



Consultation Response

Organisation:	Tameside
Detail:	Tameside Local Plan – Options & Preferences Consultation
Planning Ref:	N/A
Link:	www.tameside.gov.uk/homesspacesplaces
Closing Date:	2 nd June 2025
Response to:	planpolicy@tameside.gov.uk
Submitted by	Trans Pennine Trail & Sustrans
Date:	29 th May 2025

Comments:

The Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Network could be mentioned in the following policies to strengthen their alignment our routes significance as a recreational, ecological, and transportation asset and strengthen the document's focus on connectivity, recreation, and sustainable development:

- Pg 102** **Policy approach HSP J4: The Visitor Economy:** Noted that the Trans Pennine Trail is represented.

- Pg 114** **Policy approach HSP PE4: Strategic Recreation and Countryside Access:** This policy already mentions informal routes and countryside access. Including the Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Network explicitly would highlight its importance as a nationally significant trail that supports recreation, health, and connectivity.

- Pg 114** **Policy approach HSP PE5: Outdoor Sport and Recreational Facilities** Adding the Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Network to this policy would highlight its value as a recreational facility that supports outdoor activities and contributes to the borough's leisure infrastructure.

- Pg 131** **Policy approach HSP T6: Walking, Wheeling and Cycling:** This policy focuses on creating a boroughwide network of walking, wheeling, and cycling routes. Mentioning the Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Network would emphasize its role in connecting Tameside to broader regional and national networks, promoting sustainable travel.

Policy approach HSP PL16: Design and Enhancement of the

Waterside: This policy addresses enhancing waterside environments. Including the Trans Pennine Trail and National Cycle Network would underscore its role in connecting waterways and promoting leisure and tourism.

Call for Sites

Importance of Safeguarding the Trans Pennine Trail

As part of Trafford Council's consultation on their local plan and the Call for Sites exercise, it is crucial to emphasize the significance of safeguarding the Trans Pennine Trail. The Trail is not only a vital source of active and utilitarian transport for local communities and visitors alike, but it also plays a key role in promoting health, well-being, and environmental sustainability.

The Trans Pennine Trail offers numerous benefits:

Active Transport: The Trail provides a safe and accessible route for walking, cycling, wheeling and horse riding, encouraging physical activity and reducing reliance on motor vehicles. This contributes to improved public health and reduced traffic congestion.

Utilitarian Transport: For many residents, the Trail serves as a practical means of commuting to work, school, and other daily destinations. It connects various neighbourhoods and amenities, making it an essential part of the local transport infrastructure.

Environmental Sustainability: By promoting non-motorised transport, the Trail helps reduce carbon emissions and supports Trafford Council's commitment to environmental sustainability. It also preserves green spaces and natural habitats, enhancing biodiversity.

Community Engagement: The Trail fosters a sense of community by providing a shared space for recreational activities and social interactions. It is a valuable asset for local events, educational programs, and volunteer initiatives.

Tourism and Economic Benefits: The Trail attracts visitors from outside the area, boosting local tourism and supporting businesses. It is a key feature in promoting Trafford as a destination for outdoor activities and nature exploration.

In conclusion, safeguarding the Trans Pennine Trail is essential for maintaining its role as a vital source of active and utilitarian transport. It is an invaluable asset that contributes to the health, well-being, and sustainability of local communities and visitors. Trafford Council's commitment to preserving the Trail will ensure that it continues to provide these benefits for generations to come.

