

P2KLR access plan & trail

An overview for participating farmers and landowners

February 2025

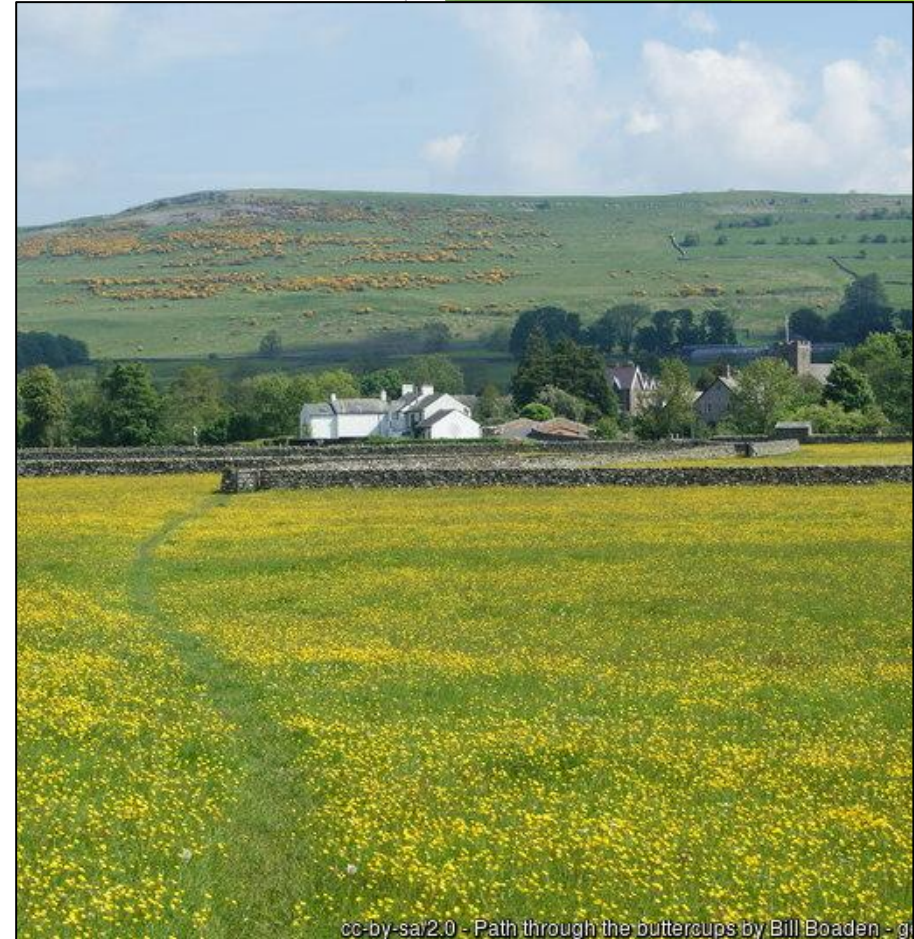
Walking Projects Plus



**Cumbria
Connect**
Restoring Nature



Walking Projects Plus
WE GET PEOPLE WALKING



cc-by-sa/2.0 - Path through the buttercups by Bill Boaden - g

Access plan objectives

An access and trail implementation plan centred on a new waymarked route between Penrith and Kendal that aims to:

- ▶ improve access to nature,
- ▶ enable more people, drawn from a wider audience, to connect with, enjoy and learn about nature and local landscapes, and
- ▶ improve connectivity between local communities.

Additional elements include:

- ▶ Shorter loop walks showcasing nature recovery and other sites of interest,
- ▶ Accessible and inclusive walk options;
- ▶ Identification of path improvement opportunities.



Route selection criteria

To devise a trail that:

- ▶ Connects residents and visitors with the nature recovery work underway & other sites of interest
- ▶ Utilises existing, good-quality path, potentially with options for cyclists and/or horse-riders
- ▶ Appeals to both residents and visitors

To ensure that the trail route is practically useable, by:

- ▶ Being divided into manageable stages
- ▶ Providing accommodation and/or transport options
- ▶ Offering the right level of challenge

Identify local loop routes that:

- ▶ Visit nature recovery areas, particularly those not explored by the trail itself
- ▶ Offer opportunities for nature-connectedness to those who won't complete the entire trail
- ▶ Include options accessible to a wider range of users



Challenges: geography, transport and accommodation

Geography:

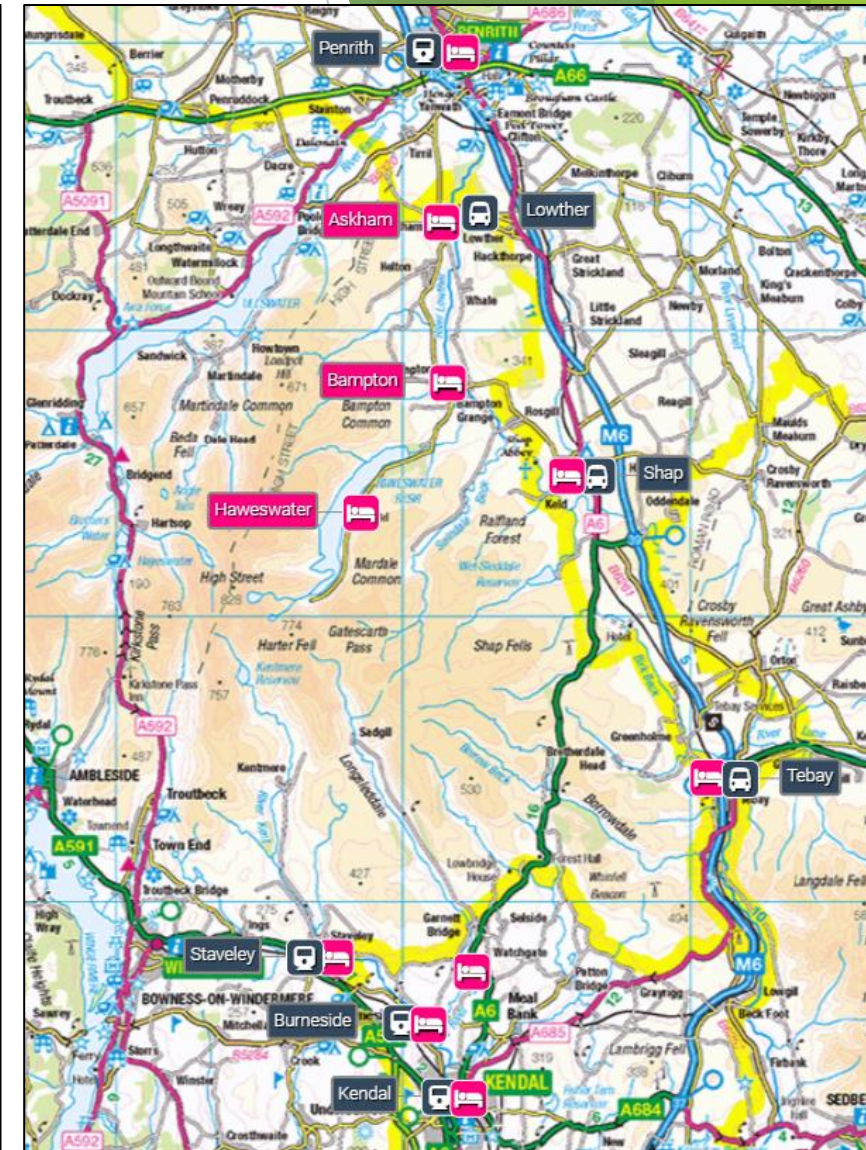
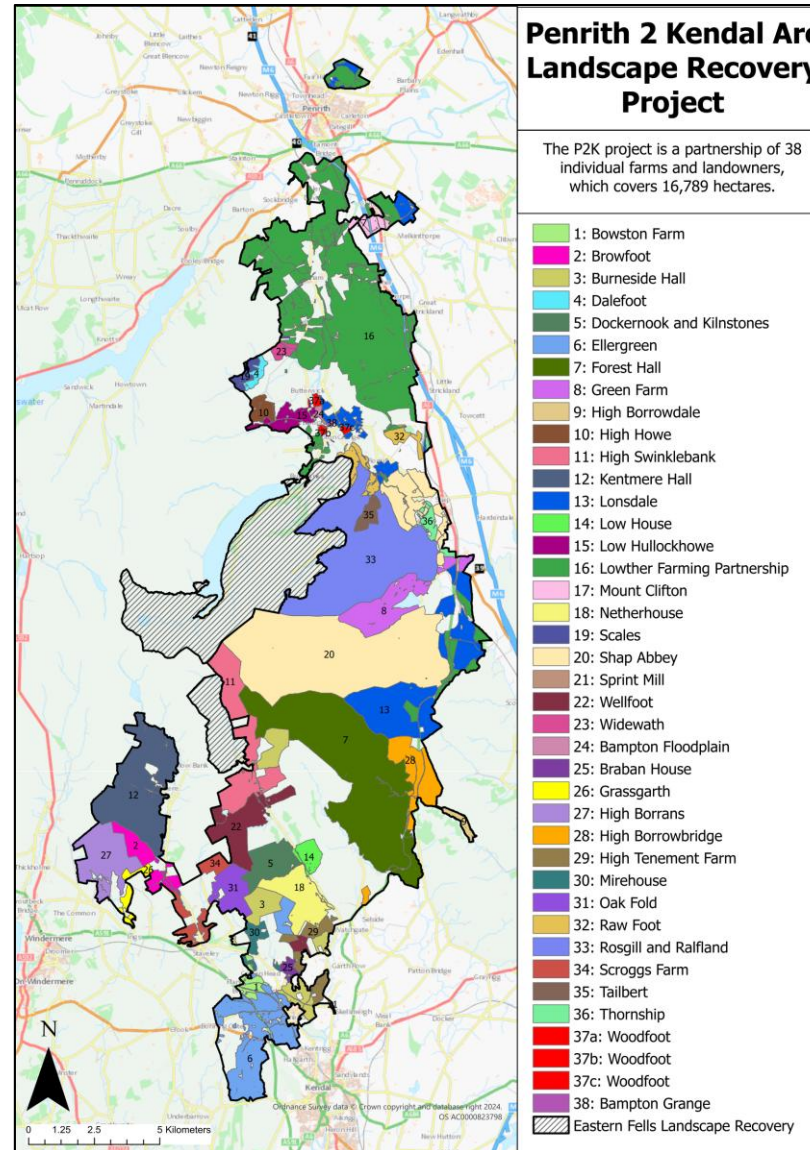
- ▶ The largest landscape recovery project in England
- ▶ 14,500 ha
- ▶ 38 farms, many with multiple sites

Public transport:

- ▶ Trains only at Penrith, Kendal and the 'Lakes Line'
- ▶ Infrequent or non-existent bus services at other locations

Tourist accommodation

- ▶ Apart from in the towns, only occasional B&Bs, inns and campsites



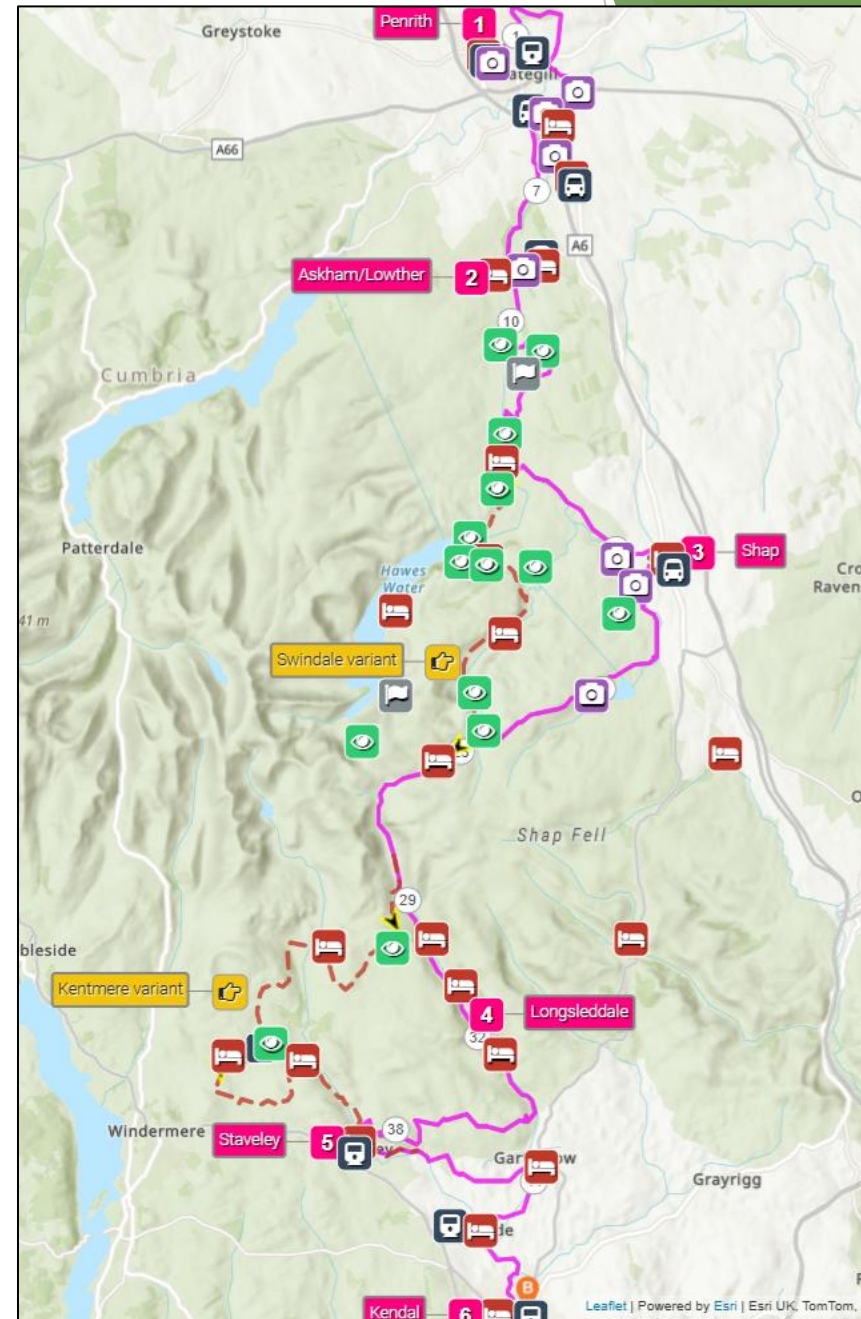
Trail route proposal

Main linear route (50 miles/80km):

1. Penrith - Askham/Lowther (9 miles)
2. Askham/Lowther - Shap (10 miles)
3. Shap - Longsleddale (12 miles)
4. Shap - Staveley (9 miles)
5. Staveley - Kendal (10 miles)

Two variant routes:

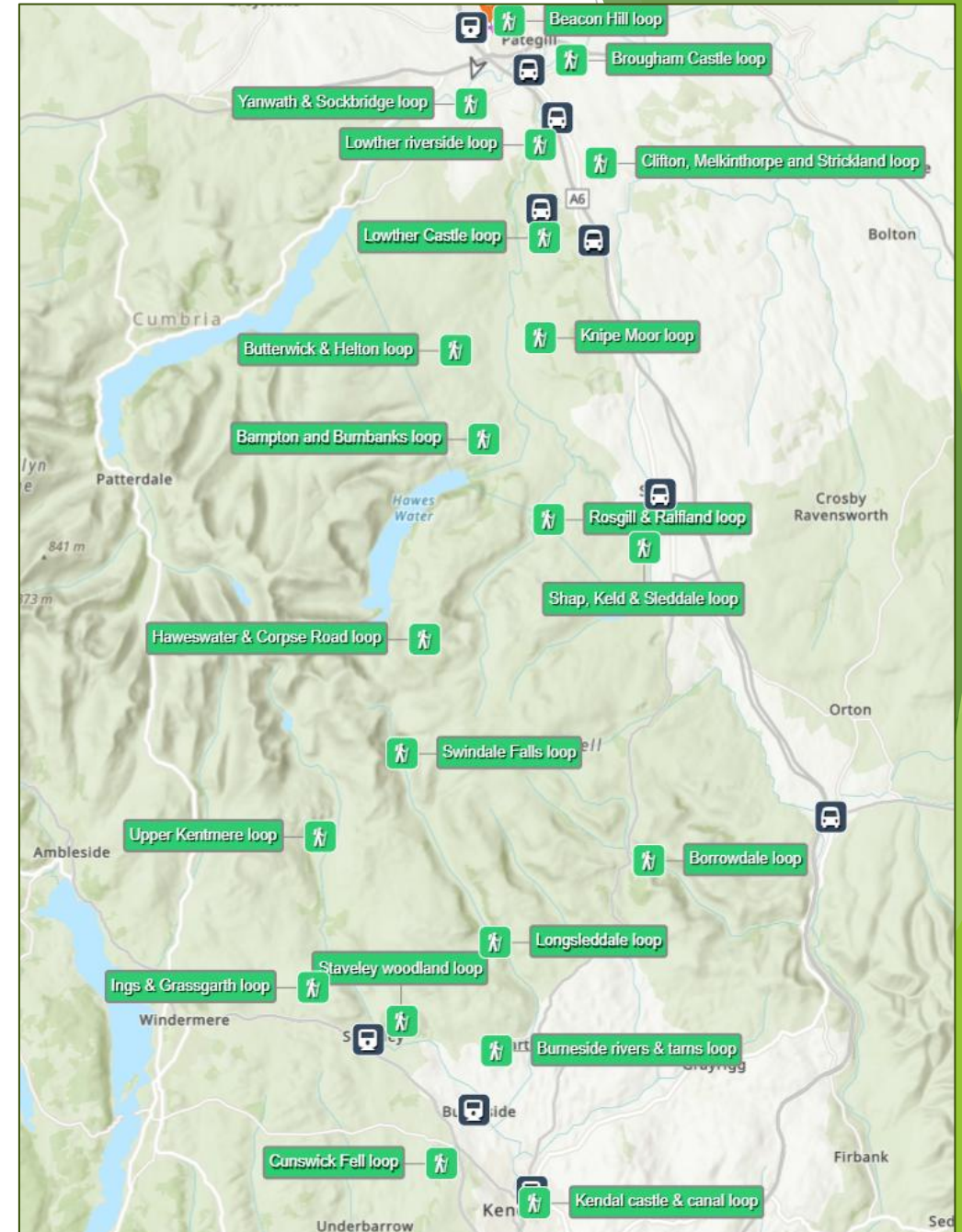
- ▶ a) Swindale variant, including several moorland and higher-altitude nature sites as an alternative to the main route via Shap;
- ▶ b) Kentmere variant, including the Kentmere valley and other nature sites as an alternative to the main route via Longsleddale.



Shorter 'loop route' ideas

A variety of possible locations that:

- ▶ Are accessible from towns, villages or other locations with public transport or parking options
- ▶ Include many of the nature recovery sites not explored on the main trail
- ▶ Are varied in length, difficulty and accessibility
- ▶ May include options for cyclists/mountain bikers and/or horse riders.



Opportunities for input and feedback

- ▶ At this online workshop
- ▶ By liaising with the P2KLR team
- ▶ By responding to further survey and consultation opportunities

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