



Paths for Communities - Project summary sheet:

Opening the Gateway to the Heart of the Forest

Location:	Derbyshire
Right of way Created:	Bridleway 2.8 km
	Footpath
Improved existing rights:	500 m

Supporting local businesses:	4
Volunteer hours contributed:	n/a
Cost of project:	£61,408
Grant rate:	77%

This project was delivered by an effective partnership between the Forestry Commission and The Heart of the Forest Forum a group formed from local organisations interested in the development of the National Forest that include Parish Councils ,local authorities, the National Forest

Company ,the Forestry Commission and community groups. The P4C project has created 3.3 km of new or improved bridleway through the National Forest including, 2.8 km entirely new bridleway, and 494 m of resurfacing and improvement to an existing bridleway. The results are



“The P4C scheme has made a huge difference to the lives of many local walkers, cyclists and horseriders. By providing support to the Heart of the Forest Forum, it has successfully opened up new woodland walks, and links to local visitor attractions to many members of society who previously would have found such walks very difficult. With the help of this project, new links have been made between local communities and has opened up others areas of the Heart of the Forest, so local residents can now walk, cycle or ride horses along traffic-free routes which previously would not have been possible.

The project has also provided real evidence that private companies (Lex AutoLease), Government organisations and the voluntary sector can work together to bring about positive benefits for local communities and create something that will be a lasting legacy for future generations”

Alan Dowell
Area Manager - Forestry Commission



Cycle Network and off road links to local attractions such as The National Forest Cycle Centre, Conkers and the National Forest Youth Hostel. The P4C funding was for £50,110 for surfacing, gates, drainage and signage. This attracted £15,000 match funding from the private company **Lex Autolease**.

greater access to the woodland, an off road link between the communities of Church Gresley and Castle Gresley, greater connectivity to the National

The project will encourage greater outdoor activity and enjoyment of the area by local people. It will make a strong contribution to the regeneration of an old industrial site that has been forested and turned into a valuable recreation area for both locals and visitors to the area.

Links

[The National Forest](#)

[The Forestry Commission](#)

[The National Forest Charitable Trust](#)

