



Everwood™

Stop the Rot on your Rural Cycle Routes

INTRODUCTION

There is something undeniably special about cycling through the countryside. Rural cycle routes offer a unique cycling experience compared to their urban counterparts. Whether it's a short-distance trip to a local favourite spot or a long-distance journey to some of the most remote areas of the country, dedicated cycle routes offer the perfect adventure. However, for a cycle route to be successful, adequate safety measures must be in place.

Bollards and other cycle safety structures not only play a vital role in separating traffic and protecting pedestrians and infrastructure, but they can also serve as useful markers for cycle routes. Traditionally, wood has been the preferred material due to its aesthetic appeal, although its practicality is sometimes hindered by its inherent weaknesses. Fortunately, Glasdon's innovative Everwood™ offers solutions to these issues and could be the perfect option for active travel designers, engineers and cyclists.

Let us Explore...

- [The Key Attributes Required for Cycle Route Success](#)
- [The Downsides of Natural Wood and How Everwood is a Superior Choice of Material.](#)
- [Everwood™ Cycle Route Solutions and Glasdon Customer Success Stories.](#)

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PART 1: Achieving Cycle Route Success



ATTRIBUTES OF A SUCCESSFUL CYCLE ROUTE

Before examining the necessary tools for cycle route success, let's first consider the key contributing factors that provide an optimal cycling experience. These factors aim to promote cycling, prioritise user experience across all age groups and skill levels, and ensure cyclists' safety.

Here are the key attributes to consider:



Guidance

Implementing clear, consistent and strategically placed signage to direct cyclists and alert drivers of the route's existence is vital. Another crucial aspect is the use of reflective banding to enhance visibility at night.



Attractiveness

Adding foliage, such as trees or shrubs, along the path can offer shade, enhance air quality and make for a more enjoyable ride. Additionally, integrating bollards delineators and other safety structures that align with the route's aesthetics can also contribute to its appeal.




Quality

The ideal route should be engaging, encouraging and usable throughout the year. This means maintenance, whether it involves addressing potholes, damaged signage, or overgrown vegetation.



Safety

Undoubtedly, the most significant requirement is safety. This hinges on several key features. A smooth surface is essential, free of cracks, potholes, or debris. Secondly, the lane should also have sufficient width to allow cyclists to ride safely side by side (which is important for families or groups) and to pass parked cars or walkers comfortably, if necessary.



The key component that connects all aspects to create a reliable, attractive, high-quality and safe cycle route is the implementation of bollards and other cycle safety structures.

THE HIDDEN EXPENSES OF WOOD

Bollards and safety structures specifically designed for cycle paths are the perfect way to alert, educate and safeguard both cyclists and pedestrians while enhancing the overall appeal of the routes. With eye-catching reflective panels and directional indicators, these solutions can effectively delineate cycle lanes in shared or separate setups or serve as markers for designated cycling paths.

Wood has long been a favoured option for these solutions due to its ability to harmoniously blend in with the great outdoors. However, opting for wood as an external building material often leads to significant structural issues, as many are well aware. A naturally susceptible material, over time, exposure to wind, snow and most crucially rain can lead to warping, cracking, and rot. If left untreated, these issues can lead to a host of maintenance and logistical challenges for maintenance engineers especially on rural routes which by virtue may be less accessible to maintenance vehicles.

Here are some potential consequences of rain on wooden products:

Swelling and warping: Wood absorbs water, causing it to swell. This can lead to warping, especially in untreated wood. Warped wood can become misshapen and lose its structural integrity. Particularly a problem when wooden posts are used in conjunction with ground sockets.

Cracking and splitting: When wood dries unevenly after exposure to rain, it can crack or split, especially at weak points or along the grain.

Mould and mildew growth: Moisture creates a favourable environment for mould and mildew growth, which can discolour the wood and cause health problems.

Rot and decay: Over time, prolonged exposure to moisture can lead to rot and decay. This weakens the wood and can ultimately render it unusable.

The extent of these results may vary depending on factors such as the type of wood and direct exposure, but the potential for these issues remains present.



Our answer to these issues? [Everwood.](#)

WHY EVERWOOD™?

Everwood is a unique, realistic timber grain polymer that features a revolutionary blend of our Durapol® material - a strong, lightweight and self-coloured material that is completely corrosion-resistant.

Everwood is specifically designed to mimic the aesthetic qualities of timber while offering superior performance characteristics in outdoor environments. Being a polymer, it is unaffected by the typical issues inherited from wood mentioned earlier and can withstand extreme weather conditions and temperatures



LOOKS AS GOOD AS WOOD – WITH NONE OF THE MAINTENANCE.

These durable features translate into:



Cost Savings

Everwood does not require regular maintenance treatments, such as painting or applying waterproof coatings, which are essential for preserving natural wood. These treatments can be expensive to maintain; therefore, significant cost savings can be achieved on both materials and labour. Additionally, by having a product that will not deteriorate completely due to weathering, costly replacements of the product can be avoided.



Long Lifespan

Everwood is a remarkably robust high-performance polymer that has undergone stringent checks to ensure durability. Glasdon has ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 accreditation, underlining our commitment to quality. When infrastructure is operational and intact, safety measures are continuously enforced to ensure that cyclists are protected throughout the year. Furthermore, infrastructure that maintains a long service life not only ensures continuous protection for cyclists but also helps uphold public trust in transportation systems and local authorities.



Low Maintenance

As a self-coloured polymer, Everwood's corrosion-resistant capability eliminates the need for regular repainting, protective coatings, or complete replacement in the event of degradation or damage, thereby saving time, labour and resources on maintenance. That means you don't need sandpaper, paint, preservatives or brushes to keep everything in order. Routine cleaning with soap and water is usually sufficient to keep Everwood products looking presentable and, most importantly, visible.



Carbon Savings

With less frequent maintenance requirements, there is a significant reduction in the use of maintenance vehicles. This results in fewer vehicle emissions associated with travelling to and from the cycle route for maintenance purposes. This is particularly beneficial when cycle routes are located in the most remote areas.



PART 2: Riding Safe with Glasdon

SHAPING SAFER ROUTES

Below we'll spotlight Glasdon's innovative approach to cycle route safety with Everwood material, focusing on two key products: the Glenwood™ Post Range and the Glasdon Gateway.





Glenwood™ Post Range

One particular product that exemplifies the use of Everwood as an effective cycle route safety bollard is the Glenwood Post Range. These square-shaped posts have a unique diamond top and are available in dark oak or light oak with options to provide reflective banding. Both are ideal solutions for traditional and contemporary designs.

Design Features

- Two models available - Glenwood 170 Post and Glenwood 170 Signhead Post for displaying 150mm signs on all four sides, and the Glenwood 150 Post.
- 170mm or 150mm posts.
- Lightweight and easy to install.
- Recessed area for retroreflective banding.
- Wide range of vandal-resistant sign faces.
- Choice of two fixing options – Glenwood Socket System or permanent below-ground extended base*.
- Optional socket blanking cap available.
- Personalisation available.

* Glenwood 170 only.



With the Glenwood Socket System, bollards are quick and easy to remove and replace, making them ideal for permanent, semi-permanent, or temporary applications. Facilitates access for maintenance vehicles on segregated cycle/ pedestrian pathways.



Glasdon Gateway

As an alternative to bollards, the versatile Glasdon Gateway offers multiple functions, from displaying cycle routes to cycle-friendly speed-reducing chicanes. This elegant solution can be specified to the exact requirements of your cycle route scheme with a wide choice of configurations.

Design Features

- A low-maintenance, long-lasting alternative to traditional wooden chicanes.
- More aesthetically pleasing than metal chicanes
- Hundreds of combinations of colour, slats, widths and heights available.



With the Gateway, the possibilities for customisation are endless!

← Here, our valued client utilised the wide space available to incorporate a map to help cyclists navigate.



We offer a free, in-house personalisation service to help you visualise how your product will appear with your very own map, or other enhancements to improve safety or assist cyclists in navigating the route. Keep reading to see more fantastic customer designs for the Glasdon Gateway.

Contact us for more information and work closely with our team to bring your ideas for cycle safety to life!



EVERWOOD IN ACTION

Aiming towards more carbon-neutral forms of transport and a healthier lifestyle, various organisations are actively creating new pedestrian/cycle routes and connecting existing routes throughout the UK. The projects being developed by organisations such as Sustrans, aim to open opportunities to view amazing parts of the UK running along coastlines, beautiful mountainous areas, and gorgeous countryside, with famous landmarks along the way.

Everwood, the material utilised by the Glasdon Gateway and Glenwood, is being favoured for many of these connecting routes. This is because most of these routes are exposed to harsh weather conditions, and Everwood posts and sign carriers are known to significantly outperform timber. Many of the routes breathe new life into disused railway lines, carrying a legacy of the past into the present. To honor this heritage, the Glenwood and Gateway systems allow for the addition of traditional signage, seamlessly blending the old with the new.

Using the Everwood material means these routes will continue for many years to come. Recent routes being linked are NCN01 East Coast Scotland to England, NCN7 North England through the west coast of Scotland to Inverness and linking routes such as the NCN76. Moving forward there are many more routes planned further linking more exciting journeys throughout the UK.

Pass of Drumochter

Recently, several Glenwood posts were installed at the Pass of Drumochter on Route 7 of the NCN (National Cycle Network), a mountain pass that experiences severe weather conditions in the Scottish Highlands. Here, exposed to rain, frost, and snow, common wooden bollards would severely degrade and require constant repair, but not Glenwood posts.



Newmachar, NCN 01

In the town of Newmachar, Scotland, you'll find the Formartine and Buchan Way. This 40-mile trail was originally a railway line but has recently been transformed into part of the NCN Route 1, spanning from Dover to the Scottish Highlands.

In this newly introduced section, a series of Glenwood bollards has been strategically placed to serve as a prominent focal point. These bollards serve as a filtration system to reduce the speed of cyclists on a shared path with pedestrians.



Round the Forth

Impressed by the natural look and durability of the Glenwood Posts already installed along National Route 76, also known as "Round the Forth," this customer requested the addition of Glasdon Gateways to further enhance the route for cyclists.



Stockport

The Gateway is an extremely versatile product. Here, the client opted to arrange the fixtures in a staggered fashion to form a chicane. The spacing allows for both walkers and cyclists to pass through comfortably, without the need for dismounting.



CONCLUSION

Everwood offers a compelling and cost-effective alternative to traditional wooden safety solutions for rural cycle routes. With its superior durability, low maintenance requirements and long lifespan, choosing Everwood ensures the reliability of your project while preserving its usability for years to come.

**CHOOSE OPTIMAL
ROAD SAFETY, CHOOSE
GLASDON**

We have been designing and manufacturing road safety bollards & equipment for more than 65 years. Our versatile solutions are used all over the highways and byways of the United Kingdom, and within our range, there is equipment for every installation.

For urban cycle route schemes, we offer a selection of sign-carrying & directional bollards. These rigid and rebound bollards are perfect for highlighting dedicated cycle paths and shared routes in urban and suburban environments.

The road to safer streets and aesthetically pleasing public spaces begins with the right choice of materials, and Glasdon's solutions pave the way for a sustainable and secure future.

For more assistance and information, please contact us today and talk to our team of dedicated experts.

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM GLASDON...



Mini-Ensign™ Bollard



Ensign™ Bollard



Cyclenmaster™ Bollard



www.glasdon.com

