



# GeoLancashire

*Local Geodiversity Sites*



*Geoconservation  
in  
Lancashire*



## *The National Context*

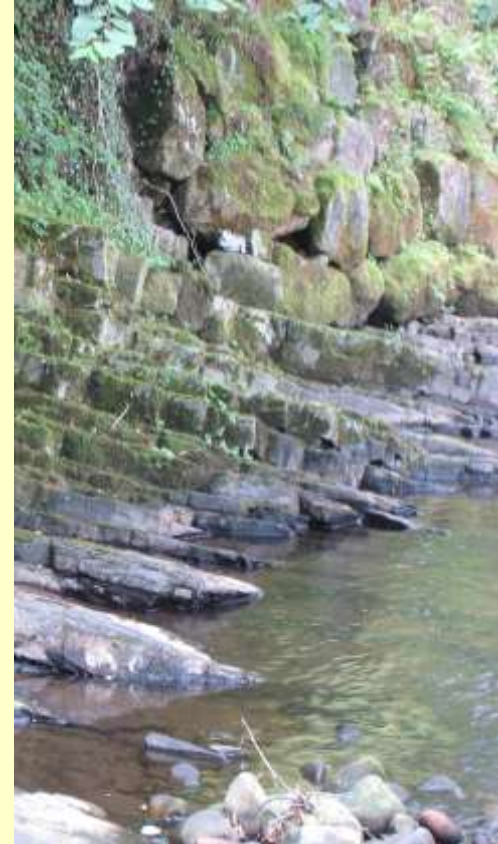
- *NERC – Geoconservation Review (GCR): all geoconservation in UK based on this. Wound up in 2010*
- *Natural England – 2400 geodiversity SSSIs in England*



## *The Local Context*

### *The voluntary sector:*

- *50 RIGS groups in UK including GeoLancashire*
- *10 local Geology Trusts*
  
- *Supported nationally by GeoConservationUK and The Geology Trusts*
- *Several Regional Geodiversity Partnerships including one for the North West*



## *In Lancashire . . .*

- *16 gSSSIs*
- *93 Local Geodiversity Sites, formerly RIGS*

*DEFRA guidance on Local Sites didn't recognise the regional importance of RIGS*

*Hence,*

*Local Geodiversity Sites\*\* - renamed RIGS*

*Local Geodiversity Sites\* - significant at the district level*



## *Local Geodiversity Sites in Lancashire . . .*

*Current site monitoring programme now almost complete – 4 remaining sites*

*2010 - 102 sites: 74 geological  
28 geomorphological*

*2011 - 93 sites: 71 geological  
28 geomorphological*



## *Monitoring makes a difference*

*LGS are relatively robust and overwhelming majority are in positive management*

*9 sites de-notified:*

*quarries infilled*

*exposures obliterated by vegetation*

*lost due to natural processes*

*4 sites merged into two*

*4 new sites*

*identified from additional site*

*checking the Clitheroe Data Project*



## *Future plans*

- *Monitoring is a continuous process . . .*
- *More landscape sites to be designated*
- *Promote concept of “GeoCon Everywhere” through Local Geodiversity Sites\**
  
- *Ribble Way GeoTrail*
- *Educational materials and post-graduate research at Brockholes*
- *Develop building stones project on the back of survey work completed for English Heritage*



Peel Tower, Holcombe