

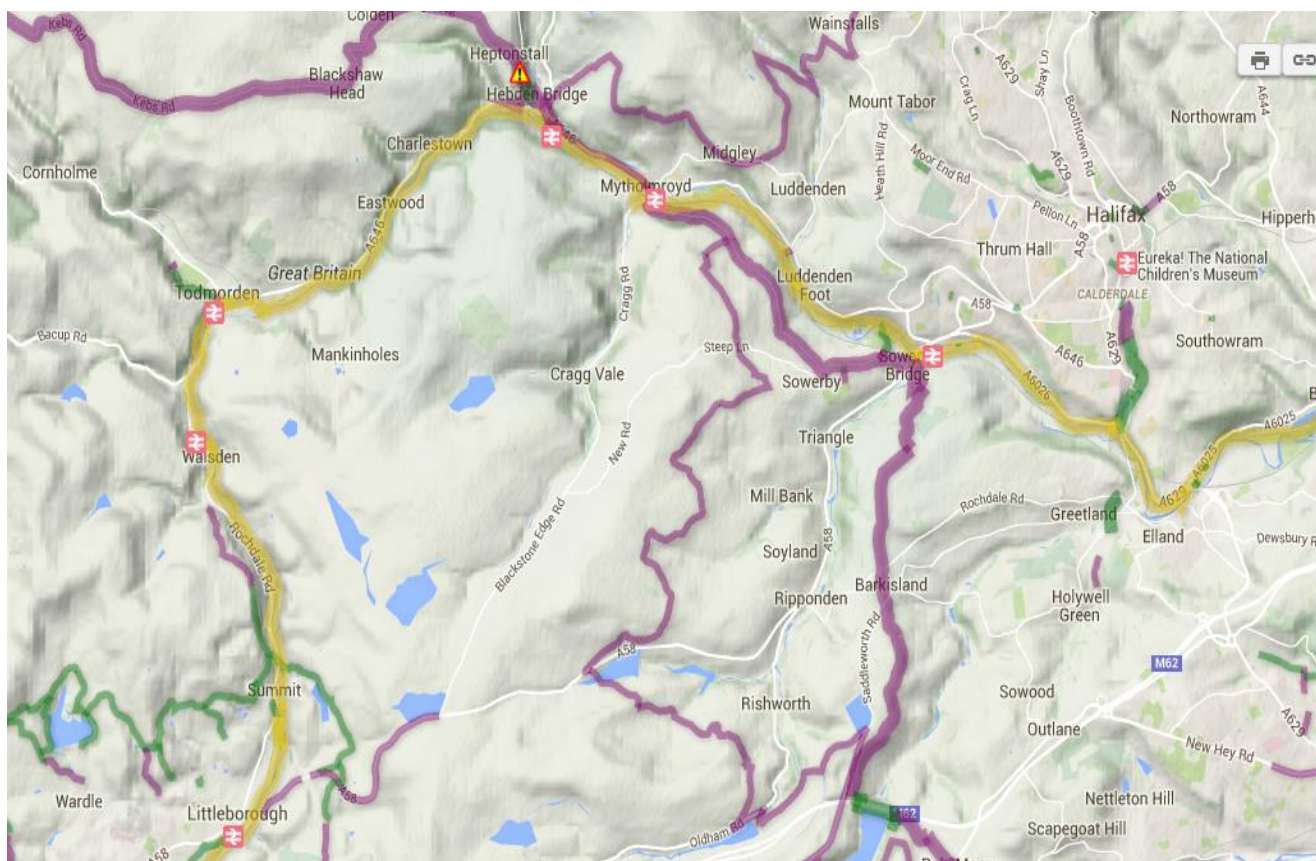
National Cycle Network Route 66

The National Cycle Network Route 66 offers walkers and cyclists a traffic free, easy going route through the outstanding scenery of the Calder Valley, linking the busy market towns of Todmorden, Hebden Bridge and Sowerby Bridge. The route from Sowerby Bridge follows the super smooth Calder Valley Greenway section to Brighouse via Elland.

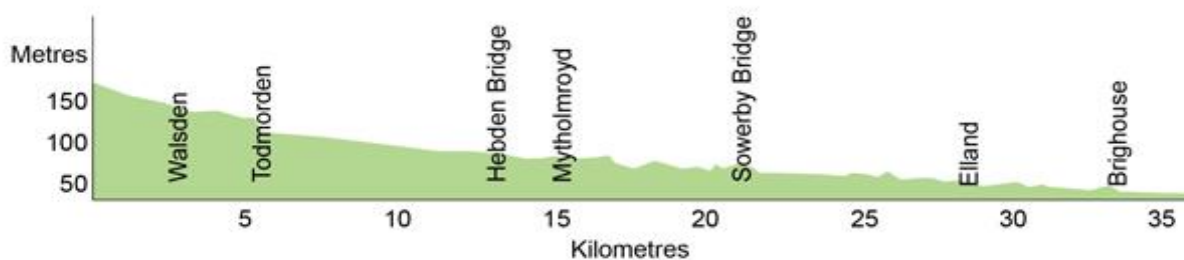
The route covers approximately 18 miles following the canal towpath, off road paths and residential roads.

Route 66 is regarded by many as the trunk route for cyclists as it bypasses the majority of Calderdale's towns and railway stations.

The West Yorkshire Cycle Route, Pennine Cycleway, Hebble Trail and Mary Towneley Loop all branch into Route 66.



National Cycle Network Route 66 Elevation Profile



NCN Route 66, Cycle City Ambition Grant 2 funds have been confirmed for Calderdale and West Yorkshire. For Calderdale this will focus on a mix of the canal and NCN R66 corridor between Todmorden and Cooper Bridge. With reference to the upper valley the CCAG2 route will follow the canal from Hebden Bridge to Luddendenfoot.

CCAG2 – The Calder Valley

Overview Project: Calderdale Valley Connect Warland to Cooper Bridge

Project Sections: 1. Warland to Todmorden – Relocated to Pipeline Projects

2. Todmorden to Hebden Bridge

3. Hebden Bridge to Luddendenfoot

4. Luddendenfoot to Hollas Lane

5. Brighouse Town Centre to Cooper Bridge

Background

The above sections form part of a potential semi segregated greenway between Warland (Calderdale Boundary West) and Cooper Bridge (Kirklees). Improving the standard of both National Cycle Network Route 66 and the towpath of the Rochdale Canal and the Calder and Hebble Navigation would provide a greenway spanning the width of Calderdale and beyond. The standard of greenway in the lower Calder Valley between Hollas Lane and Brighouse is currently very good. Improving the above sections to the same standard would link a number of towns and communities.

This report will focus on the project sections identified.

Warland to Todmorden

Maps <http://ridewithgps.com/routes/6764836>

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3fqDRnAFym2ZDQ3QUUpKUDF4ZkU/view>

Information

- Distance: 3 miles
- Installation of improved surface for all year round use needed
- 99% of this section follows the canal towpath with 1% crossing roads.
- Damage to wash walls within the first mile need repairing and strengthening.
- Installation of a toucan crossing or suitable alternative needed at junction of Hollins Rd and Rochdale Road as canal towpath exits to highway.
- Cobbled sets on final ¼ mile of towpath to Todmorden town centre need re-laying to maintain heritage.
- Cycle Link path already installed to Todmorden Train station ¼ mile access link.
- Pennine Bridleway popular with mountain bikers provides a direct link in at Bottomley above Walsden.
- Populations: Todmorden 15,000, Littleborough 13,800 (linked by Connect2).
- Harry Inghams Cycle parallel to section on A6033.
- Bike & Go Hire installed at Todmorden train station.
- Todmorden is a cycle hub of www.cyclecalderdale.co.uk

Todmorden to Hebden Bridge

Maps <http://ridewithgps.com/routes/6765220>

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3fqDRnAFym2cTFKNWtmcy1QcEk/view>

Information

- Distance: 4.4 miles
- Installation of improved surface for all year round use needed.
- 100% of this section follows the canal towpath.
- Damage to wash walls needs repairing and strengthening.
- Short lengths of this section are built on a wall foundation pinned between the river and canal. Machinery used in the lower valley to achieve the high quality smooth surface was considered too heavy on these lengths.
- Cobbled overflows are a feature on this section and are challenging to ride. A simple footbridge wide enough to carry a cycle has been installed on one of the overflows near Key Syke Lane, Todmorden. The same installation to the other overflows would make the route more accessible.
- Pennine Bridleway popular with mountain bikers provides a direct link in at Callis on the outskirts of Hebden Bridge.
- Blazing Saddles Bike Shop less than ¼ off section in Hebden Bridge Town Centre.
- The Bicycle Den, on section Hebble Ends Works, Hebden Bridge.
- Hebden Bridge is a cycle hub of www.cyclecalderdale.co.uk
- Populations: Todmorden 15,000, Hebden Bridge 4,500.

Hebden Bridge to Luddendenfoot

Maps Towpath <http://ridewithgps.com/routes/6765326>

NCN Route 66 <http://ridewithgps.com/routes/6765381>

Combined <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3fqDRnAFym2QUk4VVc5TXpINU0/view>

Information

- Distance: 3.3 miles
- Installation of improved surface for all year round use needed.
- 99% of this section follows the canal towpath with 1% crossing roads.
- A traffic island was recently installed at Mereclough, Burnley Rd to improve the canal crossing for walkers and cyclists. The footpath would require dual use status to access the towpath on the Mytholmroyd side.
- Option of improved ramped access from Midgely Road, Mytholmroyd onto towpath.
- Towpath is the primary focus of CCAG2 with NCN Route 66 and the combined map link adding additional recreational value.
- Direct Link to Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd train stations.
- National Cycle Network R68 and Pennine Cycleway link at Station Rd, Hebden Bridge and Scout Rd, Mytholmroyd.
- Links directly to longest continuous road climb in England 'Cragg Vale' part of the 2014 TDF route.
- Bike and go hire installed at Hebden Bridge train station.
- Populations: Hebden Bridge 4,500, Mytholmroyd 4,500, Luddendenfoot 2,233.

Luddendenfoot to Hollas Lane

Maps <http://ridewithgps.com/routes/6765494>

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3fqDRnAFym2QW5NVVYzY3I5U0U/view>

Information

- Distance: 3.3 miles, 2.25 miles of towpath and 1.05 miles of highway.
- Installation of improved surface for all year round use needed.
- Section follows 68% of canal towpath.
- Improved shared use infrastructure through Sowerby Bridge Town Centre on A58 Bridge. Considering movement in and out of Hollins Mill Lane and Station on the A58 in both directions.
- Improved awareness of a cycle route heading under Holmes Rd tunnel.
- Options to improve standards for cyclists with new highway design on Holmes Rd, Sowerby Bridge.
- Dropped kerbs off on/off Gas Works Bridge linked from Mereclough Rd to canal towpath.
- National Cycle Network R68 and Pennine Cycleway link at Station Rd, Sowerby Bridge.
- Populations: Luddenfoot 2,233, Sowerby Bridge 9,950.

Brighouse Town Centre to Cooper Bridge

Maps

<http://ridewithgps.com/routes/6793227>

https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B3fqDRnAFym2QTlkeIN3NTJ4aE0/edit?usp=drive_web

Information

- Distance: 2.8 miles
- 1.4 miles of section in Calderdale
- 1.4 miles of section in Kirklees with land ownership issues preventing passage to existing bridleway network and access to Cooper Bridge and other National Cycle Network Routes.
- Direct link to Brighouse train station.
- Populations: Brighouse 32,360, Mirfield 18,621.
- This section provides a key link in the network and a flat corridor avoiding the M62 roundabout linking the A644.

Additional Information

- National Cycle Network Route 66 between Hollas Bridge and Brighouse Town Centre is of a high standard.
- The Hebble Trail National Cycle Network Route 69 provides access to Halifax Town Centre. Phase 2 of this project currently ongoing will directly link Halifax train station. Once this is complete all Calderdale towns (6) will be linked by the cycle network subject to the successful application of CCAG2, 5 of the 6 towns have train stations except Elland and village stations at Mythomlroyd and Walsden provide added value.
- Calderdale proposed CCAG2 scheme heads through Elland, population 15,000.
- Brooksbank Closed Road Circuit approx 1 mile from proposed scheme.
- Cromwell Bottom