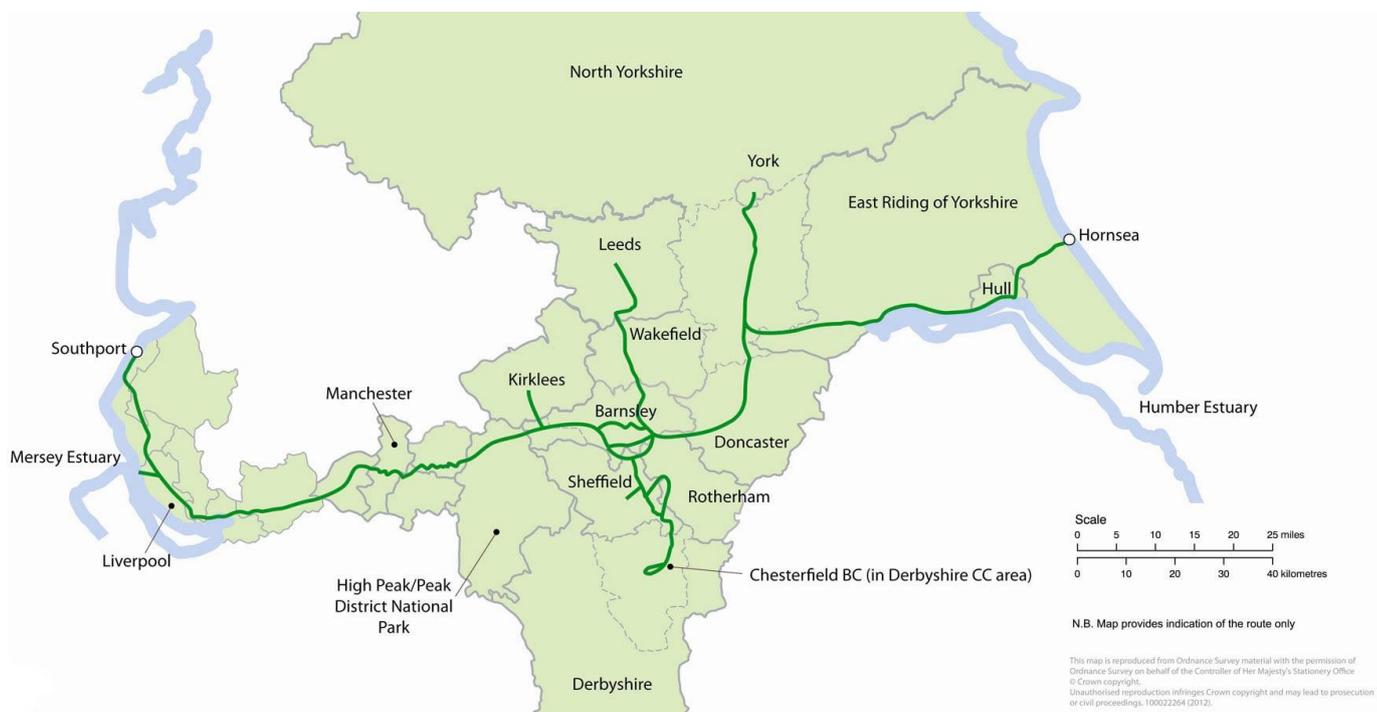




Members Steering Group Report 2021

Produced by the Trans Pennine Trail National Office



✉ info@transpenninetrail.org.uk

👁 www.transpenninetrail.org.uk

🐦 @TPT_National

📘 @TransPennineTrailNationalOffice

Words from The Chair

Welcome to the 2021 Annual Report of the Trans Pennine Trail Partnership, the final report from me as Chair of the Trans Pennine Trail Members Steering Group, since I took over the role as Chair from Terry Gilby in 2015. I have not taken this decision lightly, but I feel the time is right for me to pass the baton onto my successor.



The Trans Pennine Trail is a partnership like no other – to have a group of Local Authorities working together on one project since the late 1980's is a magnificent achievement and without your continued financial commitment there wouldn't be a national office. I would like to implore you all to continue to do all you can to continue this work to highlight the importance of having our national office. The two members of staff do so much to increase our social media presence, represent the partnership in consultations and planning applications....and much much more.

There have been many challenges that we have faced during my time as Chair, from foot and mouth to Covid, railway and tunnel proposals, floods and fires but we have worked tirelessly together. The support and strength of the partnership continues to amaze me.

Thank you to each and every one of you; to our Members for their continued support for the Trail and support to our officers, to our officers for including the TPT within your many areas of responsibility, to the Friends of the TPT for your support and continuing determination to see the legacy of the Trail continue, to our volunteer rangers for taking your own time to help keep the Trail fit for purpose wherever you can, to our other key stakeholders and user groups thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

I will not be leaving the TPT behind altogether, I will still be on the side-lines supporting the delivery of the Burn Airfield project and I be out and about on the route with my walking friends, enjoying the TPT in all its splendour.

It has been a pleasure serving as your Chair and I wish you and the TPT best wishes for a strong and fruitful future.

Gillian Ivey

Chair of the Trans Pennine Trail Partnership

The report covers the period from October 2020 to September 2021.



20/21 at a Glance

www.transpenninetrail.org.uk

We have reached

2,202,008

views on the
online maps

We submitted
consultations

116

108

Meetings were held
with our partners

Over **146,493** views to the TPT website

www.transpenninetrail.org.uk

We have reached over



876,400

People on Twitter

We have reached over



849,994

People on Facebook



Our Vision

To establish the Trans Pennine Trail as a nationally recognised accessible recreational route for walking, cycling and horse riding.

Looking Back

With your continued support the TPT national office has been able to successfully achieve the following aims:

- **Seeking funding for Trail improvements, accessible furniture and website upgrades.**
The Executive agreed to fund vital mapping upgrades to the TPT website. The mapping will make it far easier for users to decide which information they would like to see. It is hoped the new on-line mapping will be launched later this year.

July 2021 saw the launch of the Longdendale Access Project – over the past 5 years the TPT national office have been working alongside the Friends of the Trans Pennine Trail, Peak District National Park and United Utilities to improve accessibility along the Longdendale section of the Trail.

www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/friends/longdendale-access-project

In 2020/ 2021 the TPT worked closely partners to produce access reports for each area of the Trail. The reports are used within the partner quarterly meetings to look at improvements that can be made to ease access for all users. This project is also supported by our partners at Sustrans.



Longdendale Access Project

The TPT national office has worked closely with the National Lottery to submit a funding bid to enhance accessibility across the whole of the TPT. The bid was delayed due to COVID-19 but it is hoped the outcome will be announced shortly. If successful, this would provide further funding towards the accessibility of the TPT.

The discussions with the National Lottery also led to partnership working with Sheffield City Region to discuss potential upgrades to the Trail via the Department of Transport funding. The outcome of this first tranche of works is still awaited.

As part of the work with the National Lottery, the TPT national office launched a short accessibility survey in May 2021 to provide further evidence for the need to invest in accessibility. The report was shared with our partners (please get in touch if you would like a further copy). The report really emphasis the need to improve accessibility across the whole Trail.

- **Continue to respond to consultations and planning applications to help protect the Trail and also seek enhancements wherever possible.**
Work has continued during 2020/21 to ensure the TPT is represented at a national level and given the opportunity to respond to authority local plans, consultations and planning applications. To date we have submitted 116 responses which have been shared with Partners prior to submission.

If you are aware of an application or consultation that may impact the Trail, please let the office know and/ or ask for the TPT to be added as a consultee.

- **Work is continuing to create circular routes for all our users**

It was an ambition for the national office to create circular routes during 20/21. To start this process the TPT has asked partners and users for circular routes in their areas. The Team has also been working with Barnsley Council’s Public Rights of Way team to create updated walking and accessibility leaflets for users.

Theme 1. Marketing and Promotion

The TPT office has worked to strengthen the brand of the Trans Pennine Trail. The tables below indicate statistics between October 2020 and September 2021.

Social Media: Social media continues to be one of the most important communication methods to users on the Trail. It is vital that the national office continue to promote, share and communicate via both Twitter and Facebook.

Twitter (https://twitter.com/TPT_National):

	Tweets	Impressions	Profile Visits	Mentions
2020	957	809,400	10,781	2,767
2021	1,201	960,900	32,238	2,817
% Diff	25%	19%	227%	2%

Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/TransPennineTrailNationalOffice/>):

	Page Views	Reach	Total Likes
2020	57,181	573,979	1,968
2021	56,892	849,994	1,594
% Diff	-1%	32%	-23%

Statistics for both platforms has maintained / exceeded reach from 2020. A conscious effort has been made by the team to ensure priority is given to social media with the inclusion of ‘scheduled posts’ to allow interaction out of work hours and during busier periods.

The TPT office launched a #LoveYourTPT media campaign and are looking to continue this for future years.

TPT Website (www.transpenninetrail.org.uk): The TPT team are looking to update sections of the website starting with the children’s section to include children’s activity packs in line with school holidays – these have been very popular. As noted previously the TPT mapping will also be updated before the end of 2021.

	Total Visits to the Website
2020	149,694

2021	146,493
% Diff	-2%

Branding: Partners are reminded that the TPT logo is an officially registered trademark and when used the wording 'Trans Pennine Trail' and the logo 'hills symbol' should appear.

Theme 2. Project Resilience

Governance: The Memorandum of Understanding remains in place with all our Local Authority partners detailing roles and responsibilities of the partnership.

Funding: The TPT national office continues to be funded by contributions from Local Authority Partners. These funds are essential to continue to protect the TPT national office, especially during these uncertain times. The TPT Executive urge all our Members to support officers to continue to secure this vital funding for the national office.

The TPT continues to work with and support the Friends of the Trans Pennine Trail. This also provides the opportunity to submit funding bids under their charitable status. Sadly, the funding bids that were submitted earlier in the year were over-subscribed due the pandemic.

As noted earlier, the TPT office has been working closely with Big Lottery on a funding bid to improve accessibility across the TPT network which has lead to a further bid by Sheffield City Region.

Funding Body	Bid Amount	TPT Element	Comments
Lottery Reaching Communities	£511,150	£201,900	Through to Round 2 Staffing £67,300 for 3 years.
Bamsley MBC COVID Recovery Fund 20/21	£7,350	£7,350	Secured and Received March 2021
Green Recovery Challenge Fund	£177,201	£49,500	Friends Bid – submitted 13 th April
National Grid – Community Fund	£19,720	£16,500	Friends Bid – Awaiting submission
Donation from Legacy Fund	£5,000	£5,000	Longdendale Access Project
Bamsley MBC Outbreak Control Funding 21/22	£8,000	£8,000	To assist Bamsley PROW in designing leaflets
TOTAL	£728,421	£288,250	

Group Meetings & Supporter Newsletters: This year saw the return to four group meetings a year with our regional partners. Since the pandemic all meetings have been held virtually via Microsoft Teams and has been welcomed in terms of saving time and expense for those attending. Looking forward it is hoped to continue to incorporate both virtual and face to face meetings.

Attendance to group meetings consist of representatives from:

- TPT national office
- Local Authority Partners
- Representative from Friends of the Trans Pennine Trail Board
- Group Coordinators

- Sustrans
- British Cycling
- British Horse Society
- Ramblers
- Regional Local Access Forum Representative

Following each round of group meetings, a supporter newsletter is circulated to all Friends, Volunteer Rangers, Members and Officers and includes updates from the TPT office, Local Authority Partner route updates, Group Coordinator updates, news and views of supporters, consultations responded to and details of funding streams circulated.

Executive Meetings: As with the group meetings, TPT Executive meetings are now held four times a year. The Chair of each regional meeting attends the Executive meetings along with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Trans Pennine Trail and the Chair of the Friends of the TPT.

Theme 3. Supporters

The national office continues to run the volunteer scheme alongside Sustrans. There has also been a steady increase in volunteer numbers and it is exciting to have them on board and see what they can bring to the network over the next year!

Thank you to all supporters who helped the national office get word out about the Visitor Survey by completing the survey, sharing with family and friends as well as putting up posters with a QR code to signpost users to complete.

One of the key messages we received during lockdown was how volunteers were missing the interaction with others and it really is lovely to see this happening again. Earlier this year volunteers have been able to slowly get back out on the Trail and take part in socially distanced workdays which has allowed them the chance to work with others and gain new friends once again.

The TPT Executive would like to take this opportunity to give thanks and recognition to all TPT Supporters.

Friends of the Trans Pennine Trail

The Friends of the Trans Pennine Trail are a registered charity that help support the national office in any way possible; providing a means to submit funding bids, lobbying to protect the Trail, helping with publicity, route surveys, launching This Path Needs Friends campaign and much more. The Friends are always looking out for opportunities to secure the future of the Trans Pennine Trail national office and route improvements, so if you have any suggestions, please get in touch friends@transpenninetrail.org.uk

Longdendale Access Project (LAP) – The TPT national office and Friends of the TPT have been working together on this project for five years. In July 2021 we were able to celebrate its official opening with dignitaries from Peak District National Park, United Utilities, National Grid, Friends and Sustrans. The launch event was well attended and despite the weather was a great success with Chris Baines, the Chair of National Grid's Visual Impact Steering Group and environmentalist, officially opening the event.



Longdendale Access Project

Work will continue to further enhance surface improvements in the coming months.

The TPT office are continuing to raise the profile of this section via social media as well as also making vital links with disability groups nearby.

For further information about this section of Trail please see www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/friends/longendale-access-project/

Apethorn Godley Turntable – Volunteers have worked tirelessly to get this project complete. There is a fantastic mural in place depicting a silhouette of a railway engine. It is still planned that the TPT will be re-routed past the turntable to provide a safer link between Hyde and Mottram/Broadbottom.

For further information regarding this project see <https://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/live-projects/>.



Apethorn Godley Turntable

Selby, Burn Airfield – Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances this project has been delayed. Despite this setback the TPT office are working alongside Selby and North Yorkshire to ensure the project is completed by the end of 2021. The Friends are working with colleagues of the air squadron that used Burn Airfield to help design 2 information boards that will be installed on the site, alongside activity posts, a sound box and cycle hoops.

Please remember all donations and membership received by the Friends of the Trans Pennine Trail are spent on supporting the TPT national office or on the Trail.

Volunteer Rangers

Here are a few stories and images of what our supporters have been up to:

Merseyside North: Throughout Spring small sections of land in the Maghull area of the Cheshire Lines (TPT/NCN62) have been dug up and cleared in preparation for wildflower seeding. There is a real positive attribute with this kind of activity benefiting both volunteer activities and residents with these wonderful environmental enhancements of the area.

Whilst digging and working the area of land, passers-by are often curious and stop to ask, 'What's going on?'. This provides a perfect opportunity to talk, discuss and tell those that enquire about the work of the Trans Pennine Trail, Sustrans and being a volunteer. Also, carrying out activity like this is certainly a mindful exercise and is a lot cheaper than going to the gym. Prolonged days out in the countryside of Merseyside North rewards with physical tiredness in combination with a mental refresh.

John Callaghan, Group Coordinator

Liverpool: What will some people do for a chunky KitKat? They became the highlight of our weekly litter picks. You can imagine the withdrawal symptoms! What is it? 14 months since we met as a group. I just want to say how proud I am of our team. They have embraced new practises and our Loopline is being litter picked more than ever. Just as well as it is so much busier now with many people discovering it through Lockdown.

Elaine O'Callaghan, Group Coordinator

Stockport: It is good to see things getting back to some sort of “normality” in Stockport. Burnage Parkrun has started up again after a 16 month break due to COVID. This event uses a section of the TPT in Heaton Mersey and typically sees over 100 runners taking part at 9am every Saturday morning, supported by a large group of volunteers. The first week back saw 147 participants on a redesigned course, with refreshments provided at nearby Burnage Rugby Club. The TPT can feel surprisingly rural along the Mersey valley, despite being close to the M60 motorway and only a mile or two from Stockport Town Centre.

Kathy England, Group Coordinator

Barnsley West: I am lucky to live very close to the Trail. The footpath that I use for access crosses the River Don on an old footbridge close to Hazlehead. It is always interesting crossing the fields down into the valley. Sheep and cows are out once again. Curlews and lapwings are often in the air and there is usually a cuckoo to be heard.

During last year's lockdown our daughter and grandchildren came to live with us so that we could take over the childcare duties. The Trail became our favourite play space - lots of places for picnics and so many nooks and crannies to explore all the way from Dunford Bridge to Penistone. Our footbridge became the Troll Bridge for us all to act out 'Billy Goats Gruff' and the Fairy Doors near Bullhouse sparked off many different stories on our walks and cycle rides.

This year some of the Conservation Volunteers have been doing informal, socially distanced chopping back of brambles and deadwood and others, including me, have been collecting litter to keep the Trail pristine. It is remarkable how well used the Trail has become with all ages and levels of fitness and it is obviously a much-valued amenity in our local area.

Angela Bailey, Volunteer Ranger

Sheffield: Rangers have been working everywhere, really, but particularly on NCN67 from Attercliffe Common to Tinsley Park Road, bringing this section back to the original width and clearing litter.

We've also instituted “Easy Like Sunday Morning”, a short session where we clear up after the night before on Wicker Riverside followed by coffee in Kelham Island.

We are looking to Sustrans relaxing the guidance so we can get more occasional volunteers involved in looking after the trail - we are getting lots of enquiries, it seems litter-picking is the new Pilates!

Simon Geller, Group Coordinator

Wakefield: Wakefield District Cycle Forum workgroup have now managed to resume their twice monthly workdays and have started with the resumption of repairing the tow path on the Old Barnsley Canal near Walton. It is amazing that, after 30+ years of heavy use, this path is in such good condition but in a few places the path is in danger of falling into the old canal as the wooden supports rot away.

It seems a never-ending job to replace them, but our willing volunteers are doing a great job and seem to relish the challenge. The job may seem endless, but we will run out of materials eventually.

Sandy Clark, Volunteer Ranger

Leeds: The Leeds Group have been active on and around the TPT this summer, including a trip out towards Methley by myself and Paul Blurton to audit a couple of Sustrans mileposts. They looked reasonably well painted but could no doubt be more impressive if painted artistically in many colours like others seen on the NCN.

The Group has continued to be involved with the effort led by Leeds Cycling Campaign to achieve a safe and accessible passage at Skelton Road Bridge/Thwaite Mills Museum. The developers appeared to understand very well the need both to develop a cycling/walking infrastructure to assist staff and visitors in the future and to secure level access along the TPT. Sustrans announced that it has secured funding from the Department of Transport to conduct a new feasibility study to identify the best way to secure a permanent accessible route and to pursue the solution through the planning process by March 2022.

This long-standing issue now has high priority locally and nationally and the Leeds Sustrans volunteers look forward to being part of the solution through our continued stewardship of the TPT in Leeds.

John Barber, Group Coordinator

Theme 4. Research and Development

Visitor Survey: TPT launched the 2021 visitor survey in July to run for a period of 2 months. The decision was taken to run this year's survey solely online due to ongoing COVID restrictions. At the point of closing, we had received over 1,300 responses.

Analysis of the results will take place in the coming months with a full report issued before the end of the year. This report will be circulated to all partners.

Access Survey: As noted previously, as part of the Big Lottery Reaching Communities bid a short survey was conducted back in May over the course of 1 week to capture users views and needs regarding the TPT in terms of accessibility. The results of this survey will help pave the way to ensuring the TPT becomes fully accessible and provide vital evidence for our Partners as to how restrictive these barriers are and look at alternative solutions.

Visitor Monitoring: As you know our contractor sadly passed away last year and since then the TPT office has been working on an alternative system / company to enable the continued monitoring data. This is unfortunately proving more difficult than first thought and will need funding to cover new devices. The national office is working alongside Partners to determine their needs as well as seeking potential funding for new devices.

We would also like to take this opportunity to ask our Partners, if you or your teams are working on improvements to the TPT please consider installation of a counting device.

The final two themes sit side by side and are integral to the Trail:

Theme 5. Quality Standards

The quality of the route is of paramount importance both to users of the Trail and also to the Partnership. Quality comes in two forms; quality of the route itself and also the quality of visitor experience.

Theme 6. Environmental Sustainability

The Trail is a wonderful resource to help promote green tourism, green jobs and carbon reduction. Under this theme, the TPT national office continues to seek every opportunity to engage in projects

to secure and protect the environmental sustainability of the route and maintain our ‘green corridor’ wherever possible.

The TPT national office continue to respond to major consultations that could impact the Trail under the above themes.

All consultation responses submitted by the TPT national office undergo an internal consultation exercise with relevant project partners, the Friends Board, Group Coordinator and the TPT Executive.

Please see the following consultations (overleaf) the national office has responded between October 2020 and September 2021. If you would like copies of any responses, please do get in touch.

Local Authority	Consultation / Planning Application Submitted
Sefton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birkdale to Ainsdale • Crosby Coastal Path • Hesketh Park to the Plough Roundabout • 2021/38459 - Four Acres, Stockport Road, Thelwall – Residential • Maritime Corridor Improvements Scheme
West Lancs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheshire Lines - CIL Bid - letter of support
Liverpool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liverpool Loophole - Mill Lane • Liverpool Local Plan - Main Modifications • Pop Up Cycle Lane consultation
Warrington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carlton Road, Lymm - 9 residential dwellings - 2020/37910 • 47 Mill Lane - 2020/38002 • Warrington Western Link Further consultation • Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) • 2021/38575 - 40 Adey Road - single property extensions • 2021/38558 - Fiddlers Ferry Power Station – screening • 2021/38832 - 18, Whitbarrow Road, Lymm
Greater Manchester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Air Consultation • Places for Everyone - Joint Development Plan
Trafford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrington Relief Road • Trafford Local Plan
Manchester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Centre Transport Strategy Consultation • Levenshulme and Burnage Active Neighbourhood • Manchester Local Plan Integrated Appraisal: Scoping Report • Fallowfield Loop and Yellow Brick Road consultation • Wythenshawe Active Travel Scheme
Stockport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heatons Active Neighbourhood Consultation • A34 Consultation • Heaton Mersey Common Improvements • Stockport Interchange • Stockport to Edgeley • DC/079225 - Weir Mill
Highways England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A57 Consultation
High Peak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glossop Masterplan - Pre Consultation
Peak Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Grid - Ofgem consultation on scheme • Peak Park Local Plan Review
National Grid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dunford VIP Discharge Condition 2021/0462

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dunford Temporary Bridge changes 2021/ENQ/00275 • Natural England - Disposal of land at Dunford Bridge - 2021/ENQ/00441 • Changes to Bridge - Dunford - 2021/ENQ/00116 • Dismantle overhead spans and replace with underground • Dunford Car Park 2021/0392 • Dunford Bridge
Chesterfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration of Chesterfield Canal - CHE/20/00420/FUL • Chesterfield HS2 Station Masterplan • East - West Cycle Route • Tapton Lock - CHE/20/00526/FUL • Hollingwood Lock House - Placement of metal storage unit -CHE/21/00274/FUL • CHE/21/00308/FUL - car park opposite Cemtery - level off and marking • CHE/21/00567/REM - Approval of reserved matters for development of 400 dwellings CHE/19/00131/OUT • CHE/21/00246/FUL - Change of use to caravan and motorhome sales centre • CHE/20/00432/FUL - Inkersall Road, Staveley - Solar Farm Proposal • CHE/21/00018/NMA - Amendment to remove footpath link
Kirklees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirklees Council Quality Places Supplementary Planning Documents
Barnsley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Bull - 2020/1336 • Land adj 40 Edmunds Road - 2020/0768 • 2020/ENQ/00710 - Blackmoor Cottage - café container • Carlton - Mining site to residential- 2020/0150 • Stairfoot - Bleachcroft Way housing development - 2020/ENQ/00631 • Cranswick Foods - Everill Gate Lane • 2021/ENQ/00238 - EIA screening at Lundwood Water Treatment Works • Calver Lane, Dodworth - residential - 2021/ENQ/00267 • Silkstone Parish Local Plan • Worsbrough Mill overflow car park - 2021/ENQ/00388 • West Green Road, Barugh Green - Residential - 2021/ENQ/00167 • Black Lane, Tankersley 2021/0637 • Screening Wastewater Treatment, Edmunds Road • 2021/ENQ/00388 • SYPTE - A61 Wakefield Road consultation • Elsecar The Sidings - 2021 ENQ 00452 • Century House, Manchester Road - 2021 0757 • Former Stairfoot Brickworks Fencing – 2021/ENQ/00383 • Monkton - 2020/1005 • Carlton Masterplan
Sheffield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outokumpu Site • Connecting Sheffield- City Centre • Connecting Sheffield • Magna • Sheaf Valley Cycle Route - Common Place • Outokumpu - 20/02550/FUL • Warren Street - 20/04300/FUL • Upper Don Trail
Leeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commonplace online consultation • Rothwell and Robin Hood • Lemonroyd Lock, Fleet Lane

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WYCA - Leeds Cycling Schemes • Connecting Leeds
Wakefield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wakefield Cycle Forum - Link from Agbrigg to Wakefield • Stanley - Newmarket Lane - Industrial Unit - 20/01939/FUK • Bridleway consultation • 20/01159/FUL - further information received • A648 - Doncaster Road Consultation • City Centre Consultation • Newmarket Lane - Plot 4 and 8 • Newmarket Lane - Plot 6 - 21/0127/FUL • 20/02249 - Newmarket Lane, Stanley - Plot 8
SYLTE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A61 - Wakefield Road – Barnsley • Magna Tram
WYCA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connectivity Infrastructure Plan
Hull	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commonplace online consultation • Castle Hill Flood Alleviation Scheme - 21/00361/FULL
North Yorks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Escrick Quarry - Mitigation - 2021 / 0157
Selby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plan • Selby Station Gateway • Selby Local Plan Additional Sites • Selby Local Plan - Evidence Based Documents • Selby Places and Movement Study
York	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terry's Site - 20/02517/FULM: Revised Plans II • Terry's Site - 20/02517/FULM: Chocolate Works Residents Parking and Care Home accommodation
East Riding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brough Haven Mills residential site - 20/029996/STOUTE • Natural England - Coastal Path Report East Riding and Hull – TPT • East Riding Local Plan • Castle Hill Flood Alleviation Scheme • Howden Town Centre Intervention consultation • Flood Consultation
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal Path - Cleveleys to Pier Head
HS2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Leg Consultation

We continue to work with project partners to provide funding opportunities as well as working in Partnership with Sustrans on their funding streams from the DfT.

Route updates in each of our partner areas is discussed in detail at our quarterly project meetings. This information is detailed in the newsletters provided if you would like copies please let us know.

Benefits of the Trail

“I love swapping the busy dangerous roads in the city for a bit of peace and quiet on the Trans Pennine Trail. I hope to cycle the whole thing in the future”

Health – The Trans Pennine Trail continue to be a great route for all users of all abilities to get out and enjoy the countryside using quite traffic free routes. This year we have seen an increase in the Trail being used for sponsored events (mainly solo or in social bubbles) to raise money for some

amazing charities. The following link takes you to a story from a user who undertook the TPT once to raise money and awareness for a mental health charity 'Papyrus' after a work friend sadly lost his son during lockdown to suicide. It really is a great read: <https://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/tpt-2021-for-papyrus/>

Environment – As society has been getting back to a new normal the TPT has seen an increase in people using the Trail for active travel purposes as well as leisure. It is important that the national office and its partners continue to highlight the Trail as an active travel route as well as a recreational route, particularly in terms of the climate emergencies announced by many partners.

Our social media pages have been full of wonderful user images of the Trail in all its glory as well as showing why the Trail is so important to so many people. Below are a few highlights:

“Lucky to live close and able to walk it often, in all seasons, it helps keep us active and healthy”

Tourism – This year Welcome to Yorkshire launched their 'Walkshire' campaign and the national office have worked to ensure that the TPT was mapped on the Welcome to Yorkshire mapping and also provided information about local sections of the TPT (within Yorkshire) to encourage new users to venture out.

Transport – Active travel goes hand-in-hand with the TPT and it has been great to see how some members of the public have re-engaged with their love of walking, cycling and horse riding and the affect it has on the planet. There have been reports of people learning to ride a bike for the first time, having the time to get out onto the Trail with their family and friends, enjoying the quiet green areas to escape the worries of COVID and just having somewhere to explore that's near to home.

Economic Development – Despite the lack of international visitors and those travelling to other areas during Covid, there has been an increase in bike shops and pop-up cafes who have been able to thrive with people wanting to get out and about on the Trail. It's really important to remember that the Trail helps to bring in visitors and revenue to villages, towns and cities it passes through. Based on 2019 visitor survey figures 30% of users spend whilst out on the route.



Pennine Coffee

“Without the availability of the TPT to commute to work – I most likely wouldn't have moved and settled in the Barnsley area”

Thanks and Acknowledgements

The TPT Executive would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all our partners and supporters for all your hard work and dedication this year helping to support and strengthen the Trans Pennine Trail partnership. It is times like this where partnership working is key.

A special thank you to the Friends of the Trans Pennine Trail for recognising the importance of securing the longevity of the TPT national office and their continued support.

Looking Forward

The Trans Pennine Trail Project has a lot to look forward to!

- Progress with accessibility project – aim to remove barriers across the TPT
- Engage with new user groups and new community groups across the TPT
- Launch new website mapping and grow TPT social media presence
- Responding to further consultations and planning applications to help protect the Trail
- Raising the profile of the Trail via social media platforms and engaging with new followers
- Seeking opportunities to secure the financial future of the TPT national office

....and much more!

If there is anything you would like to see the national office focus on, please do get in touch. With your continued support we will be able to work together to create a fully accessible Trail for walking, cycling and horse riding for future generations to come.