



**National  
Trust**

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14th March 2017

Dear Sally

### **Proposed Multi-use Trail at Wimpole**

We're writing to advise you about a national programme that Wimpole has been selected to take part in. The programme, funded in partnership with Sport England, will create all-year-round, multi-use paths at ten National Trust places around the country.

This letter is to give you some information about what this will look like at Wimpole, and as important members of our local community, to ask for your support. This project is planned to start in 2017. I'm attaching a map which shows where the multi-use trail will go. It's a circular route, about 9km long (or just under 6 miles).

For further details, we also invite you to a public drop-in session on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March anytime between 3.30pm-6pm. Larger maps of the proposed route and plans will be on show, plus you will be able to speak to members of the property team and project leads.

The trail will be designed for use all year round and will enable different user groups to enjoy the wider Estate, be it cyclists, runners, walkers, those in adapted wheelchairs, as well as families with pushchairs and those needing a little more reassurance underfoot and a safe place to enjoy the Estate.

There are many conservation benefits of having a path that's suitable for many users all year round, the most significant will be the reduction of damage to the park. When potholes and mud appear, people walk around them; this widens the path and therefore damages the undergrowth and compacts the soil around tree roots. Good paths will allow the widest parts of the path to recover and prevent as much wear and tear.

At the heart of the Trust's strategy is improving access to and awareness of our many outdoor locations to encourage people to enjoy the unique pleasure of spending time in the countryside. We are confident that the Wimpole multi use trail will help us play our part in helping to reconnect the nation with the outdoors.

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Providing planning approval is received, work on the trail will commence next summer, with completion early 2018.

If you would like more information on the Multi-Use trail please visit our website [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wimpole](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wimpole) for a more detailed article and some Frequently Asked Questions.

Yours sincerely

John Harris

Sports Development Officer

Cont/d