

Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Landscape Character Study 2005-7

2008 Consultation Report

Background

The launch of the Cornwall Landscape website in April 2008, provided the opportunity to undertake further public consultation (as advised in the consultants report to the project) on the website and on the 40 Landscape Character Area Descriptions and the supporting Landscape Description Unit profiles (of which there are over 300).

Publicity letter heading:

Landscape goes live!
Can you help with our survey?
<http://www.cornwalllandscapes.org.uk>

Publicity for the on-line consultation was provided on the web-site, initially for a 3 month period from July to September 2008. Consultation forms were made available both to use on-line and to print off. As part of the publicity for this exercise individual letters (including a paper survey form) were sent out to Parish Councils, Councilors and Environmental Groups and organisations.

However in order to reach as many parish councils as possible, paper copies of the Landscape Character Area descriptions relating to each parish in the county were also sent out during the autumn to the Parish Councils. The consultation period was extended until December 2008 to allow for the maximum number of responses.

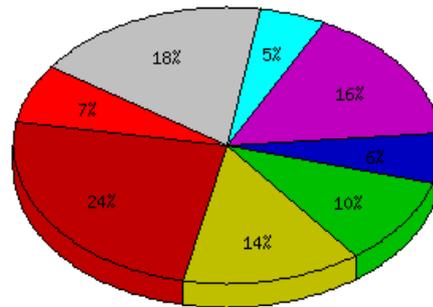
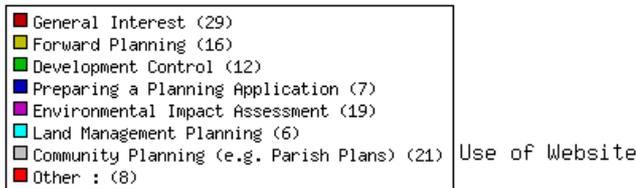
Survey responses

Overall 41 responses were received of which nearly half (19) were on-line. 30 responses were from Town or Parish Councils which reflected the additional consultation to these Councils.

1. Using the landscape character information

The results to question 2 shown below show a range of uses identified for the landscape information. General interest, community planning and environmental impact are particularly highlighted.

Q2 What would you use the web site and the landscape character information for? (tick all relevant boxes)

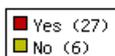


2. The Landscape Character Areas(LCAs) and Landscape Description Units(LDUs).

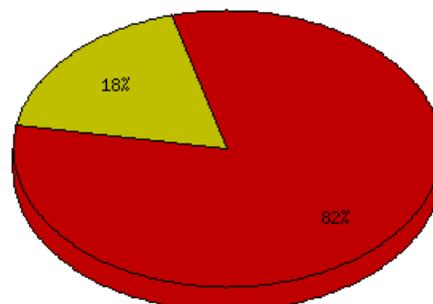
Overall people felt that both the LCAs and LDUs were useful. Generally the LCA descriptions were well received, and included comments such as 'could not improve on the excellent description' and 'good description'. Others found the amount of text off-putting. Overall the Parish Councils had difficulty with the generalised nature of the descriptions which often cover a very wide area.

Some detailed comments were made regarding individual LCAs which will be considered for inclusion in the descriptions.

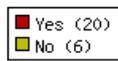
Q 3 Do you think the LCAs provide useful information and guidance?



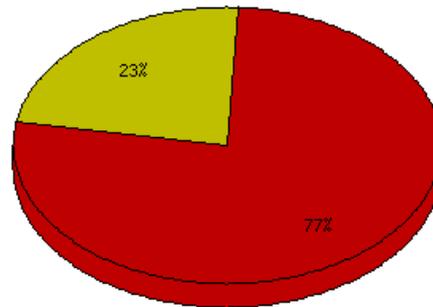
Are LCAs useful



Q 4 Do you think the LDUs provide useful information and guidance?



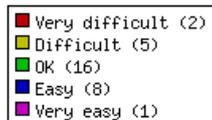
Are LDUs useful



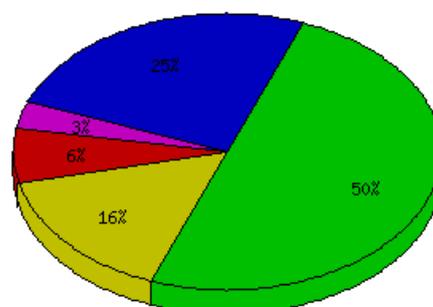
3. Using the website and finding information

Overall there was a positive response to the website and its information with 50% finding the website 'OK' to use and find the information required. Clearly there is scope for improvement since few people found the site 'easy' or 'very easy'. However for a new website and considering the complexity and amount of information contained within the site, this is encouraging.

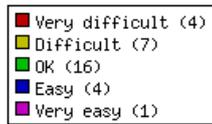
How easy is the website to use?



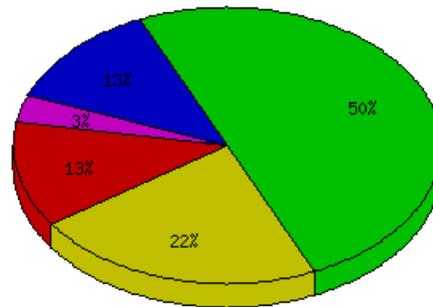
website easy to use



How easy was it to find the information you wanted?



website info easy



Conclusions

As a new resource, the use of the web-site and the on-line response form was encouraging. Generally most respondents found the website information useful and relatively easy to use. Overall the Landscape Descriptions themselves were well received. In terms of the potential use of the website and the landscape material there was positive feedback.

JAH Jan 09

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