

<b>Report on</b>	Innevall Railway Walk, Stewartstown
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Head of Parks
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Nigel Hill

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	Council approval is sought to progress a programme of works to upgrade the public path
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Innevall Railway Walk was asserted by Cookstown District Council as a public Right of Way in 1999. Following its assertion path improvement works were carried out to make the circular walking route passable. The route follows through lowland countryside comprising of moss, an old railway embankment and farm lanes, returning to the starting point via the road. In 2005 it was decided to remove the northern section of the route (comprising mostly of farm lanes and a short road section) due to safety concerns over farm machinery and road traffic. The farm lanes still remain a public right of way however are not advertised as part of the circular walking route. Innevall Railway Walk now stops at 'Annie Sloan's Cottage'.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	A site inspection was carried out in March 2018. The pathway was found to be in a bad state of repair: bridges badly damaged, fencing fallen down, trees fallen across path. The pathway has been closed and notices erected advising members of the public.

3.2



3.3

Innevall Railway Walk will remain closed until the necessary remedial works are completed. These works will include for three replacement foot bridges, interpretation signage and furniture, replacement fencing and car park/ public path resurfacing.



<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
	<b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b>
4.1	Financial: Estimated expenditure £20,000. Programme of works will be initiated subject to sufficient resource from 2018-19 revenue/maintenance budget.
4.2	Human: Existing staff resources sufficient to coordinate project support. No additional staffing resource required. The site will be included in weekly inspections schedules resourced by the Parks Service.
	<b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b>
	Under the Access to the countryside (NI) Order 1983 local councils have a duty to assert, protect and keep open public rights of way.
4.3	<b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b>
	Council will inspect, manage and maintain the public amenity in compliance with current Health & safety and Normal Operational Procedures (NOP's)
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Council approval is sought to procure the necessary resources and conduct the required works subject to available funding in order to upgrade the public pathway at Innevall.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	N/A