



King Charles III England Coast Path Delivery Team
(South East)
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3 May 2024

Dear Madam/Sir

King Charles III England Coast Path - improvements to public access around the Rother Estuary

You may recall we wrote to you in February 2024 about our initial views for a route for King Charles III England Coast Path (KCIIIIECP) between Rye Harbour and Brede Sluice.

This letter and the accompanying map set out our initial views for a route for King Charles III England Coast Path between Brede Sluice and Camber Sands. We are currently consulting affected landowners and occupiers about this part of the route before making our proposals to the Secretary of State.

If you would like to comment on this route, suggest an alternative, or discuss the route, please reply using the contact details at the top of this letter. Please do so before **17 May 2024** to ensure that we take your views into account in good time before we make our proposals to the Secretary of State.

It's important to note that there will be no new public access rights to the coast in this area until proposals have been approved by the Secretary of State. Prior to this you will be sent information regarding the final report, with guidance on how you may submit a representation if you wish to do so.

Our initial conclusions for coastal access arrangements between Brede Sluice and Camber Sands (see also the attached map)

King Charles III England Coast Path

Our preferred route for King Charles III England Coast Path is shown on the accompanying map. At Camber Fields, near to Monk Bretton Bridge our preferred route will follow the footpath along the new embankment once this has been constructed.

The Coastal Margin

The map shows what land would be included in the coastal margin if our proposals were approved. The public would have a right of access on foot to all land within the margin, unless it qualifies as excepted land such as buildings and their curtilage, or we propose an access exclusion. Coastal access rights do not prevent any land from being developed or redeveloped in the future.

Coastal Access Local Restrictions and Exclusions

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000) allows Natural England to propose to exclude the new access rights in the coastal margin on certain grounds. Land that is predominately made up of intertidal mud and saltmarsh will not have new coastal access rights as this land is generally unsuitable for public access.

Responsiveness to coastal change/Roll Back

Section 55B of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 provides powers for the future line of the trail to be moved inland as the coast changes, where it is included as part of our proposals to the Secretary of State. We call this “roll back” and it can take place without further approval by the Secretary of State. The power enables us to recommend that the trail rolls back in an area that may be subject to significant coastal erosion, or where there is significant encroachment by the sea, such as occurs in the case of a deliberate breach of sea defences.

Infrastructure requirements

We do not expect that any large-scale infrastructure will be required in these locations. Infrastructure work will include: waymark signs; some additional information boards on the route; minor works to improve surfaces, and some improvements to the junction of Harbour Road and the A259 Winchelsea Road.

You will also find additional information at our website at: www.naturalengland.org.uk/coastalaccess. The website includes a link to the revised Coastal Access Scheme, which sets out the approach we now must follow in preparing our coastal access proposals.

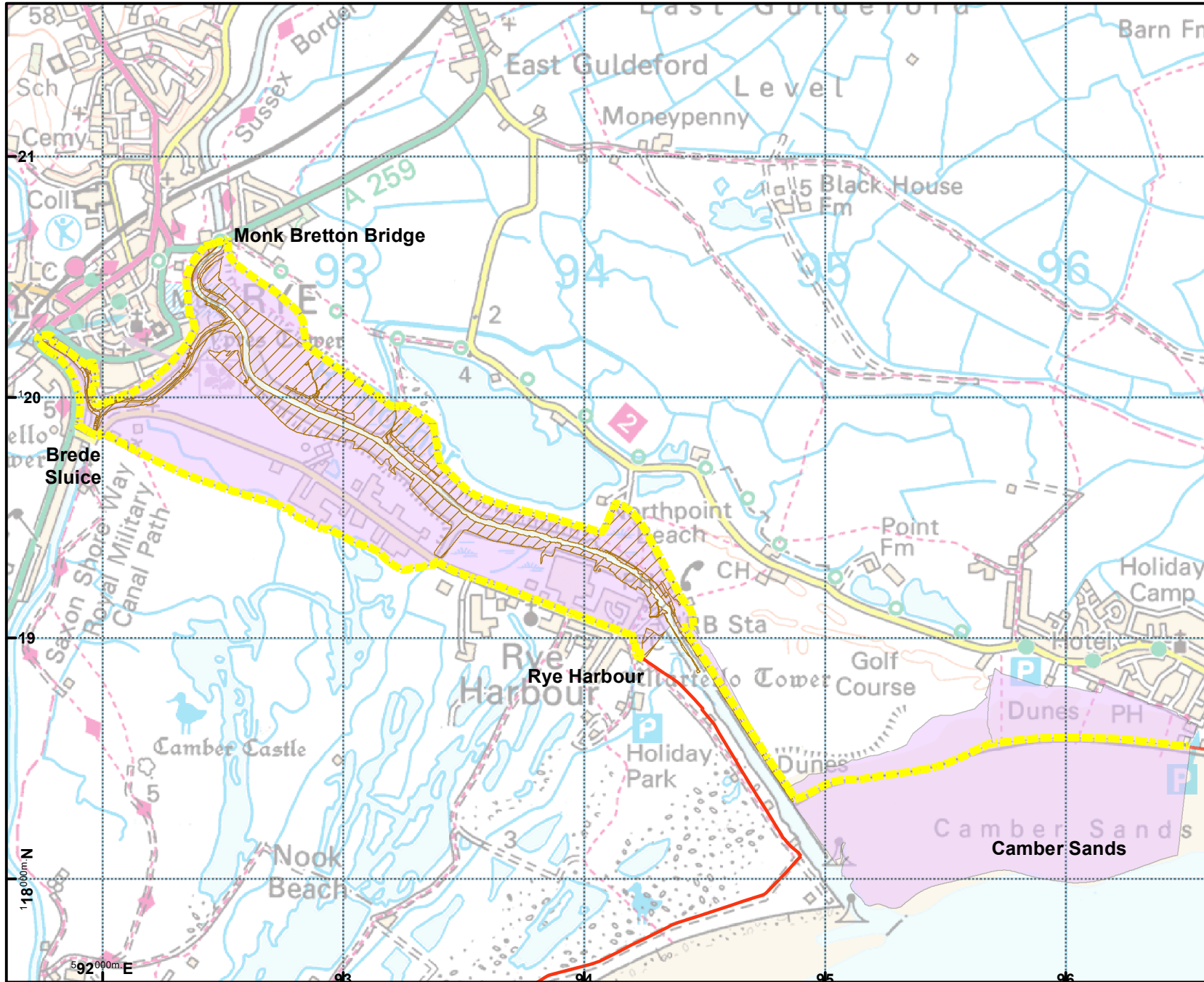
Yours faithfully

Jenny Bowen, Senior Adviser

King Charles III England Coast Path (South East)

Coastal Access - Rye Harbour to Camber Sands

Indicative coastal access proposals - May 2024



King Charles III England Coast Path

- Proposed route with Rollback
- Approved/open route

Coastal Margin and Exclusions

- Proposed coastal margin (see attached letter)
- Intertidal mud and saltmarsh not suitable for public access

Coastal access rights would apply within this margin, but on some maps significant parts of the shaded area would NOT be subject to these rights because they are excepted land or subject to local restrictions or exclusions.

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