

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Who would you like to



# connect2

Visit our website:

[www.leics.gov.uk/connect2](http://www.leics.gov.uk/connect2)

Email:

[htwm@leics.gov.uk](mailto:htwm@leics.gov.uk)

Text:

By texting 'Connect2' to 80010, you will receive more information about when and how to vote nearer the time.

Call Sustrans on:

0845 058 1373

Voting will take place online and by phone. Online voting for The People's £50 Million Lottery Giveaway will open at 9am on **Monday 26th November 2007** at [www.thepeoples50million.org.uk](http://www.thepeoples50million.org.uk). Telephone voting will take place over the weekend **7-10th December 2007**.

## Top tips for cycling in Watermead Country Park

- Make sure your bike is safe to ride.
- Fit a bell to warn pedestrians that you wish to pass. Remember to give them plenty of room - don't be selfish, share the path!
- Wearing bright clothes helps you to be seen.
- It's a good idea to take: - Waterproof clothing, a drink, some money, a map and your mobile phone.

Now get pedalling and  
enjoy your ride!



# WATERMEAD COUNTRY PARK

  
connect2  
PEOPLE PLACES PRIDE

## Footpath and cycle route scheme

## BACKGROUND

The Connect2 project is led by Sustrans (the national sustainable transport charity). Connect2 is one of six projects which is competing for £50 million from the Big Lottery Fund. In an ITV1 show in December 2007, the public will vote to decide which project gets the money. The public will also be able to vote online at [www.thepeoples50million.org.uk](http://www.thepeoples50million.org.uk) from 26th November.



If Connect2 wins, the money would be divided between 79 schemes.

One of these is the Watermead Country Park scheme which would get around a £700,000 share of the £50 million.

Further funding by local organisations would bring the total value of the project to over £1 million.

The scheme brings together the City and County Councils, Charnwood Borough Council, local Parish Councils and local groups such as the Ramblers Association and mosaic: shaping disability services.

***Look out for the TV vote, and remember to vote for Connect2!***

## YOUR QUESTIONS

**Q: What sort of things would be happening as part of the project?**

A: There are several routes into the park, but at the moment many of these are difficult to use. Some of the paths and bridges are not accessible to all sectors of the community. For example the bridges at Thurmaston and Birstall locks are steep sided and difficult for cyclists, people with mobility difficulties and families with small children to negotiate.



It is proposed to improve the slope gradients and quality of surface to make it easier to use.

If Connect2 wins, a small number of paths within the park would be hard surfaced to make getting around easier for all park users.

These paths would link Birstall, Thurmaston, Cossington and Syston to the existing cycle routes to Leicester city centre.



## YOUR QUESTIONS

**Q: Are you going to hard surface lots of paths?**

A: The majority of the paths that would be hard surfaced are existing gravel paths. Gravel is not only difficult for people with mobility difficulties to negotiate but also quite costly to maintain.

There would be a few 'new' paths being created, but these are on existing grass paths which get eroded from heavy use. The paths we already have, blended into the landscape very quickly.



**Q: Are you going to put street lighting in the park?**

A: We have not yet put together any proposals for street lighting to go with the project. However, if street lighting does become a part of the plan, it would be kept to a minimum in the park to avoid disturbing its wildlife. In summer, the small number of street lights would not be on at all, but during the winter months (October to March) the lights would come on in the morning until it is light and at dusk until about 8pm (i.e. commuter period).