

Lancashire's

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October 2009 - October 2011

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- **National Indicator 197**
- **Lancashire Environment Records Network**
- **Local Geodiversity Sites (GHS/RIGs)**
- **Lancashire Biodiversity Action Plan**

National Indicator 197:

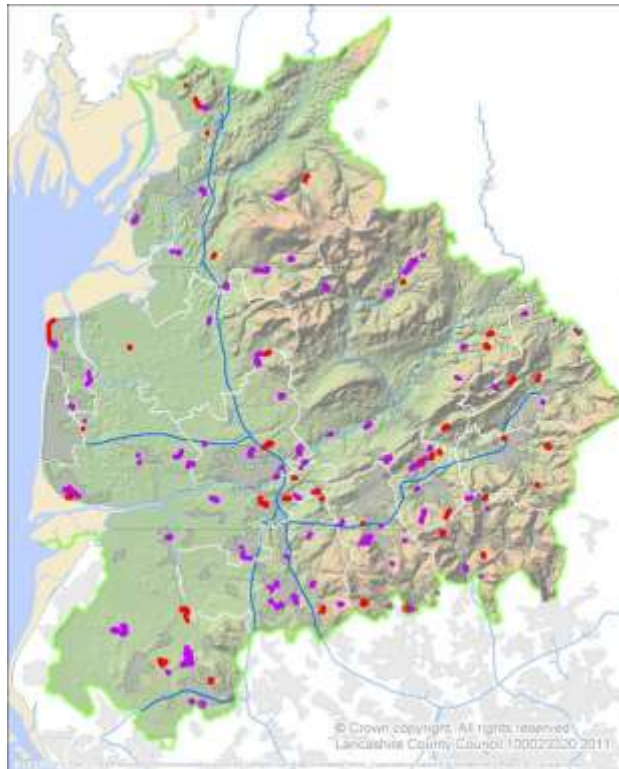
Number Local Sites in positive management:

- Baseline: **15%** (number of Local Sites - Biological Heritage Sites and Local Geodiversity Sites - in positive management), i.e. 177 out of 1180 sites (BHS only)
- Target: **24%** i.e. annual increase of 3% by the end of Year 3
- Achievements: 1.4% in 2008/9 (17 sites = 15% to 16.4%)
4.8% in 2009/10 (77 extra sites = 16.4% to 21.2%)
5.1% in 2010/11 (66 extra sites = 21.2% to 26.3%)
- Result: **26.3%, i.e. target exceeded by 2.3%** (or 29 sites - not including sites surveyed in 2011 for which information about site management implementation isn't available)

National Indicator 197:

Number of BHS surveyed:

District	BbwD	Bp	Bu	Ch	Fy	Hy	La	Pe	Pr	RV	Ro	SR	WL	Wy	Tot
09/10	8	0	0	9	8	6	10	8	9	11	6	8	6	6	95
10/11	3	0	4	4	3	4	5	3	4	4	3	4	5	3	49
Total	11	0	4	13	11	10	15	11	13	15	9	12	11	9	144



Purple dots = pre Oct
2010 surveys

Red dots = Oct 2010 –
Sept 2011 surveys

National Indicator 197:

Evidence of positive management:

Type of positive management	Number of sites
1. Site survey by NI197 staff or Forever Meadows project officer found site to be in positive management	29
2. Local Geodiversity Site survey found site to be in positive management	17
3. Environmental Stewardship Schemes	12
4. Management prescriptions provide by NI197 staff being implemented	7
5. Management plan	3
6. English Woodland Grant Scheme	1

National Indicator 197:

Number of sites in positive management by District:

District	BbwD	Bp	Bu	Ch	Fy	Hy	La	Pe	Pr	RV	Ro	SR	WL	Wy	Tot
No. of BHS in +ve m'ment	3	0	0	4	4	5	8	3	1	10	2	5	3	3	49*
No. of LGS in +ve m'ment	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	4	0	17
Total	5	0	0	8	4	5	8	3	2	16	2	5	7	3	68*
No of BHS surveyed	11	0	4	13	11	10	15	11	13	15	9	12	11	9	144
% of BHS in +ve m'ment	27.3	0	0	30.1	36.4	50	53.3	27.3	7.7	66.7	22.2	41.7	27.3	33.3	34%
No of LGS surveyed	6	0	5	11	1	2	12	3	4	17	8	3	6	3	81
% of LGS in +ve m'ment	33.3	0	0	36.4	0	0	0	0	25	24	0	0	57.1	0	21%

* One BHS is within Fylde and Wyre and one BHS is within Hyndburn and Ribble Valley but the sites haven't been counted twice

National Indicator 197:

Damage to Biological Heritage Sites (2010):

Type of damage	Number of sites
1. Invasive species (especially Himalayan Balsam & Japanese Knotweed)	30 (25.4%)
2. Non-native species (Rhododendron, Spanish Bluebells/hybrids, garden escapees etc.)	22 (18.6%)
3. Agricultural (over-grazing, under-grazing, supplementary feeding, poaching etc.)	17 (14.4%)
4. Lack of management (scrub encroachment & rank grassland)	14 (11.9%)
5. Spoil dumping, tipping, polluted run-off etc.	7 (5.9%)
6. Drying out due to drainage (grips in bogs, ditches in fens)	7 (5.9%)
7. Woodland open to grazing by livestock	5 (4.2%)
8. Human impacts (ground compaction, arson etc.)	5 (4.2%)
9. Development (buildings, garden encroachment etc.)	4 (3.4%)
10. Inappropriate tree planting (for the habitat type)	4 (3.4%)
11. Other (erosion and felling etc.)	3 (2.5%)
TOTAL	118

National Indicator 197:

Other NI 197 outputs:



- Updating species lists, habitat boundaries and photographic records for the sites
- Owner(s) &/or manager(s) provided with site survey report, management prescriptions and information on potential grants
- Revisions taken to the BHS annual review, BHS database updated accordingly and revised BHS boundaries provided to the local authorities
- Delivery of BAP targets
- Biodiversity Duty under the NERC Act 2006

Lancashire Environment Records Network:

Member of the [Association of Local Environmental Record Centres](#) (ALERC)



The number of electronic records entered onto the Recorder 6 database was as follows:

2010/11: 71,096 (681,000 – 752,096)

2011/12: 97,179 (752,096 – 849,275)

+ 326,851 moth records = 1,206,096

Data sharing agreements with:

- Amphibian and Reptile Group of South Lancashire
- East Lancashire Bat group
- Lancashire and Cheshire Fauna Society

Lancashire Environment Records Network:



Public launch of LERN in August 2010 at the BioBlitz at Cuerden Valley Park featuring Bill Oddie.

LERN Communications Officer and Development Officer employed.

LERN communications and branding documents prepared.

Articles were published in the following press:

Manchester Evening News, Lancashire Evening Post, Lancashire Evening Telegraph, Lancaster Guardian, Garstang Courier and the local BBC.

Lancashire Environment Records Network:

<http://www.lancspartners.org/lern>

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- Events
- Partners
- Services
- Site designations

Welcome to LERN - the Lancashire Environment Record Network

The Lancashire Environment Record Network is the 'local environmental record centre' for the county of Lancashire.

We store and provide access to details of Lancashire's rich environment: its biodiversity, geodiversity and landscape.



 [Map of LERN area \(880kb\)](#)

The information we hold is provided by our partner organizations and by hundreds of groups and voluntary wildlife recorders.



There are more than one million biological records on the LERN database and we have access to many more held by private individuals and groups.

We have information on the important and protected sites that have been identified for their significance in Lancashire.

The information we provide is used by many individuals and organizations to help ensure that the actions and decisions they make, take adequate account of the environment.

We support, promote and encourage the responsible collection of records relating to our environment.

With your help LERN can identify, understand and protect the environment of our beautiful, historic and diverse county. LERN will be a living, breathing legacy for generations to come.

News & Events

- 17th November 2010
 - ▶ Giving a hoot about owls. [Read more](#)
- 25th October 2010
 - ▶ A load of hogwatch. [Read more](#)
- 15th October 2010
 - ▶ Fun with Fungi. [Read more](#)
- 8th October 2010
 - ▶ Don't swat, appreciate the wasps. [Read more](#)
- 1st October 2010
 - ▶ Plants in dire straits. [Read more](#)
- 1st October 2010
 - ▶ Looking out for moth miners. [Read more](#)
- August 2010
 - ▶ Lancashire BioBlitz - is on You Tube. [Read more](#)

Lancashire Environment Records Network:

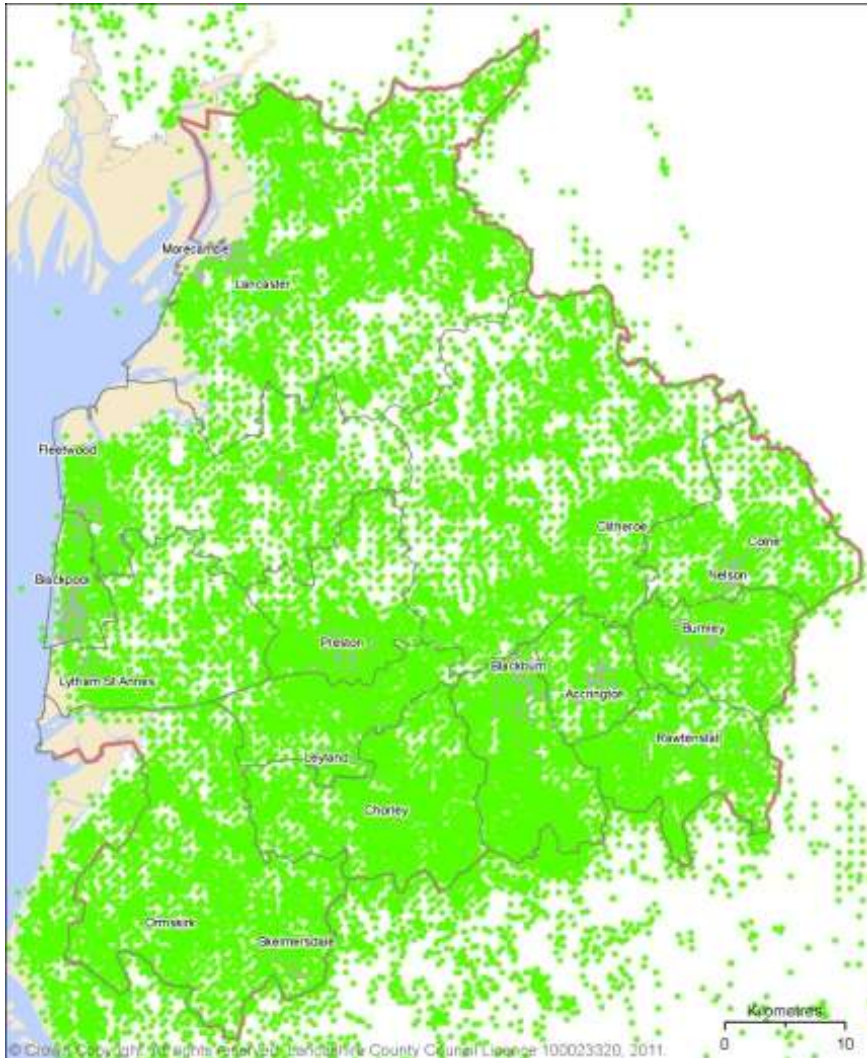
Number of biological records entered per District:

District	BbwD	Bp	Bu	Ch	Fy	Hy	La	Pe	Pr	RV	Ro	SR	WL	Wy	Total
No. of records 2010/11	2628	205	3490	8307	3475	2743	5334	4719	4426	7923	3157	5949	14927	3138	71096
No. of records 2011/12	18907	794	694	13734	5475	7939	9151	1481	5664	8832	1428	9362	5998	6831	97179
Lancs Moth Group records	15656	17888	26084	20541	14514	687	147886	2221	23334	9178	219	14439	38013	26161	356821
Total	37,191	18,887	30,268	42,582	23,464	11,369	162,371	8,421	33,424	25,933	4,804	29,750	58,938	36,130	525,096

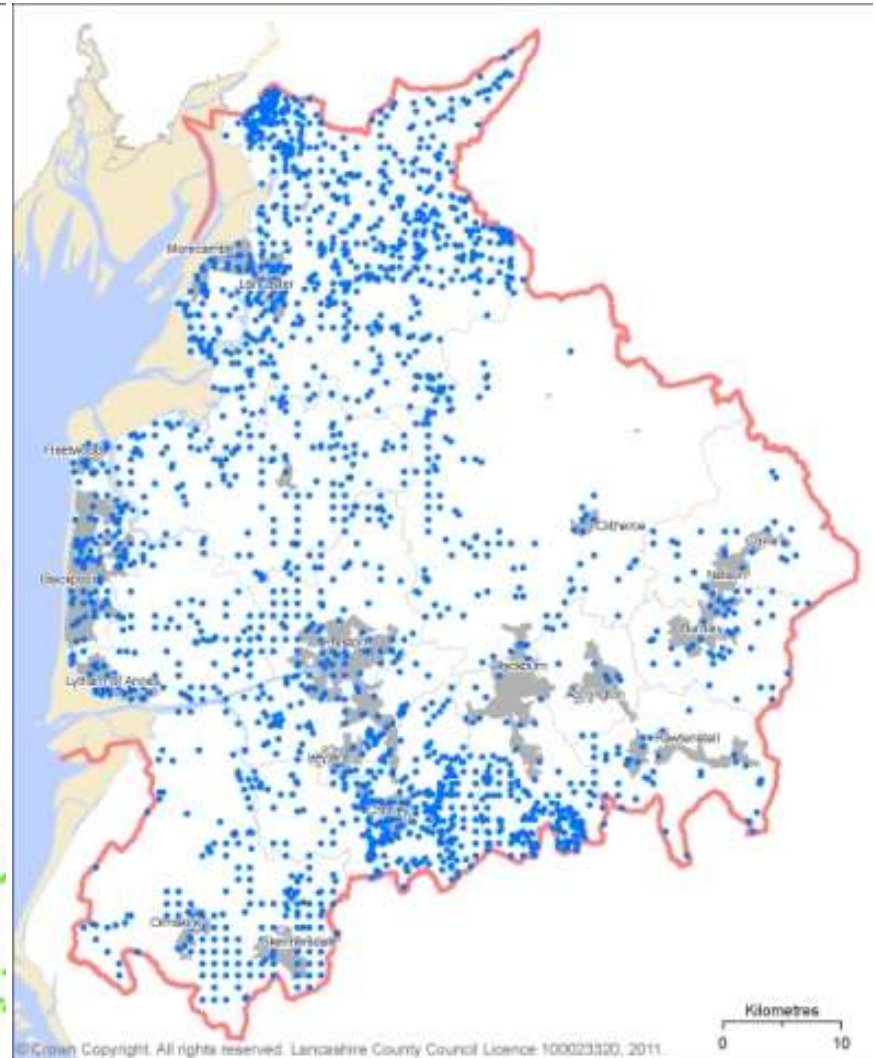


Lancashire Environment Records Network:

Records Entered (@ June 2011)



Lancs Moth Group Records

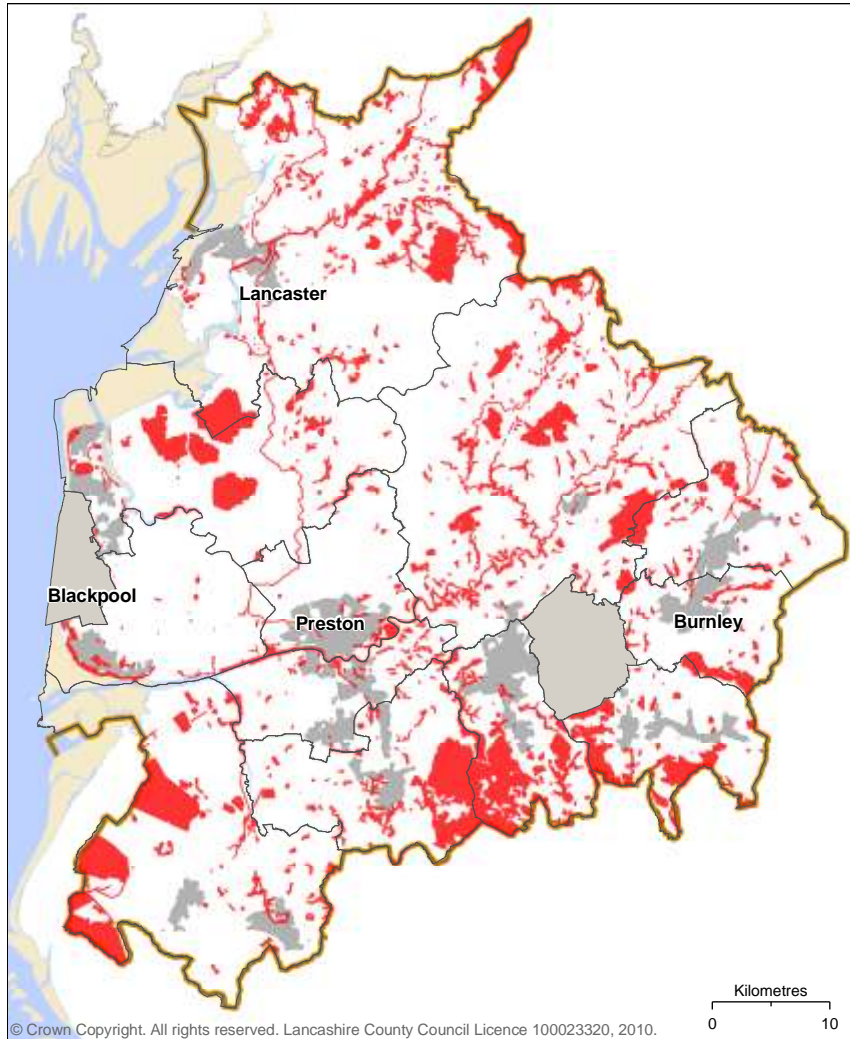


Lancashire Environment Records Network:

Support to NES Partners:

- Support for the LDF process in Central Lancashire, Fylde, West Lancashire, Hyndburn, Pendle & Rossendale
- Presentations to LSP groups in Ribble Valley, Rossendale, Burnley and Pendle
- Data for Pendle's Biodiversity Audit and Coastal Plans in Fylde and Wyre
- Provision of GIS data for Wind Power Developments at Claughton, Oswaldtwistle Moor and in the South Pennines
- Provision of GIS data for funding bids e.g. LEF bid for Community Woodland and Tree projects in Preston, Heritage Lottery Fund bids 'Headlands to Headspace' & 'Biodiverse Society', Local Nature Partnership and Nature Improvement Area bids
- Recording delivery and monitoring of the Forest of Bowland AONB Action Plan
- Environmental mapping to inform preliminary discussion regarding National Grid's Northwest Coast transmission line upgrades
- Support for Green Infrastructure work in Fylde and Hyndburn
- Mapping of flora for Endangered Plants and Vice County Flora projects
- Mapping for Forest of Bowland Climate Change report and display for the Hodder Valley show
- Support for wildlife walks leaflet in South Ribble and a grassland project in North Lancashire
- Support to Geo Lancashire, BAP, BHS, NI197, Forestry Commission, LWT & Natural England projects

Local Sites: Biological Heritage Sites



2009 & 2010 BHS Annual Review completed (results supplied by LERN):

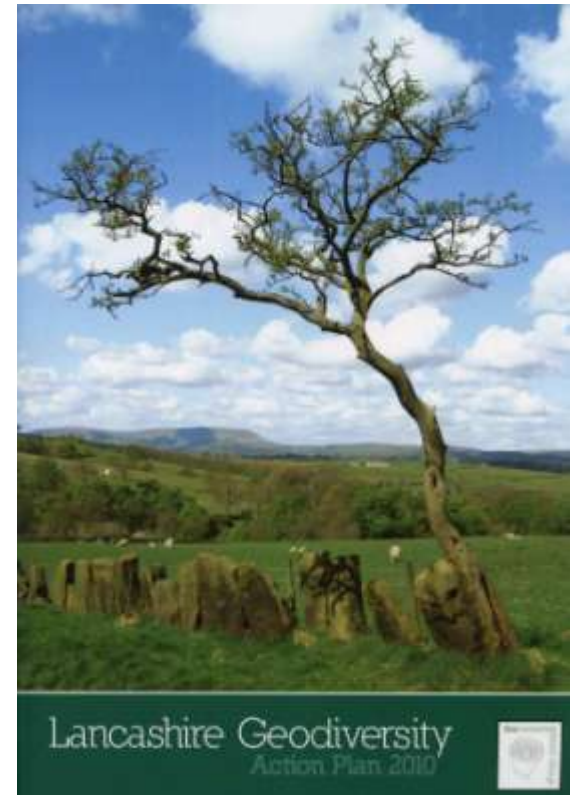
- List of changes within districts
- GIS boundary and attribute data
- Known losses of BAP habitats within BHS
- Sites in unfavorable condition or those suffering damage

Local Sites: Local Geodiversity Sites (GHS/RIGs)

Site review:

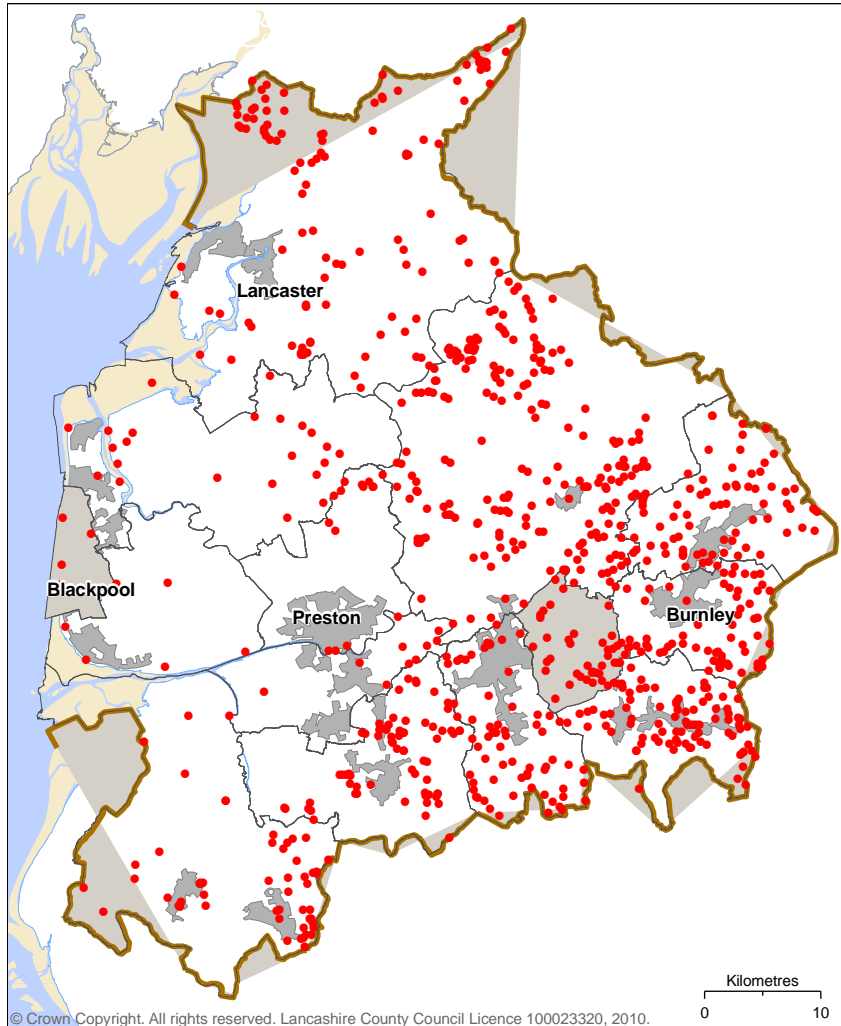
Two elements to the review of Geodiversity sites:

- Clitheroe Castle Museum records
- Local Geodiversity Sites



Local Sites: Local Geodiversity Sites (GHS/RIGs)

Clitheroe Castle Museum Database:



Over 900 records

Financial support was secured from Natural England to transfer data to the new national GeoConservation database

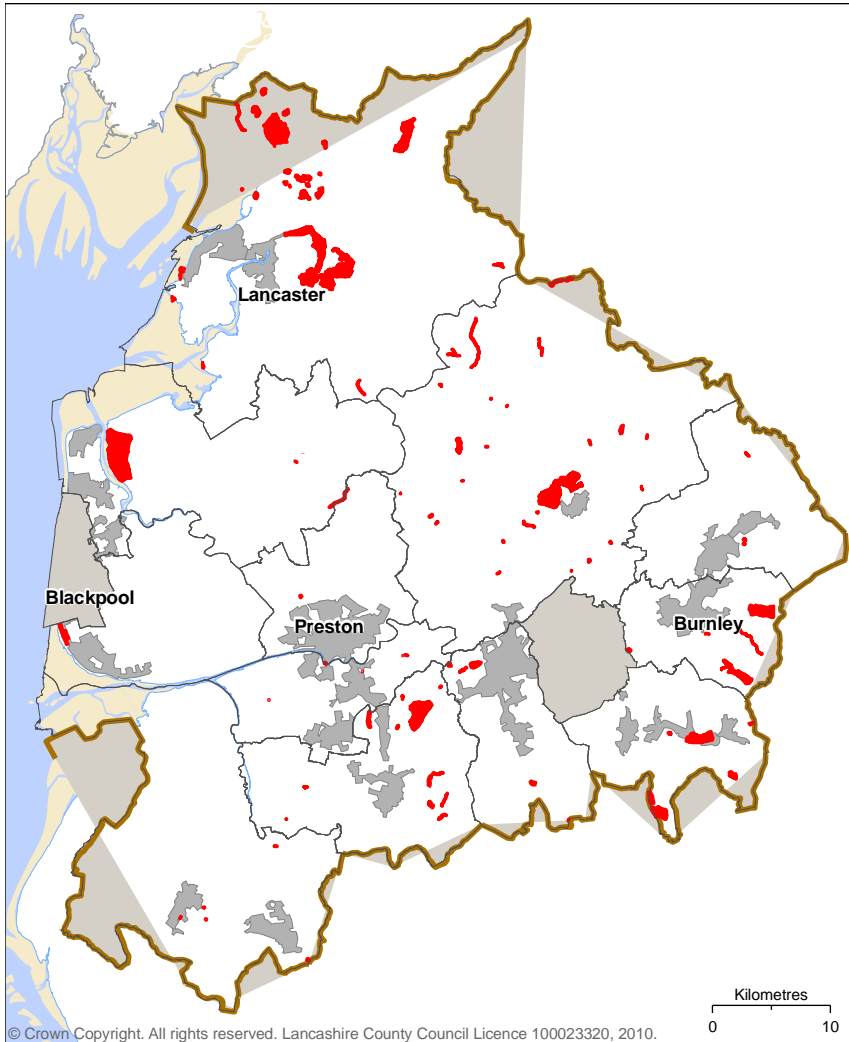
The status of these sites is being evaluated to assess:

- if they still exist;
- whether they meet LGS(RIGS)/SSSI criteria;
- whether they may be appropriate for designation as sites with a more local interest.

Local Sites: Local Geodiversity Sites (GHS/RIGs)

District	Non-desig sites in Clitheroe database	Non-desig sites to be field checked	NDS checked, Sept. 2010	Poss. New LGS
Lancaster	137	84	78	2
Wyre	30	24	24	0
Fylde	6	4	4	-
Ribble Valley	243	183	0	-
Preston	16	11	0	-
South Ribble	14	6	0	-
West Lancs.	63	51	0	-
Chorley	70	48	0	-
Blackburn	67	55	55	3
Hyndburn	38	32	32	3
Burnley	76	69	0	-
Pendle	75	70	0	-
Rosendale	94	87	0	-
TOTALS	929	644	200	8

Local Sites: Local Geodiversity Sites (GHS/RIGs)



District	Existing LGS	Existing LGS monitored
Lancaster	25	12
Wyre	3	3
Fylde	1	1
Ribble Valley	25	17
Preston	4	4
South Ribble	3	3
West Lancs.	7	6
Chorley	11	11
Blackburn	6	6
Hyndburn	2	2
Burnley	5	5
Pendle	3	3
Rossendale	8	8
TOTALS	103	81

Local Sites: Local Geodiversity Sites (GHS/RIGs)

Education & interpretation:

- The interpretation board at Jeffrey Hill car park, Longridge Fell, has been replaced.
- The White Coppice geology trail guide has been reprinted with several hundred copied distributed to visitor centres.
- An interpretation board is being designed in collaboration with LCC and the Valley of Stone project at Lee Quarry, Rossendale.
- Preliminary work on the Ribble Valley Geodiversity Trail aimed at 'piggy-backing' on the Ribble Valley long distance walk has begun.
- Further consideration of a Building Stones Guide to Lancaster City Centre has been given in the light of research undertaken for the Strategic Stone Survey.
- Preliminary discussions held with a view to creating a building stones trail in Lancaster city centre and Williamson Park. Some funding has been secured for this project.

Lancashire Biodiversity Action Plan



Strategic updates	Funding bids
Lawton Review Natural Choices England Biodiversity Strategy Local Nature Partnership Nature Improvement Areas	Forest of Bowland NIA Morecambe Bay NIA South Pennines NIA Upper Irwell NIA Upland Peat Project West Pennine Moors HLF

Lancashire Biodiversity Action Plan

District	Brown Hare Project	Conferences: BAP, Climate Change, Peat & Urban Meadows	Grassland projects	Lancs Dunes Project	Lancs Mammals Group	Local Nature Partnership/ Nature Improvement Area work	Rare Plants Group work	Traditional Orchards Project	Upland Peat Project	Water Vole Projects
Blackburn with Darwen	•	•	In Dev		•	•	•		•	
Blackpool	•	•		•	•	•	•			•
Burnley	•	•	In Dev			•			•	
Chorley	•	•	•		•	•		•	•	•
Fylde	•	•		•	•	•	•			•
Hyndburn	•	•	In Dev			•			•	
Lancaster	•	*	In Dev		•	•	•	•		•
Pendle	•	•	In Dev			•			•	
Preston	•	•				•		•		
Ribble Valley	•	*				•	•	•	•	
Rossendale	•	•	In Dev			•			•	
South Ribble	•	•			•	•		•		
West Lancs	•	•	•		N/A	•	•	•		•
Wyre	•	•		•		•	•			•

• = Work in District or LA attendance at event. * = local group or organization from district attending event.

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Other benefits and outcomes:

- NES Annual Forums: 19/11/10 & 18/11/11
- Lancashire Biodiversity Action Plan Conferences 22/05/10
- Thin Green Line Conference 16/06/11
- Peatland Restoration & carbon conference 27/06/11
- BioBlitz model (developed at Cuerden) used at other sites
- Successful bid for the Local Nature Partnership (LNP)
- Facilitating bids for Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs)
- Employment of six staff
- Training of hundreds of volunteers

