

<b>Report to</b>	Mousehold Conservators	<b>Item</b>
	18 October 2013	
<b>Report of</b>	Head of city development services	<b>9</b>
<b>Subject</b>	Push the pedalways - Heathgate to Valley Drive	

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### **Purpose**

To seek approval for a special meeting of the Conservators to be arranged to discuss the Heathgate - Valley Drive project that is part of the Push the Pedalways programme.

### **Recommendation**

To approve the arrangement of a special Conservators meeting in early November for consideration of route options for a cycle route connecting Heathgate - Valley Drive.

### **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet the corporate priority "City of character and culture" and the service plan priority improve the cycle network in the city and implement the Mousehold Heath Management Plan.

### **Financial implications**

None.

### **Contact officers**

Ben Webster, Design Conservation and Landscape Manager    01603 212518

### **Background documents**

None

## Report

1. The city council was among 28 cities involved in the City Deals process that were invited to apply for a cycle city ambition grant. An application was submitted on 30 April 2013 and the Department for Transport announced on 12 August 2013 that Norwich's application had been successful and awarded £3,724,000 of government money.
2. Our programme is called "Push the Pedalways" and the focus is to create a safe, convenient and delightful eight mile route from the Norwich Research Park through the city centre to Heartsease and beyond. One of the 22 projects that makes up the programme involves creating a new route to Heartsease from the Jarrolds bridge over the Wensum using part of the newly improved Valley Drive cycle and walking path. As well as creating an excellent new route this project offers an opportunity to celebrate lost cavalry rides up to Mousehold and to recreate some heathland habitat.
3. This is a very significant opportunity that deserves a full discussion by the Conservators before decisions are made about the preferred route, design standards and feasibility. It is therefore proposed that a special meeting is arranged that is dedicated to this subject and could potentially also include a site visit. In order to allow timely progress to be made the meeting will need to happen in early November.