

ENVIRONMENT - ASSETS, ISSUES & VISION

SNAPSHOT

- Conservation Area
- R Eden – Special Area of Conservation
- 2 National Nature Reserves
- 23 SSSIs
- 50 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- 52 Listed Buildings
- 48 Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- 94 local footpaths + Coast to Coast long distance path
- 30 bridleways + Pennine Bridleway imminent
- Cumbria Cycleway + loop on new Eden Cycleway

TOWN & VILLAGES SURVEYS

- + Valued for countryside access
- + beauty of location
- + walking potential
- + size/compactness
- + attractive town & countryside
- + heritage asset - old buildings
- Some unattractive Shop fronts
- Poor street lighting
- Lack of cycle paths/cycle storage
- East Station environment
- Plastics recycling
- Footpath maintenance, signage

WORKSHOP

- + Valued for beautiful countryside
- + walking potential
- + attractive built environment
- + unspoilt
- Promote continued upgrade of shop fronts
- Restore character of town
- Extend recycling facilities, including plastics recycling
- Expand & educate re dog fouling
- Extend street cleaning

VISION

A resident population aware of and knowledgeable about the distinctive and valuable character of the Upper Eden Valley countryside & built environment. A resident population committed to protecting the landscape and buildings for future generations whilst capitalising on them to promote the economic prosperity of the area. Widespread countryside access for the benefit of local people and tourists. Broad provision for recycling of waste materials.

Strategic objectives:

- Instigate a programme of awareness raising in relation to the special character and attributes of the countryside and built environment.
- Develop visitor attractions and employ strategic marketing to capitalise on the area's natural and built assets.
- Promote access to the town and countryside through a programme of countryside-related events, attractions and facilities.
- Support the implementation of broad provision for recycling of waste materials.

EN1 CHARACTER & VITALITY OF THE TOWN WORKSHEET

- + Many distinctive landmarks & buildings, Church, Cloisters, market place, coaching inns, Frank's Bridge
- + Attractive River Eden Setting
- + Churchyard green important open space
- + Market Square important centre
- + Refurbished West Station adds to overall attractiveness of the area
- Some unattractive shop fronts
- Unattractive East station environment at south entrance to town
- Toaves allotments at southern entrance unkempt
- Litter, dog fouling detract from overall picture, especially on footway from Christian Head car park to town and in the old yards off the main street
- Some poorly lit areas
- Footpath from station to town too wet for much use
- No community room on ground floor available for the elderly as a meeting place

EN2 THE COUNTRYSIDE WORKSHEET

- + Outstanding & distinctive natural assets – unspoilt landscape & countryside of high quality and diversity (2 National Nature Reserves, 23 SSSIs, North Pennines AONB)
- + 50 sites of importance for nature conservation surrounding town
- + Distinctive & rare species of wild flowers, butterflies, birds, fish & animals
- Agricultural land Graded 3 to 5
- + 52 listed buildings
- + 48 Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- + Opportunities to market the diverse natural assets of the area in a responsible way should be taken for the benefit of locals and tourists

EN3 LINKS BETWEEN TOWN & COUNTRY WORKSHEET

- + Abundance of fine views from town to country and from countryside
- + Market day & Auction mart important commercial links between town & country
- + Characterful villages & town – listed buildings, important houses dating from 17 & 18 century
- + Roads, railways & river provide links between town & country
- + Plusbus service cements the link between town and surrounding villages
- + Dry stone walls and ancient hedgerows are apparent right up to the town boundaries
- Some East station yard industry detracts from the visual appeal on the southern approach to the town
- Business activity at the northern end of the town can detract from the visitor's first impressions