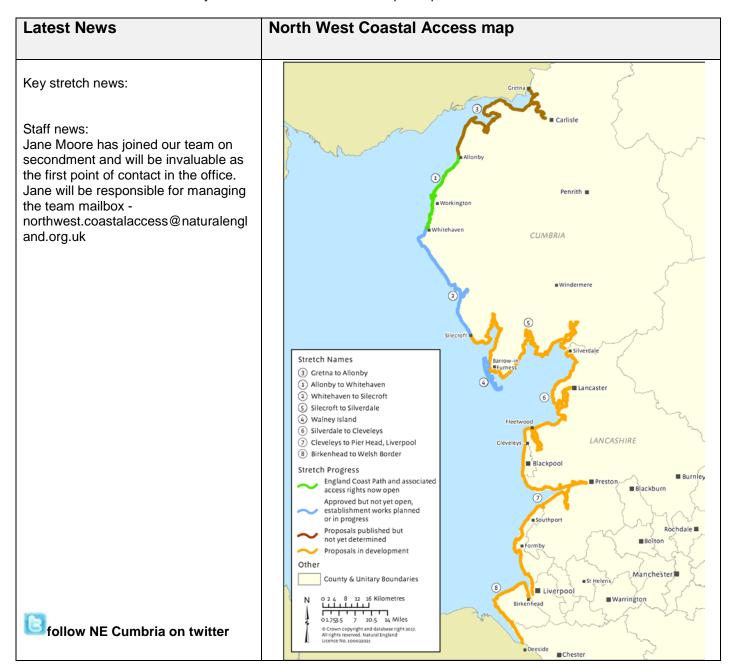
## North West Coastal Access Monthly Update: December 2017



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.



## Stretch 1: Allonby to Whitehaven (36 km) - OPEN

See www.nationaltrail.co.uk/england-coast-path/about for updates

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Stretch 2: Whitehaven to Silecroft (55 km) – STAGE 5: 'OPEN'			
Current Activity	Next Milestone		
<ul> <li>We are now investigating those locations where the approved route needs to be realigned prior to stretch opening.</li> <li>Cumbria County Council are continuing to carry out the establishment works for the approved route, which due to the amount and complexity of the work involved will take some time to complete.</li> <li>Ongoing discussions with Nugen regarding impact of proposed new development at Moorside on approved line of the trail.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Likely completion date is now Q2 2018 / 2019.</li> <li>Commencement order will be made and opening date will be announced.</li> </ul>		

Stretch 3: Gretna to Allonby (approx. 100km) – STAGE 4: 'DETERMINE'		
	Current Activity	Next Milestone
1) 2) 3) 4)	Three days of Public Hearings were held on Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> , Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December.  • The hearings considered: Flooding of areas of salt marsh and consequent dangers to walkers Impacts of proposed route on farming practices, including safety issues Disturbance of wintering and/or breeding birds Possible alternative routes	<ul> <li>The Secretary of State's decision is expected in spring 2018.</li> <li>Establishment work will get underway as soon as possible, but may run into at least 2019 / 20, before access rights can be commenced.</li> </ul>
•	We are now waiting to hear back from the planning inspector. Only once all the objections have all been determined will the inspector make her recommendation to the Secretary of State.	

Stretch 4: Walney Island (approx. 35km) – STAGE 5: 'OPEN'		
Current Activity	Next Milestone	
Establishment work is due to start imminently for this stretch.	Completion of these works and commencement of new rights is likely to be in 2018.	

Stretch 5: Silecroft to Silverdale (approx. 101km) – STAGE 2: 'DEVELOP'		
Current Activity	Next Milestone	
<ul> <li>We are nearing the end of stage 2 'Develop' and we are working through issues raised after initial proposal letters have been received.</li> <li>ASFA process working through detailed proposals and use of restrictions / exclusions are being finalised where possible.</li> <li>Work has started drafting the publication.</li> </ul>	Publication of report expected in winter 2017/18.	

Stretch 6: Silverdale to Cleveleys (approx. 82km) – STAGE2: 'DEVELOP'	
Current Activity	Next Milestone
<ul> <li>We are nearing the end of stage 2 'Develop' and we are working through issues raised after initial proposal letters have been received.</li> <li>ASFA process working through detailed proposals and use of restrictions / exclusions are being finalised where possible.</li> <li>Work has started drafting the publication.</li> </ul>	Publication of report expected in winter 2017/18.

Stretch 7: Cleveleys to Pier head, Liverpool (approx. 124km)	
Current Activity	Next Milestone

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<ul> <li>We have now written to everyone who we believe may be affected and held two successful drop in days on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November at key points along the route.</li> </ul>	•	Early 2018 Stage 2 – 'Develop' – Route alignment and meeting landowners
<ul> <li>We are opening discussions with partners regarding options for a crossing point at the river Douglas.</li> </ul>		

Stretch 8: Birkenhead to Welsh border (approx. 41km)		
Current Activity	Next Milestone	
<ul> <li>We held a drop in event after contacting landowners / occupiers on 10<sup>th</sup>         October at Wirral Country Park.</li> <li>We have started discussions with the Welsh coast path team to create a link across the England – Wales border.</li> </ul>	Early 2018 Stage 2 – 'Develop' – Route alignment and meeting landowners	

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