

### Washgate Site Visit - 15 September 2016

#### Purpose

A site visit took place on 15 September 2016 to enable the Members of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee to be better informed of the relevant issues and facts about the proposal. This was an additional visit to the previous one on 16 September 2015.

#### Attendance

Members of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee attended the site visit. The Highway Authorities were not present.

#### Procedure

Members would not be making a decision or recommendation during the site visit.

#### The Site Visit

Members walked the full length of the route and viewed an alternative route using metalled roads. Authority Officers summarised the outcome of the consultation on the proposal and the options available.

The following was noted:

- The limited opportunities for passing along the section of the route from Booth Farm to Leycotes Farm
- The on-site signage and boulders placed by Derbyshire County Council
- The current limited use by 4x4s and the extent of the route accessible to them
- The expansive views from the upper sections of the route
- The tranquility of the area
- The width and surfacing of the route and the repairs undertaken
- The higher vehicle use at weekends
- The nature of impacts from the motorcycle trials
- Effects of vehicle use on the conservation interest of the River Dove and the Natural Zone
- Other rights of way and access land adjacent to the route
- The extent of the public footpath along the Staffordshire section of the route

Officers were asked to provide details of the distance of the Peak District Dales Special Area of Conservation from the route:

The nearest section is at Wolfscote Dale, approximately 15 km downstream.

Members did not ask officers to undertake further work prior to the consideration of the item at the formal committee meeting.