



Development Consent Application: East Anglia ONE North Offshore Wind Farm (Case Ref: EN010077)

Development Consent Application: East Anglia TWO Offshore Wind Farm (Case Ref: EN010078)

Examining Authorities' Note of Unaccompanied Inspections of Sites Undertaken 30 October 2020 (USI5)

Background

The Examining Authorities (ExAs) undertook their fourth unaccompanied site inspections (USI4) on the afternoon of 12 October 2020 and on 13 October 2020 to support examinations of applications for development consent for the proposed East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO Offshore Wind Farms (the applications). The intended seascape impact assessments inspections programmed for the second day of USI4 were not completed due to the onset of heavy rain and inadequate visibility. As long-range views to the sea horizon and to constructed offshore wind farms are required for this work to be carried out, this fifth set of unaccompanied site inspections (USI5) was undertaken on 30 October 2020 to complete the seascape impact assessment work originally intended to form part of USI4.

Inspections were undertaken from publicly accessible land including highways and public rights of way. No access was required to private land, so advance permission to enter land was not required and these inspections could be undertaken on an unaccompanied basis.

The inspections are recorded in this note, the purpose of which is to inform the Applicant, Interested Parties (IPs) and other persons of actions taken by the ExAs. A single note has been produced. It is endorsed with the yellow and blue icon used to identify materially identical documentation in accordance with the ExAs' Procedural Decisions 3 on document management of 23 December 2019¹. Whilst this note has been published to the Examination Libraries for both applications, if it is read in one library, there is no need to read it again in the second library. Previous site inspection notes can also be found in both libraries² on the same basis.

Further site inspections will be required. The site inspection programmes will be developed in the light of inspection requests submitted at Deadline 1 (2 November 2020). The Applicant, IPs and other persons have been provided with an opportunity to provide comments to the ExAs on the approach that they should take to site inspections and to nominate site inspection locations on an unaccompanied basis (USIs) and on accompanied basis – known as accompanied site inspections (ASIs).

¹ The ExA's Procedural Decision 3 for [East Anglia ONE North](#) can be seen here at Annex B. The ExA's identical Procedural Decision 3 for [East Anglia TWO](#) can be seen here at Annex B.

² Pre-examination USI1, 2 and 3 notes can be seen in the [East Anglia ONE North](#) library here the Examination period USI4 Note can be seen [here](#). Identical Pre-examination USI1, 2 and 3 notes in the [East Anglia TWO](#) library can be seen here and the Examination period USI4 Note can be seen [here](#).



Before agreeing to site inspections at any particular location, the ExAs will consider the degree to which it is necessary to visit a site that has been nominated for an inspection to inform them about the applications. They may decide not to visit nominated locations where they consider that it is not necessary to see the features to be observed there.

Arrangements for ASIs have been included in the ExAs' Examination Timetables. They may decide not to hold an ASI if all relevant features can be observed and understood from locations in the public domain. Public health controls in force at the proposed time may also limit the scope of ASIs or prevent them from being carried out, in which case alternative measures including the use of extended USIs and virtual site inspections (incorporating the use of plans, videos, photographs and written submissions or techniques such as the use of drones) may be used.

USIs may be carried out by the ExAs as required to inform them and without notice and the programme of USIs will continue unless these are prevented by public health controls. When further USIs are carried out, further inspection notes will be published.

Particulars of the Inspections

The inspections were undertaken by members of the ExAs consisting of Rynd Smith (Lead) and Jon Hockley. The purpose of the inspections was to complete the ExAs' review of the Applicants' seascape impact assessments. The inspections were carried out over one day.

Seascapes Route 3 – the inspections reviewed the Applicants' seascape visualisations between Caister (north of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, in the north) and Covehithe (north of Southwold, Suffolk, in the south). These locations were initially intended to be inspected during USI4 on day 2, but none of these inspections proceeded on that day, due to poor visibility. Sites were inspected at or as close as possible to the locations from which the Applicants' seascape visualisations were obtained. They were undertaken by car and then on foot at each inspection location, commencing on foot at 7:45am in Great Yarmouth before proceeding north to Caister by car and then southwards along the coastline via Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft, concluding at 12:30pm at Covehithe. Weather conditions were dry and initially overcast but brightening later and with good long-range visibility throughout.

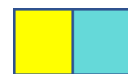
Seascapes Route 2 – the inspections reviewed the Applicants' seascape visualisations at Southwold that were initially intended to be inspected during USI4 on day 2, but where inspections again did not proceed at that time. Having completed inspections at Southwold, Mr Hockley departed and Mr Smith then inspected locations from Walberswick to Dunwich Heath that were initially viewed during USI4 on day 2 by Mr Hockley and Mr Rigby but where poor weather conditions had limited long-range visibility. Sites were inspected at or as close as possible to the locations from which the Applicants' seascape visualisations were obtained. The inspections were undertaken by car and then on foot at each inspection location, commencing at 1:00pm at Southwold where three visualisations, the sea front and town centre were inspected on foot, concluding there at 2:30pm. Mr Smith then recommenced inspections at Walberswick at 3:00pm and proceeding via Dunwich village, concluded at Dunwich Heath at 4:20pm (sunset). Weather conditions were



dry with partial cloud cover, some sunny spells and good long-range visibility throughout.

The individual locations inspected over both days and the purposes of those inspections are recorded below with route maps provided at **Annex A**. Route and location numbers as shown on the maps are set out below. Location numbers used for seascapes route 2 in the note for USI4 are re-used in this note where the inspection returned to the same locations (location numbers 4 to 6). Inspection location numbers 1 to 3 are not used in seascapes route 2 as adequate inspections at these locations were completed in USI4 and so they were not revisited.

Reference to Environmental Statement Viewpoints (ES VP) is taken to be to Figures 28.5 and 29.4 for seascape and onshore receptors (Examination Library references [APP-319] and [APP-394] respectively); these references are common to both applications.



30 October 2020:

Seascapes Route 3 viewed the following:

- Great Yarmouth (South Beach)
- Caister-on-Sea
- Gorleston-on-Sea
- Hopton-on-Sea
- North Beach, Gunton
- Corton Coastal Holiday Village
- Ness Point, Lowestoft
- Claremont Pier, Lowestoft
- Kessingland beach
- Covehithe beach

Location(s)	Relevant Observations	ES VP (where applicable)
Parked at point ❶ on Annex A Route 3 map (Camperdown) and walked north and south along the South Beach parade and beach front.	Great Yarmouth (South Beach)	21
Parked at point ❷ on Annex A Route 3 map (Lifeboat Station) and walked to the viewpoint on the beach.	Caister-on-Sea	22
Parked at point ❸ on Annex A Route 3 map (Lower Esplanade) and walked up the cliff to the viewpoint on the promenade (Cliff Hill/ Avondale Road).	Gorleston-on-Sea	20
Parked at point ❹ on Annex A Route 3 map (Beach Road) and walked to the viewpoint at the top of the cliff.	Hopton-on-Sea	19
Parked at point ❺ on Annex A Route 3 map (Links Road, North Beach car park) and walked to the viewpoint at the top of the cliff.	North Beach, Gunton	-
Parked at point ❻ on Annex A Route 3 map (guest parking, Corton Coastal Holiday Village) and walked to the viewpoint at the top of the cliff.	Corton Coastal Holiday Village	C
Parked at point ❼ on Annex A Route 3 map (Gas Works Road/ Ness Point car park)	Ness Point, Lowestoft	B



Location(s)	Relevant Observations	ES VP (where applicable)
and walked to the viewpoint on the sea wall.		
Parked at point 8 on Annex A Route 3 map (Claremont Pier car park) and walked along the town centre foreshore from south (Cliff Road) to north (Royal Green), returning to the starting point.	Claremont Pier, Lowestoft	1
Parked at point 9 on Annex A Route 3 map (Kessingland Beach car park) and walked through the village (Church Road) to the sea wall and across the re-vegetated shingle to the foreshore.	Kessingland beach	2
Parked at point 10 on Annex A Route 3 map (Mill Lane) and followed Mill Lane on foot to the village and then a public right of way via part of Benacre National Nature Reserve to Covehithe Broad and the beach. On return, St Andrew's Church was viewed.	Covehithe beach	3

Seascapes Route 2 viewed the following:

- Southwold Pier
- Southwold
- Gun Hill
- Walberswick
- Dunwich
- Dunwich Heath & Beach

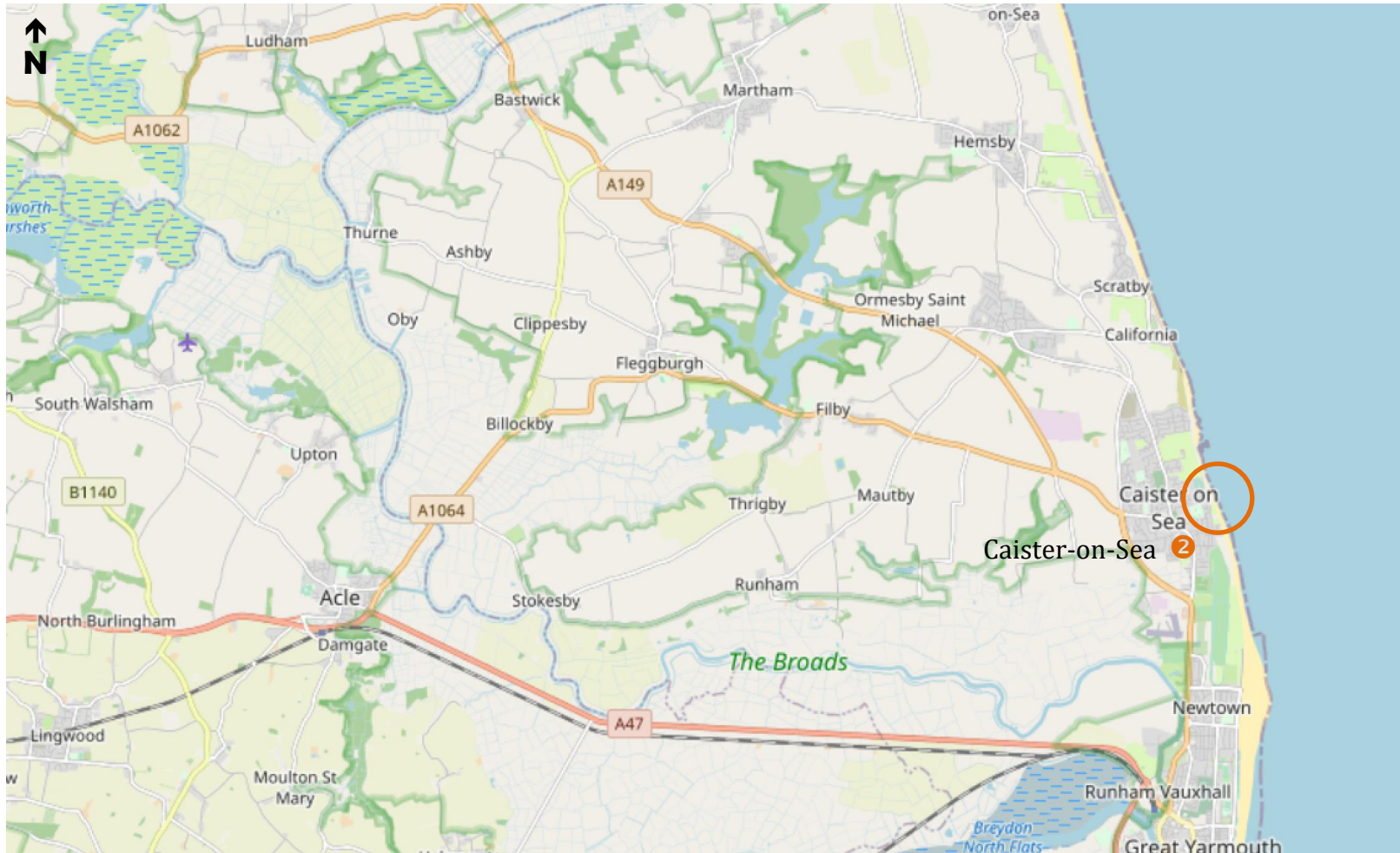
Location(s)	Relevant Observations	ES VP (where applicable)
Parked at point 6 on Annex A Route 2 map (Pier car park) and proceeded on foot southwards along the sea front at Southwold.	Southwold Pier car park	
Walked to the pier head 7 (Viewpoint D) before returning to the beach and then	Southwold Pier head	D



Location(s)	Relevant Observations	ES VP (where applicable)
following North Parade southwards along the cliff top.		
Reviewed Southwold centre ⑧ (Viewpoint 4) on North Parade.	Southwold centre	4
Walked southwards to St James' Green, the Promenade and then followed Primrose Alley to Gun Hill (Viewpoint 5) ⑨ before returning on foot via the town centre to Southwold Pier car park.	Gun Hill	5
Parked at point ⑥ on Annex A Route 2 map (Cliff Field car park), walked in a south easterly loop around beach.	Walberswick (return to location inspected in USI4)	6
Parked at point ⑤ on Annex A Route 2 map (Dunwich beach car park), walked to beach edge.	Dunwich (return to location inspected in USI4)	7
Parked at point ④ on Annex A Route 2 map (National Trust car park), walked south to beach edge and then northwards to cliff top.	Dunwich Heath & Beach (return to location inspected in USI4). Minsmere Nature Reserve was not inspected on this occasion.	8

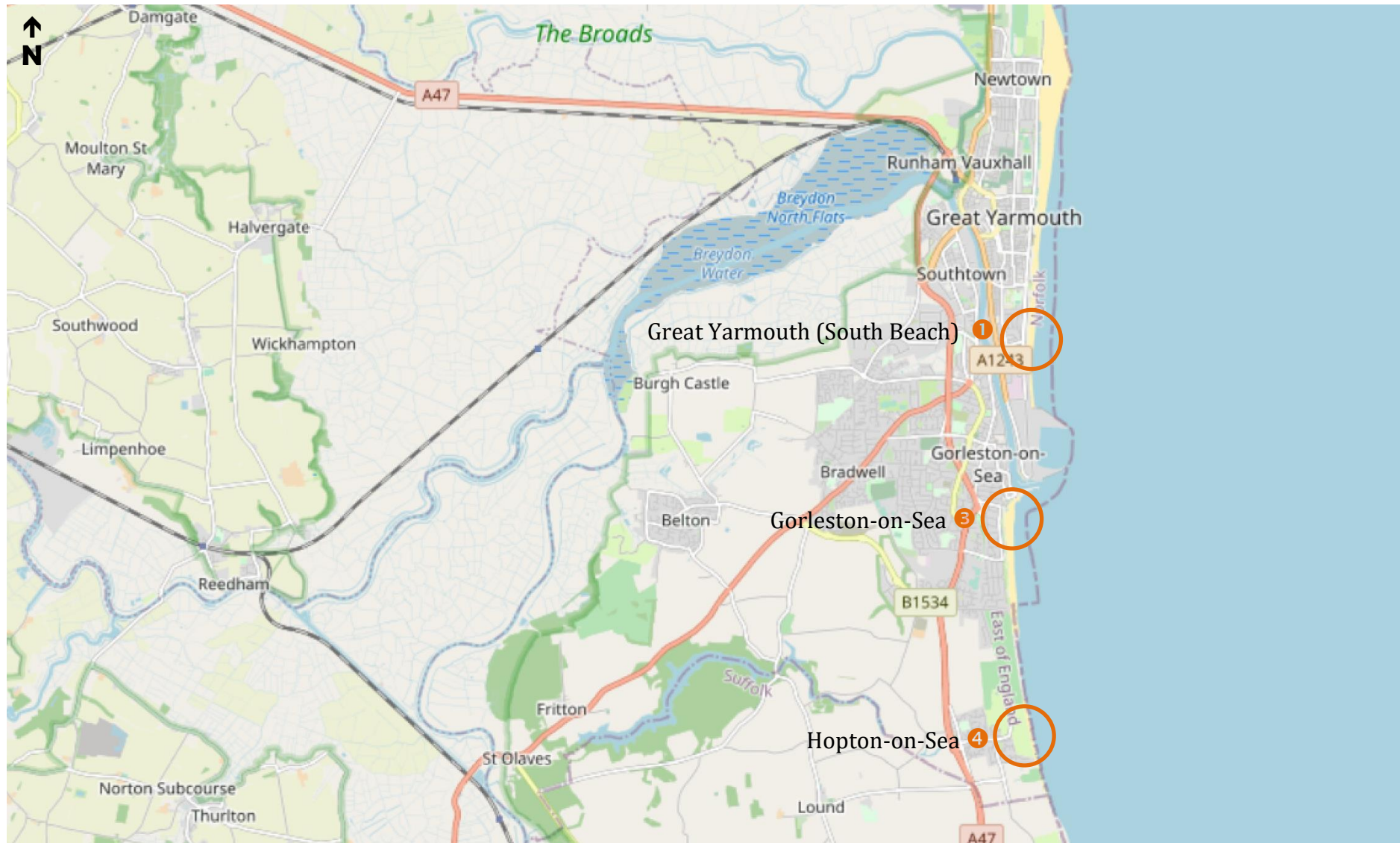


USI5
Key Plans (North to South)
Caister-on-Sea to Great Yarmouth



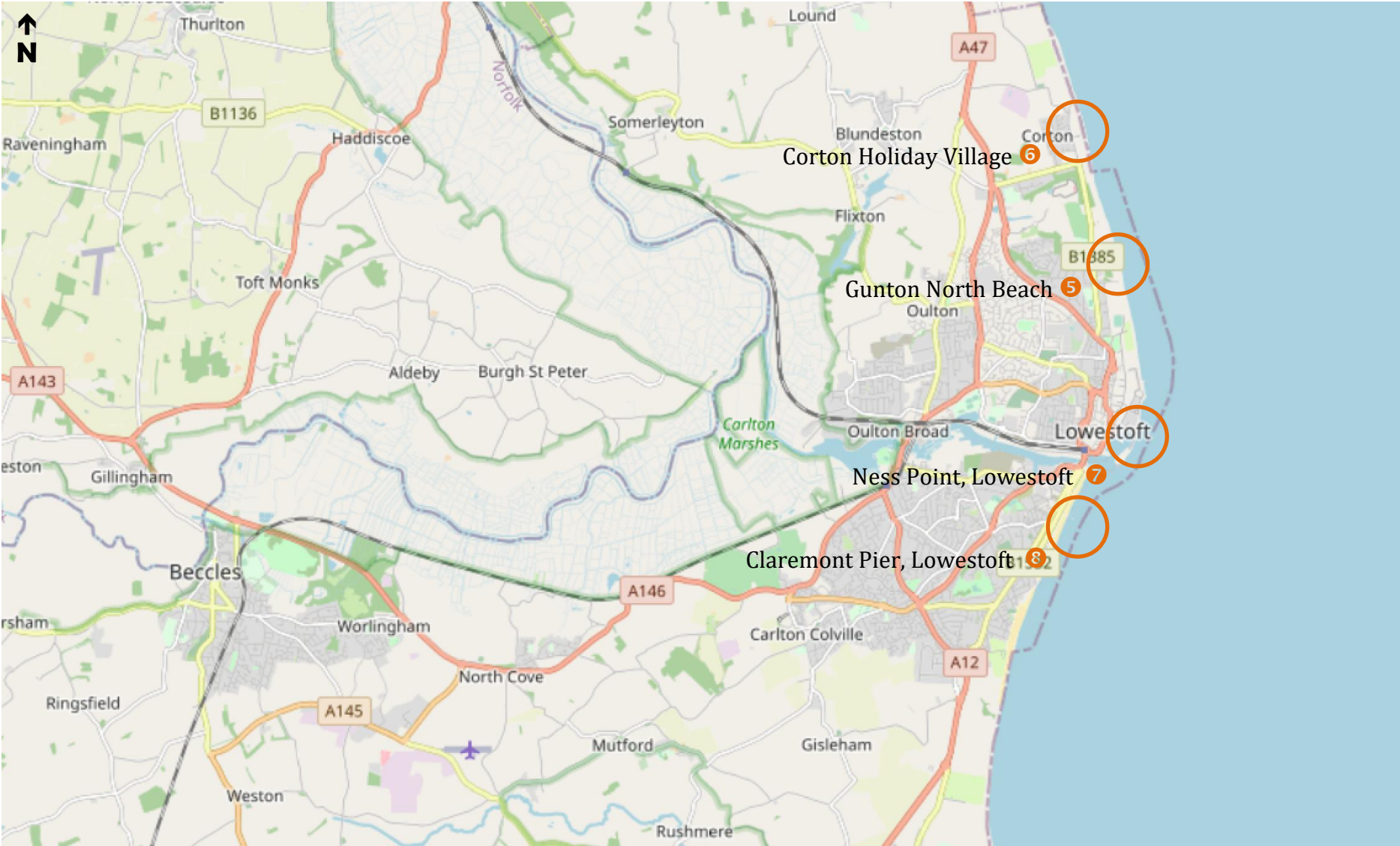


Great Yarmouth and Gorleston



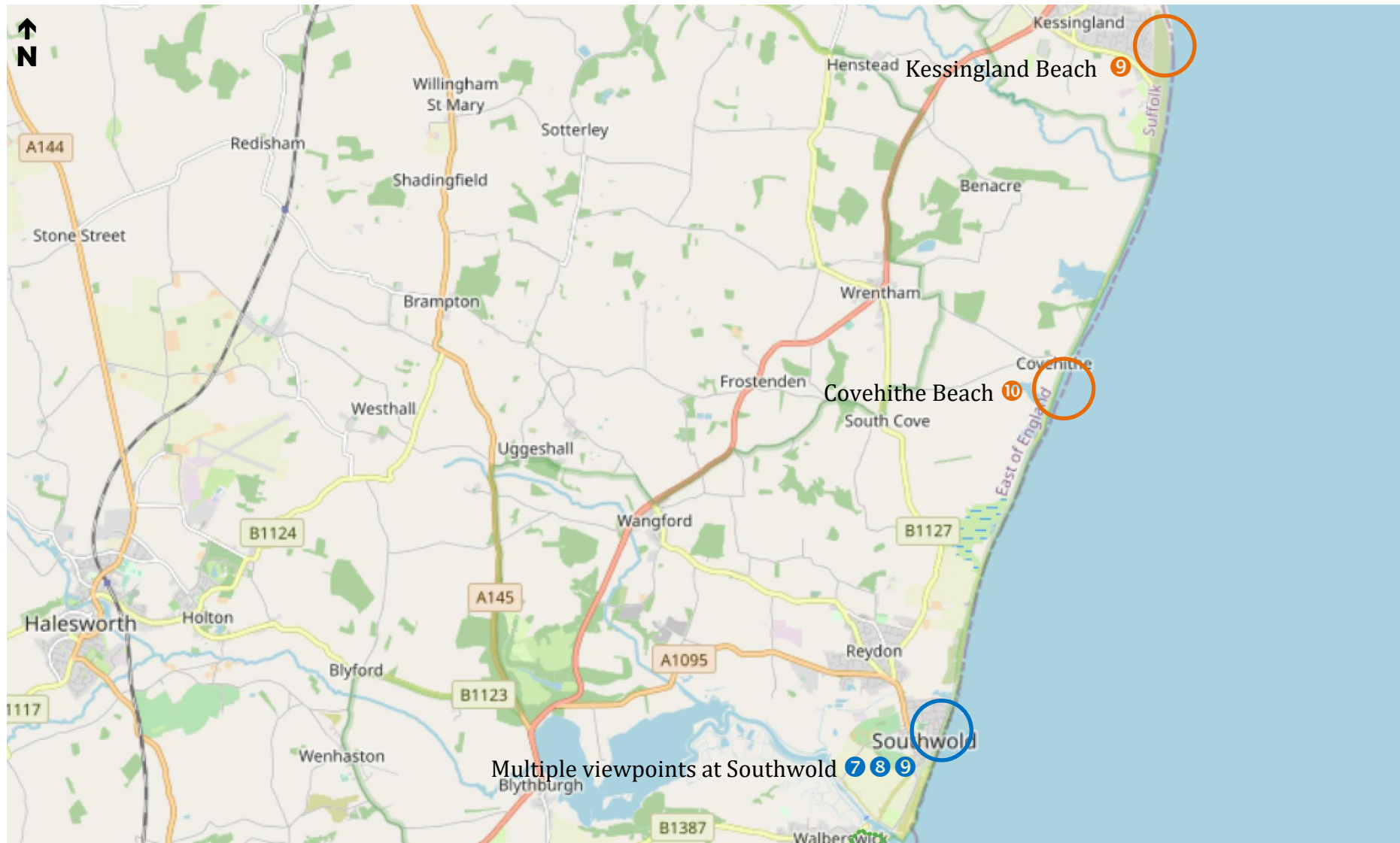


Lowestoft and District



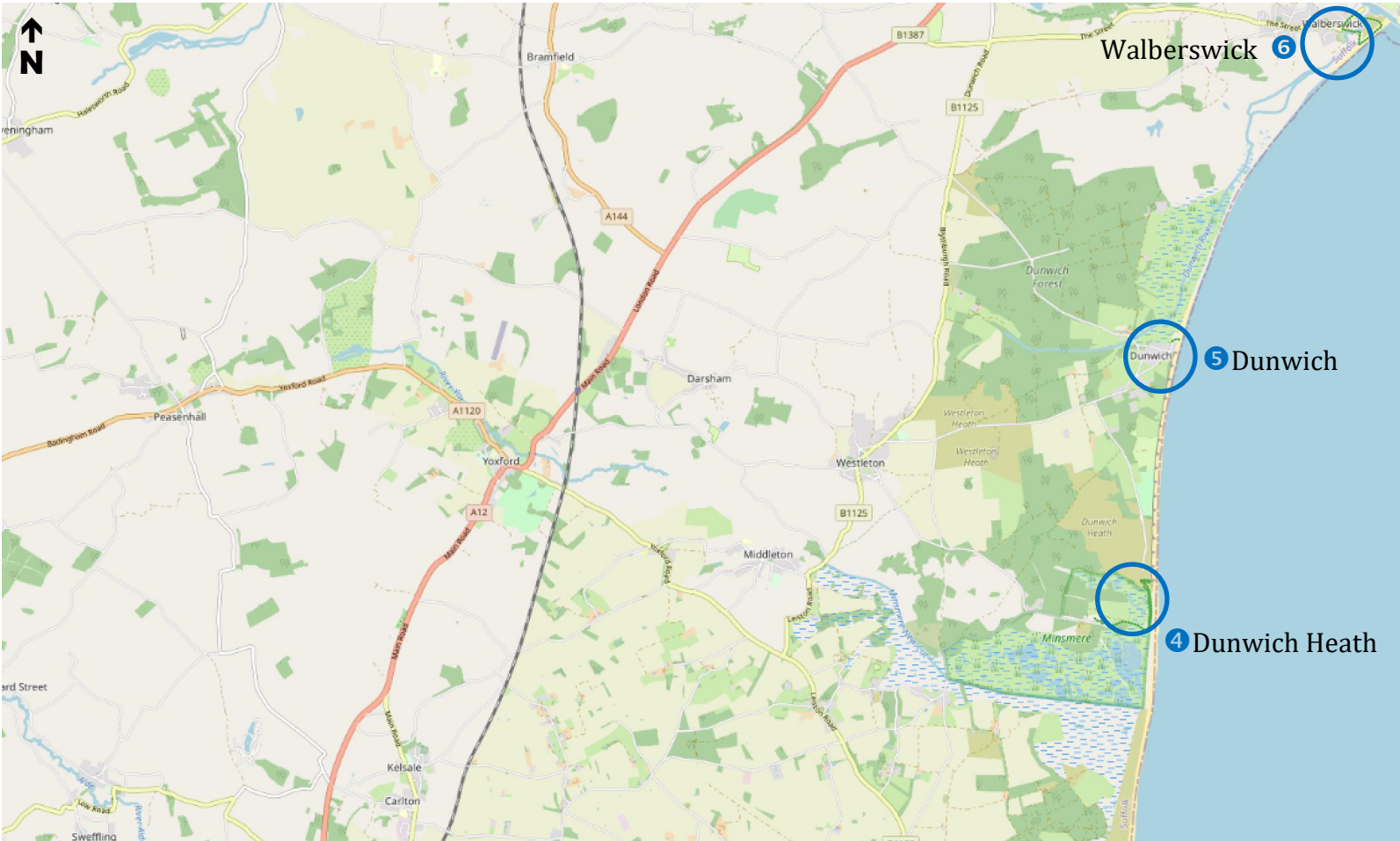


Kessingland to Walberswick









Walberswick to Sizewell



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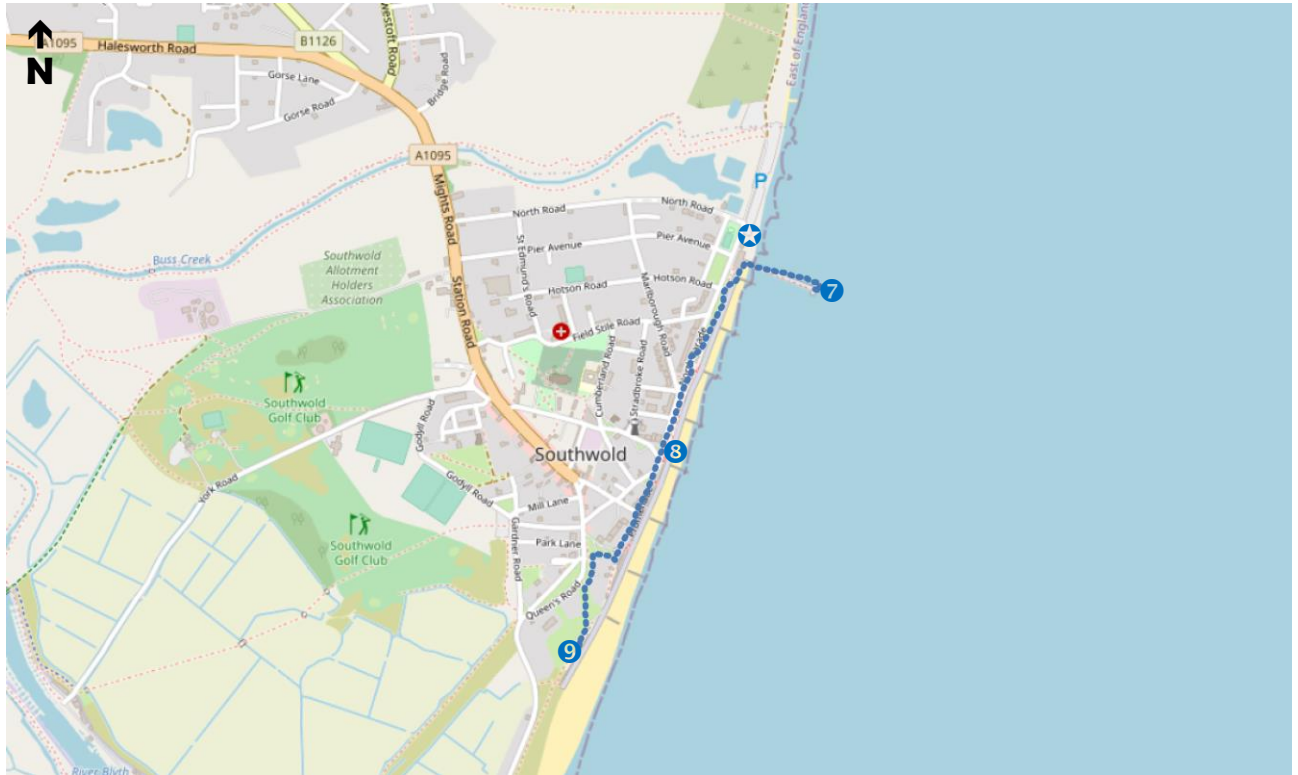
Key to Plan Notations

-   Walking routes taken by the ExAs during USI5
-  Seascapes Route 2 inspections locations
-  Seascapes Route 3 inspections locations

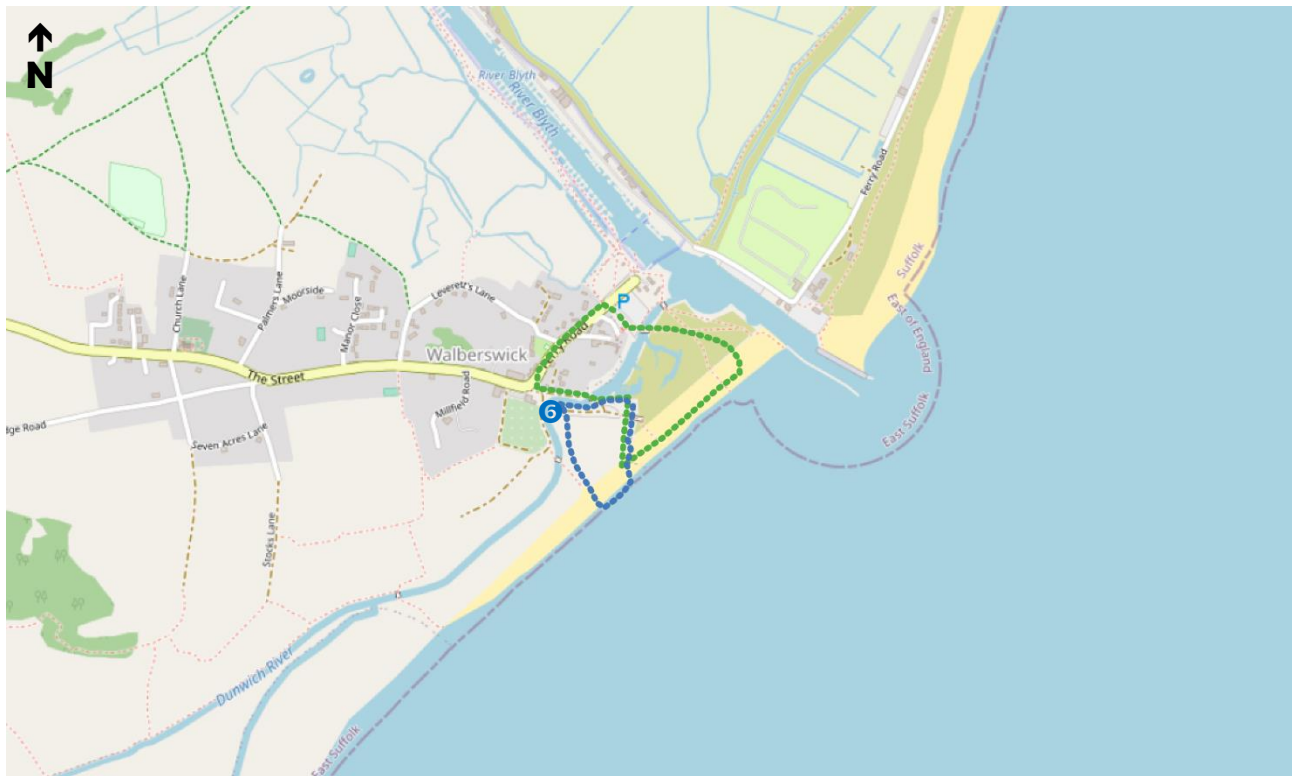


Seascapes Route 2³:

Southwold Viewpoints (Viewpoints D, 4, 5)



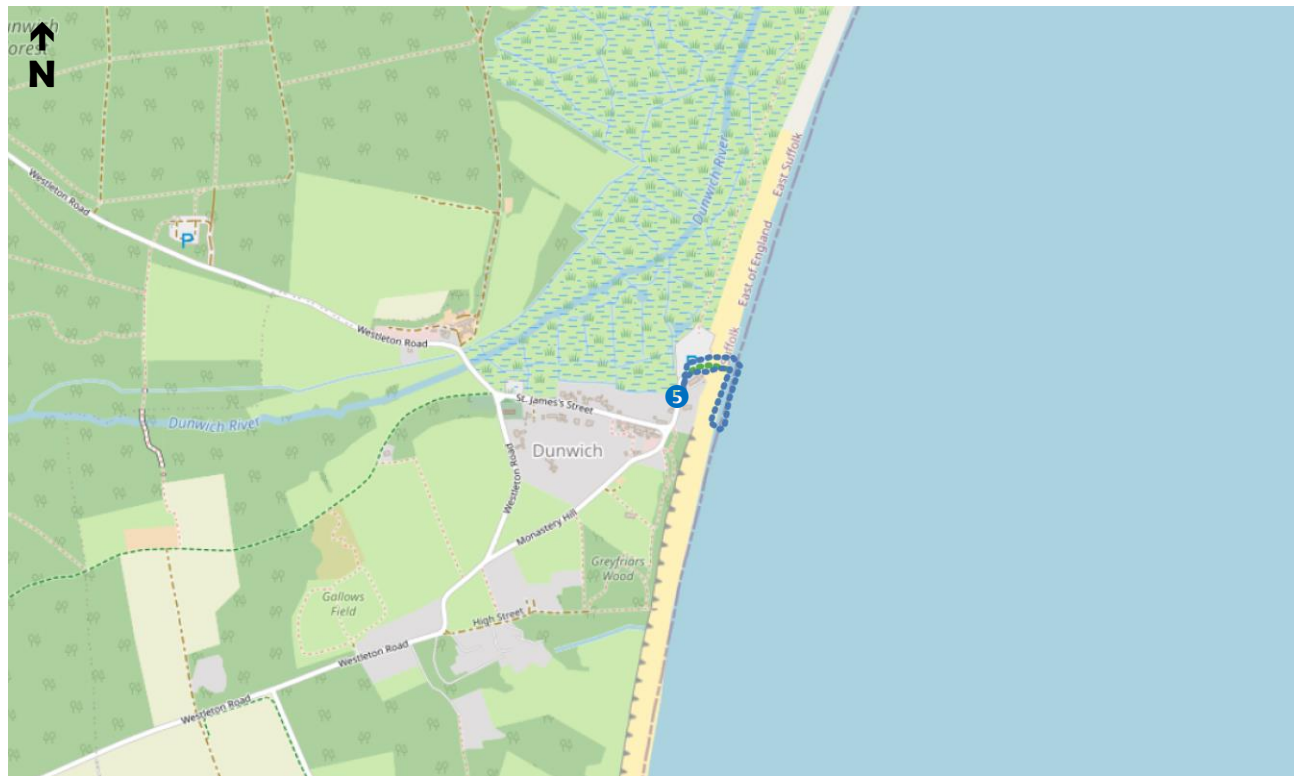
Walberswick (Viewpoint 6)



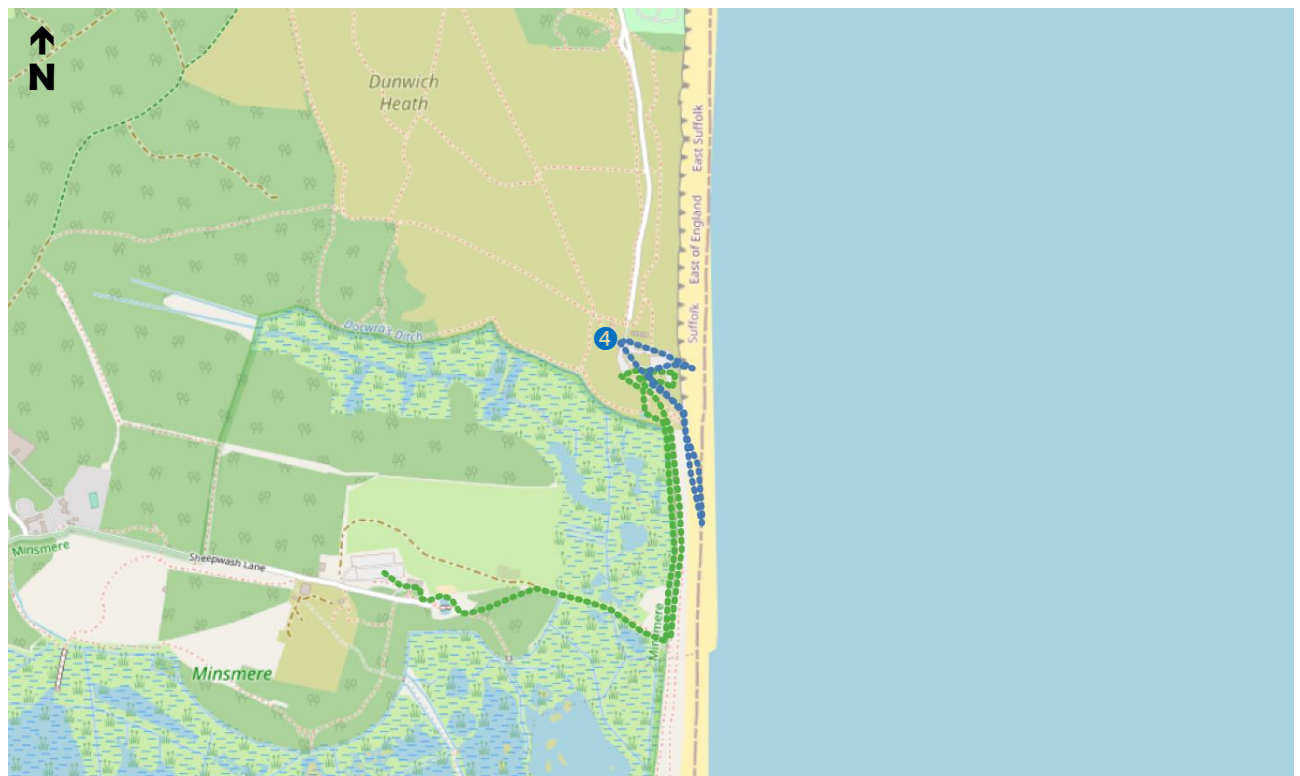
³ Where the same locations are inspected again, location numbers in this route are the same as for USI4.



Dunwich Beach (Viewpoint 7)



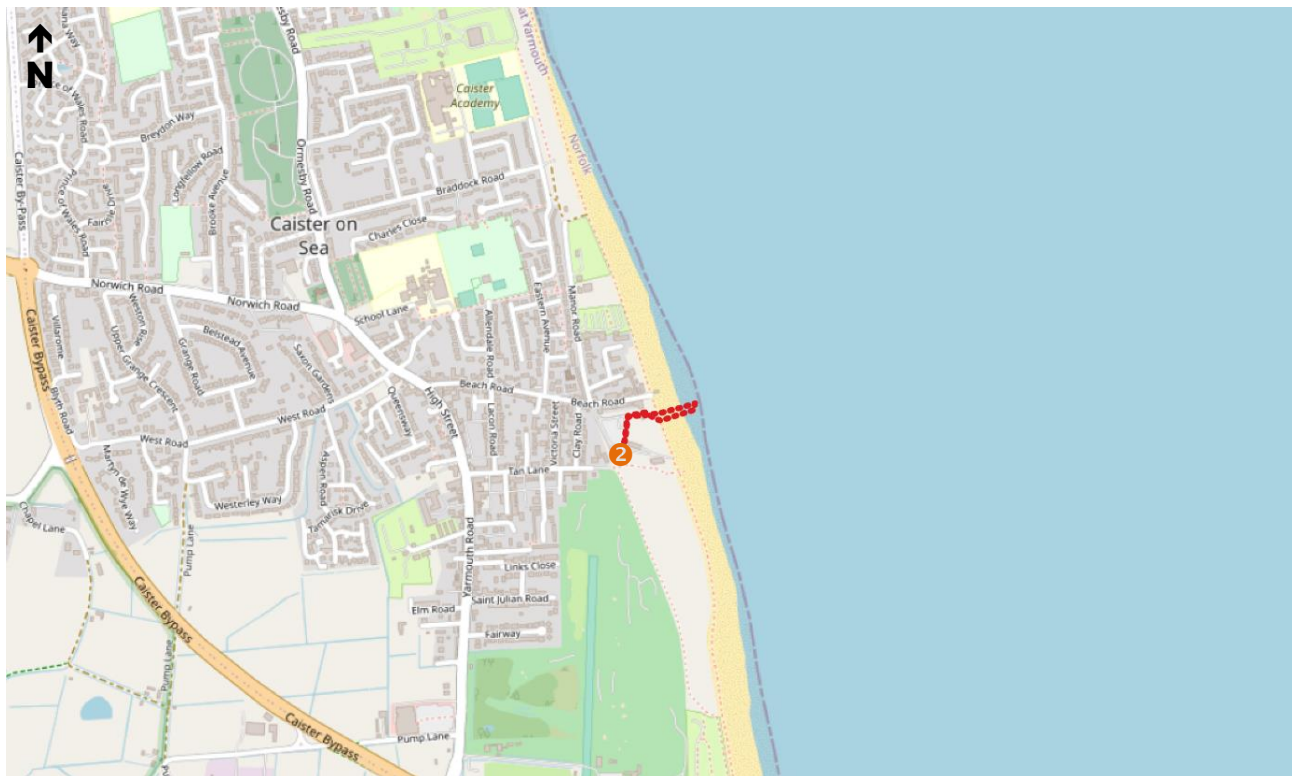
Dunwich Heath & Beach (Viewpoint 8)



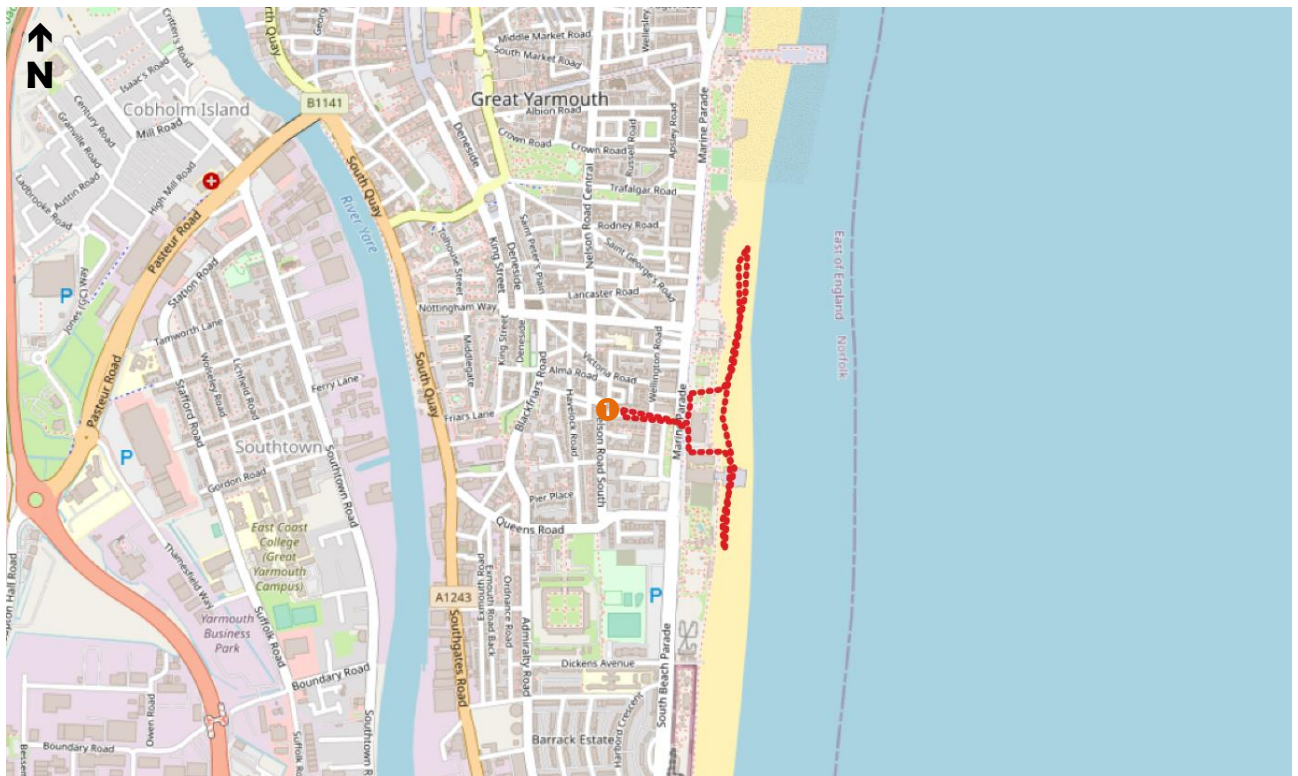
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Do not scale



Seascapes Route 3: Caister-on-Sea (Viewpoint 22)

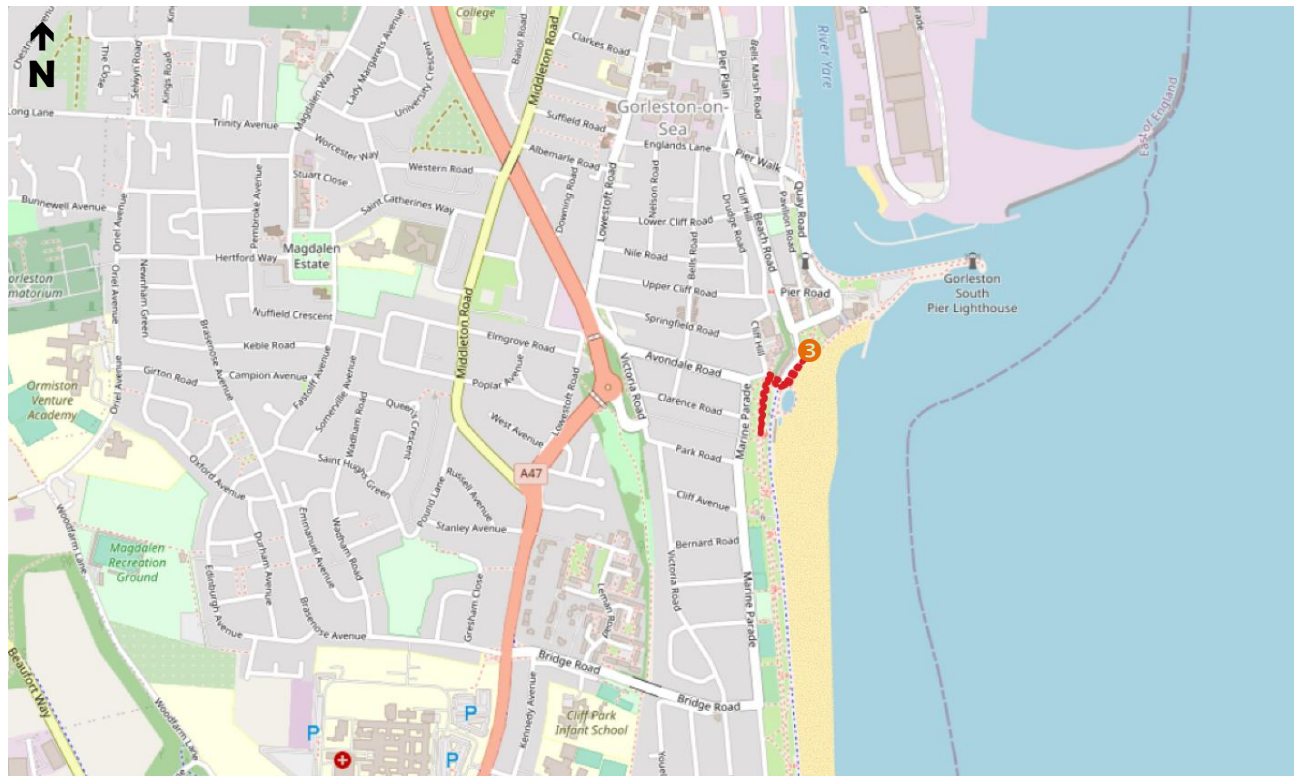


Great Yarmouth (South Beach) (Viewpoint 21)

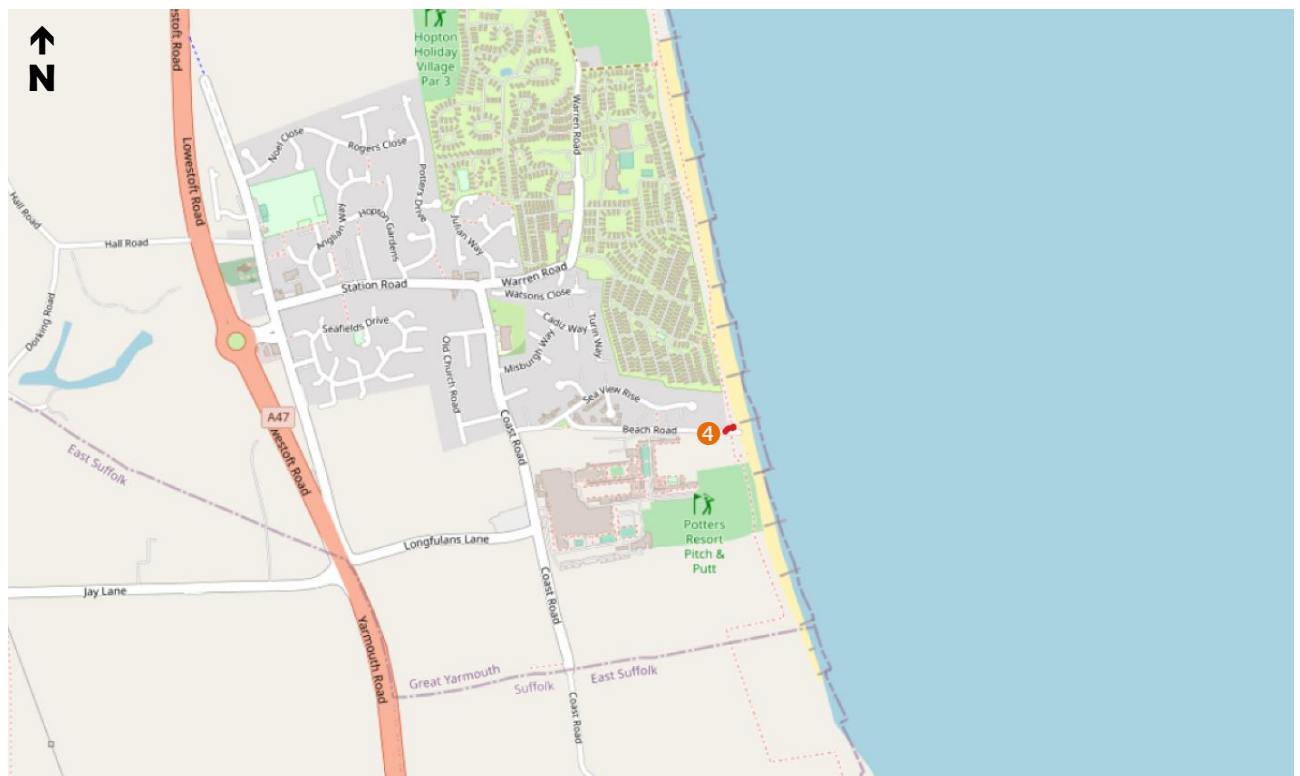




Gorleston-on-Sea (Viewpoint 20)

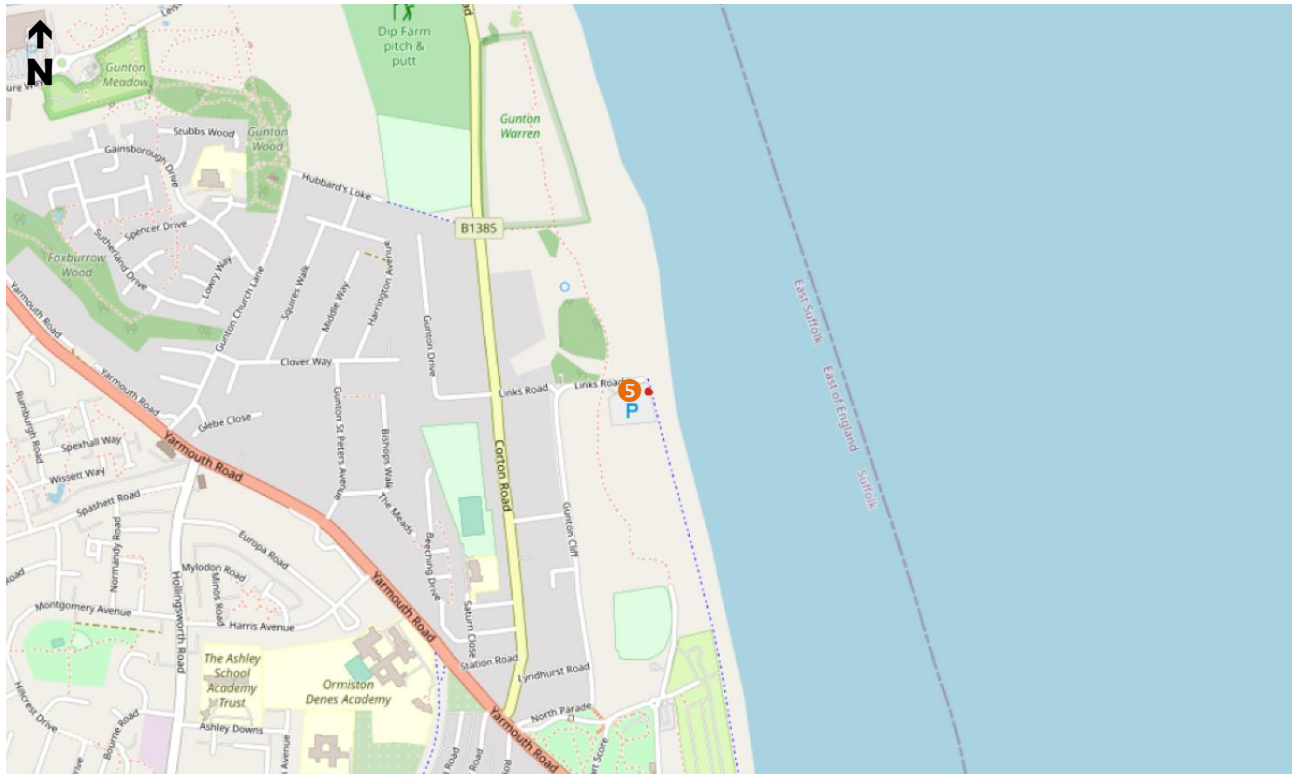


Hopton-on-Sea (Viewpoint 19)

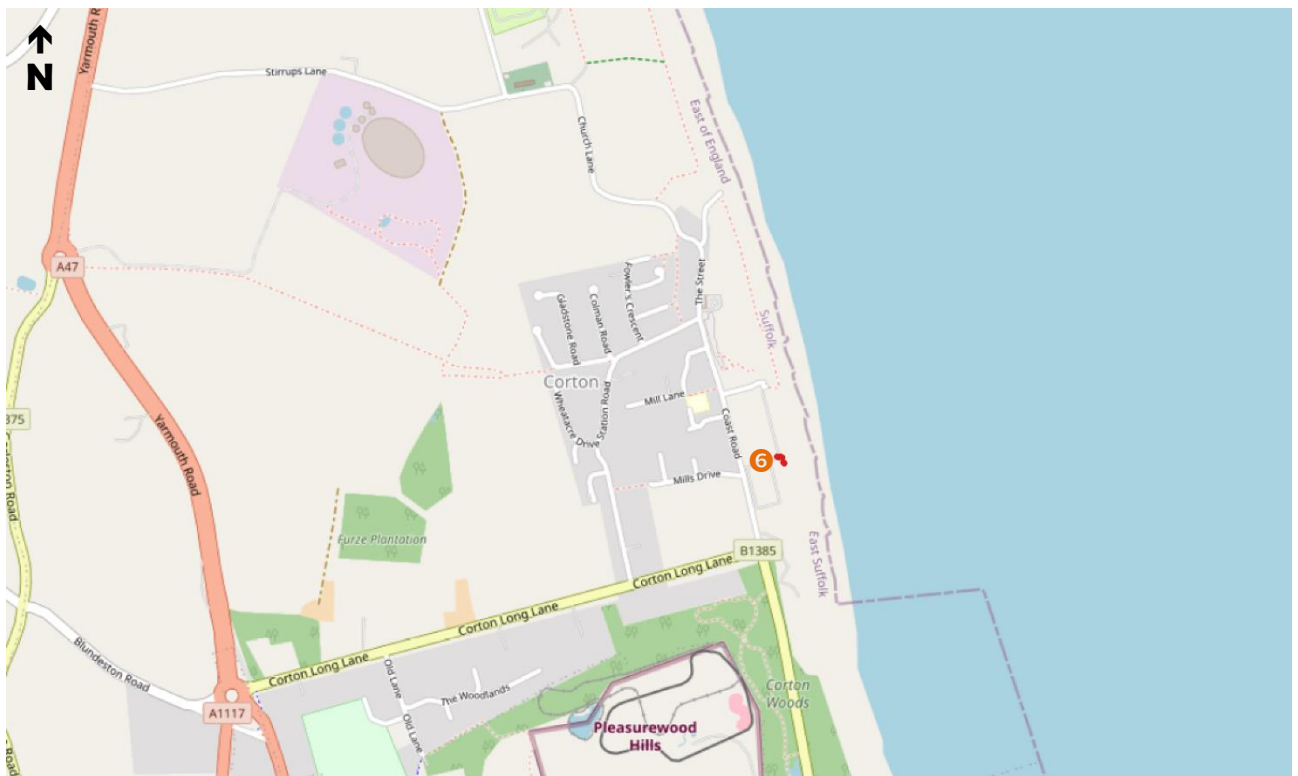




Gunton North Beach⁴



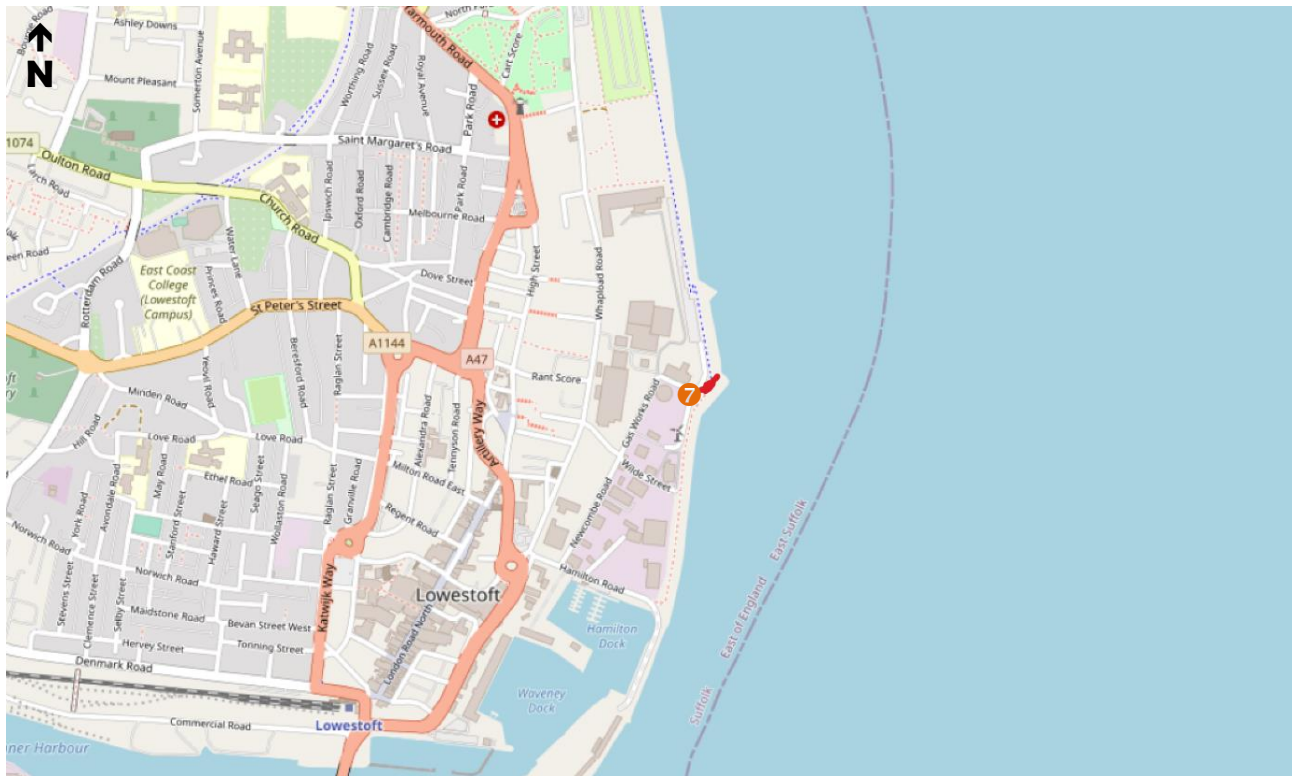
Corton Holiday Village (Viewpoint C)



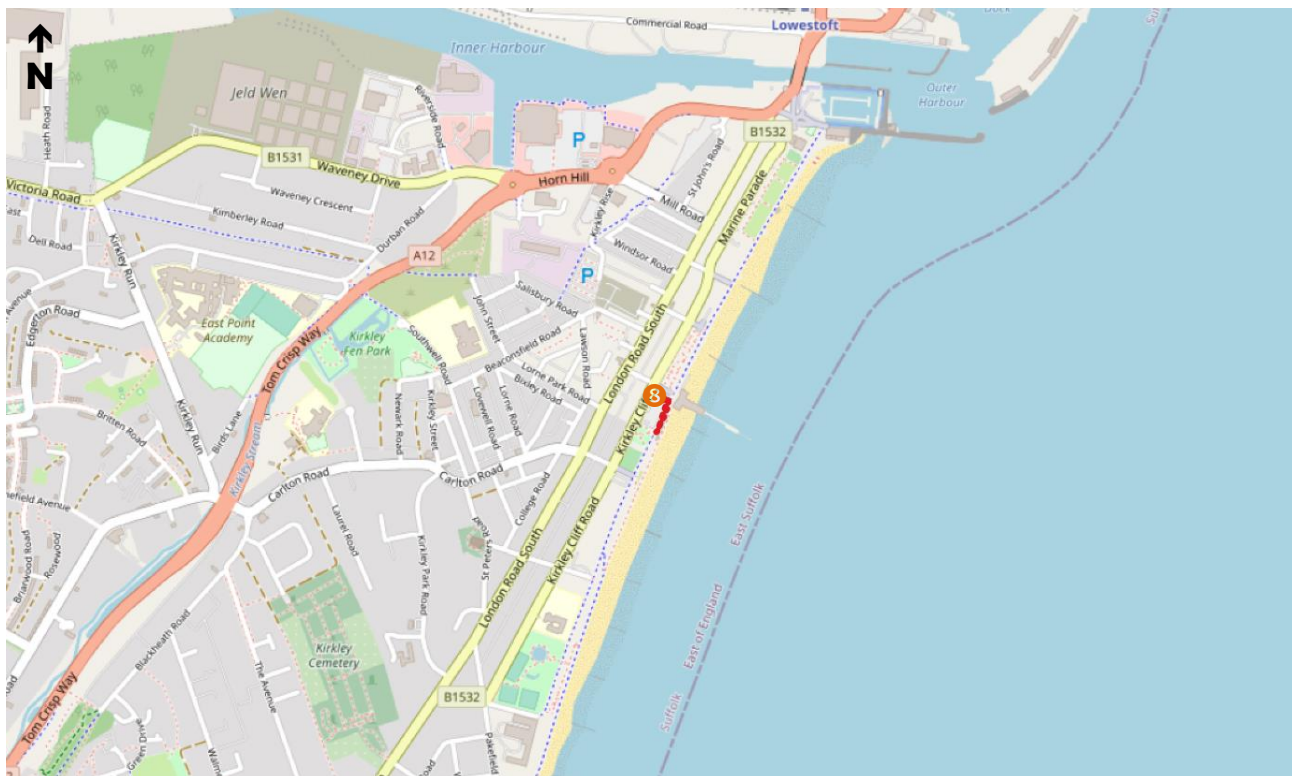
⁴ Gunton North Beach is not an ES Viewpoint.



Ness Point, Lowestoft (Viewpoint B)

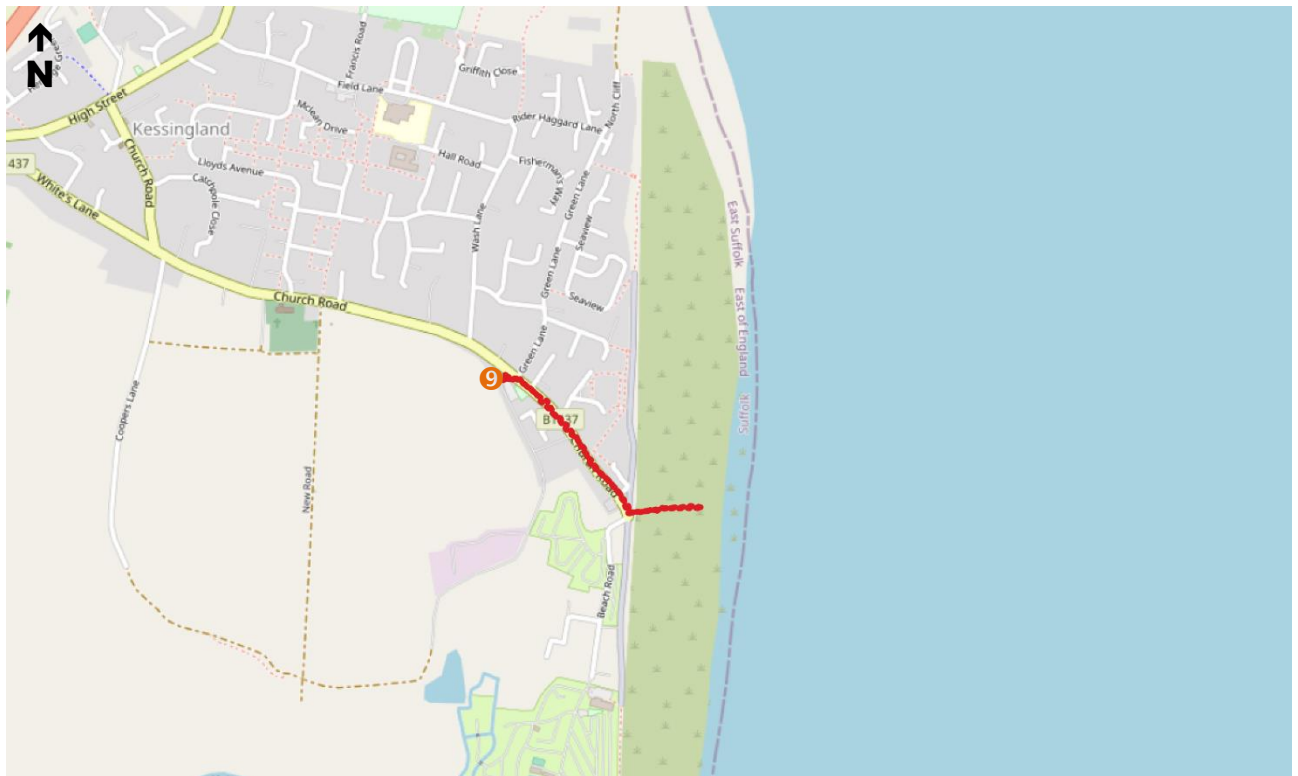


Claremont Pier, Lowestoft (Viewpoint 1)

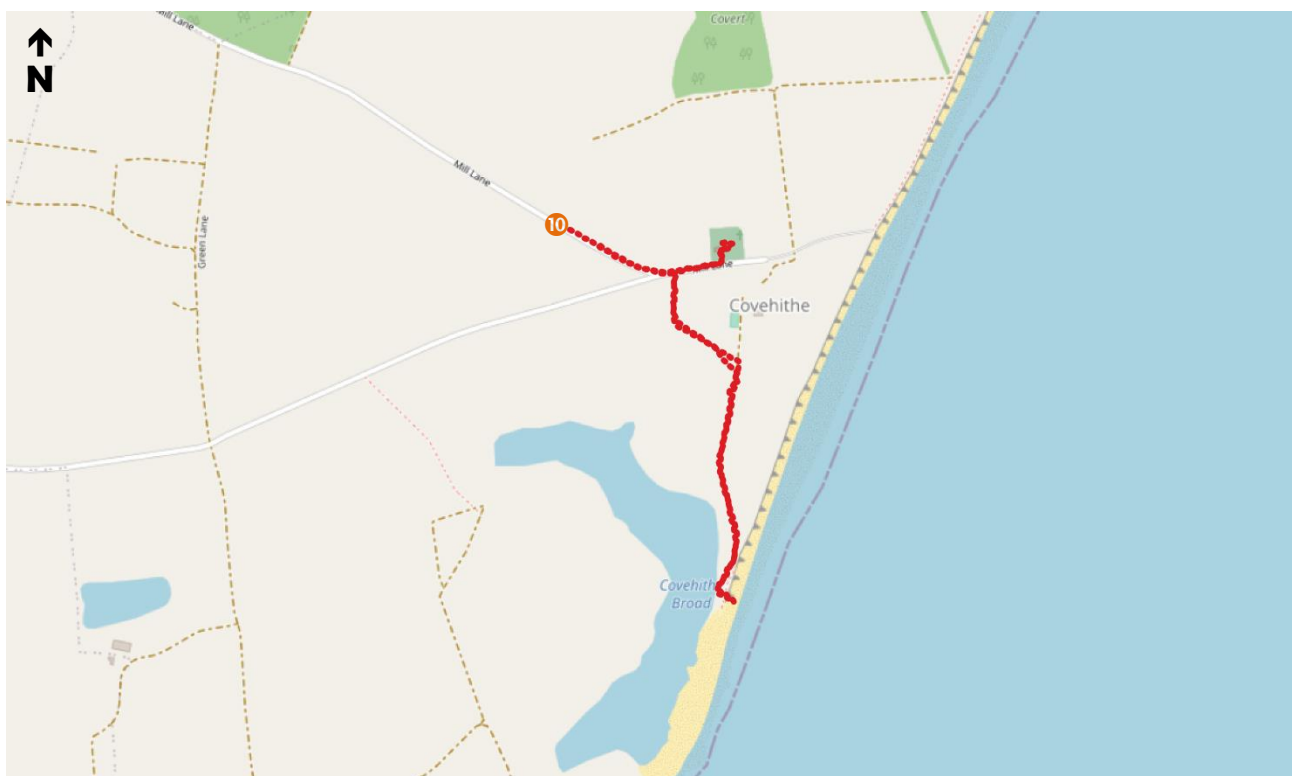




Kessingland Beach (Viewpoint 2)



Covehithe Beach (Viewpoint 3)



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