

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.

Latest News	North West Coastal Access map
<p>Key stretch news:</p> <p>Staff news: Jane Moore has joined our team on secondment and will be invaluable as the first point of contact in the office. Jane will be responsible for managing the team mailbox - northwest.coastalaccess@naturalengland.org.uk</p> <p> follow NE Cumbria on twitter</p>	 <div data-bbox="651 1223 949 1825"> <p>Stretch Names</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ③ Gretna to Allonby ① Allonby to Whitehaven ② Whitehaven to Silcroft ⑤ Silcroft to Silverdale ④ Walney Island ⑥ Silverdale to Cleveleys ⑦ Cleveleys to Pier Head, Liverpool ⑧ Birkenhead to Welsh Border <p>Stretch Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — England Coast Path and associated access rights now open — Approved but not yet open, establishment works planned or in progress — Proposals published but not yet determined — Proposals in development <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> County & Unitary Boundaries <p>Scale: 0 2 4 8 12 16 Kilometres 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> </div>

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

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

Stretch 2: Whitehaven to Silecroft (55 km) – STAGE 5: ‘OPEN’	
Current Activity	Next Milestone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are now investigating those locations where the approved route needs to be realigned prior to stretch opening. 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. Ongoing discussions with Nugen regarding impact of proposed new development at Moorside on approved line of the trail. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely completion date is now Q2 2018 / 2019. Commencement order will be made and opening date will be announced.

Stretch 3: Gretna to Allonby (approx. 100km) – STAGE 4: ‘DETERMINE’	
Current Activity	Next Milestone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three days of Public Hearings were held on Wednesday 6th, Thursday 7th and Friday 8th December. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The hearings considered: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Secretary of State’s decision is expected in spring 2018. Establishment work will get underway as soon as possible, but may run into at least 2019 / 20, before access rights can be commenced.

Stretch 4: Walney Island (approx. 35km) – STAGE 5: ‘OPEN’	
Current Activity	Next Milestone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment work is due to start imminently for this stretch. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 style="list-style-type: none"> We are nearing the end of stage 2 ‘Develop’ and we are working through issues raised after initial proposal letters have been received. ASFA process working through detailed proposals and use of restrictions / exclusions are being finalised where possible. Work has started drafting the publication. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of report expected in winter 2017/18.

Stretch 6: Silverdale to Cleveleys (approx. 82km) – STAGE2: ‘DEVELOP’	
Current Activity	Next Milestone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are nearing the end of stage 2 ‘Develop’ and we are working through issues raised after initial proposal letters have been received. ASFA process working through detailed proposals and use of restrictions / exclusions are being finalised where possible. Work has started drafting the publication. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of report expected in winter 2017/18.

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We have now written to everyone who we believe may be affected and held two successful drop in days on 21st and 22nd November at key points along the route.• We are opening discussions with partners regarding options for a crossing point at the river Douglas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early 2018 Stage 2 – ‘Develop’ – Route alignment and meeting landowners
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Stretch 8: Birkenhead to Welsh border (approx. 41km)

Current Activity	Next Milestone
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We held a drop in event after contacting landowners / occupiers on 10th October at Wirral Country Park.• We have started discussions with the Welsh coast path team to create a link across the England – Wales border.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early 2018 Stage 2 – ‘Develop’ – Route alignment and meeting landowners