

## North West Coastal Access Monthly Update: December 2018



This update provides local and regional representatives and other interested stakeholders with a brief summary on progress for each of the coastal stretches we are working on in the North West. If you have colleagues who should be included on the distribution list or you do not wish to receive this update please let me know.

| Contact Us   | North West Coastal Access map  |
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| <p><a href="mailto:northwest.coastalaccess@naturalengland.org.uk">northwest.coastalaccess@naturalengland.org.uk</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.gov.uk/englandcoastpath">www.gov.uk/englandcoastpath</a></p> <p> Follow us @NE Cumbria and @NENorthWest on twitter</p> <p> Follow the whole National Trails family @thenationaltrails on Facebook</p> |  <p><b>Stretch Names</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>③ Gretna to Allonby</li> <li>① Allonby to Whitehaven</li> <li>② Whitehaven to Silcroft</li> <li>⑤ Silcroft to Silverdale</li> <li>④ Walney Island</li> <li>⑥ Silverdale to Cleveleys</li> <li>⑦ Cleveleys to Pier Head, Liverpool</li> <li>⑧ Birkenhead to Welsh Border</li> </ul> <p><b>Stretch Progress</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: green;">—</span> England Coast Path and associated access rights now open</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">—</span> Approved but not yet open, establishment works planned or in progress</li> <li><span style="color: red;">—</span> Proposals published but not yet determined</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">—</span> Proposals in development</li> </ul> <p><b>Other</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px;"></span> County &amp; Unitary Boundaries</li> </ul> <p><b>Scale:</b><br/>         0 2 4 8 12 16 Kilometres<br/>         0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 10.5 14 Miles</p> <p><small>© Crown copyright and database right 2017. All rights reserved. Natural England Licence No. 100022021</small></p> |

### Stretch 1: Allonby to Whitehaven (35 km) - OPEN

- See [www.nationaltrail.co.uk/england-coast-path/about](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/england-coast-path/about) for updates

| <b>Stretch 2: Whitehaven to Silecroft (51 km) – STAGE 5: ‘OPEN’</b>   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Current Activity</b>   | <b>Next Milestone</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We received no objections to the variation reports for Couderton and Nethertown or Drigg and the representations we received have been submitted to the Secretary of State.</li> <li>We are awaiting approval to complete the work from these variations.</li> <li>We hope to see all works concluded by early 2019, at which point we will open the stretch without any further delay.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likely completion date is late 2019.</li> <li>Commencement order will be made and opening date will be announced.</li> </ul> |

| <b>Stretch 3: Gretna to Allonby (98 km) – STAGE 4: ‘DETERMINE’</b>  |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Current Activity</b>   | <b>Next Milestone</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are still waiting to hear back from the Secretary of State after the Public Hearings in early December 2017. This determination is likely to be delayed by the implications of the ‘People over Wind case’ (see below for the Silecroft to Silverdale and Silverdale to Cleveleys stretches). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The hearings considered: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Flooding of areas of salt marsh and consequent dangers to walkers</li> <li>2) Impacts of proposed route on farming practices, including safety issues</li> <li>3) Disturbance of wintering and/or breeding birds</li> <li>4) Possible alternative routes</li> </ol> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment work will get underway as soon as possible, but are unlikely to be completed before late 2020.</li> </ul> |

| <b>Stretch 4: Walney Island (33km) – STAGE 5: ‘OPEN’</b>   |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Current Activity</b>  | <b>Next Milestone</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment works are now underway for the approved route.</li> <li>CCC are monitoring use of and concerns about the ECP-related road markings on Carr Lane.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completion of these works and commencement of new rights is likely to be mid 2019.</li> </ul> |

| <b>Stretch 5: Silecroft to Silverdale (approx. 101km) – STAGE 2: ‘DEVELOP’</b>   |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Current Activity</b>  | <b>Next Milestone</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have finalised our route options and are making good progress on the remaining elements of the ASFA process.</li> <li>Natural England is now considering, on a case by case basis, the implications for its coastal access reports of the recent judgement of the Court of Justice of the European Union of the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in case C-323/17 <i>People Over Wind</i>.</li> <li><i>Other news: Morecambe Bay Partnership has received funding to complete a feasibility study for a new foot / cycle bridge across Arnside Viaduct. For more information see <a href="http://www.morecambebay.org.uk/news/%C2%A350000-award-test-cycle-and-walkway-along-arnside-viaduct">www.morecambebay.org.uk/news/%C2%A350000-award-test-cycle-and-walkway-along-arnside-viaduct</a></i></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will hopefully publish by mid-2019.</li> </ul> <p>We will provide an update as soon as possible.</p> |

| <b>Stretch 6: Silverdale to Cleveleys (approx. 82km) – STAGE2: ‘DEVELOP’</b>  |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Current Activity</b>   | <b>Next Milestone</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have finalised our route options and are making good progress on the remaining elements of the ASFA process.</li> <li>Natural England is now considering, on a case by case basis, the implications for its coastal access reports of the recent judgement of the Court of Justice of the European Union of the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in case C-323/17 <i>People Over Wind</i>.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will hopefully publish by mid-2019.</li> </ul> <p>We will provide an update as soon as possible.</p>     |
| <b>Stretch 7: Cleveleys to Pier head, Liverpool (approx. 124km) – STAGE2: ‘DEVELOP’</b>   |  |
| <b>Current Activity</b>   | <b>Next Milestone</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are preparing initial proposal letters and maps for affected landowners. There are a couple of locations where we are still working to agree proposals for route alignment along the stretch.</li> <li>We are continuing to consider options for a potential new crossing point over the river Douglas.</li> <li>We have had positive meetings with both Sefton MBC and the National Trust about the large area of default dune coastal land type around the Sefton Coast.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early 2019 – expect to send out initial proposal letters to owners / occupiers of affected land.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Stretch 8: Birkenhead to Welsh border (approx. 41km) - ) – STAGE2: ‘DEVELOP’</b>   |  |
| <b>Current Activity</b>   | <b>Next Milestone</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We now have route alignment agreed for the whole of the stretch.</li> <li>We are finalising our proposals for areas of the margin which are unsuitable for access consulting with public bodies.</li> <li>We have almost completed our Sensitive Features Assessment for this stretch with only the North Wirral Foreshore / Mersey Narrows SPA/SAC remaining – we hope to conclude this work in early 2019.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early 2019 Stage 3 – ‘propose’ – estimated report publication</li> </ul>                                    |