

### Calder Valley Greenway: an off-road multi-user route



#### **Funding from the Local Transport Plan created an improved recreational resource for local people**

The Calder Valley Greenway is a linear off-road multi-user route along the Calder & Hebble Navigation, connecting communities around Halifax in West Yorkshire. It will eventually link with the highly regarded Spen Valley Greenway to form a wider network of off-road routes in Calderdale and Kirklees Districts.

Recently some £0.5 million investment through Calderdale District Council's Local Transport Plan budget upgraded around 5 km of towpath. This has improved local green space and provided opportunities for local people to take ownership and benefit from all their local canal has to offer. Usage of the waterways in the area has increased by 300% amongst joggers, walkers and cyclists following the improvements.

As well as delivering a sustainable transport route along the valley, the Greenway has created an improved recreational resource for local people. It has created an opportunity for people to become more physically active and provides a place where people can relax, meet and enjoy the natural environment.

Local communities were directly involved in the project through participation in local events on the waterway. To further local involvement, schemes such as a wildflower and vegetable planting project were delivered as part of the overall improvements, thus enhancing biodiversity and local wildlife habitats along the waterway corridor.