

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	29 June 20223 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall, Bridestones
REPORT FROM	Jackie MacArthur, Communities and Marketing Manager and DCO		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	11. Understanding Town Centre Access Issues By Experience		
Background	<p>Over the past decade, there have been a number of concerns raised by people with visual impairments and/or mobility disabilities about the difficulty of negotiating their way around Congleton.</p> <p>Issues raised include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of dropped kerbs (Buggies, people with mobility difficulty) • Difficulty in negotiating street clutter (people with visual impairment) • Lack of markings/ definition at kerb edges (people with visual impairment) • Lack of appropriate safe crossing points (both mobility difficulty and visual impairment) <p>At the beginning of this new administration, I have been asked to see if Councillors would be prepared to experience the town centre as a person with visual impairment or mobility challenges (e.g. using a wheelchair) may experience the town to better appreciate the challenges they face.</p> <p>This would be organised in association with the Macclesfield Eye Society and other disability groups.</p>		
Recommendations	That Councillors wishing to get involved let the Deputy Chief Officer know and for her to organise an appropriate programme with the user groups.		
Financial Implications	There is no cost at this time other than time, however, the experience may lead to a list of actions that may require funds to be raised.		
Environmental Implications	There is no additional carbon footprint associated with this project. Ultimately it is hoped the experience may help lead to a more accessible town centre.		
Equality and Diversity Impact	This proposal is designed to help councillors better understand the needs and difficulties experienced by those with mobility and visual impairments with the aim of making the town centre more accessible for all, which the Town Council has committed to do as part of its Equality and Inclusion Policy.		
PROPOSALS	That the Community Committee delegates responsibility to staff for organising a practical awareness session for councillors on this committee and any other councillor who wishes to take part.		