

Beach Works 2026 – Guidance and Requirements

Despite this being clearly communicated on several occasions to multiple parties, I have recently been made aware of several unauthorised (“rogue”) ‘sand management’ activities that had been planned over the past few weeks. Fortunately, these were dissuaded from going ahead.

PLEASE NOTE:

All works must be carried out strictly within the terms of the current Licence issued to CDE by Natural England, following agreement with multiple stakeholder government bodies. Any breach of this Licence risks damaging the relationship between the beach “owners” and these authorities. This could result in our permission to carry out future works being withdrawn (i.e. no sand work) and may also expose individuals involved to potential prosecution.

That said, necessary work on the beach does need to continue.

I welcome ISAG’s proactive approach in offering to extend their work area to the beach side of the sea wall and to support sand movement projects.

However, as with any organisation undertaking such works, both CDE and IPC must be confident in each group’s capability to deliver them safely and in full compliance with the Licence conditions.

To demonstrate this, any group must provide written plans in advance for approval by the Licence Holder (CDE).

These plans should include the following points:

- **Timing:** Identify appropriate dates for the work (e.g. around spring tides to maximise beach access).
- **Scope of Work:** Clearly define target areas and break work into manageable packages* so progress can be monitored. Ensure all activity remains within Licence conditions, particularly regarding where sand is moved from and to.
- **Resources:** Confirm required personnel, equipment, and materials are available, or adjust the plan accordingly.
- **Insurance:** Ensure appropriate insurance cover is in place for both equipment, operators the public and beach infrastructure.
- **Safety Management:** Appoint marshals to keep the public clear of working areas and complete risk assessments.
- **Approval Process:** Submit the written plan for approval by CDE and IPC. IPC will appoint an overseer for the works.
- **Communications:** Publicise the works and any beach closures via IPC channels (website, email communications, village magazine, etc.).
- **Site Safety:** Clearly mark off work areas and ensure safety marshals are present throughout.
- **Execution:** Carry out the work in accordance with the approved plan.
- **Reporting:** Submit a signed completion report to CDE for onward submission to the Licensing Authority, including outcomes and lessons learned.

These steps are not intended to be onerous but to ensure there is no misunderstanding about what work is being undertaken, when it is happening, and who is responsible and that it is carried out safely.

If you are interested in joining ISAG-led projects, please contact them directly. If you are considering proposing your own programme of work, please contact IPC in the first instance.