

Nottingham City Council

Nottingham Local Access Forum

Minutes of Meeting 8th October 2025, 6.30pm - Hybrid Meeting at Loxley House Station Street Nottingham and MS Teams

✓ Indicates in attendance

- ✓ Helen Hemstock (Chair)
- ✓ Liz Cordle (Vice Chair)
Edmund Hopkins (Vice Chair)
- ✓ Laura Armitage
- ✓ Ian Bussey
Nick Hynes
Rob Kirkwood
- ✓ Dave Mackrory
- ✓ Hugh McClintock
- ✓ Nigel Sarsfield (Teams connection issues / could not join beginning of meeting)
- ✓ Chris Thompson
- ✓ Dora Kostiuk
- ✓ Olech Kostiuk
- ✓ Steve Shardlow (Teams connection issues / could not join meeting)
- ✓ Nuala Attwood
- ✓ Andrew Cross
- ✓ Cameron Bonser
- ✓ John Machin (part of the meeting)
- ✓ Sara Davies
Councillor Linda Woodings

114 Apologies Received

Rob Kirkwood, Nick Hynes, Councillor Woodings

Others in attendance

Alan Simpson Sustainable Travel Ambassador and Dave Backhouse Chair Nottinghamshire LAF

115 Welcome and Introductions (including new LAF members from Nottingham City and guests from Derby, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire)

- The chair opened the meeting and members introduced themselves, their background and interests. Everyone welcomed the new members and guests.

116 Minutes of Meeting 30th April 2025 (July meeting was cancelled)

Action: Draft minutes agreed.

MS Teams (Chat copied from the meeting)

None noted.

117 Alan Simpson, Sustainable Travel Ambassador for the East Midlands Combined County Authority

Teams' connection issues affecting Alan, Steve and Nigel. After several attempts, Nigel and Alan were able to join the meeting but unfortunately Steve could not. Alan outlined the following

- Mayor's 2 key priorities for transport
 - Improve inclusivity / accessibility
 - Decrease carbon emissions
- Improve air quality, road safety, decrease accidents, improve safety
- Regional data comparisons
 - Behind in carbon emission reduction
 - Lowest economic groups
 - Highest increase in car ownership
 - Low carbon reduction / climate ambition, except Nottingham City
- Draft East Midlands Transport Strategy consultation, focus on how to meet the 2 key priorities
- Mayor has secured increased transport budget for region. Expected that c 80% for infrastructure programmes, therefore directed to transport / highway / infrastructure improvements
- Balancing competing interests, including population, housing and transport connections, increased urban congestion and corresponding increase in pollution

Discussion points included

- How should budgets for active travel and public transport be used? Suggestions include
 - Purchase more buses (could some services be operated by community groups?)
 - Identify / purchase land for park and ride schemes
 - Land near railway stations could be better used
 - Combined ticket for train & cycle hire for onward journeys
- Safe routes for schools
 - How to engage the local community
 - Often negative lobbying from motoring companies
 - Role of schools to lead expectations and engage parents (particularly parking issues, pupil safety, drop off / pick up times)
 - Approach – introduce experimental scheme, then finalise and implement
 - Walking buses and opportunities for parents to collaborate / support
 - Must be implemented locally, councils have the statutory powers to deliver sustainable transport schemes (EMCCA do not have these powers)
- Biggest health opportunities come from short distance journeys / walking
- Consideration of the "last mile" in the journey influencing transport choice – need for connected route / joined up approach
- Comparison with Europe where public transport is given higher priority
- Potential for active travel solutions to address isolation of communities and better social cohesion
- Solutions for necessary journeys – e.g. NHS workers electric pool cars
- Factors influencing perceived need to use a car, for example personal safety
- Car ownership and car sharing schemes, especially urban areas

- Bee transport network in Manchester, good example of a joined-up transport network for combining tram, bus, train, cycling and walking journeys
- The last mile of a journey is commonly the difficult part when planning connections for onward travel, transport providers need to be better coordinated / joined up timetables
- Consultation on draft Transport Plan (Autumn 2025) – consideration to be given to how Nottingham LAF (maybe regional LAFs working together) responds to consultation
- Safety of walking / cycling at night, particular issue for lone women, affects people choose to walk and cycle more often

Action: Helen to consider Transport Plan consultation and discuss any LAF actions with John L and Liz. All for noting

118 Future working together with East Midlands LAF's

Points discussed included

- Funding opportunities noting particularly those from EMCCA Transport Plan and Active Travel England
- EMCCA Mayor's Loop Walk to engage with active travel partner's, public, and East Midlands LAF's vision for a regional cycle loop in the East Midlands
- Cross boundary routes, canals, impacts of A52 works, active travel routes between urban areas and rural areas
- Bennerley Viaduct visitor centre now open and Awsworth access should open in December
- Chris mentioned that Paddy Tipping (representing the Ramblers) will be meeting the Mayor
- In light of EMCCA's shared regional transport objectives, John L to engage Natural England to see if they have any plans to restart the LAF regional meetings
- For noting, Sustrans have changed its name to Walk Wheel Cycle Trust

Action: John L, all for noting.

119 Subgroup Updates

a) Walking Subgroup

Update circulated ahead of the meeting. Other updates at the meeting

- Ian is progressing the Radford Walk
- 19th LAF Self-Guided Walk covering Forest and Arboretum published here [Walking in Nottingham and Parks - Nottingham City Council](#)

Action: All for noting.

b) Planning Subgroup

- Currently not operating due to resources, will review after LAF recruitment drive
- As previously raised by Rob, the Nottingham Open Spaces Forum monitor planning applications so there may be an opportunity to collaborate and share information on developments affecting public access and open spaces

Action: All for noting.

c) Definitive Map Subgroup Update

- No update. John M has joined the subgroup and John L will arrange a catch-up with subgroup members, Chris, Nick and John M (since the meeting, a new member Bob Shield has joined the LAF and will support the definitive map subgroup).

Action: All for noting

d) E-Scooter Subgroup Update

- No updates

120 Local Rights of Way Issues, Problems and Opportunities

- Due to limited time, in response to the recent proposals from Canal and River Trust (including installing “bike barriers” to address anti-social use), Dave briefly summarised the work he is doing on the canal access issues and proposals to improve connections, including Binks Yard London Road, and the canal footbridge between Station Street and Canal Street
- Chris raised the barrister’s advice he’s received regarding the “permissive” path (not public path) connections to the new River Trent foot / cycle bridge at Trent Basin / Trent Lane. John L will respond to Chris.
- Dora is still pursuing the removal of the fly tips along the Linear Walkway / public footpath adjacent Hucknall Road

Action: Dave to draft a response to CRT’s proposals. All for noting and reporting specific issues / problems online [Report a problem in your neighbourhood – Nottingham City Council](#) and rights of way / public access issues to john.lee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk.

Action: All for noting.

121 Items for future agendas

Includes suggestions carried over from previous meetings

- Broadmarsh
- Walking Strategy City and County
- North - South cycleway
- Active Travel / Social Prescribing Fund / Public Health
- Active Travel England
- Transforming Cities schemes
- East Midlands Combined County Authority update.
- Street design, see example Lambeth Council Kerbside Strategy.
- Alan Simpson, Sustainable Travel Ambassador for East Midlands.
- Nottingham Design Quality Framework, [Design Quality Framework](#).

Action: For noting, and where relevant, individual members to contact / arrange guest speakers.

122 Any Other Business

- Edmund has resigned from the LAF. Everyone thanked Edmund for his contributions and wished him all the best
- Sara (Walks Notts Strategic Lead / Active Partnership Trust) and Dora and Olech (Disability Involvement Group / DIG) joined the Councils Road Safety and Highway Management teams for a city centre walkabout, looking at disability access and street clutter issues
- New members induction meeting to be arranged

123 Meeting dates 2026 (all meetings start at 6.30pm with the option to join face to face at Loxley House or via MS Teams)

- Wednesday 7th January
- Wednesday 15th April
- Wednesday 24th June
- Wednesday 7th October

[Report a problem in your neighbourhood – Nottingham City Council.](#)