

## COASTAL ACCESS, MARINE BILL, AND LAFs ROLE

### Briefing

The draft Marine Bill recognises the involvement of local access forums in the process of Natural England aligning the coastal trail and considering what access land should be included en route and what access management is required. Building on what the draft Bill says, these are in summary our plans as explained in our outline statutory 'Scheme' for the Project:

- Before submitting recommendations about the alignment of the trail along each section of coast to the Secretary of State, we will consult the LAF as well as owners and occupiers of affected land, local authorities, English Heritage, and the Environment Agency.
- After taking such views into account, we will publish on a website the report that we intend to submit to the Secretary of State for that section of coast.
- We will send copies to LAFs as well as to all owners and occupiers of affected land that we have been able to identify, and to English Heritage, and the Environment Agency.
- LAFs will be able to make representations to us regarding the report, as will owners and occupiers of affected land, English Heritage, the Environment Agency, and any other interested parties.
- Once we have taken these representations into account, we will send the report to the Secretary of State.
- We will include with the report any representations we have received from LAFs, from affected owners and occupiers, and from English Heritage and the Environment Agency, together with our comments on them.
- We will also summarise any other representations made to us about our report, and send this summary together with any comments that we consider appropriate to the Secretary of State.

Ben Nichols