

A Heritage Strategy for the South Pennines



CONSULTATION



Overview

This consultation is seeking your views on the draft strategy for the South Pennines.

How to respond

This consultation includes a set of specific questions to which we would welcome your response.

Responses should be sent by e-mail to arrive no later than **29th October 2021**.

To reply, please download this word document and complete, save and send to:

sppstrategyinfo@gmail.com

CHAPTER 1 – INTRODUCTION

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| Q1 | Have we included all the key organisations that look after the South Pennine heritage? If not, who have we omitted, and what is their role or function? | Y | N | Section 1.3 |
| <p>Comment:</p> <p>The document fails to acknowledge that both the Shaw and Crompton and Saddleworth Parish Councils, situated with the Metropolitan Borough of Oldham, are involved in the preservation and enhancement of the natural environment.</p> <p>They also support and promote traditional heritage activities in the area [COVID-regulations permitting] (for example, in Saddleworth, the annual rushcart festival with its accompanying Morris Men and the world-renowned brass band contests; and in both, the celebration of Lancashire and Yorkshire Days).</p> <p>Furthermore, the Saddleworth Museum, situated in Uppermill, has exhibits related to the cultural and industrial heritage of the area, and there are local historical societies dedicated to heritage research and public education.</p> <p>United Utilities is a significant local landowner and should take far greater responsibility for ensuring that none of its operations lead to the contamination of our water courses.</p> | | | | |

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| Q2 | Do you agree with the vision statement? If not, can you please say why? | Y | N | Para 1.4.2 |
| Comment: | | | | |

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| Q3 | Do you agree with the aim? If not, can you please say why? | Y | N | Para 1.4.3 |
| Comment: | | | | |

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| Q4 | Do you agree with the objectives? If not, can you please say why? Would you add any new objectives, and say what they would be? Can you provide us with any examples of how any of the objectives are already being addressed? | Y | N | Para 1.4.4 |
| Comment: Seems comprehensive but you could also look at establishing: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'Shop Local' loyalty schemes to encourage local people and visitors to buy locally produced goods from locally owned (rather than national chain) stores.• artisan markets to enable the sale of locally produced goods where producers cannot afford fixed premises,• arts and crafts centres or events for local artists and crafters to come together to collectively work, demonstrate (and pass on) their skills and market their products to the public. | | | | |

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| Q5 | Do you agree with our interpretation of 'heritage'? If not, can you please say why? | Y | N | Section 1.5 |
| Comment: | | | | |

CHAPTER 2 – BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES

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| Q6 | Do you agree with what we say about benefits? If not, can you please say why? Is there anything you would wish to add? | Y | N | Section 2.1 |
| Comment: | | | | |

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| Q7 | Can you refer us to any case studies that might illustrate the benefits we describe? | Y | N | Section 2.1 |
| Comment: | | | | |

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| Q8 | Do you agree with what we say about management challenges? If not, can you please say why? Is there anything you would wish to add? If you have any specific examples, can you please refer us to them? | Y | N | Section 2.2 |
| Comment: Yes. | | | | |
| <p>With mean global temperatures increasing (global heating), extreme weather events will become more frequent, and we are especially concerned about the long-term impact of drought, moorland fires and (conversely) flooding on both the natural and built environment. The strategy needs to properly prioritise the creation of robust mechanisms to prevent irretrievable damage to our local heritage assets.</p> <p>We are also concerned about the continued pollution of our local water courses with its adverse impact on bird, insect and aquatic life and human utility, and also the threat posed to our Green Belt, protected open land and ancient and veteran woodlands by future housing and industrial development.</p> | | | | |

CHAPTER 3 – HERITAGE ASSETS

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| Q9 | Do you agree with the list of key features and characteristics? If not, can you please say why? Are there any you would wish to add? | Y | N | Paragraphs 3.2.4, 3.2.9 and 3.2.13 |
| Comment: | | | | |

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| Q10 | Section 3.3 describes the elements and influences on the South Pennines landscape, together with summaries of their importance and management issues. Do you agree that we have described these adequately? If not, can you please suggest any that we have omitted, or described inappropriately or inadequately? | Y | N | Section 3.3 |
| Comment: | | | | |

CHAPTER 4 – ACCESSING AND ENJOYING THE SOUTH PENNINES

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| Q11 | Have we adequately described the recreational interest and the resource? If not, can you please suggest any aspects that we have omitted, or described inappropriately or inadequately? | Y | N | Sections 4.1 and 4.2 |
| Comment: We are surprised you have not listed the popular Dovestones Reservoir, Crompton Moor, and Brushes Clough sites under 4.2.11 amongst the 'well-known country parks and recreational sites in the South Pennines'. | | | | |

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| Q12 | Have we covered the access issues appropriately? If not, can you please recommend any additions? | Y | N | Section 4.3 |
| Comment: | | | | |

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| Q13 | Section 4.4 relates to information, interpretation and education. Has this theme been adequately described? If not, can you say why? Can you refer us to any issues around information, interpretation and education? | Y | N | Sections 4.4 and 4.5 |
| Comment: We are disappointed that, under 4.4.5, there is no mention of the excellent and stimulating Saddleworth Museum based in Uppermill. | | | | |

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| Q14 | Section 4.6 summarises transport infrastructure in the area. Has this theme been adequately summarised? If not, can you say why? Can you refer us to any issues around transport infrastructure? | Y | N | Sections 4.6 and 4.7 |
| <p>Comment: Amongst the areas 'experiencing the impact of pressure from recreational traffic' listed under 4.6.4 should be Dovestones Reservoir.</p> <p>One issue concerning our railway network not listed in section 4.6.6 is that the sole railway station serving Saddleworth (Greenfield Station) is still not fully accessible to disabled people or those using buggies or push chairs despite a cross party and local residents campaign lasting many years.</p> | | | | |

CHAPTER 5 – HERITAGE AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY

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| Q15 | Have we said enough about partnerships and networking? If not, can you suggest how we might expand on this? Do you have examples of partnerships and networking that promote the area's heritage management and conservation? | Y | N | Section 5.3 |
| <p>Comment: There needs to be more emphasis when referencing cross-border and multi-agency partnership working on having robust mechanisms in place to address the continued threat to our heritage assets from climate change (see comments on Q8) and human misbehaviour (the irresponsible use of portable barbeques on moorland, the wilful and criminal setting of fires, the shooting of our birds-of-prey and stealing of eggs, and the damage that can be caused by unregulated off-road motorcycling and mountain biking).</p> | | | | |

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| Q16 | Have we said enough about training and skills development? If not, can you suggest how we might expand on this? Do you have examples of training and skills development that promotes the area's heritage management and conservation? | Y | N | Section 5.4 |
| <p>Comment:</p> <p>See comments about arts and crafts centres under Q4.</p> <p>It would wonderful if training in dry stone walling could be encouraged or if any of our local breweries could look to train a traditional cooper.</p> | | | | |

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| Q17 | Have we said enough about farm diversification? If not, can you suggest how we might expand on this? | Y | N | Section 5.5 |
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| | Do you have examples of diversification that promote the area's heritage management and conservation? | | | |
| <p>Comment: There needs to be some reference to the potential for local farms to provide holiday accommodation / farm experiences for tourists and how these openings can be regulated and promoted, outside of the AirBnB route.</p> | | | | |

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| Q18 | Have we said enough about business investment? If not, can you suggest how we might expand on this? Do you have examples of business development that promote the area's heritage management and conservation? | Y | N | Section 5.6 |
| <p>Comment:</p> | | | | |

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| Q19 | Have we said enough about sustainable tourism? If not, can you suggest how we might expand on this? Do you have examples of sustainable tourism that promote the area's heritage management and conservation? | Y | N | Section 5.7 |
| <p>Comment: See Q17 such tourist accommodation / experiences need to be sustainable.</p> | | | | |

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| Q20 | If there are any comments you might wish to add, please make them here: | | | |
| <p>Comment:</p> | | | | |

Many thanks for your support and comments