

Background - Partnership working with WCC

CWLEP Commonwealth Games Infrastructure Project

In 2018 two separate infrastructure improvement bids for Royal Leamington Spa to the CWLEP had not been successful and it was agreed that WDC would lead and manage the full CWLEP Commonwealth Games Infrastructure Project bid, with an additional agreement between WDC and WCC. A WCC Officer, in addition to the WCC Legal representative, had been added to the WDC Commonwealth Games Project Board and WDC's Commonwealth Games Infrastructure Project Manager was invited to attend WCC Leamington Station Board Meetings ensuring effective two-way communication.

Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Cycling Road Race

Venues and courses for the two cycling road events, the time trial and road race, had not been determined at the time of the Birmingham bidding process in 2017. One of the project's wider reaching objectives was to 'showcase WDC's reputation for event delivery'. With WDC having previously supported WCC's hosting of both the men's and women's cycle tours races the two Councils successfully lobbied Birmingham2022 to host the Cycling Road Race event.

Initially the Racecourse in Warwick, used for the tour events was investigated as the Start/Finish Venue but with the B2022 event being a lapped course as opposed to a tour stage event this was ruled out, with St Nicholas Park identified as an alternative option. This helped secure the awarding of the B2022 Road Cycle Race to Warwickshire, with a tripartite agreement initiated between B2022, WCC and WDC as both WDC (parkland) and WCC (central path and cycle route path) owned parts of the proposed venue.

WCC now had two dedicated CWG officers; a Lead Commissioner who became the County Council's representative on the WDC CWG Project Board and a Commissioner, who was invited to the Board Meeting as a guest. This and regular Away Day's with the WDC Project Team, led by WDC's Head of Cultural Services, ensured close working relationships. Joint working with regard to Streetdressing and Volunteering ensured effective use of staff resources and budgets.

Concerns by B2022 regarding the visibility and safety of having the start and finish of the Cycling Road Race on Banbury Road resulted in it being moved to Myton Road; with the spectator Start/Finish area being moved to Myton Fields, purely owned by WDC and the Operational and Broadcasting overlay based opposite at Warwick School. A Venue Use Agreement was developed between B2022 and WDC and separate agreements were made by B2022 with Warwick School and with WCC regarding the race course. WDC and WCC continued to work together in partnership with B2022 regarding a variety of required roles and responsibilities.