

Chapter 6:

# Southbourne to Mundeford Quay

England Coast Path: Kimmeridge to Highcliffe - Natural England's Proposals

## Part 6.1: Introduction

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Start Point:</b>   | <b>Southbourne promenade</b> (grid reference: SZ 1538 9102) |
| <b>End Point:</b>     | <b>Mundeford Quay</b> (grid reference: SZ1830 9159)         |
| <b>Relevant Maps:</b> | <b>6a to 6f</b>   |

### Understanding the proposals and accompanying maps:

#### The Trail:

- 6.1.1 Follows existing walked routes (including public rights of way) for the whole of its length.
- 6.1.2 Follows the open coast from Southbourne across Hengistbury Head and around the edge of Mundeford Spit to the ferry point on the south side of Christchurch Harbour mouth (see maps 6a and 6b).
- 6.1.3 Continues around the harbourside to the ferry point on the north side of the harbour mouth at Mundeford Quay, providing a continuous route that would be available all year round, including times of year when the ferry doesn't operate. This part of the route provides extensive views across salt marsh and mudflats around the harbourside and on the lowest reaches of the rivers Stour and Avon.
- 6.1.4 From the Mundeford Spit ferry point to Tuckton Bridge (the southern side of the harbour, shown on maps 6b to 6d), follows part of an existing promoted walking route called the Stour Valley Way which continues upstream to the source of the River Stour at Stourhead.
- 6.1.5 From Tuckton Bridge to the Mundeford Quay ferry point (maps 6d to 6f), follows the northern side of Christchurch Harbour as closely as practicable, passing through a more urban environment, crossing three road bridges over the rivers Stour and Avon before skirting the northern edge of Stanpit Marsh and continuing along pavements and surfaced paths to Mundeford Quay.
- 6.1.6 This part of the coast includes the following sites, designated for nature conservation or heritage preservation (See map C of the Overview):
  - Dorset Heaths Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

- River Avon SAC
- Avon Valley Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Solent and Dorset proposed Marine SPA
- Avon Valley Ramsar site
- Christchurch Harbour Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for its geological and wildlife interest
- River Avon System SSSI
- Avon Valley (Bickton to Christchurch) SSSI
- Multi-period Landscape on Hengistbury Head Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM).

6.1.7 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. Visit numbers along the proposed route are expected to increase as a result of our proposals. However, the route follows well-managed and robust existing walked routes and we have therefore concluded that our proposals would not be likely to have any significant impact on these features.

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

**See also part 5b of the Overview - 'Protection of sensitive features'- for more information.**

#### **Accessibility:**

6.1.8 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;
- There are places where it would be necessary ascend/descend steps.

6.1.9 It is possible to 'bypass' the steps at route section LCH-6-S051 (map 6d) by using the public footpath from Purewell to Stanpit Recreation Ground via Marsh Lane (map 6e). We will work with Dorset County Council and Christchurch and East Dorset Councils to promote this alternative but it would not form part of the designated trail.

**See part 5a of the Overview - 'Recreational issues' - for more information.**

## Where we have proposed exercising our discretion:

The discretions referred to below are explained in more detail in part 3 of the Overview.

- 6.1.10 Estuary: This report proposes that the trail should include a route around Christchurch Harbour (the estuary of the rivers Stour and Avon), extending upstream from the open coast as far as Tuckton Bridge which is the first public foot crossing point over the River Stour and Town and Waterloo Bridges on the River Avon (see part 10 of the Overview). The trail covered by this chapter includes this estuary route.
- 6.1.11 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 6.2.1 below.

**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'.**

- 6.1.12 Restrictions and/or exclusions: We have proposed to exclude access by direction under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 to certain areas of flats and saltmarsh in the harbour because the land is unsuitable for public access. For details of these directions, see 6.3.54 in the Formal Proposals Section of this chapter and Part 11 of the Overview.
- 6.1.13 The directions are intended to avoid any new public rights being created over the areas in question in view of the hidden dangers to new users of the land posed by the tide. The directions will not prevent or affect:
- any existing local use of the affected land by anglers: such use would not be subject to coastal access rights;
  - any other use people already make of the land locally by formal agreement with the landowner, or by informal permission or traditional toleration.
- 6.1.14 Any such use continues unaffected by these arrangements.
- 6.1.15 Access rights to the remaining 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 public rights of way.
- 6.1.16 Local byelaws would not be affected by the new rights or restrictions.

**See part 11 of the Overview - 'Restrictions and exclusions' - for details.**

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

6.1.17 Some physical establishment of the trail would be necessary, in accordance with the general approach described in part 6 the Overview. Most of this length is in good condition. Some minor repairs and updates will be carried out prior to opening.

- Scrub control, grass cutting and revetment replacement between LCH-6-S048 and LCH-6-S050
- Improvements to the existing signage to create a clearly-signposted circular 10 km route around Christchurch Harbour.

6.1.18 Ongoing management and maintenance would be necessary in accordance with the general approach described in part 7 of the Overview. The overall need for this may occasionally be greater than on some other parts of the stretch, recognising that it will be necessary for the route to roll back from time to time in response to coastal processes, as described below.

**See parts 6 - 'Physical establishment of the trail' and 7 - 'Maintenance of the trail' of the Overview for more information.**

### **Future Change:**

6.1.19 The Poole and Christchurch Bays Shoreline Management Plan SMP15 (covering the area from Durlston Head to Hurst Spit) identifies (in the short or medium term to 2055) a policy of 'managed realignment' for the stretch of coast from the end of Southbourne Promenade to the steps at the foot of Hengistbury Head, and a policy of 'hold the existing defence line' from Hengistbury Head to Chewton Bunny.

6.1.20 Part 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 8 of the Overview. See table 6.2.1 below for details of the sections likely to be affected in the foreseeable future.

6.1.21 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 5f - 'Coastal processes' and 8 - 'Future changes' of the Overview for more information.**

## Part 6.2: Commentary on Maps

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

### 6.2.1 Section Details – Maps 6a to 6e: Southbourne to Mudeford Quay

Notes on table:

Column 2 – an asterisk (\*) against the route section number means see also table 6.2.2: 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                                      | 7  |
|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Maps      | Route section number(s) | Current status of this section | Current surface of this section | Roll-back proposed? (See Part 8 of Overview) | Landward boundary of margin (See maps)  | Reason for landward boundary discretion | Proposed exclusions or restrictions (see Part 9 of Overview) |
| <b>6a</b> | LCH-6-S001              | Public footpath                | Sand                            | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of trail (2m)   | Not used                                | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S002              | Other existing walked route    | Boardwalk                       | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of boardwalk  | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S003              | Public footpath                | Sand                            | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of trail (2m)   | Not used                                | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S004              | Public footpath                | Boardwalk                       | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of boardwalk  | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S005              | Public footpath                | Stone: aggregate                | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of trail (2m)   | Not used                                | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S006              | Public footpath                | Tarmac                          | Yes - normal                                 | Fence line  | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S007              | Public footpath                | Tarmac                          | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of the track  | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
| <b>6b</b> | LCH-6-S008              | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of the track  | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S009              | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of the track  | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S010              | Public footpath                | Steps: long-backfilled          | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of the steps  | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S011              | Other existing walked route    | Sand                            | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of footpath between LCH-6-S010/LCH-6-S011 and LCH-6-S014/LCH-6-S015 | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S012              | Other existing walked route    | Shingle                         | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of footpath between LCH-6-S010/LCH-6-S011 and LCH-6-S014/LCH-6-S015 | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S013              | Other existing walked route    | Shingle                         | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of footpath between LCH-6-S010/LCH-6-S011 and LCH-6-S014/LCH-6-S015 | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|           | LCH-6-S014*             | Public footpath                | Tarmac                          | Yes - normal                                 | Landward edge of footpath between LCH-6-S010/LCH-6-S011 and LCH-6-S014/LCH-6-S015 | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|           | LCH-6-S015*             | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of the road   | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
| <b>6c</b> | LCH-6-S016*             | Other existing walked route    | Gravel                          | No   | Landward edge of the path   | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|           | LCH-6-S017*             | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)   | Not used                                | Yes  |
|           | LCH-6-S018*             | Other existing walked route    | Gravel                          | No   | Landward edge of the path   | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|           | LCH-6-S019*             | Other existing walked route    | Wooden Footbridge               | No   | Landward edge of the bridge   | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |

| 1           | 2                       | 3                              | 4                               | 5  | 6a                                     | 6b                                      | 7  |
|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Maps        | Route section number(s) | Current status of this section | Current surface of this section | Roll-back proposed? (See Part 8 of Overview) | Landward boundary of margin (See maps) | Reason for landward boundary discretion | Proposed exclusions or restrictions (see Part 9 of Overview) |
| 6c          | LCH-6-S020*             | Other existing walked route    | Gravel                          | No   | Landward edge of the path              | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S021*             | Other existing walked route    | Grass                           | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S022*             | Other existing walked route    | Gravel                          | No   | Landward edge of the path              | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S023*             | Other existing walked route    | Gravel                          | No   | Fence line                             | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S024*             | Other existing walked route    | Other                           | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S025*             | Other existing walked route    | Gravel                          | No   | Landward edge of the path              | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
| 6d          | LCH-6-S026*             | Other existing walked route    | Gravel                          | No   | Landward edge of the path              | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S027*             | Other existing walked route    | Gravel                          | No   | Landward edge of the path              | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S028*             | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of the road              | Clarity and Cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S029*             | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Pavement edge                          | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S030*             | Public highway                 | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S031*             | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Pavement edge                          | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S032*             | Public highway                 | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of the road              | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S033*             | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | No   | Wall                                   | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S034*             | Public footpath                | Concrete                        | No   | Wall                                   | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S035*             | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of the path              | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S036*             | Other existing walked route    | Block paving                    | No   | Landward edge of pavement              | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S037*             | Other existing walked route    | Cobbles                         | No   | Wall                                   | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S038*             | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | No   | Stream                                 | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S039*             | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | No   | Stream                                 | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S040*             | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Pavement edge                          | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S041*             | Public Highway                 | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S042*             | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Wall                                   | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S043*             | Public Highway                 | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S044*             | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Fence line                             | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S045*             | Public Highway                 | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | None   |
| LCH-6-S046* | Public footpath         | Block paving                   | No                              | Landward edge of the path                    | Clarity and cohesion                   | None                                    |  |
| LCH-6-S047* | Public footpath         | Gravel                         | No                              | Landward edge of the path                    | Clarity and cohesion                   | None                                    |  |
| LCH-6-S048* | Public footpath         | Bare soil: Compacted           | No                              | Wall   | Clarity and cohesion                   | None                                    |  |

| 1           | 2                           | 3                              | 4                               | 5  | 6a                                     | 6b                                      | 7  |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Maps        | Route section number(s)     | Current status of this section | Current surface of this section | Roll-back proposed? (See Part 8 of Overview) | Landward boundary of margin (See maps) | Reason for landward boundary discretion | Proposed exclusions or restrictions (see Part 9 of Overview) |
| 6d          | LCH-6-S049*                 | Public footpath                | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S050*                 | Public footpath                | Bare soil: Compacted            | No   | Fence line                             | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
|             | LCH-6-S051*                 | Public footpath                | Steps: Timber                   | No   | Landward edge of the steps             | Clarity and cohesion                    | None   |
| 6e          | LCH-6-S052*                 | Public footpath                | Bare soil: Compacted            | No   | Fence line                             | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S053*                 | Public footpath                | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of the track             | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S054*                 | Public footpath                | Bare soil: Compacted            | No   | Landward edge of the path              | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S055*                 | Other existing walked route    | Grass                           | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S056*                 | Public footpath                | Gravel                          | No   | Fence line                             | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S057*                 | Public footpath                | Gravel                          | No   | Landward edge of the path              | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S058*                 | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Pavement edge                          | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S059*                 | Public footpath                | Grass                           | No   | Landward edge of the path              | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S060*                 | Public footpath                | Grass                           | No   | Landward edge of the path              | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S061*                 | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Wall                                   | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
| 6f          | LCH-6-S062*                 | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Pavement edge                          | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S063*                 | Public Highway                 | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S064*                 | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Pavement edge                          | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S065*                 | Public Highway                 | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S066*                 | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Pavement edge                          | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S067*                 | Public Highway                 | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S068*                 | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Pavement edge                          | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S069*                 | Public Highway                 | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S070*                 | Public footway - pavement      | Tarmac                          | No   | Pavement edge                          | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S071*                 | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of the path              | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S072*                 | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | No   | Pavement edge                          | Clarity and cohesion                    | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S073*                 | Other existing walked route    | Tarmac                          | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | Yes  |
|             | LCH-6-S074*                 | Other existing walked route    | Cobbles                         | No   | Landward edge of trail (2m)            | Not used                                | Yes  |
| LCH-6-S075* | Other existing walked route | Concrete                       | No                              | Wall   | Clarity and cohesion                   | Yes                                     |  |

## 6.2.2 Other options considered: Maps 6a to 6f: Southbourne to Mudeford Quay

| Map(s) | Section number(s)   | Option(s) considered   | Reasons for not proposing this option as the route  |
|--------|---|--|---|
| 6b     | Between LCH-6-S010/ LCH-6-S011 and LCH-6-S014/ LCH-6-S015 | We considered taking the trail across the 'neck' of Mudeford Spit between the seafront and the harbourside.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Such a route would be more direct but would miss out the fine views of the sea and harbour from the spit.</li> <li>This route will miss the seasonal ferry crossing point between Mudeford Spit and Mudeford Quay.</li> <li>At this location we will waymark a short cut to the trail along the south side of the harbour via the main Hengistbury Head carparks and on to Tuckton Bridge.</li> </ul>  |
| 6b     | Between LCH-6-S011 and LCH-6-S013/ LCH-6-S014             | We considered taking the trail across the 'middle' of the spit between the seafront and the harbourside to provide a direct link to the ferry.                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Such a route would be more direct but would miss out the fine views of the sea and harbour.</li> <li>At this location we will waymark a short cut from the seafront past the café to the ferry.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p>   |
| 6b -6f | LCH-6-S014 to LCH-6-S075                                  | We considered taking the trail across the ferry between Mudeford Spit and Mudeford Quay.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ferry across the harbour mouth only runs seasonally (British Summer Time and winter weekends).</li> <li>The proposed route would provide a continuous year-round route.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p>   |
| 6d     | LCH-6-S037 to LCH-6-S039                                  | We considered taking the trail along a circular path around Priory Quay via a viewpoint and marina lock gates.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access across the marina lock gates is interrupted frequently to allow boats to pass, for maintenance purposes or when the electronic mechanism fails.</li> <li>Local residents expressed concerns about increase footfall around this development.</li> <li>The proposed route would be more direct and convenient.</li> </ul> <p>The view point and 'circular walk' will be in coastal margin and therefore subject to coastal access rights but will not be signposted as part of the England Coast Path.</p> <p>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.</p> |
| 6d/e   | LCH-6-S043 to LCH-6-S053                                  | We considered a route along Purewell (road) and the along the public footpath (Marsh Lane).  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is much more 'urban' route with little in the way of sea/harbour views.</li> <li>It has the advantage of bypassing the steps at LCH-6-S051, making it a more convenient route for people with reduced mobility. The route could be signed as an alternative route for those wishing to avoid the steps (see paragraph 6.1.9) although this would not form part of our formal proposals.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p>  |
| 6e     | LCH-6-S054 to LCH-6-S056                                  | We considered taking the trail around the public footpath loop around Stanpit Marsh Local Nature Reserve.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This path is subject to regular tidal inundation.</li> <li>This path passes through areas of salt marsh and mudflat: straying from the path at times of flooding would be hazardous.</li> <li>We propose to exclude access to the salt marsh and mudflats because it is unsuitable for public access (see section 6.3.54).</li> </ul> <p>Our proposals would not affect the public footpaths which would remain available for people to use, but would not form part of the designated trail.</p> <p>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.</p>                |
| 6e     | LCH-6-S058 to LCH-6-S062                                  | We considered taking the trail on the roadside pavement along Stanpit (road) rather than using the public footpath along Fisherman's Bank and up Argyle Road back to Stanpit (Road). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The road route is more direct, but has no harbour views.</li> <li>The proposed route (using the Fisherman's Bank public footpath) provides the only good views of the north eastern section of Christchurch Harbour between LCH-6-S058 and LCH-6-S070.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p>  |

## Part 6.3: Chapter 6 - Formal Proposals

- Below are our formal proposals to the Secretary of State for the length of coast shown on maps 6a to 6f.
- They should be read in conjunction with the relevant maps.
- The commentary above explains the practical effect of these proposals.

### Formal Proposals – Southbourne to Mudeford Quay

#### Discretion to include an estuary

6.3.1 Natural England proposes to exercise its functions as if the sea included the estuarial waters of the River Stour as far as Tuckton Bridge and the River Avon as far as Town and Waterloo Bridges as indicated by the extent of the trail shown on map 6d.

#### Proposed route of the trail

- 6.3.2 In relation to route sections LCH-6-S001 to LCH-6-S014, the route, as initially determined at the time the report was prepared, is to be at the centre of the line shown on maps 6a and 6b as the proposed route of the trail.
- 6.3.3 In relation to route sections LCH-6-S015 to LCH-6-S075 the route is to be at the centre of the line shown on maps 6b to 6f as the proposed route of the trail.
- 6.3.4 If at any time any part of a route section listed in paragraph 6.3.2 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 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 8 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

- 6.3.5 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S002, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the path shown as the trail on map 6a.
- 6.3.6 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S004, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the public boardwalk shown as the trail on map 6a.
- 6.3.7 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S006, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the existing fence line which, at the time of writing this report, is landward of the public footpath shown as the trail on map 6a.
- 6.3.8 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S007, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the track shown as the trail on map 6a.
- 6.3.9 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S008 and LCH-6-S009, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the track shown as the trail on map 6b.

- 6.3.10 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S010, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the steps shown as the trail on map 6b.
- 6.3.11 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S011, LCH-6-S012, LCH-6-S013 and LCH-6-S014, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the public footpath between the junctions of LCH-6-S010/LCH-6-S011 and LCH-6-S014/LCH-6-S015 on map 6b.
- 6.3.12 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S015, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the road shown as the trail on map 6b.
- 6.3.13 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S016, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the path shown as the trail on map 6c.
- 6.3.14 Adjacent to route sections LCH-6-S018 the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with landward edge of the path shown as the trail on map 6c.
- 6.3.15 Adjacent to route sections LCH-6-S019 the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with landward edge of the footbridge shown as the trail on map 6c
- 6.3.16 Adjacent to route sections LCH-6-S020, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with landward edge of the path shown as the trail on map 6c.
- 6.3.17 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S022, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the path shown as the trail on map 6c.
- 6.3.18 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S023, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the existing fence line which, at the time of writing this report, is landward of the path shown as the trail on map 6c.
- 6.3.19 Adjacent to route sections LCH-6-S025 to LCH-6-S027, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with landward edge of the path shown as the trail on maps 6c-d.
- 6.3.20 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S028, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with landward edge of the road shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.21 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S029 , the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the pavement shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.22 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S031, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the pavement shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.23 Adjacent to route section LCH-S032, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the road shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.24 Adjacent to route section CH-S033, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the wall which is landward of the path shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.25 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S034, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the wall which is landward of the public footpath shown as the trail on map 6d.

- 6.3.26 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S035, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the path shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.27 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S036, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the pavement shown as the trail on map 6d
- 6.3.28 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S037, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the wall which, is landward of the path shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.29 Adjacent to route sections LCH-6-S038 and LCH-6-S039, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the stream which, at the time of writing this report, is landward of the path shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.30 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S040, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the pavement shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.31 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S042, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the wall which is landward of the public footway shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.32 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S044, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the existing fence line which, at the time of writing this report, is landward of the public footpath shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.33 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S046 and LCH-6-S047 the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with landward edge of the public footpath shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.34 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S048 the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the wall which is landward of the public footpath shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.35 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S050, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the existing boundary fence which, at the time of writing this report, is landward of the public footpath shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.36 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S051, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the steps shown as the trail on map 6d.
- 6.3.37 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S052, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the fence line which, at the time of writing this report, is landward of the public footpath shown as the trail on map 6e.
- 6.3.38 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S053 the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the track shown as the trail on map 6e.
- 6.3.39 Adjacent to route section LCH-S054, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the public footpath shown as the trail on map 6e.
- 6.3.40 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S056, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the fence line which, at the time of writing this report, is landward of the public footpath shown as the trail on map 6e.

- 6.3.41 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S057, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the public footpath shown as the trail on map 6e.
- 6.3.42 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S058, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the pavement shown as the trail on map 6e.
- 6.3.43 Adjacent to route sections LCH-6-S059 and LCH-6-S060, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with landward edge of the public footpath shown as the trail on map 6e.
- 6.3.44 Adjacent to route sections LCH-6-S061 the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the wall shown as the trail on map 6e.
- 6.3.45 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S062, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the pavement shown as the trail on map 6f.
- 6.3.46 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S064, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the pavement shown as the trail on map 6f.
- 6.3.47 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S066, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the pavement shown as the trail on map 6f.
- 6.3.48 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S068, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the pavement shown as the trail on map 6f.
- 6.3.49 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S070, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the pavement shown as the trail on map 6f.
- 6.3.50 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S071, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the path shown as the trail on map 6f.
- 6.3.51 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S072, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the pavement shown as the trail on map 6f.
- 6.3.52 Adjacent to route section LCH-6-S075, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the wall which is landward of the path shown as the trail on map 6f.

### **Local restrictions and exclusions**

- 6.3.53 Natural England proposes to exclude access relevant to this length of coast, as follows:
- Access to the areas of saltmarsh and mudflat seaward of route sections LCH-6-S013 to LCH-6-S019 and route sections LCH-6-S051 to LCH-6-S074 (as illustrated on map G of the Overview) is excluded all year round because Natural England is satisfied that it is unsuitable for a general right of access.

**Please refer to Part 11 of the Overview for further details.**

### **Alternative routes**

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

**Explanatory note: coastal margin**

Part 3 of the Overview to the report explains where the landward boundary of the coastal margin falls by default. Our proposals include any suggested variation of this default boundary. The purple wash on the map indicates where as a result of our proposals the coastal margin would extend significantly to the landward side of the proposed route of the trail. The coastal margin may include some areas where coastal access rights do not apply, either seaward or landward of the proposed route of the trail: the Overview explains more about this. The landward boundary of the coastal margin may in due course move inland, if the trail rolls back under proposals in this report to respond to coastal change.

**PROPOSALS**

- Trail using existing public right of way or highway
- Trail using other existing walked route
- Trail shown on other maps
- Coastal margin landward of the trail

Trail sections which follow existing public rights of way or highways are indicated by a suffix:

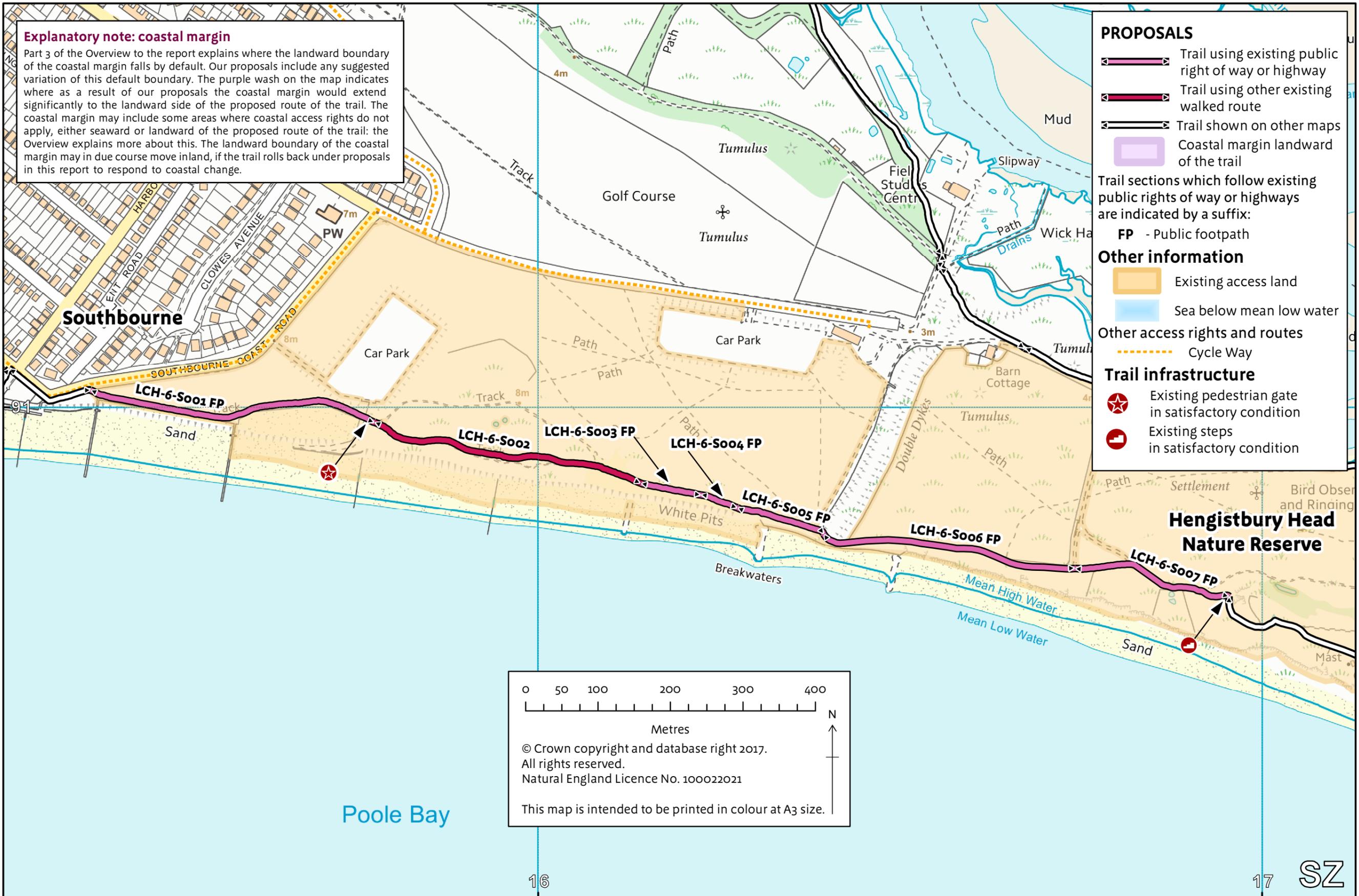
**FP** - Public footpath

**Other information**

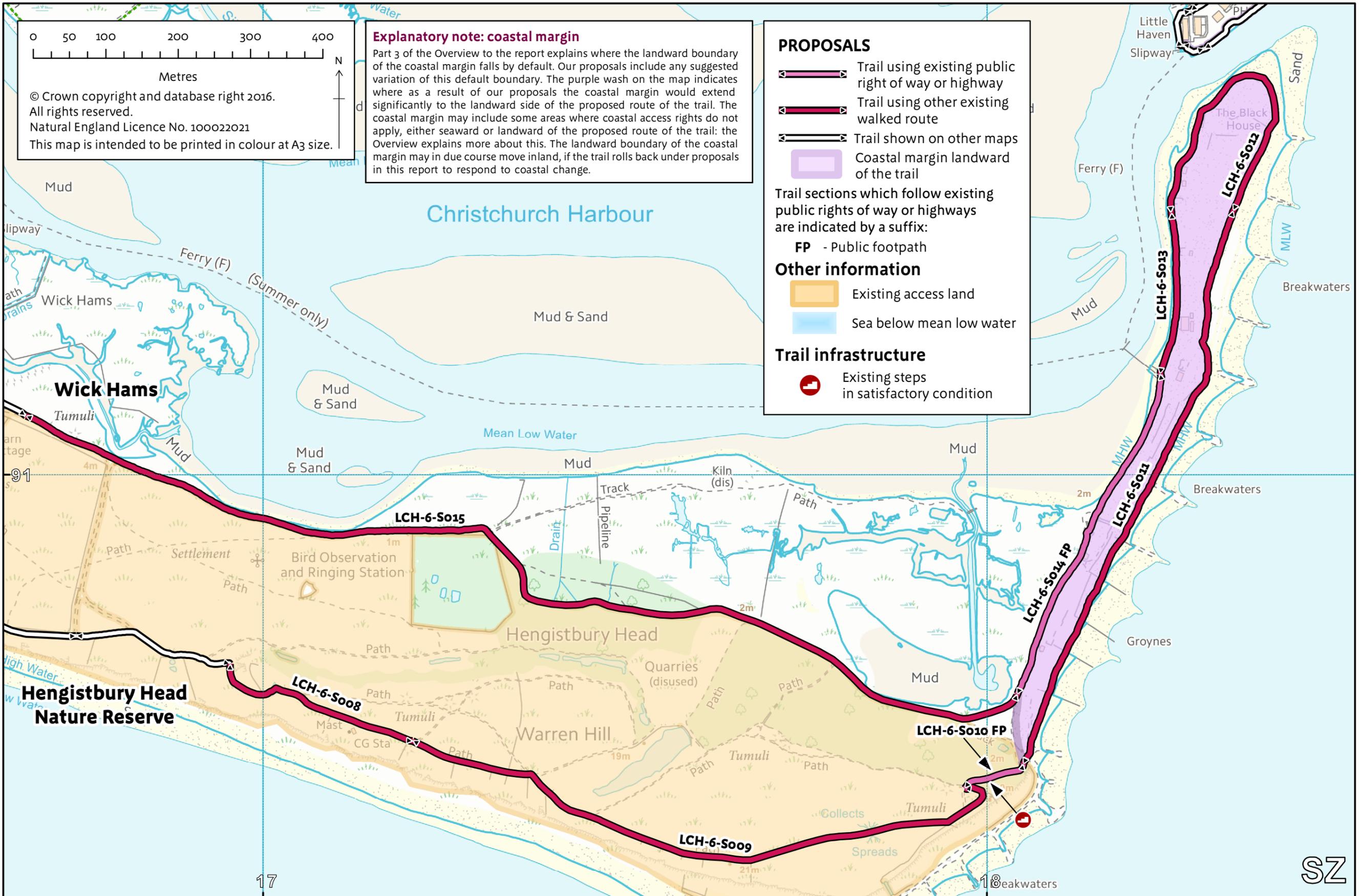
- Existing access land
- Sea below mean low water
- Other access rights and routes
- Cycle Way

**Trail infrastructure**

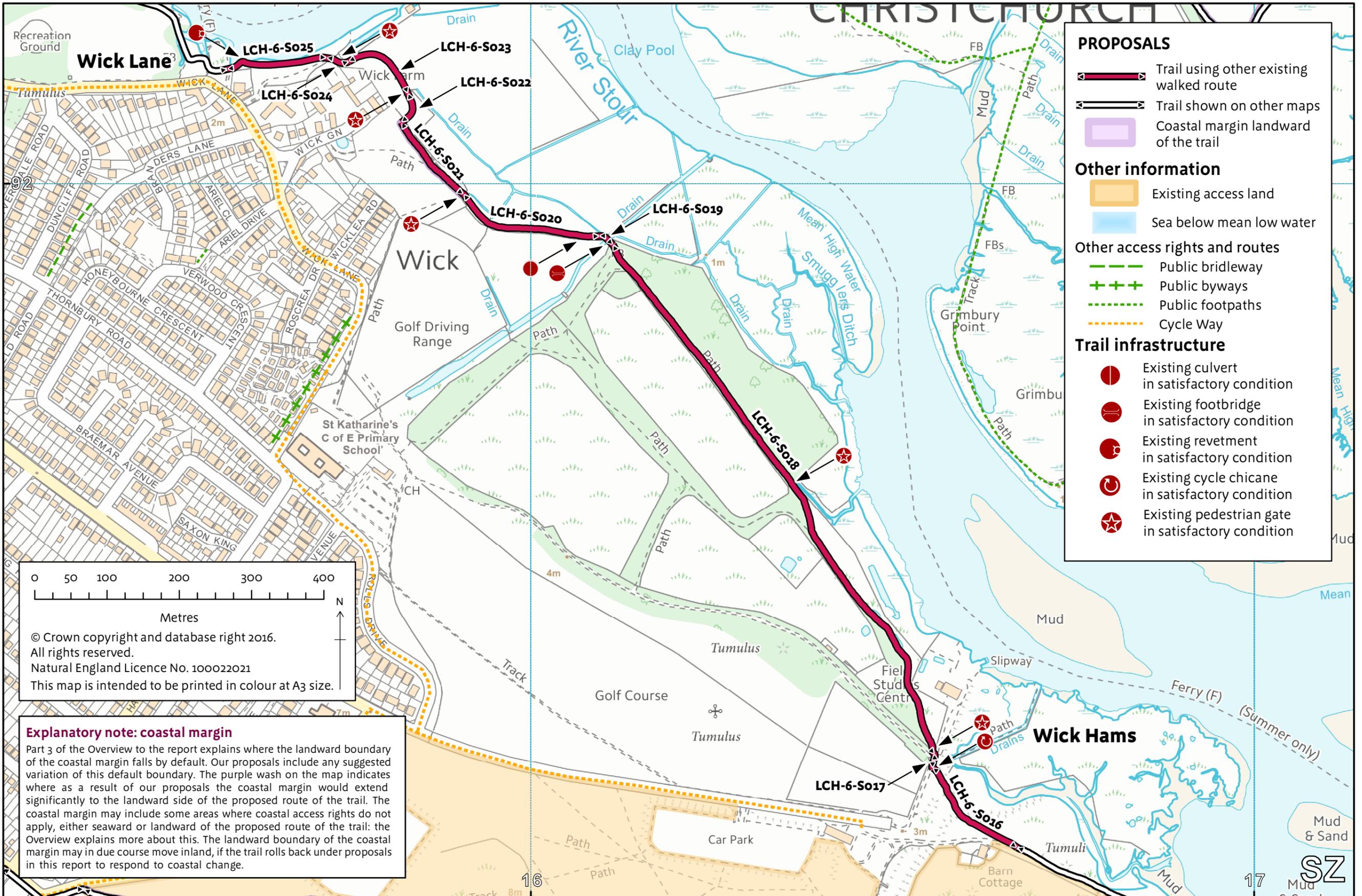
- Existing pedestrian gate in satisfactory condition
- Existing steps in satisfactory condition



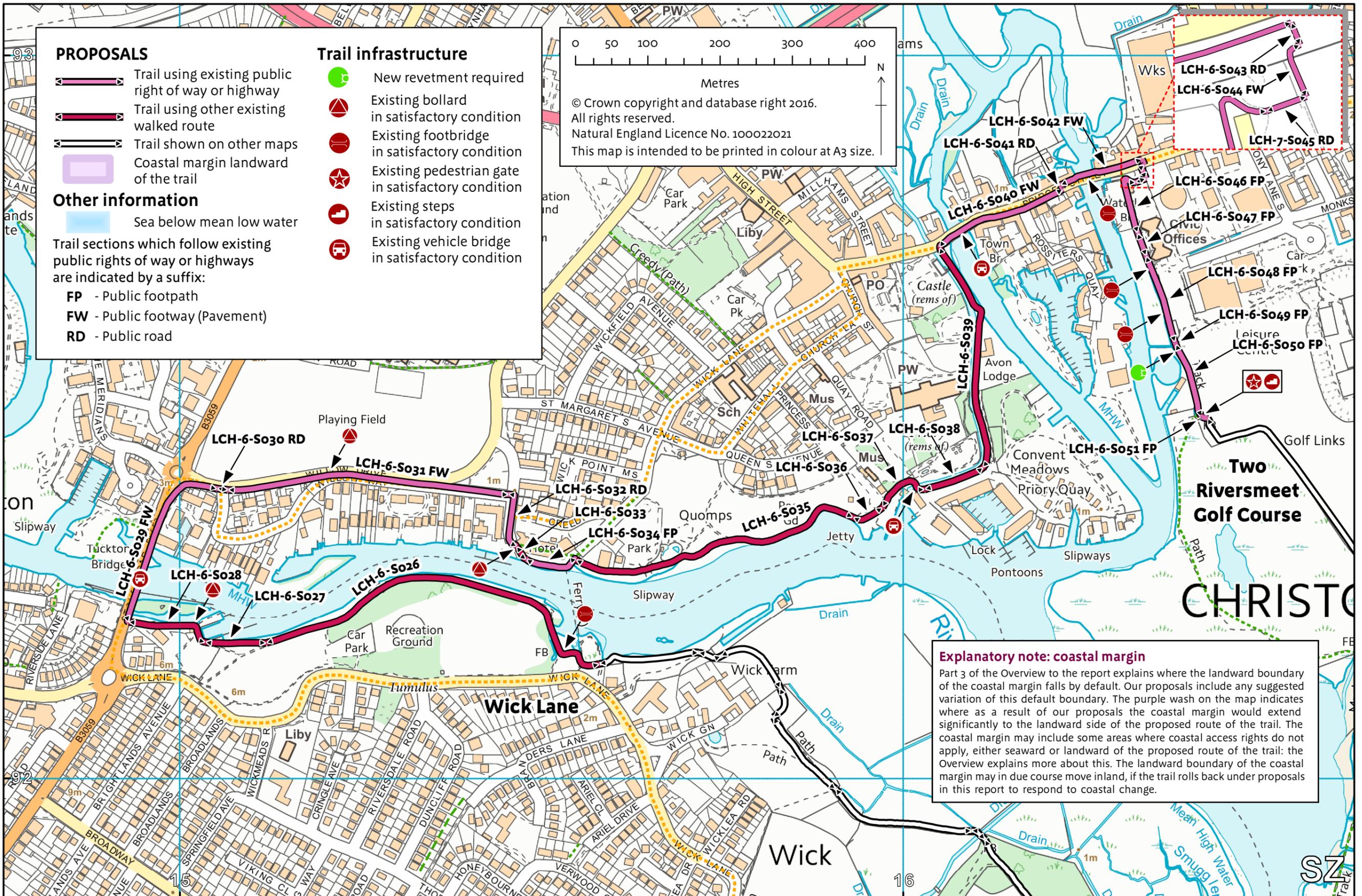
0 50 100 200 300 400  
 Metres  
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 This map is intended to be printed in colour at A3 size.

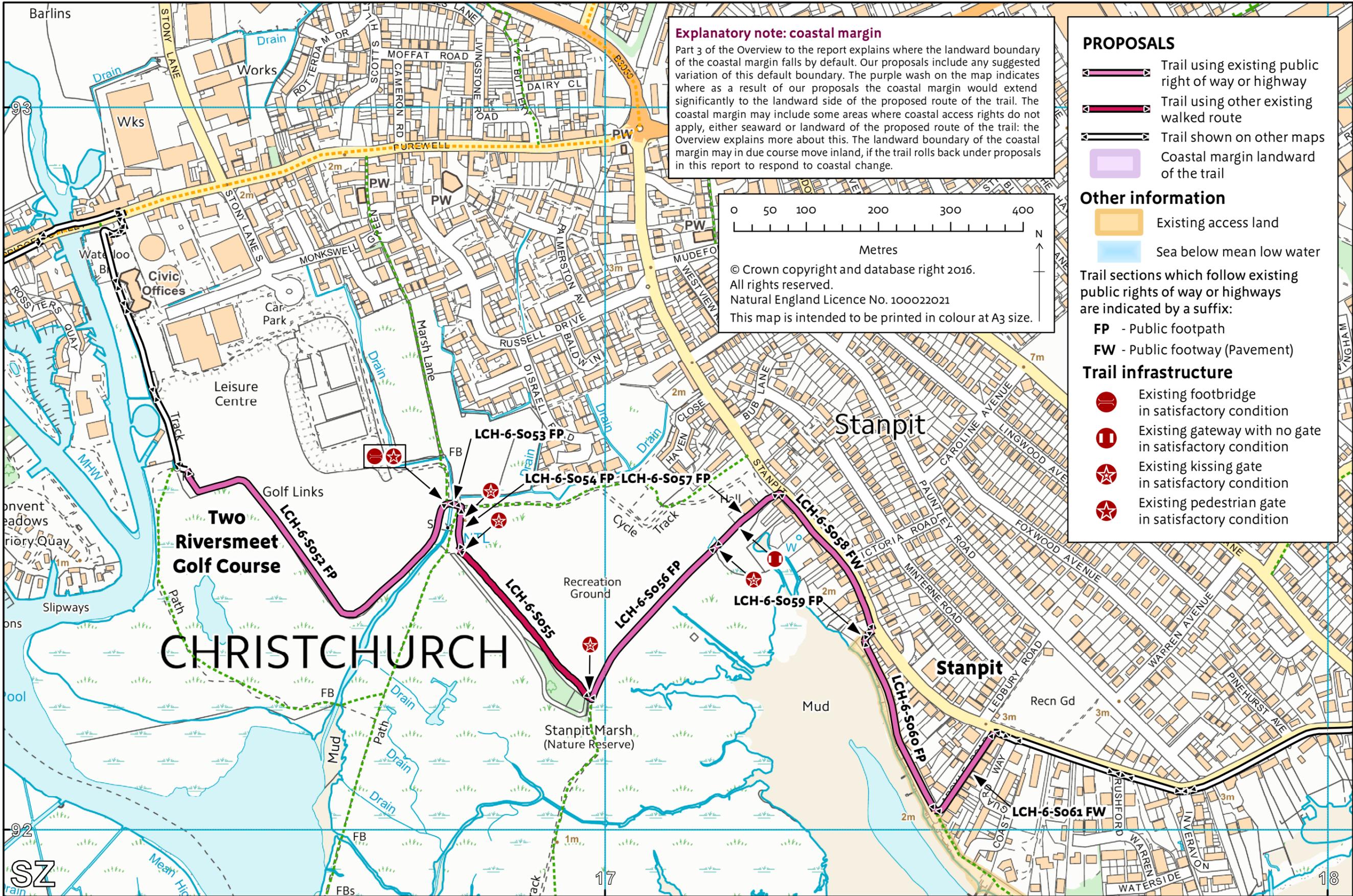


Map 6b Hengistbury Head Nature Reserve to Wick Hams via The Black House

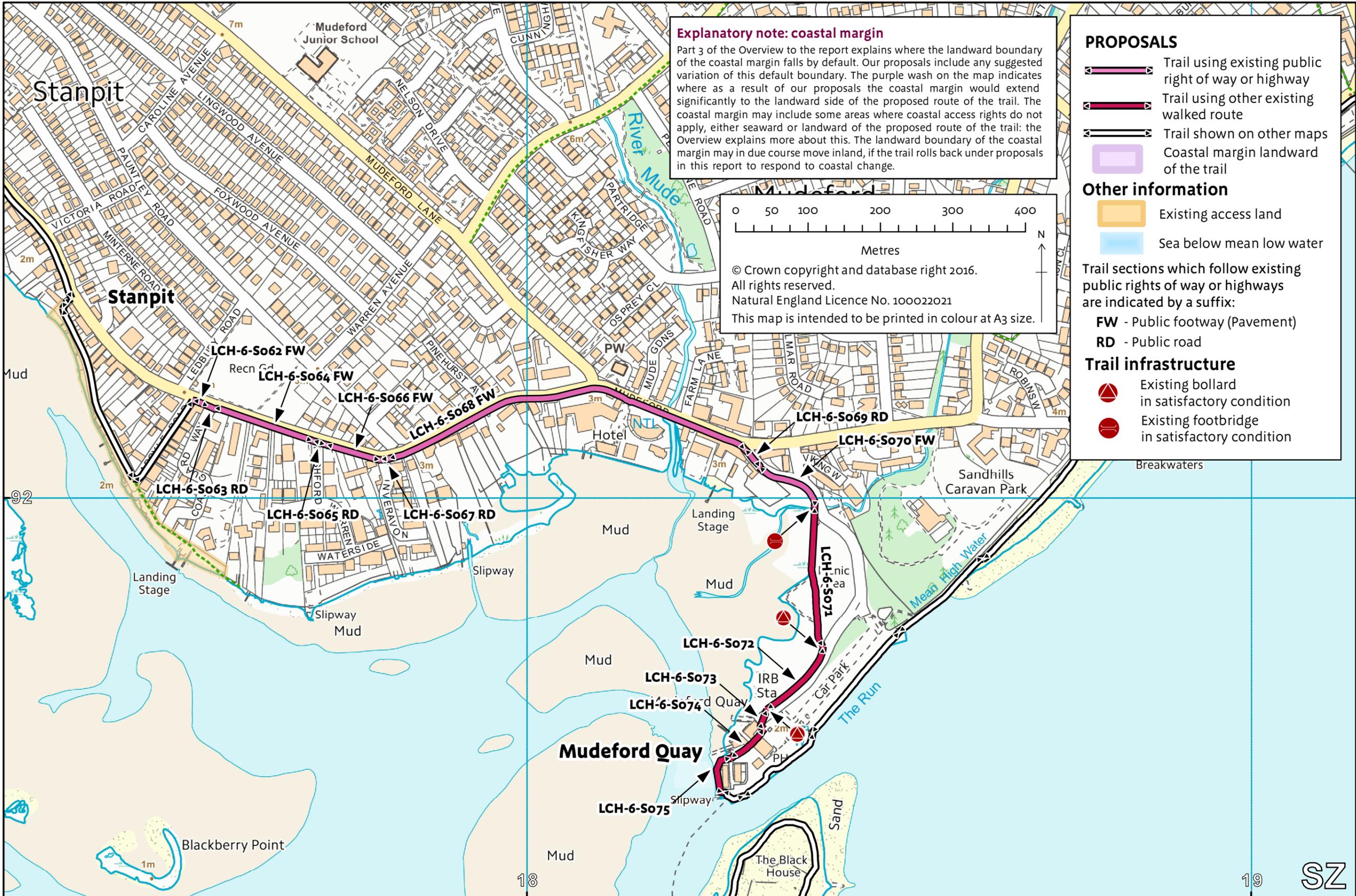


Map 6c Wick Hams to Wick Lane





Map 6e Two Riversmeet Golf Course to Stanpit



**Explanatory note: coastal margin**  
 Part 3 of the Overview to the report explains where the landward boundary of the coastal margin falls by default. Our proposals include any suggested variation of this default boundary. The purple wash on the map indicates where as a result of our proposals the coastal margin would extend significantly to the landward side of the proposed route of the trail. The coastal margin may include some areas where coastal access rights do not apply, either seaward or landward of the proposed route of the trail: the Overview explains more about this. The landward boundary of the coastal margin may in due course move inland, if the trail rolls back under proposals in this report to respond to coastal change.

0 50 100 200 300 400  
 Metres

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**PROPOSALS**

- Trail using existing public right of way or highway
- Trail using other existing walked route
- Trail shown on other maps
- Coastal margin landward of the trail

**Other information**

- Existing access land
- Sea below mean low water

Trail sections which follow existing public rights of way or highways are indicated by a suffix:

- FW** - Public footway (Pavement)
- RD** - Public road

**Trail infrastructure**

- Existing bollard in satisfactory condition
- Existing footbridge in satisfactory condition

Map 6f Stanpit to Mundeford Quay