

Chapter 6:

Dovercourt to Harwich

England Coast Path: Jaywick to Harwich - Natural England's Proposals

Part 6.1: Introduction

Start Point:	Dovercourt (grid reference: TM2469 3006)
End Point:	Harwich (grid reference: TM2623 3247)
Relevant Maps:	6a to 6b

Understanding the proposals and accompanying maps:

The Trail:

- 6.1.1 Generally follows existing walked routes, including promenades and public rights of way, along most of this length.
- 6.1.2 Mainly follows the coastline quite closely and maintains good views of the sea.
- 6.1.3 Follows the Essex Way, a promoted long distance route, along part of its length.

Protection of sensitive features:

- 6.1.4 This part of the coast includes the following sites, designated for nature conservation or heritage preservation (See map C of the Overview):
 - Harwich Foreshore Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for its geological/wildlife interest
 - Scheduled Ancient Monument 56 - Dovercourt Lower Lighthouse (SAM)

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.

- 6.1.5 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:

6.1.6 Generally, there are few artificial barriers to accessibility on the proposed route, which makes use of existing surfaced paths wherever these meet the criteria in the Coastal Access Scheme.

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

Where we have proposed to exercise our discretion:

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

6.1.7 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.

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'.

6.1.8 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 public rights of way.

Establishment and ongoing management of the trail

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

- A new interpretation panel will be added at section JWH-6-S004.

6.1.10 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:

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

See parts 6e - 'Coastal processes' and 9 - '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 6b: Dovercourt to Harwich

1	2	3	4	5	6a	6b	7
Map(s)	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)
6a	JWH-6-S001	Public footpath	Concrete	No	Landward edge of path	Clarity and cohesion	None
	JWH-6-S002	Other existing walked route	Concrete	No	Landward edge of path	Clarity and cohesion	None
6b	JWH-6-S003	Multi-use route	Concrete	No	Landward edge of path	Clarity and cohesion	None
	JWH-6-S004	Other existing walked route	Concrete	No	Landward edge of path	Clarity and cohesion	None

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 and 6b.
- They should be read in conjunction with the relevant maps.
- The commentary above explains the practical effect of these proposals.

Formal Proposals – Dovercourt to Harwich

Proposed route of the trail

6.3.1 The route is to be at the centre of the line shown on maps 6a and 6b as the proposed route of the trail.

Landward boundary of coastal margin

6.3.2 Adjacent to route sections JWH-6-S001 to JWH-6-S004, the landward boundary of the coastal margin is to coincide with the landward edge of the path or promenade as shown on maps 6a and 6b.



