2.0 Landscape Design Statement

2.1 Introduction
To improve the links from the Leeds Liverpool canal towpath to the town centres environmental improvements need to be made to make the route more accessible and inviting, by improving lighting, seating, planting and provide artworks along the proposed cycle route. The links are to provide access for both cyclists and pedestrians.

2.2 Paving
- Detail could be created to the edge of the pathways to give the Airedale Greenway a distinctive feature that would form the identity of the Greenway routes throughout Airedale.
- Possible paving includes resin bound material along the route at Keighley and tarmac with either a timber edge or tegula edge at Healey Lane, which will give the route identity that it is the Airedale Greenway.
- Detail can be created in the pathway to act as signage to the route and create a personalised identity to the route. A particular colour could be used continually through all the Greenway cycle routes to indicate a known route.
- Paving can be used to pave areas that form seating areas to create a defined area. The use of natural and/or recycled materials should be used where possible.

2.3 Materials
- Should be sympathetic to and enhance the existing environment
- The use of natural materials should be used and re-cycled where possible

2.4 Street furniture
- Opportunities for seating should be created along the route. There are potential opportunities to do this in a number of places along the route.
• Personalised seating can be created for the Airedale Greenway that will form features, which would be distinctive to the cycle routes. They could be created out of a variety of different materials for example, stone, metal and wood.

• Seating could be built out of stonewalls to create informal seating.

• Bins should be provided along the routes to ensure that litter is not dropped.

• Cycle stands should be provided where needed for example in town centres and possibly where there are seating areas along the route, or where there are areas of interest close by.

2.5 Artworks

• Artworks and sculptures can be used to create focal points along the cycle route. They could build on a theme or historical influences that run through the whole of the Airedale Greenway. Detail could be created in railings along walls and where railings are needed as fencing or on top of walls to create interest and give identity to the route.

• Detail can be created at bridges and subways to create interest and focal opportunities along the route. The use of metal work and other detailing with the involvement of artists could create interesting and vibrant features that would be unique to the cycle route.

• Artworks could be free standing along the route. There are potential opportunities to get the local community and schools involved in the designs of the artworks.

• Artworks could be hidden amongst the vegetation, hanging from trees etc. The costs of artworks would be dependent on the size and materials been used.

2.6 Planting

• Where possible low maintenance planting should be used at the edge of buildings or alongside paths to provide greenery and opportunities for all year round colour.
• Bulb planting can be added to strips of grass along the routes to add winter and spring colour
• New tree planting can be added along the route where appropriate to offer screening and greenery.
• Some vegetation clearance is needed as some parts are overgrown, damaged and have created unsafe routes for example where there are too many trees together that make it less inviting. Allowing for some tree thinning will create a safer route that is inviting and that people will feel safer using.
• It is essential that any planting be in keeping with the local flora and encourage biodiversity

2.7 Signage
• It is planned that the Airedale Greenway will have its own personalised signage which will give the route its own identity. This could form details in the paving using patterns or colours. It could be in the form of a sign that has been personally designed that is attached to a freestanding pole. The local community could be involved in the designs of the signs, bring local residents and school children to participate and engage in the project and influence the designs of the signage for the route that would be unique to the Airedale Greenway.
• Signage could take the form of artworks along the route that are unique to the Airedale Greenway routes linking the canals to town centres.
• A particular colour could help create the identity of the route.

2.8 Conclusion
It is important to create safe accessible routes that are inviting through the use of lighting and vegetation clearance in certain areas. Identity can be created through seating, street furniture, paving, paving edging, artworks and signage. The route should be accessible to all and other pedestrian access
onto the route should be improved as part of the overall access to the route. The improved surface conditions will enhance the overall look to the route and provide a smooth surface, which will be accessible to all. Where possible, footpaths are to be widened to create shared pedestrian and cycle use to encourage the safety of cyclists. There are potential opportunities to get the local communities involved in the designs on artworks along the route and possibilities for signage.