

## **Outline Public Rights of Way Management Strategy**

#### F03





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# **Glossary**

Term	Meaning
Local Authority	A body empowered by law to exercise various statutory functions for a particular area of the United Kingdom. This includes County Councils, District Councils and County Borough Councils.
Mona Offshore Wind Project	The Mona Offshore Wind Project is comprised of both the generation assets and offshore and onshore transmission assets and associated activities.
Mona Onshore Development Area	The area in which the landfall, onshore cable corridor, onshore substation, mitigation areas, temporary construction facilities (such as access roads and construction compounds), and the connection to National Grid infrastructure will be located.

# **Acronyms**

Acronym	Description
MLWS	Mean Low Water Springs
DCO	Development Consent Order
PRoW	Public Right of Way

## **Units**

Unit	Description
m	metres

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#### 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1.1 This Outline Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Management Strategy sets out the key management measures that will be implemented during the construction phase of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.
- 1.1.1.2 This Outline PRoW Management Strategy seeks to manage potential impacts that occur from the construction of the onshore and intertidal elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These elements occur landward of Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS) and comprise:
  - Mona Landfall
  - Onshore Cable Corridor
  - Onshore Substation
  - 400kV Grid Connection Cable Corridor.
- 1.1.1.3 In addition to these elements, the Outline PRoW Management Strategy also considers the temporary construction compounds, storage areas and accesses required to support the construction of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.
- 1.1.1.4 The onshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project will be constructed within the local authority areas of Conwy County Borough Council and Denbighshire County Council.

## 1.2 Purpose of the Outline PRoW Management Strategy

- 1.2.1.1 The draft Development Consent Order (DCO) (Document Reference C1) includes a requirement for the preparation of a final CoCP. The final CoCP will be supported by a series of management plans including an Outline PRoW Management Plan (Document Reference J26.17), which must be submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority prior to the commencement of onshore works.
- 1.2.1.2 The purpose of this Outline PRoW Management Strategy is to set out the approach to managing impacts on PRoW during construction of the Mona Offshore Wind Project to reduce disruption to users (as far as possible).
- 1.2.1.3 PRoW include footpaths, bridleways and other promoted routes, such as National Cycle Routes and Long Distance Footpaths, which have been formally designated by the relevant Local Authorities.
- 1.2.1.4 This is an outline document based on the design set out in Volume 1, Chapter 3: Project Description of the Environmental Statement (Documents reference F1.3) and includes measures that have been identified as part of the EIA process.
- 1.2.1.5 This Outline PRoW Management Strategy forms part of the wider Outline Code of Construction Practice (Document Reference: J26). Therefore, this Outline PRoW Management Strategy should be read in conjunction with the Outline Code of Construction Practice (Document reference: J.26) and its supporting appendices. In addition, the following documents provide further information regarding PRoW:
  - Volume 3, Chapter 7: Land use and recreation of the Environmental Statement



 Volume 7, Annex 7.3: Published recreational resources plan technical report of the Environmental Statement.

## 1.3 Scope of this Outline PRoW Management Strategy

- 1.3.1.1 The scope of this Outline PRoW Management Strategy applies to onshore site preparation works and construction activities associated with the Mona Offshore Wind Project, landward of MLWS. The Strategy does not apply to activities associated with offshore works, (i.e. seaward of MLWS).
- 1.3.1.2 Onshore site preparation works will be undertaken prior to the commencement of construction. These works will be undertaken in line with this Outline PRoW Management Strategy, as certified through the DCO. The final PRoW Strategy will be in accordance with the principles established in the Outline PRoW Strategy and will be agreed with the relevant authority prior to commencing construction of the relevant stage of the onshore and intertidal works (above MLWS). For the purpose of this Plan, the term 'construction' includes all related engineering, construction and restoration activities as authorised by the DCO within the Order Limits.

## 1.4 Roles and Responsibilities

- 1.4.1.1 Although the construction team has not been appointed at the time of writing this plan, the key roles and associated responsibilities with regard to this Outline PRoW Management Strategy are set out below. The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 also identify the legal duties, responsibilities and obligations of all the major roles within the construction team.
- 1.4.1.2 The responsibilities of each role will be refined in the detailed PRoW Management Strategy.

#### **Applicant**

- 1.4.1.3 The Applicant will be responsible for the following:
  - Ensuring that the PRoW Management Strategy is implemented effectively
  - Giving necessary direction to contractors (for example, setting contractual obligations)
  - Reviewing, revising and refining the PRoW Management Strategy (where necessary) in conjunction with the Principal Contractor.

## **Principal Contractor**

- 1.4.1.4 The Principal Contractor will be appointed by the Applicant and has the overall responsibility for:
  - Updating and delivering the detailed PRoW Management Strategy on behalf of the Applicant
  - Ensuring all procedures in this Outline PRoW Management Strategy are followed
  - Ensuring all contractors are suitably qualified and experienced in implementing the measures within this Outline PRoW Management Strategy.



- Ensuring that all legal and contractual requirements relating to this Outline PRoW
  Management Strategy are met by ensuring adequate plans/procedures are in
  place, and that they can be achieved
- Establish procedures for the regular review and recording of the quality of the works as part of its Quality Management System
- Maintain records relevant to this Outline PRoW Management Strategy.

#### Contractors/Sub contractors

1.4.1.5 Contractors and sub-contractors will be required to understand their responsibilities and implement the measures within the Outline PRoW Management Strategy.

#### **Training**

- 1.4.1.6 The Applicant will ensure that all Principal Contractors and subcontractors are made aware of the detailed PRoW Management Strategy and their responsibilities. Training will be provided to ensure that all relevant members of the onshore construction teams, including sub contractors' personnel, receive focused PRoW Management Strategy training to ensure their competence in carrying out their duties.
- 1.4.1.7 Any training related to the detailed PRoW Management Strategy will be additional to the mandatory training requirements on site Health and Safety.

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#### 2 METHODOLOGY

## 2.1 PRoW and public access rights

- 2.1.1.1 The PRoW and access routes considered within this Outline PRoW Management Strategy are defined as one of the following:
  - Footpath: being a highway over which the public have a right of way on foot only and which is not a footway
  - **Bridleway**: being a highway over which the public have a right of way on foot and on horseback or leading a horse and by pedal cycle
- 2.1.1.2 In addition to the PRoW network, this Outline PRoW Management Strategy recognises that other routes (e.g. National Cycle Routes, Long Distance Footpaths) with public access provide additional recreational routes that may be used by all types of users, including walkers, cyclists and horse-riders.
- 2.1.1.3 Plans showing the location and geographic extent of the affected PRoW, including managed crossings and proposed indicative temporary diversions are provided in Appendix A of this Outline PRoW Management Strategy.

#### 2.2 Affected PRoW

- 2.2.1.1 Definitive PRoW mapping data indicates that a total of 16 PRoW intersect the Mona Onshore Development Area. Of these PRoW, 11 were located within the Local Authority Area of Conwy County Borough Council and five were located within the Local Authority Area of Denbighshire County Council.
- 2.2.1.2 PRoW mapping data within the Mona Onshore Development Area has been taken from Denbighshire County Council and Conwy County Borough Council websites and is considered as a definitive record of PRoW.
- 2.2.1.3 The location of PRoW and other routes with public access has been verified through consultation with PRoW officers from Denbighshire County Council and Conwy County Borough Council and site visits undertaken in 2022 and 2023.

#### 2.3 Consultation

- 2.3.1.1 The Applicant sought agreement regarding the proposed management of affected PRoW with PRoW Officers from Denbighshire County Council and Conwy County Borough Council via an Expert Working Group meeting held in October 2023. However, only PRoW Officers from Denbighshire County Council were available to attend. The PRoW Officer from Denbighshire County Council raised no objections to the proposed management of affected PRoW within the local authority area of Denbighshire County Council.
- 2.3.1.2 A draft version of the Outline PRoW Management Strategy was subsequently shared with PRoW Officers from Denbighshire County Council and Conwy County Borough Council in December 2023. This was to provide an opportunity for PRoW Officers to review the management proposals and provide feedback where required. However, no response has been received with respect to the Draft Outline PRoW Management Strategy prior to submission of the DCO application for the Mona Offshore Wind Project.



## 3 LOCATION OF PROW

## 3.1 PRoW locations and descriptions

3.1.1.1 The PRoWs located within the Mona Onshore Development Area, including the relevant Local Authority Area, reference number and type are provided in Table 3.1 below. The location and geographic extent of PRoW within and surrounding the Mona Onshore Development Area is presented in Appendix A of Outline PRoW Management Strategy.

Table 3.1: PRoW located within the Mona Onshore Development Area.

Local Authority Area	Reference Number	Length within Mona Onshore Development Area (m)	Туре	
Conwy County Borough	Wales Coastal Path	1837.00	Long Distance Footpath	
Council	NCR 5	1837.00	National Cycle Route 5	
	Llanddulas & Rhyd y Foel 14	92.16	Footpath	
	Betws yn Rhos 43	81.09	_	
	Betws yn Rhos 44	116.19		
	Betws yn Rhos 48	105.05		
	Llanfair TH 12	92.89		
	Llanfair TH 15	102.99		
	Llanfair TH 16	102.72	Bridleway	
	Llanfair TH 19	113.41		
Denbighshire County	DE/105/99	101.95	Footpath	
Council	DE/105/5	496.00		
	DE/105/6	116.98	_	
	DE 208/32	48.15	Bridleway	
	DE/105/3	21.21		



#### 4 MANAGEMENT MEASURES

## 4.1 Overarching management principles

4.1.1.1 The aim of the Outline PRoW Management Strategy is to seek to retain access within the existing PRoW for the public during construction of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. However, where this has not been possible, proposed indicative temporary diversions have been identified as part of this Outline PRoW Management Strategy.

## 4.2 Signage and information during construction

- 4.2.1.1 At all points where PRoWs intersect or cross the Mona Onshore Development Area, appropriate signage (in English and Welsh) would be erected by the contractor on behalf of Mona Offshore Wind Project to advise of planned works and dates of any planned PRoW closures. Signage would also provide information on any alternative routes/diversions. The location and details of these signs would be discussed and agreed with the relevant Local Authorities as part of the detailed PRoW Management Strategy (post-consent). A period of at least seven days' notice of any PRoW temporary closure would be provided by the contractor to the relevant Local Authorities, and if relevant, land agents and/or persons with interest in land. Similarly a separate notification would be provided when the temporary closure/diversion has ended.
- 4.2.1.2 In addition to the procedures set out above, the following measures would be agreed with the relevant Local Authorities as part of the detailed PRoW Management Strategy: press release in advance of temporary closures; location and timing of site notices; provision of an appropriate map of alternative routes/diversions; and the mechanism through which the contractor would confirm the routes/diversions are fit for public use.

## 4.3 Safety fencing

4.3.1.1 Where necessary, suitable fencing would be erected by the contractor to form safe corridors for users of the PRoW, especially where it is proposed to retain access in areas through or adjacent to works associated with the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The type and size of fencing would be agreed with individual landowners (where appropriate) and relevant Local Authorities prior to the start of construction. The type and size of fencing would be specified within the detailed PRoW Management Strategy (post-consent). The fencing would be inspected regularly to ensure that all fencing and signage along the affected PRoW remain in place and that the condition of the PRoW is suitable for its intended use.

## 4.4 Implementation of managed crossings.

4.4.1.1 For most of the PRoW that intersect the Mona Onshore Development Area, it is proposed that these would remain open with appropriate signage to warn of the presence of construction vehicles, and to warn drivers of the presence of walkers, cyclists and horse riders. These managed crossings of PRoW would be fenced off with gated crossing points and Heras type fencing to prevent the public from accessing the easement. Where there is a specific requirement to maintain the access, a suitable route will be clearly marked out to aid safe passage. Where such crossings are installed, a gap would be left in the topsoil bunds after the topsoil has been stripped within the cable corridor.



4.4.1.2 A diagram illustrating how a managed crossing of a PRoW would typically be implemented as part of this Outline PRoW Management Strategy is presented in Figure 4.1 below. An example of the fencing, signage and access to managed crossings is presented in Figure 4.2 below. However, specific management for each affected PRoW would be developed as part of the detailed PRoW Management Strategy and implementation plans.

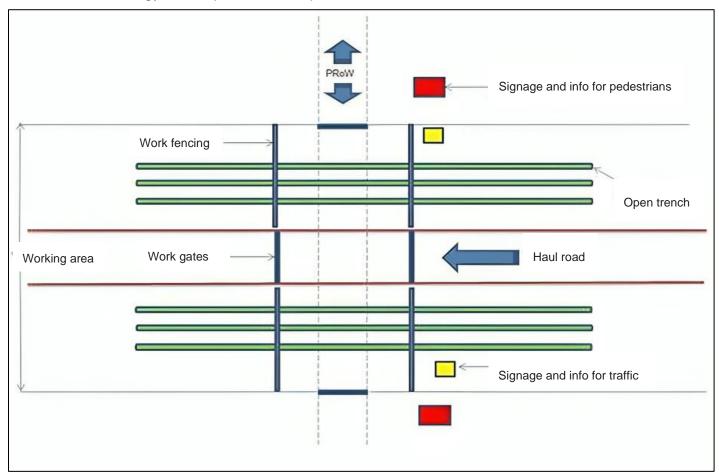


Figure 4.1: Illustrative diagram of a managed crossing of a PRoW.





Figure 4.2: Example of managed crossing of a PRoW.

4.4.1.3 Depending on the nature of works required, managed crossings of PRoW may need to be manned by a banksman during construction of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. However, the requirement for banksman to be present at managed crossings would be determined as part of the detailed PRoW Management Strategy and agreed with the relevant Local Authorities.

## 4.5 Indicative proposed temporary diversion

- 4.5.1.1 Of the PRoW located within the Mona Onshore Development Area (as identified in Table 3.1 above), only the footpath DE/105/5, which is located within the Local Authority Area of Denbighshire County Council, would require temporary stopping up and diversion during construction of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The duration of the temporary diversion would be as short as possible but could be required throughout the construction period of Onshore Cable Corridor (33 months).
- 4.5.1.2 This is because the footpath DE/105/5 coincides with an extended length of the Onshore Cable Corridor, whereby management measures (e.g. manged crossing) during construction of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would not be feasible.
- 4.5.1.3 A diagram illustrating how a temporary diversion of a PRoW would typically be implemented as part of the Outline PRoW Management Strategy for the Mona Offshore Wind Project is presented in Figure 4.3 below.
- 4.5.1.4 The proposed indicative temporary diversion route of footpath DE/105/5 is identified in Sheet 9 of Appendix A of this Outline PRoW Management Strategy. This indicative temporary diversion has been proposed as it provides a suitable alternative route and would maintain access the remainder of footpath DE/105/5 and the wider PRoW network.



4.5.1.5 The proposed indicative temporary diversion of footpath DE/105/5 would require walkers to travel an additional distance of approximately 376 m (original footpath measured approximately 496 m). However, this remains indicative, and the temporary diversion of footpath DE/105/5 would be developed via the detailed PRoW Management Strategy to be agreed with Denbighshire County Council.

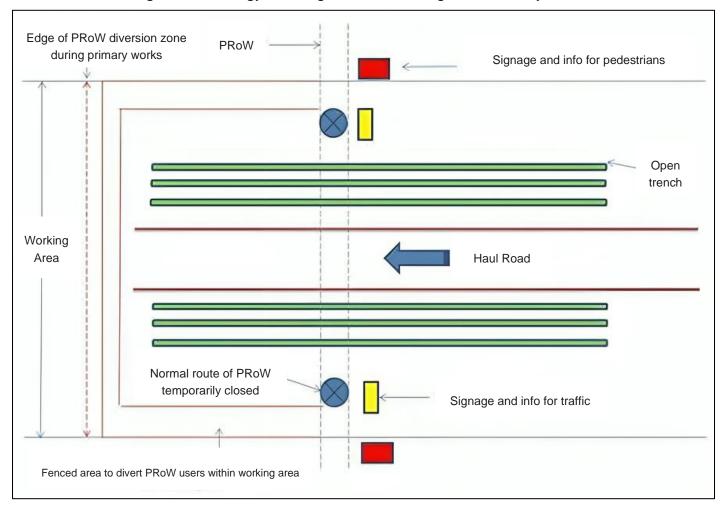


Figure 4.3: Illustrative diagram of a temporary diversion of a PRoW.



## 4.6 Outline PRoW management measures

4.6.1.1 Table 4.1 below provides the outline management measures proposed for affected PRoW located within the Mona Onshore Development Area, including plan references for managed crossings and indicative proposed temporary diversion of footpath DE/105/5 identified in Appendix A of this Outline PRoW Management Strategy. In addition, Table 4.1 also identifies where no outline management measures of PRoW have been proposed due to the nature of construction works at that particular location within the Mona Onshore Development Area.

Table 4.1: Outline PRoW management measures

Local Authority Area	Reference number	Outline management measure	Plan reference number	Length within Mona Onshore Development Area (m)
Conwy County Borough Council	Wales Coastal Path (footpath)	No PRoW management measures required.	Appendix A (N/A)	1837.00
	National Cycle Route 5	Trenchless techniques will be used at this location to avoid requirements for the temporary stopping up of these PRoW.	Appendix A (N/A)	1837.00
	Llanddulas & Rhyd y Foel 14 Footpath	Managed Crossing	Appendix A (1a - 1b)	92.16
	Betws yn Rhos 43 Footpath	Managed Crossing	Appendix A (2a - 2b)	81.09
	Betws yn Rhos 44 Footpath	Managed Crossing	Appendix A (3a - 3b)	116.19
	Betws yn Rhos 48 Footpath	Managed Crossing	Appendix A (4a - 4b)	105.05
	Llanfair TH 12 Footpath	Managed Crossing	Appendix A (5a - 5b)	92.89
	Llanfair TH 15 Footpath	Managed Crossing	Appendix A (6a - 6b)	102.99
	Llanfair TH 16 Bridleway	Managed Crossing	Appendix A (7a - 7b)	102.72
	Llanfair TH 19 Bridleway	Managed Crossing	Appendix A (8a - 8b)	113.41
Denbighshire County Council	DE/105/99 Footpath	Managed crossing – if required as this footpath does not connect to other PRoW	Appendix A (9a - 9b)	101.95

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Local Authority Area	Reference number	Outline management measure	Plan reference number	Length within Mona Onshore Development Area (m)
	DE/105/5 Footpath	Indicative proposed temporary diversion	Appendix A (10a - 10b)	Without diversion: 496.00 With diversion: 871.91
	DE/105/6 Footpath	Managed Crossing	Appendix A (11a - 11b)	116.98
	DE 208/32 Bridleway	Managed Crossing – if required as this bridleway is currently inaccessible	Appendix A (12a - 12b)	48.15
	DE/105/3 Bridleway	No PRoW management measures required. Works at this location would not interact with or affect access to this PRoW.	Appendix A (N/A)	21.21

# 4.7 Regular Monitoring of managed crossings and temporary diversions.

4.7.1.1 Inspections of installed managed crossings and temporary diversions would be undertaken on a regular basis, with any required remedial measures to be carried out to address issues with fencing, gates, signage, or ground conditions. During construction of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, there would be a nominated contact identified on signs located at points along affected PRoW, who can be contacted to report any concerns regarding the condition or function of the PRoW network.

#### 4.8 Reinstatement

4.8.1.1 Surfaces directly affected during construction of the Mona Offshore Wind Project and temporary diversion routes would be reinstated to a suitable condition post construction in accordance with the detailed PRoW Management Strategy (post-consent).



# Appendix A: Location of outline PRoW management

