

Funding Coastal Access

*A North West Coastal Forum
Networking & Communications Event*

A wide-angle photograph of a coastal landscape. In the foreground, a grassy cliffside slopes down towards the sea. The middle ground shows a small bay with a sandy beach and some rocky outcrops. In the background, there are rolling green hills and a small village with white buildings. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

Access to the English Coast

Danny Moores

Twenty minutes... to address:

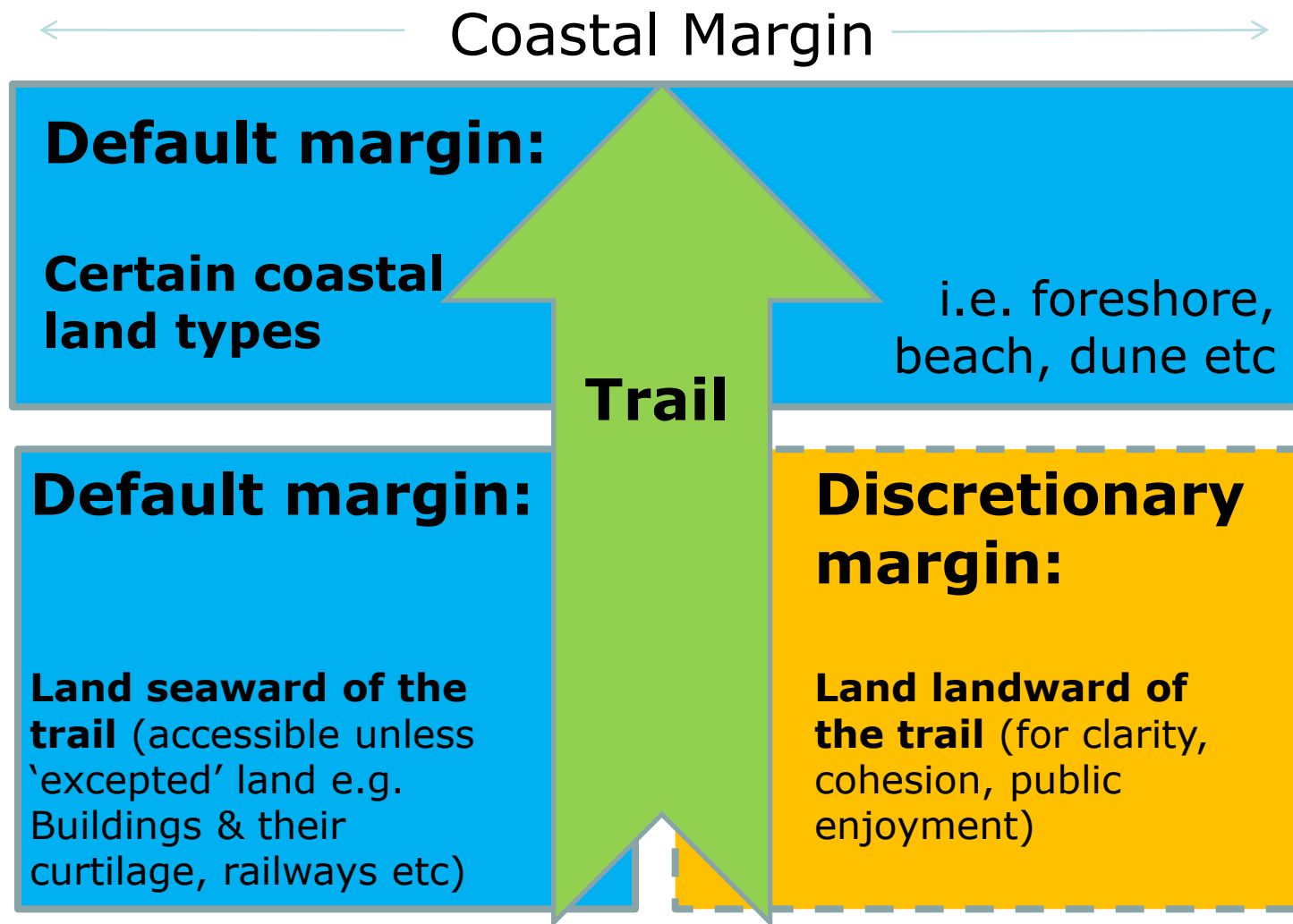


- What is the 'England Coast Path' ?
- Brief outline of the coastal access implementation process
- Where we're currently working around the country
- Update on 'stretch' work in the North West
- Few thoughts on potential 'access' projects

What is the 'England Coast Path' ?

- The **Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009** (Part 9).
- There are two parts to the new *coastal access duty* - to establish a long-distance walking route around the English coast, the other, to identify land beside it which should be accessible to the public on foot.
- Natural England have prepared a 'scheme' setting out the approach it will take when discharging the coastal access duty.
- This approach has been approved by the Secretary of State and can be viewed on the web:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5327964912746496>

The nature of the coastal access rights



The nature of the coastal access rights - balancing public & private interests



Public interest

- Proximity of the trail to the sea
- Views of the sea from the trail
- Safety and convenience
- Continuity of the trail
- Respond to coastal change – ‘rollback’
- Protect sensitive features

Private interest

- Operational needs
- Income
- Privacy
- Changes of use

Brief outline of the Coastal Access implementation process



Stage 1 Prepare

- Define extent of coastal stretch, in discussion with local access authorities
- Ask key organisations about their ideas and concerns for this stretch
- Initial look at any issues for key sensitive features
- Assess problems, opportunities, constraints
- Consider existing access patterns and early route options

Brief outline of the Coastal Access implementation process



Stage 2 Develop

- Contact owners of relevant land
- Do alignment checks on the ground
- Share our initial thinking with owners and occupiers and offer to 'walk the course' with them if they wish
- Plan protection of key sensitive features
- Talk further to key interests as necessary
- Reality check our developed proposals

Brief outline of the Coastal Access implementation process



Stage 3 Propose

- Finalise our proposals and associated maps
- Publish them in a statutory report to the Secretary of State (SoS)
- Invite any representations on our report from anyone who wishes to comment
- Invite any objections to our report from owners or occupiers of affected land

Brief outline of the Coastal Access implementation process



Stage 4 Determine

- Receive any representations or objections
- Forward or summarise them to the SoS together with any comments by us
- Appointed person adjudicates on any objections and advises SoS
- SoS decides whether to approve our proposals, with or without modifications

Brief outline of the Coastal Access implementation process



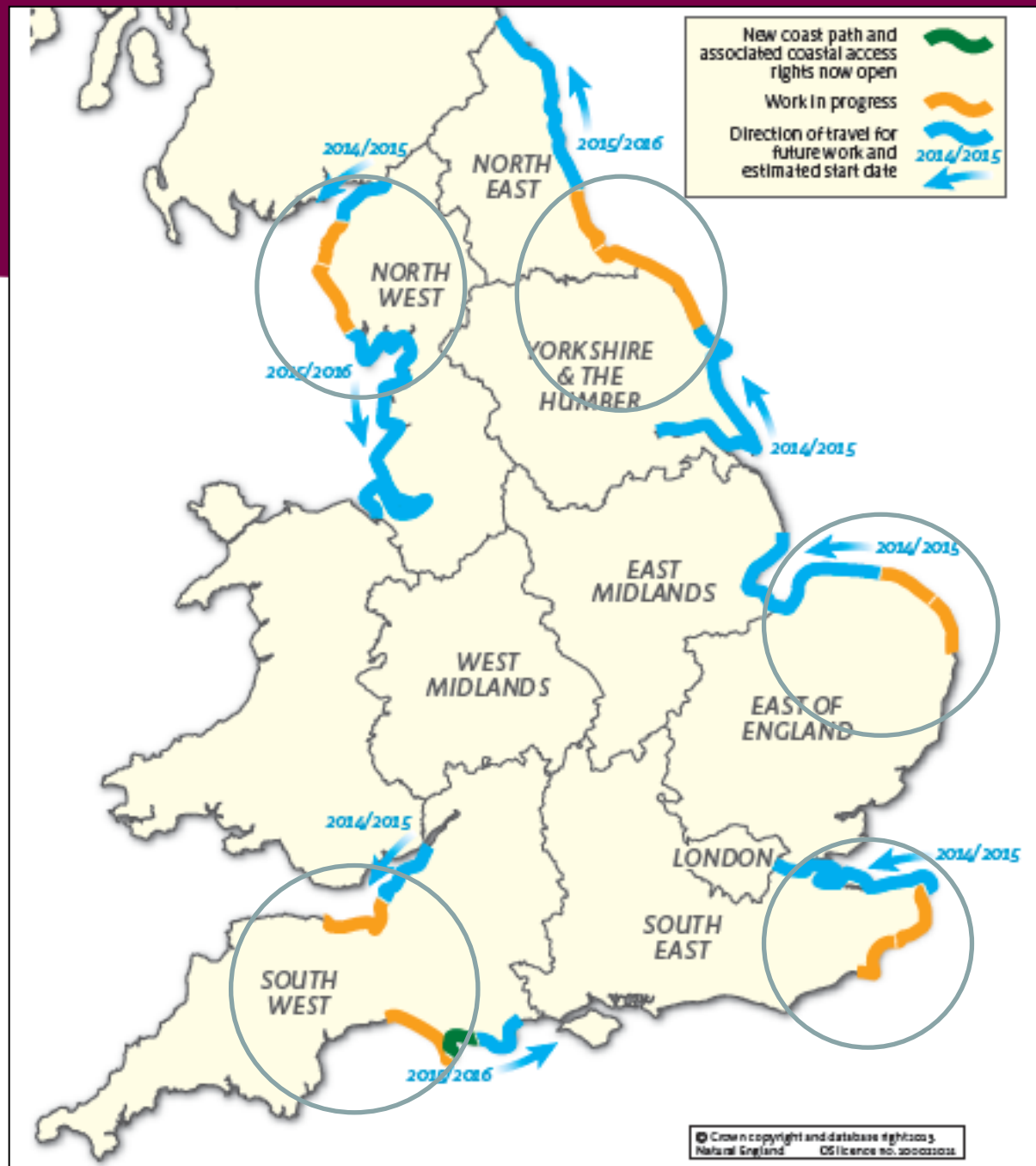
Stage 5 Open

- Establishment works done on approved stretch after discussion with those owners
- Any agreed restrictions or dedications implemented
- Approved map published
- Order brings new public rights into effect
- England Coast Path now exists on this stretch

Where we are currently working:

Five 'hub' teams covering the north west, north east, east, south east and south west of England

Each with (on average), two stretches of coast at varying stages of completion



Update on 'stretch' activity:there's lots going on !



NE1:
**Durham, Hartlepool,
Sunderland**

- Stage 5 - Open
- approval given July 2013, due to open Spring 2014

NE2:
**Middlesbrough and
North Yorkshire**

- Stage 2 – Develop
- Part of existing Cleveland Way NT
- WTC ongoing, due to publish proposals early 2014

Update on 'stretches'



**EE1:
Sea Palling to Weybourne**

- Stage 4 - Determine
- Period for reps /objections closed 16th Sept 2013
- Now awaiting determination
- Establishment works can then start

**EE2:
Hopton on Sea to Sea
Palling**

- Stage 2 - Develop
- WTC ongoing, due to publish proposals early 2014

**SE1:
Folkestone to Ramsgate**

- Stage 3 - Propose
- Formal proposals published 28th October 2013

**SE2:
Camber to Folkestone**

- Stage 2 - Develop
- WTC ongoing, due to publish proposals Spring 2014

Update on 'stretches'



SW1: Weymouth Bay

- Stage 5 - Open
- 'business as usual'

SW2: Brean Down to Minehead

- Stage 3 - Propose
- Formal proposals published 17th October 2013

SW3: Lyme Regis to Rufus Castle (Portland)

- Stage 2 - Develop
- WTC ongoing, due to publish proposals Spring 2014

Update on 'stretch' activity in the North West



Stretch 1:
Allonby to Whitehaven

Stretch 2:
Whitehaven to Silecroft

-----2014/15-----

Stretch 3:
tbc- likely to be Allonby
to Scottish border

Coastal Access in Cumbria: Whitehaven to Allonby

Natural England is working on proposals to improve public access to the coast between Whitehaven and Allonby.

For the latest information on the project, visit the Natural England website:
www.naturalengland.org.uk/coastalaccess



Stretch 1: Allonby to Whitehaven



Stage 5 – Open

Work began - May 2011

SoS approved report - July
2013

Establishment works now
being carried out

Due to open Spring 2014

Stretch 2: Whitehaven to Silecroft

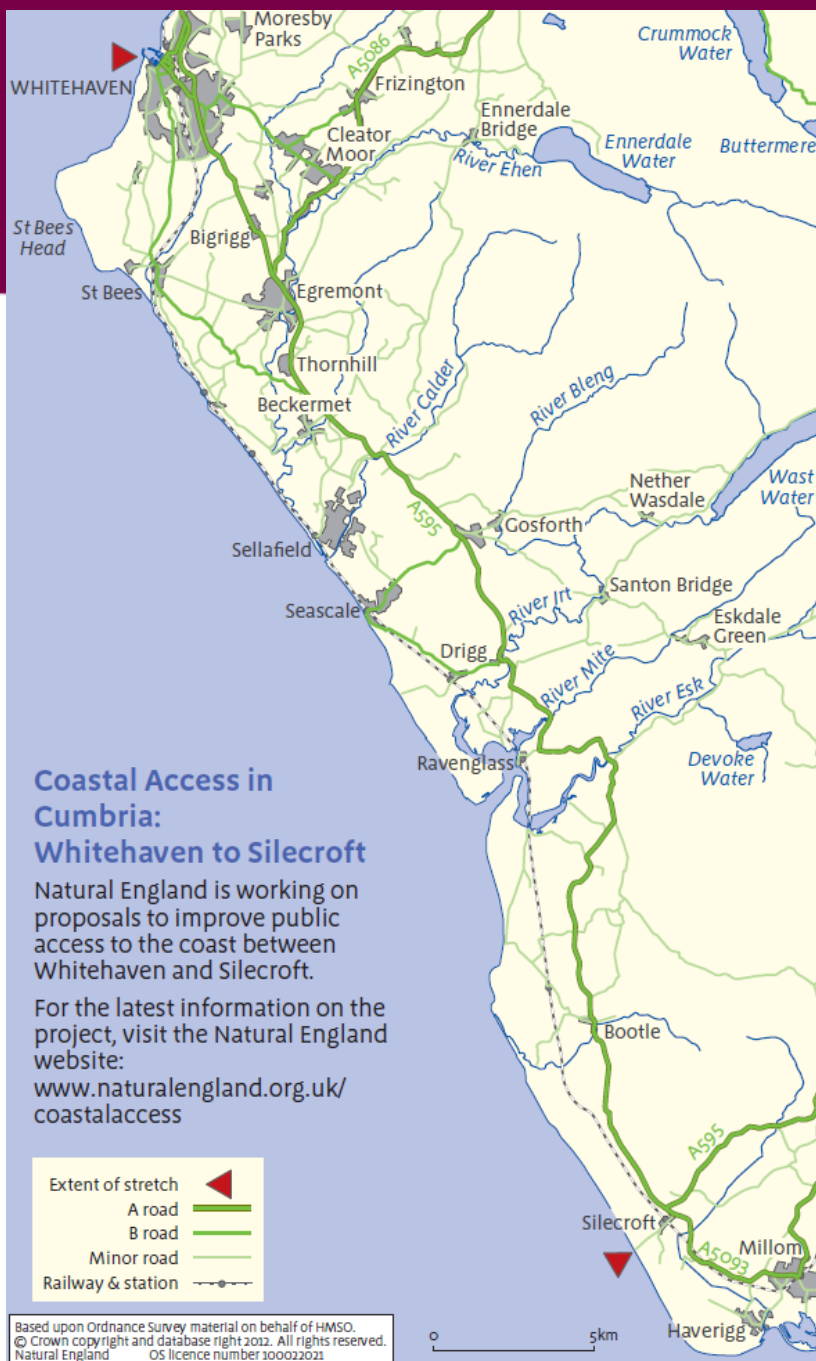


Stage 2 – Develop

‘Walking the Course’

Sensitive features
assessment to be
completed in New Year

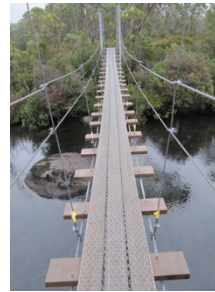
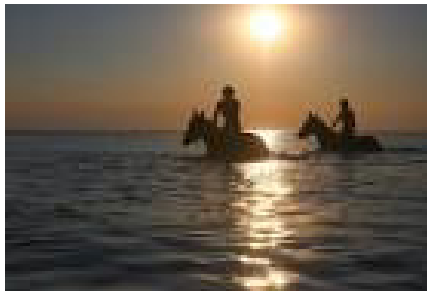
....due to publish
proposals early 2014



Future funding - issues/opportunities....



- Upgrading the trail to accommodate other users
- Providing key crossings over rivers and other barriers (i.e. Rivers Irt and Esk Viaducts)
- Improved routes to and from the ECP and coastal margin



Future funding - issues/opportunities....



- Better on-site interpretation along the route
- Maintain existing or provide better facilities – car parking, toilets, for different users etc
- Promotion and marketing of the route once established



Contact details for Coastal Access Delivery Leads:



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