

Notes of meeting of Teign Estuary Trail Stakeholder Group on 15th May 2026, 9.30am, Forde House, Newton Abbot

Attendees

Lauren Allington, Transport Planner DCC
Mark Amphlett, Chair of Newton Abbot Chamber of Trade & Commerce
Kate Benham, TET Campaign Group
Neil Blaney, Director of Place, TDC
Arron Carpenter, Engineer Design Group DCC (via Teams)
Cllr David Cox, DCC, TDC and Teignmouth TC (via Teams)
Jordan Facey, Engineer Design Group DCC (via Teams)
Cllr Jacqi Hodgson, DCC Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Biodiversity
Cllr Andrew Macgregor, TDC
Henry Merritt, Bishopsteignton PC, Chair
Jo Rice, Case Worker for Martin Wrigley MP
Judith Sharples, TET Campaign Group and note taker
Estelle Skinner, Green Infrastructure Officer TDC
Cllr Gary Taylor, TDC Executive Member for Planning & Building Control
Keith Underhill, Chair of Teignmouth Chamber of Trade & Commerce
Cllr Martin Wrigley, MP and TDC

Apologies

Bill Bailey, TET Campaign Group
Cllr Tony Dempster, DCC Kingsteignton & Teign Estuary
Cllr Jackie Hook, TDC Executive Member for Environment, Climate & Sustainability
Cllr David Palethorpe, TDC Executive Member for Economy, Estates & Major Projects
Jessica Rowe, Walk Wheel Cycle Trust (formerly Sustrans)
Cllr Nicholas Yabsley, Newton Abbot TC

Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone and attendees introduced themselves.

Update on progress since the last meeting on 7 November 2025

A set of slides were used to provide an update as follows:

Update on Phase 3 land investigations

Arron and Jordan advised that:

- Ground investigation work was completed in November 2025.

- Since November 2025, bimonthly monitoring of the boreholes has been undertaken by DCC to record changes in ground water levels and any potential ground movement.
- The results of the borehole monitoring are being collated and will be included in the forthcoming final report to be provided by the GI Consultant in the very near future.
- DCC is currently reviewing the first draft of the 400-page report from the consultants.
- The report is due to be finalised in July with detailed design work scheduled to start in August.

Land negotiations

Lauren and Estelle provided a brief update.

Phase 1 update

Lauren advised that £600k of DCC funding has been allocated in 2026/27 to progress this section of the TET (from road crossing at start / end of Phase 2 to Morrisons junction). This section will also connect to Church Road to enable access into Bishopsteignton village. A separate project team has been established for Phase 1, led by Chelsea Randall. Detailed design work is due to be completed by end of March 2027.

There are a number of reasons for this approach:

- It is a condition of the planning permission (which covers Phase 2 and 3) that a safe road crossing between Phase 1 and Phase 2 is in place prior to opening of Phase 2 and Phase 3.
- Development of this section does not require planning permission and there are no known landowner constraints.
- Government transport funding allocations from the Local Transport Consolidated Funding Settlement (which has replaced the Local Transport Plan funding) now have to be spent in the year in which they are allocated.
- Getting this section 'shovel ready' will make it easier to secure external funding for construction.

Funding update

Lauren and Estelle provided an update on the latest funding position:

- DCC funding in 2026/27 of £600k for Phase 1 and £181,523 for Phase 3 was approved by the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority (CCA) Board in March 2026.

- DCC funding of approx. £550k for Phase 3 for the 3-year period starting 2027/28 is subject to approval by the CCA Board in September 2026.
- TDC CIL funding of £50k has been spent on the Outline Business Case (in 2024/25), £100k has been spent on Phase 3 design work (in 2025/26), £450k is included in the funding agreement between TDC and DCC, to be used towards land purchase, and an additional up to £400k remains earmarked to support land purchase up to 2028/29.

It was noted that a significant level of external funding would still need to be secured for the construction of the TET.

Update on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

Lauren advised of the current timetable as follows:

- November 2025: DCC and Districts submitted proposals.
- May 2026: DCC officers scenario testing for all services.
- July 2026: Government to announce decision on LGR arrangements.
- May 2027: Elections for shadow council.
- April 2028: Vesting Day – new council takes over

It was noted that the existence of the Devon & Torbay CCA provides a degree of stability as this would remain in place regardless of the outcome of LGR.

However, it is likely a new Mayoral Strategic Authority covering a bigger geographical area would need to be established in future if Devon is to benefit from the significant levels of devolved funding and additional powers that other parts of the country have been able to take advantage of.

Question and answer session

The following information was provided in response to questions and comments from attendees:

- A copy of the slides would be sent out with the notes of the meeting.
- The construction period would likely take in the region of two to three years once funding can be secured. However, as the project will be delivered in phases, this will be reliant on various stages of funding being secured and this places an unknown element on the timeframe.
- It is a condition of the planning permission secured for Phase 2 and 3 that construction starts by December 2031 at the latest – a plan needs to be in place to ensure work commences well before this date with a target date of January 2028 proposed by the MP.
- Martin Wrigley has regular meetings with senior Network Rail staff in his role as MP and is happy to facilitate any discussions relating to the TET.

- Martin Wrigley will be briefed in more detail on the land issues.
- Martin Wrigley suggested it is important that all funding is spent or committed by April 2027 – if not, there is a risk that new authorities would have different priorities and would reallocate funding to other projects.
- Any land owned by existing councils would be transferred to the new unitary council for that area.
- There has been some slippage in the timescale for completion of the ground investigation report and start of detailed design work reported at the last meeting – this is due to the consultants also dealing with the storm damage at Slapton Sands which was a high priority.
- Estelle will progress an update to the funding agreement between TDC and DCC for the TDC CIL funding towards the Teign Estuary Trail to include the earmarked £400k noted above.
- There is not any 'surplus' CIL relating to the previously proposed Newton Abbot to Torquay route which did not secure Levelling Up Fund monies to enable it to progress. The capital programme is available on the TDC website: [Council budget and financial plan - 2026 - 2027 budget - Teignbridge District Council](#)
- No work is currently being done to progress the plans for the section from Dawlish to Teignmouth and the new Active Travel guidance on standards for cycle schemes in rural areas is still awaited.
- Martin Wrigley would be happy to approach the CEO of Active Travel England to propose that Devon works in partnership with them on the new guidance using the Dawlish to Teignmouth section as a test case with national funding to support its delivery. Lauren will look into this.
- This approach would be consistent with the view expressed by the DCC Leader that Devon should be the voice of rural England.
- Cllr Hodgson offered to attend national meetings with Martin as she has a lot of evidence of the benefits of Devon's investment in cycle paths and multiuse trails. Estelle suggested also referring to the Teign Estuary Trail tourism opportunities report and outline business case, which are available online and take account of tourism benefits and wellbeing benefits from access to nature: [The Teign Estuary Trail - Roads and transport](#)
- Cllr Cox emphasised the importance of developing a route between Morrisons and Teignmouth town centre which would avoid the need for cyclists to cycle on Bitton Park Road which is one of the busiest and most polluted roads in Devon.

- The need for an interactive map showing how Devon's network of trails connect with each other and the need for priority to be given to filling major gaps such as Dawlish to Newton Abbot was noted.
- The economic and tourism benefits of Devon's network of multiuse trails which would enable people to explore the whole of the south Devon coast and connect the south and north coast via Dartmoor when completed was noted.

Any other business

The Chair suggested that DCC and TDC could issue a press release to keep the public informed of developments. The need to balance positive messages about progress with realism about the challenges still ahead and lead in time before construction could commence was discussed. Lauren agreed to consult colleagues and also undertook to update the DCC webpage on the TET with latest information about the project.

Date of next meeting

16th October 2026, 9.30am, Forde House

The meeting finished at 11am.

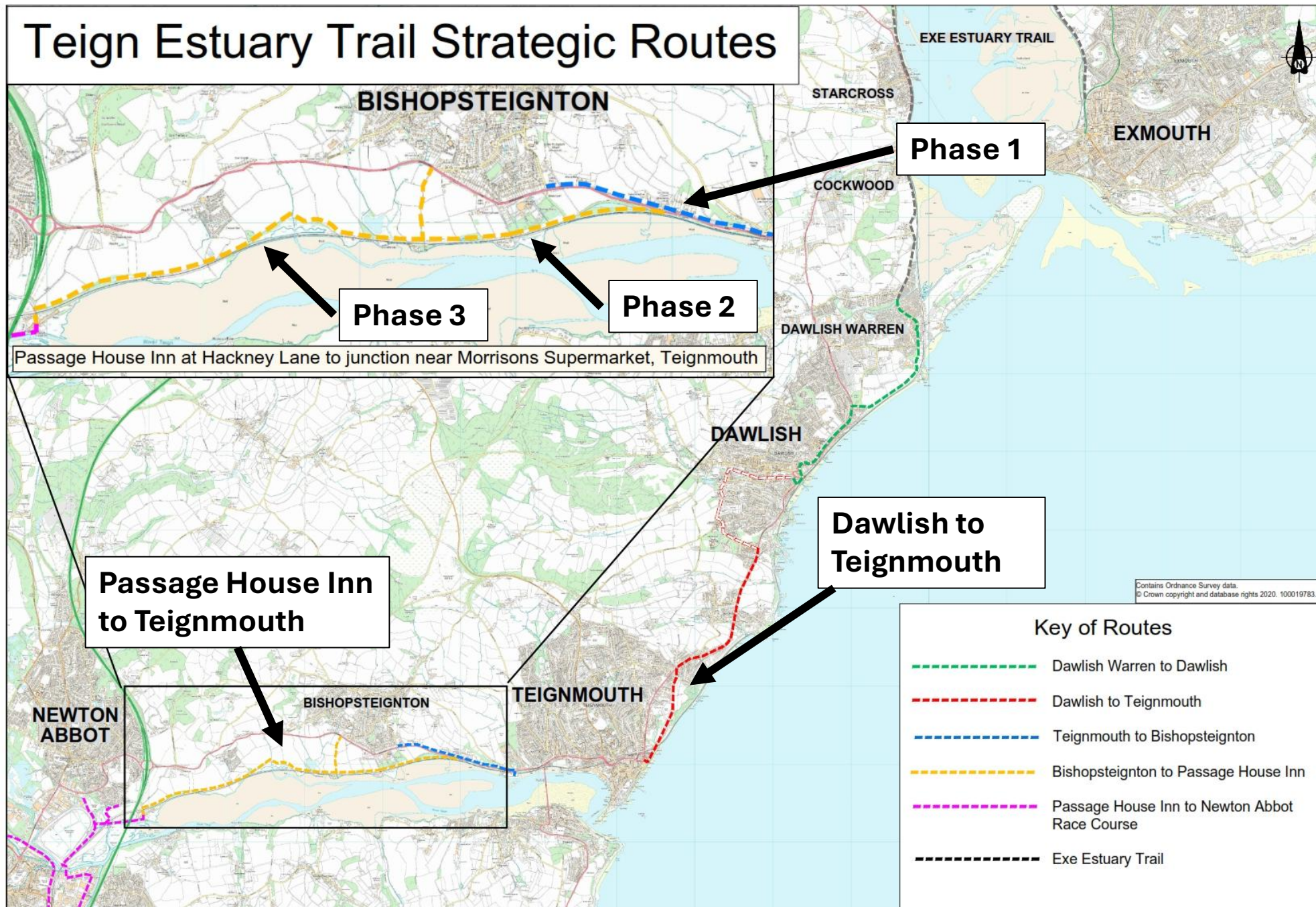


Teign Estuary Trail

Stakeholder Group Update

15 May 2026

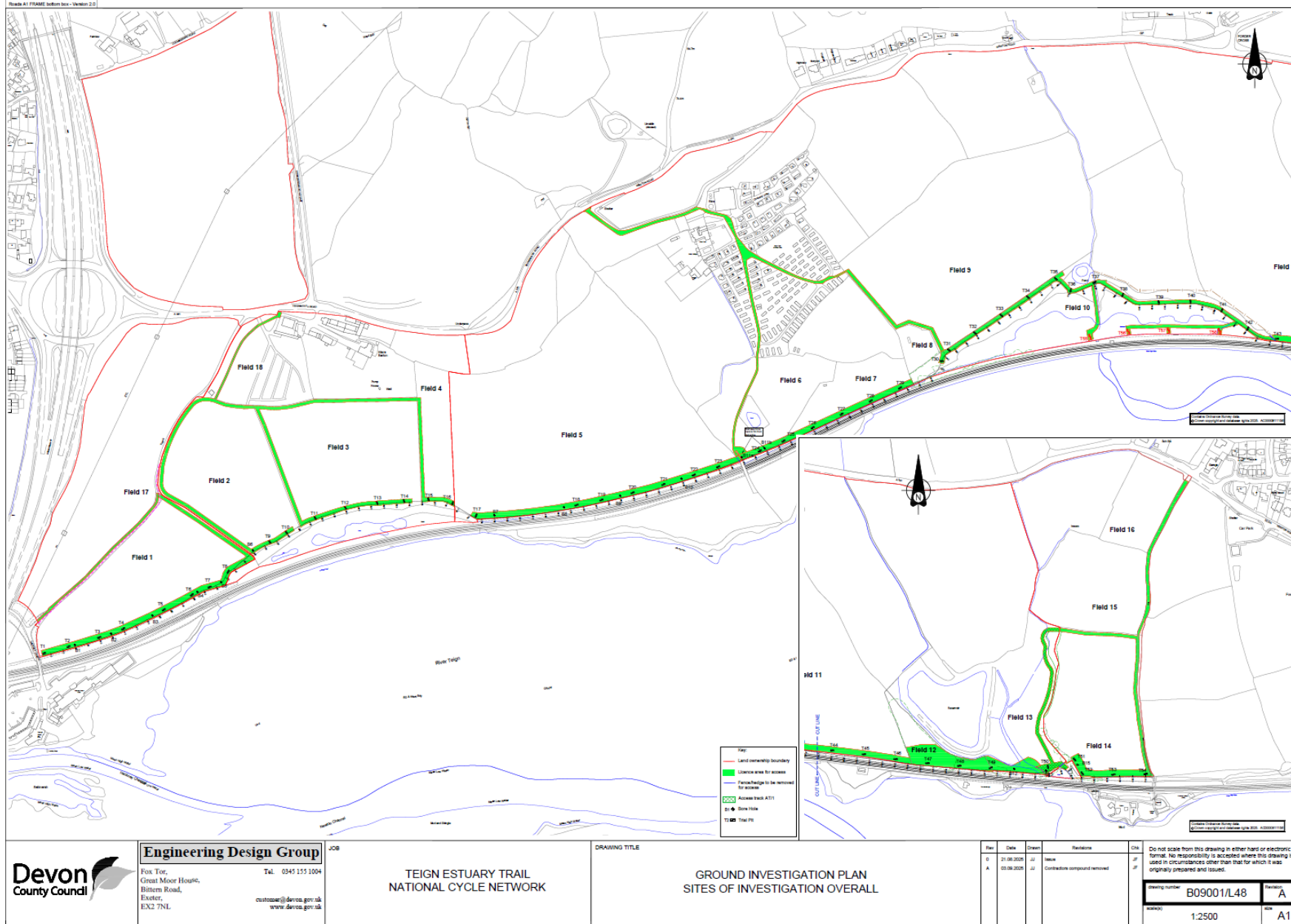
Teign Estuary Trail Strategic Routes



Phase 3 Ground Investigation Update

- Ground investigation works were completed in November 2025.
 - Since November 2025, bimonthly monitoring of the boreholes has been undertaken by DCC to record changes in ground water levels and any potential ground movement.
 - The results of the borehole monitoring are being collated and will be included in the forthcoming report provided by the GI Consultant in the very near future.
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Trial Pit and Borehole Plan





B1 Hand pit 0.0 – 1.2mbgl



B1 1.20 – 3.0mbgl



B1 3.0 – 5.0m

Borehole Core

Borehole Log

Project Title: Teign Estuary Cycle Trail

Client: Devon County Council

Method and Plant Used

Groundwater

From (m)

To (m)

Type

Plant Used

Settle (m)

Time (min)

Raise To

0.00

1.20

IP

Insulated hand tools

8.00

60

-1.16

1.20

4.00

WLS

Cornacchio Geo 20S

4.00

8.00

RC

Cornacchio Geo 20S

Location ID: BH01

Location Type: Rotary cored

Coords: 287984.000E/72450.000N

Level: 13.500m

Ordinance Survey Great Britain National Grid

Final Depth: 8.00 m

Orientation: 0°

Inclination: 90°

Date Start: 16/10/2025

Date End: 16/10/2025

Card Geotechnics Limited, Unit 3, Brooklands, Hovenden Road, Tiverton EX16 5HW www.cg-uk.com

Sheet 1 of 1

Sample Depth (m)

Type/Ref

Tests/Results

Water Level (m)

Legend / Cover

Core Depth (m)

Level (m)

Strata Description

1.20 - 1.85

SP1L SP1L 00 D01

SP1(S) 1.20m N=24 (A,4/S,5,7)

Grass over TOPSOIL of brown slightly sandy gravelly clayey silt with frequent rootlets. Sand is fine to coarse. Gravel is angular to subrounded fine to coarse mudstone, flint, quartzite, quartz and microgabro. [TOPSOIL]
Stiff yellowish brown mottled orange slightly sandy gravelly SILT/CLAY with frequent organic fragments and a low subrounded microgabro, flint and quartzite cobble content. Sand is fine to coarse. Gravel is angular to subrounded fine to coarse mudstone, flint, quartzite, quartz, sandstone and microgabro. [RIVER TERRACE DEPOSITS]
0.80m bgl becoming dark orange mottled yellowish brown.

2.00 - 2.45

SP1L SP12 00 D02

SP1(S) 2.00m N=21 (A,3/S,A,3,7)

2.00

11.50

MUDSTONE recovered as purplish brown silty gravelly fine to coarse SAND with localised grey staining. Gravel is angular fine and medium silty mudstone. [WHITEWAY MUDSTONE FORMATION]

2.00 - 3.00

3.00 - 3.45

SP1L SP13 00 D03

SP1(S) 3.00m N=25 (A,6/N,7,A,6)

3.00 - 4.00

4.00 - 4.36

SP1L SP14 C CR1

SP1(S) 4.00m S0 (A,N/S0 for 215mm)

4.40

9.10

from 3.70 to 3.90m bgl - Mudstone weathered to stiff light grey and pinkish grey mottled sandy gravelly silt. Sand is fine to coarse. Gravel is angular fine mudstone.

4.00 - 5.00

5.00 - 6.50

C CR2

SP1(C) 5.00m S0 (ZS for 80mm/S0 for 150mm)

Dark purplish brown thinly laminated slaty MUDSTONE. Fractures are extremely close to closely spaced subvertical (50 to 80 degrees) and subhorizontal (10 to 30 degrees) partially open and open planar. Localised dark grey staining on fracture surfaces. [WHITEWAY MUDSTONE FORMATION]
from 5.00 to 5.50m bgl - Recovered as angular to subrounded fine to coarse mudstone gravel.
from 5.00 to 6.50m bgl - Fractures are extremely closely spaced subvertical (45 to 80 degrees) and subhorizontal (10 to 45 degrees) tight and partially open planar and stepped.
from 6.00 to 6.10m bgl - Recovered as angular to subrounded fine to coarse mudstone gravel.
from 6.16 to 8.00m bgl - Hole collapsed to 6.16m bgl.
from 6.50 to 7.40m bgl - Recovered as angular to subrounded fine to coarse mudstone gravel.
from 6.50 to 8.00m bgl - Fractures are extremely closely spaced subvertical (45 to 80 degrees) and subhorizontal (20 to 45 degrees) tight to moderately open planar and stepped.

6.50 - 8.00

C CR3

SP1(C) 6.50m S0 (ZS for 115mm/S0 for 80mm)

from 7.55 to 7.65m bgl - Recovered as angular to subrounded fine to coarse mudstone gravel.

8.00

5.50

EOH at 8.00m - Artesian water strike

Core Run (%)

Test Results (%)

max Backfill (%)



T1



T1

Trial Pit

Trial Pit Log

Project Title: Teign Estuary Cycle Trail							Status:		Location ID		 Card Geotechnics Limited, Unit 3, Brooklands, Howden Road, Tiverton EX26 5HW www.cgl-uk.com Sheet 1 of 1
Client: Devon County Council							FINAL		TP01		
Method and Plant Used				Groundwater			Location Type: Trial pit/trench				
From [m]	To [m]	Type	Plant Used	Strike [m]	Tilt [m/m]	Rise To	Coords: 287934.000E/72438.000N Level: 13.400m				
0.00	3.00	TP	13 Tonne tracked 360 Excavator				Ordnance Survey Great Britain		Final Depth: 3.00 m		
							National Grid		Orientation: ° Inclination: °		
							Date Start: 16/10/2025		Date End: 16/10/2025		
Samples & Tests				Water Level [m]	Legend	Strata Depth [m]	Level [m]	Strata Description			Int'l De Backfill
Sample Depth [m]	Type/Ref	Tests/Results									
0.00 - 0.40	A					0.40	13.00	TOPSOIL: Brown slightly gravelly sandy silty CLAY with frequent rootlets and occasional roots. Sand is fine to coarse. Gravel is angular to subrounded fine to coarse mudstone, quartz, and flint. [TOPSOIL]			
0.40 - 0.80	B							Dark purple MUDSTONE recovered as dark purplish brown sandy silty clayey angular fine to coarse mudstone GRAVEL with a low angular and subangular mudstone cobble content. Sand is fine to coarse. [WHITEWAY MUDSTONE FORMATION]			
0.80 - 3.00	C					3.00	10.40	60k at 3.00m -			

Notes:

- Location cleared with CAT & Genny prior to breaking ground.
- No evidence of visual or olfactory evidence was encountered.
- No groundwater was encountered.

Scaleway Tests					Scale: 1:25	
Test No.	Date	Duration (hh:mm)	Infiltration Rate			

Pit Details				Section ID:	
Stability	Shoring	Length [m]	Width [m]		
Stable		4.00	0.70	OGL Reference CGF/17600	



Typical Borehole

Water Level Monitoring

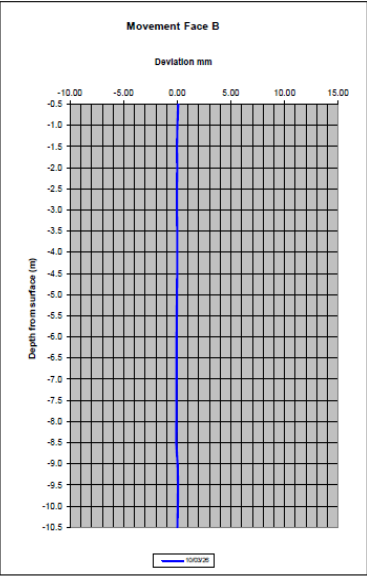
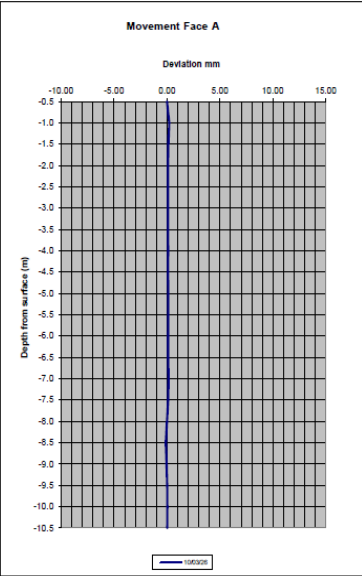
Site: Teign Estuary Trail
Project No: EDG0620
Lab Ref: 25SS015/1
Client: EDG

Borehole	B2		B3		B4		B5		B6		B7	
Instrument	Inclinometer		Standpipe		Inclinometer		Inclinometer		Standpipe		Standpipe	
Depth of Borehole	10.96m		7.43m		8.08m		8.82m		8.45m		7.17m	
Riser Height (m)	0.33		0.38		0.29		0.32		0.33		0.39	
Chainage (m)	120		190		270		310		380		780	
Date	Depth (m)	Corrected (m)	Depth (m)	Corrected (m)	Depth (m)	Corrected (m)	Depth (m)	Corrected (m)	Depth (m)	Corrected (m)	Depth (m)	Corrected (m)
18+19/11/25	0.90	0.57	0.88	0.50	7.86	7.57	1.26	0.94	3.22	2.89	0.67	0.28
13/01/2026	0.90	0.57	0.59	0.21	7.85	7.56	0.55	0.23	4.96	4.63	0.56	0.17
10/03/2026	1.10	0.77	1.10	0.72	7.05	6.76	1.30	0.98	5.30	4.97	0.82	0.43

Remarks: Values in Red denote Above Ground Level

Site Location: Teign Estuary Trail
Borehole No: BH2
Date of Current Reading: 10/03/26
Date of Initial Reading: 18/11/25
Remarks: Riser 0.33m above Ground Level / Inclinometer Tube 0.21m above Ground Level
Site Visit Ref: 25150302
Job Ref: 25SS015
Logged By: MH
Corrected Water Level: 0.77m

DEPTH A	FACE A+	FACE A-	ERROR1	DEPTH B	FACE B+	FACE B-	ERROR2	CURRSSUM A	INITSUM A	CURRSUMB	INITSUM B	DIFFSUMA	DIFFSUMB
-0.5	0.0014	-0.0018	-0.0003	-0.5	0.0041	-0.0043	-0.0001	0.0752	0.0752	0.0081	0.0080	0.00	0.08
-1.0	0.0016	-0.0018	-0.0002	-1.0	0.0028	-0.0031	-0.0002	0.0737	0.0735	0.0039	0.0039	0.00	0.00
-1.5	0.0014	-0.0019	-0.0004	-1.5	0.0028	-0.0030	-0.0002	0.0721	0.0719	0.0010	0.0010	0.14	-0.03
-2.0	0.0010	-0.0013	-0.0003	-2.0	-0.0005	0.0002	-0.0002	0.0704	0.0703	-0.0019	-0.0019	0.10	-0.03
-2.5	0.0023	-0.0027	-0.0003	-2.5	-0.0011	0.0009	-0.0002	0.0693	0.0692	-0.0015	-0.0015	0.09	-0.05
-3.0	0.0035	-0.0038	-0.0003	-3.0	-0.0024	0.0023	-0.0002	0.0688	0.0687	-0.0005	-0.0005	0.09	-0.03
-3.5	0.0047	-0.0050	-0.0003	-3.5	-0.0038	0.0037	-0.0002	0.0631	0.0630	0.0019	0.0019	0.10	-0.02
-4.0	0.0040	-0.0043	-0.0003	-4.0	-0.0035	0.0034	-0.0002	0.0583	0.0582	0.0056	0.0056	0.10	-0.02
-4.5	0.0009	-0.0013	-0.0004	-4.5	-0.0014	0.0012	-0.0002	0.0541	0.0540	0.0091	0.0091	0.10	-0.02
-5.0	0.0000	-0.0002	-0.0003	-5.0	0.0008	-0.0008	-0.0002	0.0530	0.0529	0.0103	0.0104	0.13	-0.04
-5.5	0.0015	-0.0018	-0.0004	-5.5	0.0014	-0.0016	-0.0002	0.0531	0.0530	0.0086	0.0087	0.14	-0.05
-6.0	0.0024	-0.0027	-0.0003	-6.0	0.0014	-0.0015	-0.0002	0.0515	0.0514	0.0092	0.0092	0.11	-0.07
-6.5	0.0028	-0.0031	-0.0004	-6.5	0.0014	-0.0016	-0.0002	0.0489	0.0488	0.0087	0.0088	0.11	-0.07
-7.0	0.0032	-0.0035	-0.0003	-7.0	0.0013	-0.0014	-0.0002	0.0459	0.0458	0.0052	0.0053	0.14	-0.07
-7.5	0.0045	-0.0048	-0.0003	-7.5	0.0016	-0.0018	-0.0002	0.0428	0.0428	0.0039	0.0040	0.10	-0.09
-8.0	0.0047	-0.0051	-0.0004	-8.0	-0.0002	-0.0001	-0.0003	0.0380	0.0380	0.0021	0.0022	-0.01	-0.10
-8.5	0.0048	-0.0052	-0.0004	-8.5	-0.0012	0.0010	-0.0002	0.0331	0.0332	0.0023	0.0024	-0.13	-0.11
-9.0	0.0063	-0.0065	-0.0003	-9.0	-0.0004	0.0002	-0.0002	0.0281	0.0282	0.0033	0.0033	-0.04	0.02
-9.5	0.0071	-0.0075	-0.0004	-9.5	0.0007	-0.0008	-0.0002	0.0217	0.0217	0.0036	0.0036	0.02	0.06
-10.0	0.0071	-0.0072	-0.0002	-10.0	0.0012	-0.0014	-0.0002	0.0144	0.0144	0.0029	0.0028	0.03	0.03
-10.5	0.0071	-0.0075	-0.0004	-10.5	0.0015	-0.0016	-0.0002	0.0073	0.0072	0.0016	0.0016	0.02	0.01



Ground
Movement Log

Water Level Log

Teign Estuary Trail - Indicative Programme 2026/2027

Date/Month		Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sep-26	Oct-26	Nov-26	Dec-26	Jan-27	Feb-27	Mar-27
Land													
Topographical Survey													
Drainage Survey													
Analysing GI Report													
Detailed Design													
Structures Design													
Drainage Design													
Ecology													
Biodiversity net gain													
Lemp													
Audits													
Constrution Management													
Contract													
Tender													
Construction													

Indicative Programme 2026 - 2027

Phase 3 Design Work FY 26/27

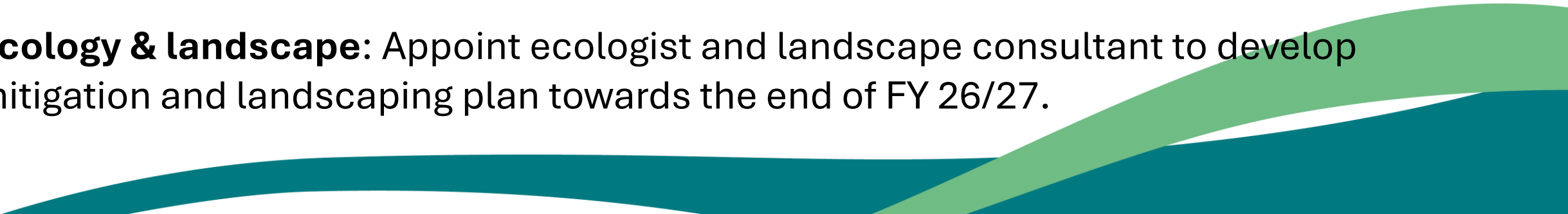
Surveys: EDG to commission updated topographical and drainage surveys to inform route design and surface water run-off management (at the western end of the trail).

Detailed design: To be progressed following Geotechnical Report (to encompass alignment, drainage and structures).

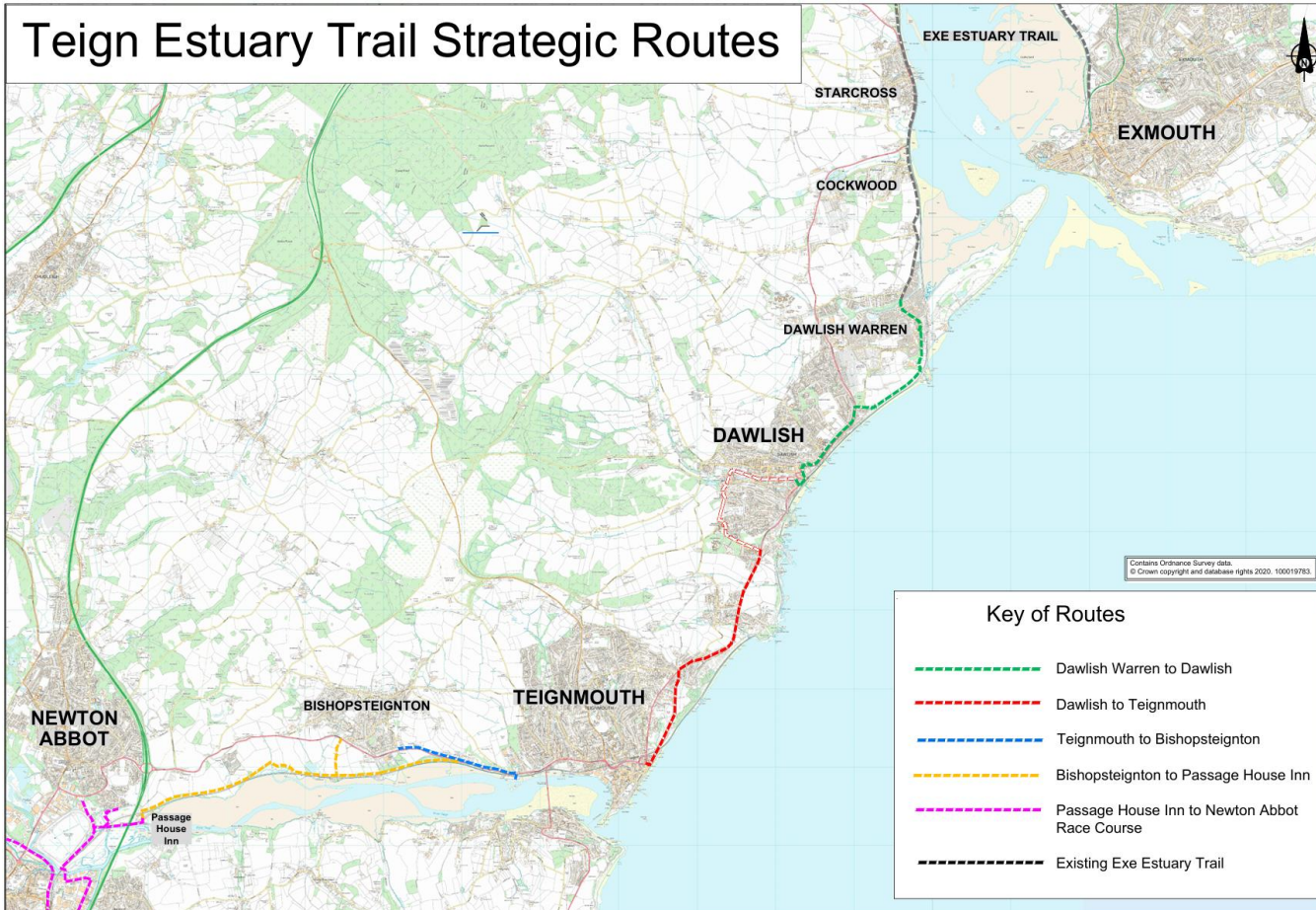
Network Rail: Ongoing liaison to manage railway conflict zones and minimise cost and disruption.

Environment: Assess and mitigate impacts on ecology, watercourses, trees and vegetation, given estuary location.

Ecology & landscape: Appoint ecologist and landscape consultant to develop mitigation and landscaping plan towards the end of FY 26/27.



Phase 1 Update



Map of the Teign Estuary Trail routes with Phase 1 shown by the blue line (Teignmouth to Bishopsteignton)

- HMPE and limited land ownership constraints.
- Requirement of Phase 2 Planning Permission.
- Design unlocks construction in the future.
- £600,000 allocated by DCC in 26/27 to progress from feasibility stage to complete detailed design.
- Significant structures design required.
- Ground investigations, ecology, drainage surveys etc.
- Aim to complete detailed design by March 2027.

Past Funding (inc 25/26)

Spent Funding	
Item	Funding Amount
Planning Application (Spent 2021)	TDC: £200,000
	DCC: £200,000
Outline Business Case (Spent 2024)	TDC: £50,000
Phase 3 Design and Land Acquisition (Spent 24/25)	TDC: £0
	DCC: £90,000
Phase 3 Design and Land Acquisition (Spent 25/26)	TDC: £100,000
	DCC: £288,500

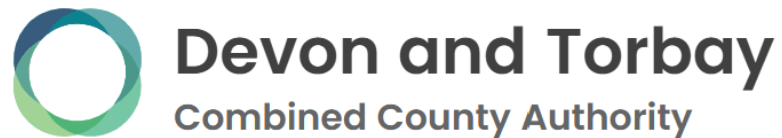
Current (26/27) and Future Funding Update

Source	Amounts	Status
Local Transport Consolidated Funding Settlement from DfT in 26/27	Phase 1: £600,000 Phase 3: £281,523	Approved at DTCCA Board in March 2026 as part of Transport Capital Programme.
Local Transport Consolidated Funding Settlement from DfT in 27/28, 28/29, 29/30	Phase 3: ≈ £550,000	Included in draft Local Transport Development Plan submitted to DfT, subject to final approval in Sept 2026 by CCA board.
TDC Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) available to FY28/29	£450k in funding agreement to support land (plus £50k spent 24/25 on Outline Business Case, £100k spent on Phase 3 design work 25/26) and a further up to £400k earmarked to support land (up to 28/29).	Linked to local development and District capital programme.
External Grants e.g. Active Travel Fund, Levelling Up Fund, Sport England etc	Unknown	No bids or grants pending or unaccounted for.

Note total design, land and construction cost estimate for Passage House Inn to Teignmouth is circa £43m (cost estimate in 2022)

LGR Update

- November 2025: DCC and Districts submitted proposals.
- May 2026: DCC officers scenario testing for all services.
- July 2026: Government to announce decision on LGR arrangements.
- May 2027: Elections for shadow council
- April 2028: Vesting Day – new council takes over.



DEVON
AND
TORBAY

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN
2025 – 2040



