

## North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

11 April 2018

### England Coast Path Consultation

#### Report of the Secretary

#### 1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To advise members of the current consultation by Natural England and to invite the Forum to consider its response to the consultation.

#### 2.0 Background

- 2.1 Natural England is currently consulting on the Easington to Filey Brigg stretch of the England Coast Path.
- 2.2 Natural England has invited the North Yorkshire Local Access Forum to participate in the consultation. The consultation can be viewed here:

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/england-coast-path-improving-public-access-to-the-coast](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/england-coast-path-improving-public-access-to-the-coast)

- 2.3 The area of relevance to the Local Access Forum is in the very south of the county from Filey down to the county boundary (section 5 on the attached map). Chapter 5 of the consultation document, relating to this stretch of the path, is attached.
- 2.4 Natural England recommend that this should be read in conjunction with the overview chapter, which is available on the link above.

#### 3.0 Responding to the consultation

- 3.1 The closing date for the consultation is midnight on Wednesday 25 April 2018.
- 3.2 It is suggested that the Secretary produces a draft response based on any comments made at the meeting, and circulates it for agreement by email prior to submission to Natural England to meet the deadline.

#### 4.0 Recommendation

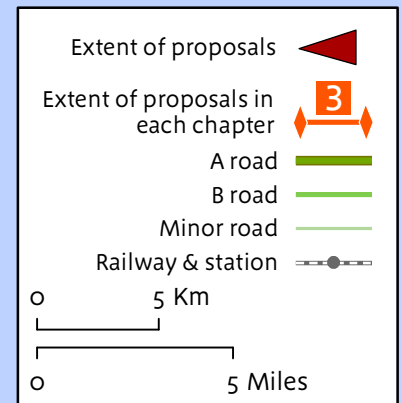
- 4.1 That the Local Access Forum considers the content of any response it wishes to submit to the England Coast Path consultation.

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County Hall  
NORTHALLERTON

Report author: Kate Arscott, Secretary to North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

**Background Documents:** None

## Map A: Key map - Easington to Filey Brigg



### Chapter number and title

- 1** Easington to Waxholme (Maps 1a to 1i)
- 2** Waxholme to Hornsea (Maps 2a to 2m)
- 3** Hornsea to Wilsthorpe (Maps 3a to 3m)
- 4** Wilsthorpe to Speeton Moor (Maps 4a to 4l)
- 5** Speeton Moor to Filey Brigg (Maps 5a to 5f)



## Chapter 5:

# Speeton Moor to Filey Brigg

England Coast Path: Easington to Filey Brigg - Natural England's Proposals

## Part 5.1: Introduction

<b>Start Point:</b>	<b>Speeton Moor</b> (grid reference: TA 1679 7487)
<b>End Point:</b>	<b>Filey Brigg</b> (grid reference: TA 1246 8164)
<b>Relevant Maps:</b>	<b>5a to 5f</b>

### Understanding the proposals and accompanying maps:

#### The Trail:

- 5.1.1 Follows new sections of path and existing walked routes, on a combination of public rights of way, promenades, public highways and public footways and cliff top paths.
- 5.1.2 Mainly follows the coastline quite closely and maintains good views of the sea.
- 5.1.3 Includes 19 sections of new path on the coast between Speeton Moor and Filey Brigg. See maps 5b to 5d and associated tables below for details.
- 5.1.4 A significant inland diversion is necessary to take the trail past:
  - A steep sided coastal valley which is currently inaccessible due to steep wooded terrain at sections EFB-5-S004 to EFB-5-S005.
  - A caravan park at sections EFB-5-S006 to EFB-5-S013.
  - A steep sided coastal valley which is currently inaccessible due to steep unstable terrain at sections EFB-5-S024 to EFB-5-S030.
- 5.1.5 Follows a route similar to the existing Headland Way from sections EFB-5-S001 to EFB-5-S003.

### Protection of sensitive features:

- 5.1.6 This part of the coast includes the following sites, designated for nature conservation or heritage preservation (See map C of the Overview):

- Flamborough Head Special Area of Conservation (SAC).
- Flamborough Head proposed Special Area of Conservation (pSAC).
- Flamborough Head and Bempton Cliffs Special Protection Area (SPA).
- Flamborough Head Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for its geological /wildlife interest.
- Filey Brigg Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for its geological /wildlife interest.
- Filey Brigg to Scarborough South Bay proposed Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) for its geological and wildlife interest.
- Flamborough and Filey Coast proposed Special Protection Area (pSPA) for its geological and wildlife interest.

We have assessed the potential impacts of access along the proposed route (and over the associated spreading room described below) on the features for which the affected land is designated and on any which are protected in their own right.

- 5.1.7 With input from specialists we have considered each of the sites involved and the relevant designations and concluded that for this section of the coast our proposals will not have a detrimental effect.

In relation to those nature conservation sites listed above, refer to our published Access and Sensitive Features Appraisal for more information.

**See part 6b of the Overview - 'Protection of sensitive features' for a description of our overall approach and a summary of our conclusions.**

#### **Accessibility:**

- 5.1.8 Generally, there are few artificial barriers to accessibility on the proposed route, which makes use of existing surface paths wherever these meet the criteria in the Coastal Access Scheme. However, there are places where it may not be entirely suitable for people with reduced mobility because:

- The trail would follow an uneven grass or bare soil path along the cliff top.

- 5.1.9 At the intersection of EFB-5-S003 and EFB-5-S004, the existing ladder stile will be replaced with a pedestrian gate, so as to make it easier to use. We envisage this happening as part of the physical establishment work described in part 7 of the Overview.

**See part 6a of the Overview - 'Recreational issues' - for more information.**

#### **Where we have proposed exercising our discretion:**

- 5.1.10 Landward boundary of the coastal margin: We have used our discretion on some sections of the route to map the landward extent of the coastal margin to an adjacent physical boundary such as a fence line, pavement or track to make the extent of the new access rights clearer. See Table 5.2.1 below.

5.1.11 In some places, we have used our discretion to propose the inclusion of additional, more extensive landward areas within the coastal margin, to secure or enhance public enjoyment of this part of the coast. The owner of this land is content for us to propose this.

**See also part 3 of the Overview - 'Understanding the proposals and accompanying maps', for an explanation of the default extent of the coastal margin and how we may use our discretion to adjust the margin, either to add land or to provide clarity. See also Annex C of the Overview - 'Excepted land categories'.**

5.1.12 Restrictions and/or exclusions: Access rights to the spreading room would be subject to the national restrictions on coastal access rights listed in Annex D of the Overview. These restrictions would not apply to the rights of way.

**See part 10 of the Overview - 'Restrictions and exclusions' - for details.**

### **Establishment and ongoing management of the trail**

5.1.13 Some physical establishment of the trail would be necessary, in accordance with the general approach described in part 7 the Overview.

- New pedestrian gates at the intersections of EFB-5-S002 and EFB-5-S003, EFB-5-S003 and EFB-5-S004, EFB-5-S009 and EFB-5-S010, and of EFB-5-S032 and EFB-5-S033.
- New bridges at the intersection of EFB-5-S004 and EFB-5-S005, at EFB-5-S026 and within EFB-5-S028.
- New gaps within EFB-5-S032 and at the intersection of EFB-5-S033 and EFB-5-S034.
- 462m of new path cut through vegetation at sections EFB-5-S024, EFB-5-S028 and EFB-5-S031 to EFB-5-S032.
- 1,032m of upgraded path at sections EFB-5-S039 to EFB-5-S042.

5.1.14 There are no additional measures that we consider necessary to improve the safety or convenience of the trail on this length of coast.

5.1.15 Ongoing management and maintenance would be necessary in accordance with the general approach described in part 8 of the Overview.

**See parts 7 - 'Physical establishment of the trail' and 8 - 'Maintenance of the trail' of the Overview for more information.**

### **Future Change:**

5.1.16 With the exception of Filey, all of the route of the trail on this length of coast would be able to change without further approval from the Secretary of State in response to coastal erosion or other geomorphological processes, or encroachment by the sea. This would happen in accordance with the criteria and procedures for 'roll back' set out in part 9 of the Overview. See table 5.2.1 below for details of the sections likely to be affected in the foreseeable future.

5.1.17 At the time of preparing the report, we do not foresee any other need for future changes to the access provisions proposed for the length of coast described in this chapter.

**See parts 6f - 'Coastal processes' and 9 - 'Future changes' of the Overview for more information.**

## Part 5.2: Commentary on Maps

See Part 3 of Overview for guidance on reading and understanding the tables below

### 5.2.1 Section Details – Map(s) 5a to 5f: Speeton Moor to Filey Brigg

Notes on table:

Column 2 – an asterisk (\*) against the route section number means see also table 5.2.2: Other options considered.

Column 5 – ‘Yes – normal’ means roll-back approach is likely to follow the current feature (e.g. cliff edge/beach) for the foreseeable future.

1	2	3	4	5	6a	6b	6c	7
Map(s)	Route section number(s)	Current status of this section	Current surface of this section	Roll-back proposed? (See Part 9 of Overview)	Default landward coastal margin?	Landward boundary of margin (See maps)	Reason for landward boundary discretion	Proposed exclusions or restrictions (see Part 10 of Overview)
5a	EFB-5-S001 FP to EFB-5-S003 FP	Public footpath	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
5b	EFB-5-S004 to *EFB-5-S006	Not an existing walked route	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	*EFB-5-S007	Not an existing walked route	Tarmac	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	*EFB-5-S008 to EFB-5-S009	Not an existing walked route	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	*EFB-5-S010 FP	Public footpath	Gravel	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	*EFB-5-S011 RD to EFB-5-S012 RD	Public highway	Tarmac	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S013-FP	Public footpath	Bare soil (compacted)	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
5c	EFB-5-S014 FP to EFB-5-S015 FP	Public footpath	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S016 FP	Public footpath	Bare soil (compacted)	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S017 FP	Public footpath	Steps: Long backfilled	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S018 FP to EFB-5-S020 FP	Public footpath	Tarmac	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S021 RD	Public highway	Tarmac	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S022	Other existing walked route	Gravel	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	*EFB-5-S023 to EFB-5-S025	Not an existing walked route	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	*EFB-5-S026	Not an existing walked route	n/a	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	*EFB-5-S027 to EFB-5-S028	Not an existing walked route	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
5d	*EFB-5-S029	Not an existing walked route	Tarmac	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	*EFB-5-S030	Not an existing walked route	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S031	Not an existing walked route	Other	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S032 to EFB-5-S033	Not an existing walked route	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S034	Not an existing walked route	Tarmac	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None



1	2	3	4	5	6a	6b	6c	7
Map(s)	Route section number(s)	Current status of this section	Current surface of this section	Roll-back proposed? (See Part 9 of Overview)	Default landward coastal margin?	Landward boundary of margin (See maps)	Reason for landward boundary discretion	Proposed exclusions or restrictions (see Part 10 of Overview)
5d	EFB-5-S035	Not an existing walked route	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S036	Not an existing walked route	Tarmac	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S037	Other existing walked route	Steps	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S038	Other existing walked route	Tarmac	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S039 FP to EFB-5-S041 FP	Public footpath	Steps: Timber	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
5e	EFB-5-S042 FP	Public footpath	Bare soil (compacted)	Yes - Normal	No	Fence line	Clarity and cohesion	None
	EFB-5-S043 FP	Public footpath	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Fence line	Clarity and cohesion	None
	EFB-5-S044 FP	Public footpath	Steps: Concrete	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S045	Other existing walked route	Tarmac	Yes - Normal	No	Landward edge of trail	Not used	None
	EFB-5-S046	Other existing walked route	Tarmac	No	No	Edge of promenade	Clarity and cohesion	None
	EFB-5-S047 FW	Public footway (pavement)	Tarmac	No	No	Pavement edge	Clarity and cohesion	None
	EFB-5-S048	Other existing walked route	Tarmac	No	No	Pavement edge	Clarity and cohesion	None
5f	EFB-5-S049 FW	Public footway (pavement)	Tarmac	No	No	Pavement edge	Clarity and cohesion	None
	EFB-5-S050	Other existing walked route	Steps: Concrete	No	No	Landward edge of trail	Not Used	None
	EFB-5-S051 FP	Public footpath	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Car park	Clarity and cohesion	None
	EFB-5-S052 FP	Public footpath	Steps: Concrete	Yes - Normal	No	Top of slope	Clarity and cohesion	None
	EFB-5-S053 FP	Public footpath	Grass	Yes - Normal	No	Edge of wood	Clarity and cohesion	None

### 5.2.2 Other options considered: Map 5b: Speeton Gap to Boat Cliff, Map 5c and 5d: Boat Cliff to Flat Cliff Gill.

Map(s)	Section number(s)	Option(s) considered	Reasons for not proposing this option as the route
5b	EFB-5-S006 to EFB-5-S012	We considered aligning the trail through Reighton Sands Holiday Park on the Spine Road.	<p>We opted for the proposed route because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ it maintains better views of the sea.</li> <li>■ this proposal is made with the support of the landowner.</li> <li>■ we concluded that overall the proposed route struck the best balance in terms of the criteria described in chapter 4 of the Coastal Access Scheme.</li> </ul>
5c, 5d	EFB-5-S024 to EFB-5-S030	We considered aligning the trail across Flat Cliff Gill.	<p>We opted for the proposed route because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ the option to cross the Gill was deemed unsafe and unsustainable due to erosion.</li> <li>■ this proposal is made with the support of the landowner.</li> <li>■ we concluded that overall the proposed route struck the best balance in terms of the criteria described in chapter 4 of the Coastal Access Scheme.</li> </ul>

## Part 5.3: Chapter 5 - Formal Proposals

- Below are our formal proposals to the Secretary of State for the length of coast shown on maps 5a to 5f.
- They should be read in conjunction with the relevant maps.
- The commentary above explains the practical effect of these proposals.

### Formal Proposals – Speeton Moor to Filey Brigg

#### Proposed route of the trail

- 5.3.1 In relation to route sections EFB-5-S001 to EFB-5-S053, the route, as initially determined at the time the report was prepared, is to be at the centre of the line shown on maps 5a to 5f as the proposed route of the trail.
- 5.3.2 If at any time any part of a route section listed in the previous paragraph needs, in Natural England's view, to change
- as a result of coastal erosion or other geomorphological processes or encroachment by the sea
  - in order to link with other parts of the route that need to roll back in direct response to such changes;
- in order for the overall route to remain viable, the new route for the part in question will be determined by Natural England without further reference to the Secretary of State. This will be done in accordance with the criteria and procedures described under the title 'Roll-back' in part 9 of the Overview and section 4.10 of the Coastal Access Scheme. If this happens, the new route will become the approved route for that section for the purposes of the Order which determines where coastal access rights apply.

#### Landward boundary of coastal margin

- 5.3.3 Adjacent to route sections EFB-5-S042 to EFB-5-S043, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the existing boundary fence and the edge of the promenade respectively, which, at the time of writing this report, is landward of the trail shown as the trail on map 5e.
- 5.3.4 Adjacent to route sections EFB-5-S046, EFB-5-S047 and EFB-5-S049, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with landward edge of the pavement or promenade edge shown as the trail on maps 5e and 5f.
- 5.3.5 Adjacent to route section EFB-5-S048 and EFB-5-S051 to EFB-5-S053, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with various boundary features, as indicated by the coastal margin landward of the trail on maps 5e and 5f.

#### Local restrictions and exclusions

- 5.3.6 At the time of writing this report, there are no proposals for local restrictions or exclusions in relation to this length of coast.

**Please Refer to Part 10 of the Overview for further details.**

#### Alternative routes

- 5.3.7 There are no proposals for alternative routes in relation to this length of coast.



