed and pedestrian prioritised streets;
 - cycle routes / networks;
 - proposed and existing pedestrian areas; and
 - Public Rights of Way.
- 3.89 An indicative Greenway network is identified on the Proposals Map. Detailed route planning and design will be subject to extensive local consultation and involvement.

¹ Merged with English Nature and renamed 'Natural England'