Wyre Estuary Country Park – Stanah
Management Plan
2014 - 2018
# Wyre Estuary Country Park – Stanah - MANAGEMENT PLAN 2014 – 2018

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1.0 INTRODUCTION TO WYRE
Wyre Borough is a Lancashire coastal district bounded by the sea along parts of its western and northern boundaries. It shares a common land boundary with the City of Lancaster to the north, with the Boroughs of Ribble Valley, Preston and Fylde to the east and south respectively, and with Blackpool Unitary Authority along the remainder of its western boundary.
Wyre Borough itself is characterized by a distinct geographical polarity, with the urban concentration situated in the west of the Borough, and an expanse of rural area to the East. The urban area west of the River Wyre is on a peninsula situated in Morecambe Bay, and is comprised of the coastal towns of Fleetwood and Thornton, Cleveleys, and to the south, slightly inland, the market town of Poulton-le-Fylde.
The main rural area settlements of Wyre are the market town of Garstang, Catterall, Knott End-on-Sea, Preesall and Hambleton. The rural area is itself characterized by a large area of low-lying countryside and farmland, and east of the M6, the Bowland Fells which is designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Location of Wyre within Lancashire
1.1 Description of the Wyre Estuary

The Wyre Estuary Country Park extends across the whole of the Wyre Estuary from Shard Bridge to the south, northwards to Fleetwood and Knott End-on-Sea where the River Wyre flows into Morecambe Bay. The eastern boundary of the Estuary comprises Hambleton, Wardleys, Staynall, Burrows Marsh, Barnaby Sands, Hackensall and Knott End-on-Sea. Its western boundaries include Skippool, Cockle Hall, Stanah, the old ICI chemical works, Fleetwood Household Waste Recycling Centre, Fleetwood Marsh Nature Reserve and the town of Fleetwood.

The Wyre Estuary lies at the southern end of Morecambe Bay and is consequently protected under national and international wildlife legislation – Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site – due to being part of the Bay. It includes a significant local area of intertidal mudflat which is of national importance for three species of wintering wading bird and wildfowl. The Estuary also has the largest area of un-grazed saltmarshes in Lancashire.

The Estuary includes a number of natural areas and nature reserves. Stanah provides the main gateway into the Wyre Estuary, and is the focus of this management plan. Other natural areas include Burrows Marsh and Barnaby Sands Nature Reserve, which lie on the eastern banks and are designated as a SSSI in its own right for their Saltmarsh flora and high tide bird roosts. This nature reserve is managed by the Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside and has limited public access along the flood embankment. A proportion of the foreshore in the Estuary is a Biological Heritage Site (BHS). Fleetwood Nature Reserve (managed by Lancashire County Council) provides a
small area of parking, ponds, grassland and access to the saltmarshes. This site is popular with dog walkers and model aircraft enthusiasts.

The Wyre Estuary Country Park comprises a network of footpaths and bridle paths linking these picnic areas and natural areas of the Wyre Estuary, as well as providing easy accessibility from the local communities of Fleetwood, Thornton Cleveleys, Poulton-le-Fylde, Hambleton, Stalmine, Preesall and Knott End-on-Sea. These paths are also part of the Wyre Way long distance walk, which follows the River Wyre as close as possible using Public Rights of Way.

The core area and main gateway to the Wyre Estuary Country Park is at Stanah, on the banks of the river in Thornton Cleveleys. Other gateways around the estuary include Fleetwood, Knott End-on-Sea, Fleetwood Nature Park and Skippool Picnic site.

1.2: Location and Directions

The core area of the Wyre Estuary Country Park at Stanah is situated on the banks of the River Wyre at Stanah, Thornton Cleveleys, on the edge of a large residential area.

Grid Reference: SD356431

Post Code: FY5 5LR
Directions to Wyre Estuary Country Park

From the M6:
- Bear left onto Slip Road (M6 J32/M55 J1) (1.1 mile)
- Continue onto the M55 (7.7 mile)
- Exit onto the slip road M55/J3 (0.2 mile)
- At the roundabout take the 3rd exit onto Fleetwood Road A585 (3.4 mile)
- At the traffic lights (Windy Harbour) turn left onto Garstang New Road A585 (1 mile)
- Bear right as you approach set of traffic lights sign posted to Fleetwood A585 (1.5 mile)
- Straight through the set of traffic lights A585 (0.5 mile)
- At the roundabout take the 3rd exit onto Skippool road B5412 (0.2 mile) (The River Wyre Hotel is on your left hand side) The Country Park is brown signed from here.
- At the mini roundabout take the 3rd exit (2 mile) (Stanah Primary School on your right hand side, The Country Park is brown signed)
- At the next mini roundabout carry straight on Stanah Road (0.5 mile)
- Carry onto River Road to reach the Wyre Estuary Country Park (0.5 mile)

1.3 Purpose of this Management plan
This Management Plan is intended to provide a framework within which any future decisions concerning this site will be taken and a rolling programme of reviews which will inform future strategic and management planning. In addition, it is hoped that the management plan for the Wyre Estuary Country Park - Stanah will assist with allocating existing and securing additional resources for developments on this site that this management plan specifies.

Future actions/priorities are identified in the action plan to this document. This management plan therefore provides a benchmark against which future progress can be measured. This management plan seeks to:-
- Take a holistic approach to the future management of the park by reflecting previous studies, professional and community needs and desires and all of the aspects and issues within the park.
- Put community needs at the heart of the development and management of the park
- Bench mark the park against green flag criteria
- Establish standards that are effective and accountable
- Prioritize resources and action
- Provide a clear framework for the future development utilising existing and securing future resources
- Protect against undesirable developments
- Provide a transparent form of monitoring the management of the park and success

For further details about this plan please contact:

Address: Coast & Countryside Service
Wyre Estuary Country Park
River Road
Stanah
Thornton Cleveleys
Lancashire
FY5 5LR

Tel: 01253 887515
Email: Countryside@wyre.gov.uk
1.4 Responsibility of the Management Plan

The Coast and Countryside team of Wyre Council take the lead management role for the site and also work in partnership with other Council departments:

- Coast and Countryside Service – management plan owner, operational daily site management, volunteer management, environmental education, events coordination and delivery, habitat management, patrolling the area and connecting PROW, public liaison, community engagement
- Parks and Open Spaces (Grass mowing, Woodlands and Play area)
- Waste Management (Litter removal and Dog Fouling and Control Orders)
- Estates & Building Maintenance (Buildings)
- Engineering Services (Car parks)
- Tourism, Arts and Events (Promotion & assistance with events and volunteer recruitment)
- Corporate Communications (Promotion and Media)
- People & Places Administration

Also there is a working partnership between the Coast & Countryside Team and the Wyreside Café owners/managers. This management plan sets out the responsibility, aims and actions for the country parks successful care and development. This plan is a live document and formally reviewed annually.
2.0 THE WYRE ESTUARY COUNTRY PARK - STANAH

2.1 History and site description

The Wyre Estuary Country Park – Stanah lies on the western shore of the Wyre Estuary, partly on land that was used during the 1960’s as a landfill site. The site was subsequently levelled and capped with topsoil and turned into an informal car park. In 1988 the area began to be developed as the Wyre Estuary Country Park – Stanah, which was established to meet recommendations made in the 1987 Wyre Borough Council Tourism Strategy. The site was laid out with picnic areas, surfaced paths, recreational grassland, interpretation panels, tree plantations and a series of four car parks. Over the years these areas have been developed and structures added.

![Wyre Estuary Country Park – Stanah: Core site indicated by shaded area](image)

Stanah is the main gateway into the wider Wyre Estuary Country Park and comprises a core area of car parks and picnic areas that enable investigation of the wider Estuary. Since its inception in 1988 the Country Park has provided countryside recreation opportunities for local residents and visitors to Wyre. The network of paths are popular with walkers and dog walkers. The bridleway along the riverside path provides ‘safe’ riding for horse and riders and cyclists living in the Poulton-le-Fylde/Thornton Cleveleys area.

The core site at Stanah covers an area of approximately 13.85 hectares which is a combination of public recreation areas and wildlife habitat. Surfaced pathways extend 0.7km south-east from the main entrance on River Road, Stanah to a small picnic area known as Cockle Hall. On the river side of these pathways is an extensive area of
saltmarsh - the estuary and its associated habitats are popular with visiting and local
naturalists, particularly for bird watching. Groups often use Stanah as a starting point when
visiting coastal habitats.

On the landward side of the pathway is the drumlin (a glacial hill), which is an important
feature, forming a large area of public open space on the site. It provides excellent views of
the estuary and the surrounding landscape. The lower part of the drumlin is enclosed to
create a ‘family area’ that is dog-free. Within the ‘Family area’ a small outdoor amphitheatre
has been created and a ‘Natural Play’ playground has been installed in an adjacent area.

Thirteen woodland plantations were fenced and planted with young ‘whip’ trees, of native
species, during the original development of the Country Park in 1988-90. These have now
grown to form small wooded plantations, providing wildlife habitat and landscape features.
During more recent times two further woodland compartments have been planted on the
Drumlin area of grassland, with funding from the Forestry Commission, to increase the
diversity and age structure of the woodland on site.

Wyre Council’s policy for providing “Access for All” is demonstrated by the provision of level
access throughout the Park (to BT Countryside for All standards), as well as in the visitor
centre, accessible toilet and adjacent Riverside Room. The Wyreside Trail is a specially
adapted route for use by blind and partially sighted people. The park was the first national
winner of the BT Countryside Access for All Award and has also attained an England for
Excellence Silver Award. A Green Flag award was first attained in 2004.

The site has a long history of use by water sports enthusiasts. The slipway was available to
be used (mainly by power boats and jet skis) from since before the Country Park was
created. The launching slip and trailer park currently attracts local and visiting enthusiasts
from Lancashire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire.

The Wyreside Visitor centre opened in 1991. The building was part funded by ICI and
operated as a Tourist Information Centre with displays, supplying local information, selling
local crafts and books and booking tickets. The need and desire from visitors for a café
grew steadily and the Council then operated a basic café along with the Information Centre.
With the potential identified the centre has now been contracted out to a private business,
who operate very successfully as the Wyreside Café.

The Riverside Room was originally a water sports clubhouse and the building was converted
and extended around 2002 with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to become an
Environmental Education and Volunteer Centre. The main meeting room can be hired and
used as a base for visiting education, voluntary and community based groups. The building
is also the base for Wyre Coast and Countryside Service and their volunteers.

Paths extend out of the core Stanah site past the former ICI works – (‘Riverside Path –
North’) and beyond Cockle Hall towards Skippool – (‘Riverside Path – South’), as well as
across the field from Cockle Hall.
2.2 WECP – Stanah – Current Features and Facilities

The Wyreside Cafe

In 2010 the Council identified the need to work with an operator that can bring entrepreneurial flair to the operation and development of what was then the Wyreside Visitor Centre. The initial objective of sourcing an external catering operator was:

- To establish a high quality-catering establishment that will be visited as a destination in its own right.
- To establish an arrangement with an operator that will facilitate the continual improvement of the visitor experience at the Country Park.

The Wyreside Cafe opened in July 2011 and is run as a family business, opening between the hours of 8am and 5pm, 7 days a week (for the majority of the year). They provide a menu of breakfasts, home made soups, sandwiches and snacks, with a large selection of home baked cakes and sweets, as well as locally made Ice Cream. As many ingredients as possible are locally sourced. The Café has proved to be a popular addition to the Country Park, with a thriving and regular customer base, with an extensive area of outdoor seating and achieving the desired objectives of the café being visited as a destination in its own right and it improving the visitor experience to the Country Park, within a relatively short time in operation.

Natural Play Area

During 2010 a successful match funding bid from the National Play Builder Fund and The Forestry Commission Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) – English Woodland Grant Scheme was achieved to enable the creation of this facility. The Natural Play area was completed and opened in April 2011. The facility addresses corporate objectives and visitor interest and provides a facility for families with young children between the ages of 8 – 15 to enjoy the natural environment through play.

The site has a very natural character; being bounded on three sides by mature tree planting yet having good visual links towards the Wyre Estuary. Popular ‘riverside’ walks are located adjacent to the proposed play space with parking and mobility parking being provided close by.

The character of the scheme recognizes the importance of both woodland and estuary and it is arranged to encourage free movement both around and through the play space. In keeping with the natural character of the site, timber play equipment was considered appropriate, as was the need to offer opportunities both for small and large group play. The “busier” climbing structures are located to the rear of the site and adjacent to boundary woodland. To the front, swinging structures for individual, group and accessible use are positioned to ensure that views towards the estuary are not hindered. Bark safer surfaces are used to maintain the natural character of the scheme. An outdoor amphitheatre with seating for 100+ audiences has been built into the Natural Play area scheme.

The Natural Play area has proved extremely popular, attracting family groups of visitors as a destination in its own right and the area is particularly busy at weekends and during school holidays. The desire for Toddler play apparatus has subsequently increased from both the Councils perspective and from the users, with numerous enquiries for the provision of equipment for younger children. Funding has now been secured to expand the play area with Toddler equipment, which will be installed in March 2014.
Car Parks, Roads, Verges and Traffic Islands

The car parks provide convenient, attractive parking space overlooking the Wyre Estuary and to permit easy access for all to the Wyre Estuary Country Park. The site also benefits from a regular No. 87 bus service which serves the Park from the local towns of Cleveleys, Thornton and Poulton-le-Fylde.

To allow for ease of management the car parks are named and referred to in this way throughout this management plan and in all site based information. A traffic counter at the entrance to the park counts vehicles with a report produced by Lancashire County Council on a monthly basis.

**Slipway Car Park** - Bays here are marked out for cars, coaches and for vehicles with trailers (water sports users etc.). Many of the spaces offer views north up the River and adjacent verges are managed to allow uninterrupted views of the river. The boat slip is in the north east corner of the car park.

**Estuary View Car Park** – All parking bays here face east across the River and also offer views of the Forest of Bowland Fells. Like the Slipway Car Park, verges are managed to allow uninterrupted views. A picnic table and numerous benches are provided adjacent to this car park. The area of grass between the Slipway and Estuary View Car Parks is very popular at high tides with people watching water sport users in the channel and main river.

**Drumlin Car Park** – This car park is traditionally used by dog walkers and is one of the busiest car parks. A path incorporating the Wyreside Trail, allows pedestrians to safely pass this busy area.

**Visitor Centre Car Park** – This is the largest car park in the park and provides accessible parking bays adjacent to the Visitor Centre. The bus stop is situated here and the traffic island adjacent the main thoroughfare is the terminus for the bus service and also marks the end of the public highway. Traffic islands have been planted to break up the car park and to regulate parking. The plants and shrubs attract birds and wildlife to their flowers and berries.

**Boat Slipway**

To provide continued historical access to the River Wyre for boats and water sports enthusiasts in a safe and sustainable way.

The slipway provides access to the River Wyre and Morecambe Bay. Balancing this right of access and the international importance of the River and Bay was brought to the fore in 2002 when the Wyre Estuary Recreation and Conservation Group were established. Its remit was to provide a managed response to issues arising on and around the Wyre Estuary and to identify a way forward to try and resolve conflict by bringing users and interested parties together.

Representatives from Wyre Council, Natural England, Environment Agency, Morecambe Bay Partnership, RSPB and Lancashire Wildlife Trust, with consultation from ABP, the coastguard and other agencies, users and landowners produced a Voluntary Code of Conduct for the Estuary. This is now displayed at Stanah and all other slipways into the Estuary and is available in leaflet form, as stocked in the Wyreside Cafe with the tide timetables. Up to fifty trailers are able to use the car park and boat slip, and it is often used to capacity between June and October.

Periodic (low key) monitoring of the water sports users and the voluntary code is required and from time to time it is necessary to bring together current users and officers from the
Council and various agencies to re-establish / re-enforce the Voluntary Code of Conduct and its purpose for the safe use of this facility.

Access for All

The Country Park contains a mixture of public rights of way and additional paths and trails. The ‘Riverside Path – South’ is a bridleway. Within the core site it begins at Stanah and follows the course of the river towards Cockle Hall. At this point the bridleway continues out of the core site into the wider Estuary area, running to Ramper Pot and then to Skippool, approximately 1¾ miles south of the Visitor Centre. There are a series of public footpaths joining the bridleway that create circular routes and link with quiet lanes. Another public footpath ('Riverside Path – North') runs from Stanah northwards, out of the Core site, past the chemical works towards Fleetwood.

Other footpaths run between Stanah and Cockle Hall, forming a short circular route. This is part of the Wyreside Trail and also allows access to Cockle Hall during very high tides when the riverside path is flooded. A number of other paths exist within the Country Park that links car parks and the Visitor Centre to the estuary. All these paths are fully accessible. The Wyreside Trail, comprising of surfaced paths, tapping rail, tactile paving and periodic routed numbered posts, provides self-guided access for the blind and partially sighted.

Picnic Tables and Benches and Garden Features

Benches are placed at regular intervals around the park and along paths, to provide resting points for walkers and places to sit and admire the views across the River Wyre and to the Bowland Fells. Picnic tables provide areas to picnic and rest and some picnic tables are angled to accommodate wheelchairs on the end.

Sensory Garden - The sensory garden was built using reclaimed bricks by volunteers and the Probation Service and is planted with plants donated by regular users of the site. Some of the plants are scented, some are soft to the touch, while others may be prickly, while others are visually striking, all intended to stimulate the senses. This area is managed with the assistance of the Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group (an on-site environmental / conservation group for 8 – 13 year old children run by the Coast & Countryside Service).

Vegetable Plot - The development of the vegetable area at the front of the Riverside Room was a joint venture between Volunteer Rangers and students from Larkholme Lodge. Initially they created a key-hole Garden. The area was subsequently extended and in 2013 one of the Coast & Countryside Volunteers drew up an individual Action Plan for the area, with estimated costings, to take the area forward. The Volunteer is helping to manage the plot as a demonstration area for growing vegetables interspersed with a selection of nectar bearing flowers, particularly focusing on early and late flowering species to extend the pollen season for local bees and insects.

Outdoor Classroom (Rear or Rangers Office) - The development of a work station, wildflower propagation bed, small tree nursery and a composting facility was developed in 2008. Volunteers from Beaumont College (Lancaster) and Hodson High School (Poulton-le-Fylde) helped develop this facility. Both of these centres provide outreach learning and work opportunities for their residents and students.

In 2012 the area has been upgraded and now includes accessible stoned paths, a workshop/education area, willow coppice, bee hive area and a small wildlife pond. The area provides an excellent natural educational resource and is used to work with school
groups when they visit the park and has also been used to host Greenwood Activity Workshop days. A group of disabled students from Beaumont College (Lancaster) has been instrumental in developing the circular path and new wildlife pond. The main path was created by an employee volunteer group who spent 3 days working on the site. The bee hives are operated by a couple from one of the local caravan sites who look after the bees and actively promote beekeeping and the bee’s importance to conservation at talks and events such as Country Park Open Days etc. The dry river bed feature was created from reclaimed stone and earth by the Country Park Volunteers. Wooden sculptures in this area are memorials to lost loved ones who visited the park. The bird feeding station was created from reclaimed logs and the bird feeders were donated. This area has undergone a change due to the siting of a new Toilet block in the vicinity of these structures and has now been incorporated in the outdoor classroom area.

In 2013 the arbour workshop area was created and completed in 2014 this enables outdoor craft, teaching activities and parties to take place outdoors but under cover, this was all constructed by the wyre volunteer rangers.

**Totem Pole** - This unique wood carving was carved by local artist Geoff Whitley. Stanah Squirrels Wildlife WATCH group sourced funding for this project and helped carve a part of the sculpture as part of a workshop for the group, run by the artist. It promotes the type of birds that you should be able to see around the Country Park. Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch group, together with the Teen Rangers (a regular monthly group for youngsters aged 13 years to 18 years) help the Coast & Countryside Service to maintain the structure and the area around it’s base.

**Drumlin Picnic Area** - During September 2010 Coast & Countryside staff supported a group of 12 youngsters involved in the Princes Trust award scheme. Working over a two week period youngsters designed, costed and developed a new picnic area on the lower Drumlin. Memorial bench requests have lead to 3 new picnic tables being donated by visitors to establish the new picnic area.

**Visitor Car Park Beds** – Low growing shrubs and sensory plants occupy the car park beds. These are maintained on a cyclic maintenance programme through the year by volunteers and Country park staff

**Salt Marsh**

The Wyre Estuary supports the largest area of un-grazed salt marsh in North West England. The upper, mid and lower salt marsh zones support diverse plant communities. Lapwing and Redshank between October and March use the salt marsh edge as a high tide sub-roost. Birds feed on the exposed mudflats during the ebb tide and quickly move to Skippool where the best feeding and observation areas exist. Wyre’s Biodiversity Action Plan plays an intrinsic role at the site, to ensure the biodiversity and natural integrity of the saltmarshes are conserved and enjoyed by all. Any work undertaken on the salt marsh requires the permission of Natural England. A 2013 survey by Natural England of the saltmarshes in the whole of the Wyre Estuary found them all to be in ‘Favourable’ condition.

**Grassland**

The main area of open space is on a glacial drumlin and attracts large numbers of people; the main users include dog walkers and horse riders. With a substrate of boulder clay this area does become wet during the winter period. The grasslands provide a multi-use public open space with areas on its southern slope left uncut for nature conservation, whilst
conserving the natural landscape heritage. They also provide an open aspect for appreciation of the landscape.

The mowing contract allows a monthly cut on the drumlin whilst leaving uncut islands for nature conservation to attract a number of wildflower species including Fleabane, Greater Knapweed and Tufted Vetch. Butterflies also breed in these areas including Meadow Brown, Wall Brown, Small Tortoiseshell, Small Copper and Small Heath. Wyre’s Biodiversity Action Plan plays an intrinsic role at the site, to ensure the biodiversity and natural integrity of the grasslands are conserved and enjoyed by all. The lower end of the open space is fenced off to create a family area, free from dogs and is mown twice per month. Verges are left uncut for Wildlife/Education Interest.

Two areas of the Drumlin have been planted with young ‘Whip’ trees (See Woodlands below).

**Woodlands**

There are 13 woodland plantations on site which were planted over 20 years ago. They provide wildlife conservation value in addition to a recreation and educational resource. The woodlands consist of a variety of native broadleaf trees and are now managed sustainably (see Conservation and Heritage section). The woodland adjacent to the Natural Play Area was incorporated into the scheme. It is very well used for recreation and also for education purposes by the Coast and Countryside Service, when delivering their educational activities.

Recently planted native, broadleaved ‘Whips’ on the upper and lower Drumlin were planted in a bid to increase the woodland cover on site and also to provide a more diverse age structure to the trees on site.
3.0: WECP – Stanah

VISION
Stanah will be a safe, family friendly and accessible hub for all to enjoy the wildlife and landscape of the Wyre Estuary. A place for people to undertake healthy outdoor activities and to find out how they can explore the coast and countryside of Wyre.

This section sets out the different key criteria by which this management plan is based on. It describes the Wyre Estuary Country Park as it is now and what issues that the management plan is to address.

3.1: A Welcoming Place

Key criteria
- Good and safe access
- Good signage to and in the park
- Equal access for all members of the community
- Positive and inviting
- Something for everyone

The reasons for visiting the Wyre Estuary Country Park – Stanah are many and varied from coming for a pleasant riverside walk, taking the dog for its daily walk, launching water craft on to the River over the high tide period, a pleasant horse ride or bicycle ride along the bridleway, to sampling the home-made delights at the Wyreside Café, bringing the children to play on the Natural Play area, exploring the area looking for its birdlife, flora or insect life, or coming to an organised event or Guided Walk. People are visiting the Country Park generally for positive experiences, so it is important to make sure that the positive experience begins from when they first arrive on site.

The site is fortunate enough to have a series of ‘White on Brown Tourism’ sign directing people from the A585 main trunk road to Fleetwood to the Stanah site. These are monitored on a regular basis (twice yearly) to keep a check that none are missing or defaced and any requests are forwarded to Lancashire County Council Highways department to keep these in good order.

On arrival to the site, a large timber entrance sign welcomes you to the site. Annual maintenance of the Timber will both prolong the life of the structure and create a cared for impression to the visitor. During the year banners are also hung at the entrance (on a small fence on the opposite side of the road) to advertise Country Park events, hopefully stimulating interest in what activities are happening on the park. Information boards are located at strategic access points around the site, next to car parks, adjacent to the Wyreside Cafe and to viewing points.

The on-site signage, although adequate, has evolved in an ad hoc way over many years, resulting in a site with different styles of signage. This has also been identified through the Green Flag judging process. A specific basic signage plan for the Country Park is in development. It is important to acknowledge the ‘Countryside
feel' to the site when considering the signage, while setting out a consistent look and
design for the future, which must also conform to the wider ‘family' look of Council
sites. The plan is a long term plan, which, by necessity, will be implemented over a
number of years due to limited budgets.

The entrance road to the Stanah site (River Road) is part of the Lancashire County
Council (LCC) Highways network, and extends up to the final street lamp. After
this the road and car parks are owned by Wyre Council. It is important to keep the
roads and car parks maintained, in conjunction with either Wyre Council Engineers
or LCC Highways, ensuring any pot holes are filled as soon as possible, while also
ensuring the parking bay lines are clear and usable.

Daily patrols are undertaken throughout the site by Coast & Countryside staff and
Volunteers. The purpose is to remove any dropped litter, to risk assess and check
the many structures within the Park, as well as to provide a friendly point of contact
to our many visitors. Damaged structures such as fences, benches and tapping
rail, etc. are repaired as quickly as possible after identification.

For a number of Visitors to the park, the Café and surrounding area (with the
adjacent Riverside Room, toilet block and picnic area) is seen as the ‘hub’ of the
Park. Consequently a number of different features have been created to provide
an interesting and welcoming feel to the site. An annual wildflower area outside the
Riverside Room, bulb planting under the trees, the dry river bed feature, bird feeding
station, totem pole, organic allotment plot and keyhole garden and even the
provision of a giant ‘connect 4’ game which is placed outside daily, all help provide
interest and beauty to this area of the Country Park.

The Riverside Path – South (both within the core site and beyond) gets covered by
the Tide when it is over 9 metres. The high tide can drop an amount of Flotsam and
jetsam. During High tide periods patrols may be increased to deal with washed up
litter and work parties may be organised to clear the pathways of washed up
vegetation or larger items of litter, washed up logs etc.

The majority of paths within the Country Park are Stone ‘Crusher Run' built to
Access for All standards. In order to keep visitors safe and the paths clear and
inviting, they are maintained by trimming overhanging and ground level vegetation
(as required throughout the season), manually clearing encroaching grass from the
surface and when necessary (usually every few years) topping up the surface to
bring them back up to standard.

A number of the structures within the Country Park where installed at its inception
and after approximately 25 years are starting to look slightly ‘tired’. Indeed many
have been up-dated over the years. The desire continues to be to renew these,
within the restrictions of budget, before they start to look ‘shabby' and un-cared for.
Again this is an on-going, long term goal, which operates with an annual condition
survey of the structures within the Park.

Different projects over recent years, both large and small, have helped to make the
site more welcoming, such as creating new wildlife habitats (i.e. the tree planting on
the Drumin), improving the landscape and attracting more wildlife. The Natural Play
area improved the aspect of one corner of the park and also created a new and alternative ‘hub’ area within the Park. Seating and picnic areas are provided throughout the park to allow visitors to rest, or enjoy a view (or both). These are constantly being added to or up-graded. In addition, Trampers – all terrain electric buggies - are available to borrow for those who struggle to walk any distance, allowing them to discover areas of the Country Park they believed to now be inaccessible.

3.2: Healthy, Safe and Secure

Key Criteria

- Safe equipment and facilities
- Secure place for all members of the community to use or traverse
- Dog fouling issues
- Health and safety policies
- Emergency equipment

The Wyre Estuary Country Park operates within the Council’s corporate Health & Safety policy, in line with the wider Coast and Countryside Service, with specific site issues being bespoke to the Wyre Estuary Country Park - Stanah. The Health and Safety policy and risk assessments are reviewed annually. An example of a generic risk assessment is included in this plan in the appendix. Details of specific health and safety arrangements and procedures relating to the Wyre Estuary Country Park - Stanah can also be viewed in the appendix.

The core Stanah site from the Wyreside Cafe to Cockle Hall is inspected daily as part of the daily inspection procedure. Minor repairs are usually implemented the same day or within a maximum of a couple of days. In the circumstance where any broken or damaged structure cannot be repaired straight away, the area is immediately made secure and appropriate temporary signage erected. The barriers and signage will be checked daily until the matter is resolved.

The play areas and equipment are checked thoroughly by the Council’s in-house RPII trained playground inspector. Wyre Council’s playground inspector also inspects and repairs all 34 of Wyre’s playgrounds. Inspections are recorded and an annual independent inspection is also carried out. Any repairs required are carried out as soon as possible. The data is currently collected manually and transferred to electronic storage/records purpose. Wyre Council also has three other operatives trained to RPII inspection standard for service continuity.

Overnight parking and camping are not permitted on site and appropriate signage advising visitors of this is erected on site. Incidents of theft from vehicles are not frequent, but do occasionally occur. The erection of advisory signs to users on ‘reducing car crime’ can deter criminals. Routine maintenance of desirable lines of vision is a priority measure for the reduction of crime and the fear of crime. Close liaison with the Police and Community Safety Partnership helps in supervising the site and the tracking of such incidents. Following a prolonged period of risk of unauthorised use by travellers during 2012, all car parks are now only accessible under a 2 metre high height barrier. The Height barriers can be opened to allow high sided vehicles to use the car parks.
Dog walkers are one of the main users of the Country Park, particularly during the winter months. Dog fouling is a problem, as are the owners who pick and bag the faeces, but then deposit the plastic bag in the undergrowth. Dog bins are provided at strategic points around the Park, anti-fouling signs are displayed and the Council Operations Area Officers visit and patrol the Country Park on a regular basis. Fixed penalty fines have been issued.

Staff and volunteer Rangers patrol the site daily and are pro-active in encouraging responsible dog ownership whilst on site, often offering dog bags to visitors who find themselves without one.

Updated dog control orders were implemented in June 2012 across the Borough. On the Wyre Estuary Country Park - Stanah the Orders require dog owners/walkers to:

- Clean up after a dog has fouled
- When asked to do so, put and keep a dog on a lead
- Refrain from exercising dogs in designated areas
- Not exercise more than four dogs at any one time

Enforcement includes an on-the-spot Fixed Penalty Notices of £75 to enforce the Dog Control Orders as prescribed by Section 59 of the Clean Neighbourhoods Act 2005, issued by authorised officers of the Council. Failure to pay the fine within fourteen days of issue may lead to prosecution and a criminal conviction. The maximum penalty on summary conviction in a magistrates' court will be £1000.

PCSO’s and Council Operations Area Officers have the capacity to issue fixed penalty notices for such offences. The Coast & Countryside Rangers are being trained to issue fixed penalties and to work alongside the area operations offices on reducing antisocial behaviour in our public places. Signage has been erected on site, in line with many other sites across the Borough.

The slipway provides free access to the River Wyre mainly for Power Boats and Jet Skis. The users can only gain access to the water for an hour before and an hour after high tide. This tight time-frame sometimes leads users to abandon trailers on the slipway, to reversing down the slipway before it is actually safe to do so, amongst other safety related problems. Coupled with conservation concerns for the river and its wildlife this then led to the formation of the ‘Water Sports Users Forum’ in 2002 and the subsequent ‘voluntary code of conduct’. This is now displayed at Stanah and all other official slipways on the Estuary and is available in leaflet form, as stocked in the Wyreside Cafe and Riverside Room. In 2013 a small group of local users approached the Coast & Countryside Rangers to look at the possibility of these users forming a ‘Club’ to work closely with the Council and also to look at the possibility of a certain degree of self-regulation.
Warning signs, a lifebuoy and an emergency telephone are strategically placed in proximity to the slipway. These are checked three times per week by a Council Officer (along with other similar structures spread across the whole Estuary. High tide information is strategically placed around the site.

Due to the nature of the role of Countryside Rangers, across the whole Borough, all Coast & Countryside Ranger staff are regularly DBS checked and first aid trained. Volunteers and Walk leaders receive ‘First Aid’, ‘Guided walk’, ‘Role of a Ranger’, ‘Safety in the Outdoors’ and ‘Navigation’ training. Members of staff are also trained in aspects of health and safety such as ‘manual handling’, ‘working from height’, amongst others, which are implemented when supervising volunteer or public groups, or simply when undertaking specific tasks, as appropriate. Coast & Countryside staff are also trained in the use of various powered tools, issued with the appropriate PPE and monitored under HAVS guidelines.

As part of the annual Wyre Walks activity programme the Coast & Countryside Rangers organise a series of one hour health walks throughout the Borough. These walks occur at the Wyre Estuary Country Park – Stanah every second Tuesday and also one Sunday a month. The walks are led by Volunteers and are designed for people who are not used to walking and want to start to get fit and healthy. A small number of GP referrals come through to the Health Walks. Referrals are also made to a scheme called Green Gym where customers are looking for green exercise through practical work. These people join the Rangers and Volunteers to participate in a variety of jobs around the Country Park.

In addition to the Health walks, the Coast & Countryside Rangers also organise a series of walks and outdoor activities for adults and children and school groups which benefit from walking or gentle green exercise. The two youth groups based on site – Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group and the Teen Rangers both take in practical activity around the park as part of their group activities.

The Natural Play area has proved to be a major draw for visiting families into the site, providing active play. The Family area woodland plantation is also used by youngsters for den building. Funding has now been secured to install an area of toddler play equipment which will offer further active play to a younger age range.
3.3: Clean and Well Maintained

Key Criteria

- Litter and other waste management
- Grounds maintenance, buildings, equipment and features
- Litter, vandalism and maintenance

Visitors are encouraged to ‘take their litter home’ and consequently a small number of litter bins are sited within the Country Park. All ground litter is picked daily during patrols and is then taken off site daily, while the bins (including dog bins) are emptied 3 times per week. Recycling bins used to be located by the Wyreside Cafe and the Visitor Centre Car Park; however, due to the full system of household re-cycling collection now operating and the opening of the Global Renewables Re-cycling plant at Thornton, the Council has removed the majority of re-cycling points across the Borough as all the waste that is collected from public sites is sorted at the Re-cycling plant.

The footpaths and bridleways are maintained to Access for all Standards. An internal budget helps maintain the footpaths to these standards, however capital funding is often sought to improve or upgrade footpaths. The vigilance of the Ranger Service and established annual maintenance plan guides staff and volunteers to maintain the access routes to a good standard.

An annual maintenance programme is agreed with the Green Spaces Team who mow and strim the Drumlin field, family area and many verges around the park. The majority of the road side verges are kept short for amenity purposes, with the main areas of differential mowing being on the Drumlin, in the Family area and behind the Sensory Garden for conservation. The embankment vegetation is also kept under control so as not to impede viewing from cars of the local scenery.

Car parks, access roads and the slipway are patrolled on a daily basis. Any minor defects are remedied immediately by Country park staff. Larger tasks including ‘pot hole filling’ are carried out by council operatives or the Highways agency. Car parks condition surveys are routinely patrolled by the authorities engineering service. Car parks and access roads are swept every 2 months.

The Coast & Countryside Ranger staff and volunteers are able to maintain the small scale infrastructure within the park. The creation of a site compound, equipped with tools and supplies, allows small scale maintenance to be remedied immediately. Graffiti and Vandalism are dealt with as quickly as possible. Small scale vandalism is dealt with as stated above (under Healthy, Safe & Secure). Graffiti removal within the core site would be achieved through the use of graffiti remover and / or sanding (dependant on materials involved). Large scale Vandalism would involve liaising with partner departments within the Council (see below).

Maintenance and routine inspections of the following facilities is also undertaken by Coast & Countryside Rangers, volunteer rangers, and assisted by various community groups: the Sensory Garden (with assistance from Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group), the dry river bed, the Wyreside Trail for the blind and partially sighted,
Organic Vegetable allotment, Outdoor Classroom (with assistance from students of Beaumont College), the Totem Pole, Drumlín Picnic Area and Visitor Car Park Island Beds

Coast & Countryside Staff are trained in the appropriate use of the various powered machinery used and issued with the appropriate Personal Protection equipment (PPE), as required. All powered machinery is regularly serviced and HAVS tested and users are monitored to avoid prolonged use and the potential harmful effects. Hand tools are routinely cleaned and sharpened as required. Vehicles and Trampers (all terrain electric buggies for use by the public on site) are regularly serviced and maintained by the Councils Transport department.

The Coast & Countryside Rangers work in partnership with internal Council departments such as Engineering Services, Green Spaces, Waste Management and Building maintenance in relation to larger scale infrastructure, as well as working with external agencies where necessary. Both the Wyreside Cafe and River Room buildings are included in Property Services cyclical maintenance programme which monitors and upgrades structures on its assets register. Any damage or graffiti to the buildings is immediately reported through to Building Maintenance and, if required, would be made safe either by that department or the Coast & Countryside Country Park Ranger, depending on the nature of the damage. The interior of the River Room building is also maintained by Property Services. The interior of the Wyreside Cafe is maintained by the proprietors, under an agreed contract. Danfo are contracted to operate the sites toilet facilities, which are open to the public daily between dawn and dusk. A new Toilet block has recently been installed between the Café and Riverside room in order to upgrade the facilities offered to the public.

Wyre has a dedicated Tree and Woodland officer who carries out an annual inspection of the trees and authorises any works necessary. For small works the Coast & Countryside Ranger team have three members of staff equipped and trained, while for larger works we have access to a private contracted tree surgeon. Any replacement trees due to failure or vandalism will be scheduled for replacement in the next planting season using species specified in the original planting plan layout. Planting of new whips are undertaken by Coast & Countryside Ranger Staff and Volunteers, as is the weeding and re-planting during the first few years.
## 3.3.1 Wyre Estuary Country Park – Stanah – Grounds Maintenance Tasks

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<td>Check Site for Vandalism</td>
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<td>Litter Pick</td>
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<td>Empty Bins</td>
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<td>Inspect Play Area - Visual</td>
<td>C. Rangers</td>
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<td>Inspect Trees</td>
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<td>Mow Grass – Amenity &amp; Family Area</td>
<td>Green Spaces</td>
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<td>Mow Grass – Drumlin</td>
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<td>Prune Overgrowing Vegetation</td>
<td>C. Rangers</td>
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<td>Remove Graffiti</td>
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<td>Re-stake Jubilee Tree</td>
<td>C. Rangers</td>
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<td>Weed and Re-plant Tree Whips</td>
<td>C. Rangers</td>
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<td>Strim Embankments</td>
<td>Green Spaces</td>
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<td>Prune Trees</td>
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<td>Prune &amp; Weed Traffic Islands</td>
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<td>2 – 3 times per year</td>
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<td>Inspect Structures - Annual</td>
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<td>Clean Furniture</td>
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<td>Timber Treat Wooden Structures</td>
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<td>Car Park &amp; Path Edge Weed Treatments</td>
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<td>Control Invasive Weeds</td>
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<td>Weed ‘Allotments’ &amp; ‘Gardens’</td>
<td>C. Rangers</td>
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<td>Sow Wildflower Area</td>
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<td>Harvest Wildflower seeds</td>
<td>C. Rangers</td>
<td>Twice</td>
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<td>Inspect footpaths</td>
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<td>Up-grade Footpaths</td>
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3.4 A Sustainable Country Park

Key Criteria

- Environmental sustainability – energy natural resource conservation
- Minimise pesticide use
- Eliminate horticultural peat use
- Recycle waste plant material
- High horticultural and arboriculture standards

Staff at the Wyre Estuary Country Park seek to promote environmentally sustainable methods through their practical and maintenance works.

Peat Use
Peat is not used on the Wyre Estuary Country Park - Stanah in any work practices. Wyre Council actively seek ways of reducing the use of peat and shares the concern to reduce peat use to minimize the global effects of peat extraction on peat bog habitats and also supports DEFRA’s phase out target of 2015 for the public sector.

Pesticide / herbicide use
Pesticides are not used at the Wyre Estuary Country Park. Herbicides are used to a minimum and to practising standards recommended by manufacturers and corporate policy (below). Herbicides are used to spray car park and footpath edges twice a year.

It is the Council’s policy to keep pesticide use to the lowest possible level while making sure that pests, diseased and weeds are effectively controlled in a way which protects the health of people, plants or creatures. We always consider whether we need to use a pesticide and in some situations we can limit the pest, disease and weed problems by following good practices. For example, we may use different cultivation methods, fertilizers, bark mulch, shredding material and so on.

It is important to tackle a problem as soon as identified but before using a pesticide we will consider the other options as mentioned above. If we decide to use a pesticide, there are still a number of ways in which we can keep unwanted effects of a pesticide as low as possible.

- For the pesticide to be as effective as possible it is essential that the correct product is used at the right time and in the right way.
- Always use a product in line with its approved conditions of use. Always consider a dose which is lower than the maximum dose allowed by the product label.
- In some situations we may be able to apply the lowest possible amount of pesticide by better targeting. For example spot spraying weeds in shrub
lands/turf areas, patch and varied dose treatment are possible options to consider.

In all situations, we consider the effects the product could have on people’s health and the environment. The COSHH assessment and assessment of risks to the environment may confirm that the pesticide we have chosen is the most appropriate. However, if we find that using another suitable pesticide may involve less risk to people’s health or the environment we will need to consider our choice again.

**Waste Minimisation**

Although not now separated on site (see above – Clean & Well Maintained), all rubbish collected in Wyre is now sorted and, wherever possible, re-cycled at the Global Renewables Thornton Re-cycling centre, with the absolute minimum going into landfill.

Within the office recycled paper is used and printer cartridges are returned to the manufacturers. A range of environmentally friendly cleaning products are used in the Riverside Room, including recycled paper towels, floor maintainer, surface cleaners and energy efficient light bulbs are used where convenient.

At the rear of the Riverside Room is a small composting facility in which waste from the organic garden is put. Any plant material which is strimmed is raked off the ground and stored to break down naturally in this facility. The woodlands are used to store green material; it also acts as habitat for wildlife. If any green material cannot be used to promote value of wildlife habitat then it is chipped and used on site.

Play bark for the Natural Play area is from a sustainable renewable environmentally friendly source.

**Green Tourism Business Scheme**

In 2010 the Wyre Estuary Country Park entered the Green Tourism Business Scheme, (GTBS) attaining a Silver award. The Wyre Estuary Country Park – Stanah is committed to delivering a sustainable visitor experience and minimising its damage to the environment. The site meets minimum standards of good practice across a range of sustainable development indicators and it has been audited by a qualified professional to ensure standards are maintained. Our commitment to this is delivered by our Green policy and sustainability action plan:

**Green Policy**

The environment and natural surroundings is what makes the Wyre Estuary Country Park such a special place. Here at the park we are committed to providing everyone with an opportunity to enjoy a healthy lifestyle by engaging with the environment and by creating positive opportunities within the community.

The Wyre Estuary Country Park also actively engages in ways to reduce the negative environmental and social impacts of our activities and is committed to engaging with sustainable practices. With the integration of the GTBS into the
management practices and processes on the site, sustainability has maintained a high profile at the Country Park.

Management and Marketing - demonstrating good environmental management, including staff awareness, specialist training, monitoring, and record keeping

Social Involvement and Communication of environmental actions to customers through variety of channels and range of actions, e.g. green policy, promotion of environmental efforts on the website, education, and community and social projects

Energy - efficiency of lighting, heating and appliance, insulation and renewable energy use

Water - efficiency - e.g. good maintenance, low-consumption appliances, rainwater harvesting.

Purchasing - environmentally friendly goods and services, e.g. products made from recycled materials, use and promotion of local food and drink, and use of FSC wood products

Waste - minimisation by encouraging, the ‘eliminate, reduce, reuse, recycle’ principle, e.g. glass, paper, card, plastic and metal recycling; supplier take-back agreements; dosing systems; and composting

Transport - aims to minimise visitors car use by promoting local and national public transport service, cycle hire, local walking and cycling option, and use of alternative fuels

Natural and Cultural Heritage - on site measures aimed at increasing biodiversity, e.g. wildlife gardening, growing native species, nesting boxes, as well as providing information for visitors on the wildlife on and around the site

Innovation - any good and best practice actions to increase a business’s sustainability that are not covered else where
3.5: Conservation, Heritage and Biodiversity

Key Criteria

- Conservation of natural features, wildlife and fauna
- Conservation of landscape features
- Conservation of buildings and structures

The Wyre Estuary is part of the Morecambe Bay estuarine complex, one of the largest areas of intertidal mud flats in Britain. It was designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in 1995, and included in an extension of the Morecambe Bay Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site in September 1999. Parts of the Wyre Estuary at Fleetwood are also included as part of Morecambe Bay, as a candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC), under the Habitats Directive.

The Wyre Estuary supports the largest area of un-grazed salt marsh in North West England. The transition from lower to upper salt marsh is well developed and there are freshwater swamp communities above the high water mark. The salt marsh, extending from the north at Fleetwood, southward to the boundaries of the Wyre Estuary Country Park at Shard Bridge is designated a Biological Heritage Site (BHS).

Glasswort, Annual Sea-Blite and Common Salt Marsh Grass dominate the seaward edge of the salt marsh, Cord Grass occurs and may be increasing where the marsh narrows towards Ramper Pot.

The mid-marsh zone supports Sea Purslane, Sea Aster and Common Sea Lavender. The upper marsh zone supports mixed communities of Sea Rush, Sea Club Rush, Common Reed, Hemlock Water Dropwort and several species of Orache.

In terms of Ornithology, the Wyre Estuary is an integral part of Morecambe Bay, the third most important estuary in Britain for wintering and migrating waders and wildfowl. The Wyre is nationally important for wintering Pink-footed Geese, Teal, Redshank, and Turnstone and for Black-tailed Godwit during the spring migration.

The riverside hedgerows are of significance both for their landscape value and conservation interest. The mature Hawthorn and maturing woodland copses at Stanah provide valuable autumn food for migrating thrushes, and the trees at Cockle Hall represents the only mature woodland in the vicinity and support a small population of breeding birds including Willow Warbler and Lesser Whitethroat.

The plantations require annual management; Ash, Alder, Aspen, Elder, Rowan and Willows have thrived within the sheltered areas. The introduction of these areas have added to the conservation interest of the site be attracting insects and breeding birds, particularly Sedge Warbler, Common Whitethroat (BAP species), Greenfinch and Goldfinch, all of which require scrub habitat. Butterfly breeding in developing woodlands include Comma and Speckled Wood.
Current management of the drumlin consists of gang mowing to provide amenity grassland with uncut islands left for conservation interest; breeding butterflies include Small Copper, Small Heath, Wall and Meadow Brown. In recent years, Holly Blue butterflies have increased locally and have been recorded on ivy clad trees at Cockle Hall.

Conservation of biodiversity is vital to our response to climate change and in the delivery of key ecosystems. Within Wyre there is a need for more specific information and policy guidance on the natural environment. Wyre is particularly rich in a wide diversity of habitats, species and landscape characteristics. The Wyre Estuary Country Park influences the production and management of the Wyre Biodiversity Strategy and provides an informative contribution to UK Biodiversity Action Plan Species and habitats. This information will be harnessed to develop Wyre’s Biodiversity Action Plan. The intention of this information is to sustain Wyre’s natural environment for the future.

**Wyre Biodiversity Action Plan**

In Wyre, the Council and the Strategic Partnership have adopted 5 principles of the Wyre Biodiversity Strategy to undertake the Biodiversity Duty, and recognise the value of Wyre’s Biodiversity and natural environment as a key life-support mechanism for the people living, working in and visiting Wyre.

- To work in partnership to achieve, within reason, no net loss of Biodiversity and maintain and improve wherever possible the condition of our key wildlife sites.
- To promote opportunities for the appreciation and enjoyment of the natural environment and for improved access to nature for local and visiting people.
- To provide opportunities for natural environment volunteering.
- To support and promote good practice in local businesses and organisations in the management of their Biodiversity resource.
- To recognise the connections between biodiversity and climate change and help to mitigate for the affects of climate change.

The Wyre Biodiversity Strategy is informed by the Statutory Biodiversity Duty; This states that: “Every public body/local authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity”.

Wyre Estuary Country Park Habitats

- Mudflats
- Saltmarsh
- Reedbeds
- Mosaic Grasslands
- Woodlands
- Hedgerows
- Individual trees,
- Shrub planting
- Meadow
- Farmland (adjacent)

These habitats have the potential to be important for the following species/groups;

- Specialist saltmarsh plants such as sea lavender
- Arable and farmland meadow plants
- Bats,
- Butterflies
- Woodland and Hedgerow birds such as Song Thrush.

It is therefore important that within this management plan there is a Biodiversity Action Plan

Good Practice Biodiversity Guidelines

1. Be fully mindful of relevant wildlife legislation that prohibits certain activities e.g. disturbance of nesting birds or roosting bats.
2. Avoid clearing back vegetation which could be suitable sites for ground nesting and roosting birds and mammals and invertebrate breeding areas.
3. Undertake management and public event activity during the most appropriate times to achieve minimal disturbance to wildlife.
4. Look out for opportunities to improve the biodiversity of the site.
5. Avoid contamination of other natural areas by planting non-native invasive species.
6. Find ways to involve local people in caring for wildlife
Key Biodiversity Actions

The Lancashire Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) refers to relevant habitat targets to support it’s delivery of biodiversity actions. At the Wyre Estuary Country Park the following habitat targets, drawn from LBAP, have influenced the direction that the Wyre Estuary Country Park Biodiversity Action Plan should form:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets to achieve by 2015</th>
<th>Maintain (current habitat extent)</th>
<th>Achieve Condition (of current habitat resource)</th>
<th>Restore (areas of former habitat)</th>
<th>Expand (to new areas where habitat doesn’t occur)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Species Rich Neutral Grassland</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowland Meadows</td>
<td>580 hectares</td>
<td>435 hectares</td>
<td>50 hectares</td>
<td>30 hectares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saltmarshes and Estuarine Rivers</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal Saltmarsh</td>
<td>2150 ha</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mudflat</td>
<td>18560 ha</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reedbed</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedbed</td>
<td>140 ha</td>
<td>140</td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Broadleaved and mixed woodland</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadleaved and Mixed woodland</td>
<td>3.3 ha</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to these habitat targets there are a number of species that have been identified that could be encouraged to the site.

**Hedgerows and grassland**: Downy Birch, Alder, Wych Elm, Hazel, Hawthorn, Bird Cherry, Wild Cherry, Field Maple, Elder, Blackthorn, Raspberry, Holly and Guelder Rose.


**Birds**: Blackbird, Song Thrush, Tawny Owl, Blackcap.

**Other flora and fauna**: Bats (LBAP spp), Speckled Wood butterfly, other invertebrates, amphibian, mosses and liverworts.
3.5.1 Wyre Estuary Country Park- Stanah
6 Year Woodland Management Plan

Introduction.
The country park includes approximately 6.8 hectares of land that was reclaimed after the closure of a landfill site, and consequently much of the land is ‘made ground’. To add to that challenge the site is estuarial and thus exposed to salt winds. Terrain is undulating – around 5m at the visitor centre and climbing to 18 metres at the summit of the Drumlin, where the south-westerly winds are prevalent. The park features thirteen established native species plantations. These are even-aged, having been created when the country park was designated, and have received minimum management, as is appropriate to semi-natural woodland. Approximate age of these stands of trees is around twenty-five years. The proportion of woodland herbaceous layer is relatively poor. Scope exists for some native woodland/shade plant seed sowing.

In addition to the early-mature tree plantations, two large areas of new native woodlands were created during 2010/11 using a Forestry Commission funded grant scheme. These are referred to in this document as woodland creation sites (WCS) 1 and 2.

The aims of this management plan are to programme maintenance of these wooded areas, enhance sylvicultural and biodiversity values if necessary, and fulfil the Council’s duty of care to users of its land by ensuring any hazard trees are addressed within a reasonable timeframe. (Maintenance Programme to be found in the 5 Year Plan section of the Management Plan)

Locations and sizes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plantation number</th>
<th>Easting/Northing</th>
<th>Whereabouts</th>
<th>Size (Ha)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P1</td>
<td>335507/443080</td>
<td>Start of ICI path</td>
<td>0.005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2</td>
<td>335507/443100</td>
<td>West of slipway car park</td>
<td>0.018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P3</td>
<td>335588/443105</td>
<td>Slipway car park</td>
<td>0.144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P4</td>
<td>335532/443065</td>
<td>Bus stop</td>
<td>0.012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P5</td>
<td>335573/443068</td>
<td>Disabled access plantation</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6</td>
<td>335616/443074</td>
<td>Height barrier</td>
<td>0.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P7</td>
<td>335505/442995</td>
<td>Rear of Riverside Room</td>
<td>0.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P8</td>
<td>335630/443021</td>
<td>Family Area</td>
<td>0.187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P9</td>
<td>335727/443035</td>
<td>North of drumlin car park</td>
<td>0.007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P10</td>
<td>335766/443003</td>
<td>South of drumlin car park</td>
<td>0.042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P11</td>
<td>335732/443010</td>
<td>West of drumlin car park</td>
<td>0.026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P12</td>
<td>335937/442921</td>
<td>Drumlin pylon</td>
<td>0.124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P13</td>
<td>336005/442887</td>
<td>South of pylon</td>
<td>0.058</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCS(1)</td>
<td>335839/442962</td>
<td>Drumlin West</td>
<td>0.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCS(2)</td>
<td>335796/442924</td>
<td>Drumlin East</td>
<td>0.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.343</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The sum of these small wooded areas, now extended by the WCS sites, means that 12.2% of the non estuarine habitat within the country park is under some form of tree cover.
Programme of work.

* denotes annual tree risk management surveys.

Plantation 1. ‘Start of the ICI path’
At only 50 m² options for this area are limited. Overstorey species are limited to a few poplars and sycamores with some isolated hazel beneath. Accepting the spatial limitation, it might be better to steer this small area towards becoming a dense copse of mainly understorey species.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2105</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fell/prune</td>
<td>Hazard poplar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thin</td>
<td>Hazel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coppice</td>
<td>Hazel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>hazel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant</td>
<td>Native mix understorey sp.</td>
<td>Check establishment.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weed/Tidy</td>
<td>Ivy control</td>
<td>Inspect post and rail</td>
<td>Ivy control</td>
<td>Inspect post and rail</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard survey</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Plantation 2 ‘West of slipway car park’**
Site has seen some recent felling to facilitate other ground works that have taken place. It now lacks an understory, would benefit from the introduction of native evergreens, and has ‘clusters’ of ash and poplar. Some are now marked for selective thinning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fell/prune</td>
<td>Sycamore/poplar with inclusion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thin</td>
<td>Ash/poplar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Coppice</td>
<td>elder</td>
<td>elder</td>
<td>elder</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant</td>
<td>Holly / yew</td>
<td>Check</td>
<td>establishment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weed/Tidy</td>
<td>Poplar regen</td>
<td>Poplar regen</td>
<td>Poplar regen</td>
<td>Poplar regen</td>
<td>Poplar regen</td>
<td>Poplar regen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard survey</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Plantation 3 ‘Slipway car park’**
The Plantation is of a sizeable area with diverse tree stock but some accidental introductions – Norway maples and sycamores. This site is host to an ‘outdoor classroom’ and educational trail and an area is set aside for this purpose and must be kept clear of trees. North east corner provides an opportunity to coppice a small panel and grade-down the woodland edge with benefits to wildlife.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fell/prune</td>
<td>Cankered ash trees/dead willows</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thin</td>
<td>Remove Norway maples/ sycamores</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coppice</td>
<td>Panel n/e corner</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant</td>
<td>Native mix ( change age structure)</td>
<td>Check establishment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weed/Tidy</td>
<td>Maintain glade</td>
<td>Maintain glade</td>
<td>Maintain glade</td>
<td>Maintain glade</td>
<td>Maintain glade</td>
<td>Maintain glade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard survey</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Plantation 4 ‘Bus stop’
Small (120 m$^2$) dense area bounded by post and rail fencing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fell/prune</td>
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<td>Thin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coppice</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weed/Tidy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard survey</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plantation 5 ‘Wheelchair access plantation’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fell/prune</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coppice</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Plant</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weed/Tidy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard survey</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plantation 6 ‘Height barrier’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fell/prune</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thin</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coppice</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Plant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weed/tidy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard survey</td>
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<td>*</td>
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<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Plantation 7 ‘Rear of Riverside Room’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fell/prune</td>
<td>Marked tree next to pond. Prune Apples</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thin</td>
<td>Willow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coppice plant</td>
<td>Willow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weed/tidy</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard survey</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plantation 8 ‘Family Area’
Largest of the woodland sites but owing to its position this woodland is degraded by the effects of ‘people pressure’, with a high proportion of stem-damaged younger trees and evidence of soil compaction that is detrimental to new tree establishment. The Country Park accepts this is sacrificial – an unavoidable consequence of heavy visitor use – but recognises that to avoid further deterioration the focus of the visitor traffic should be gradually cleared of damaged trees and new planting to re-stock the edge areas and preserve the feel of a woodland area must be undertaken.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fell/prune</td>
<td>Footpath trees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thin</td>
<td>30 % damaged trees</td>
<td>30 % damaged trees</td>
<td>30 % damaged trees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coppice</td>
<td>Native tree/shrub mix to boundaries</td>
<td>Check establishment / re-stock</td>
<td>Check establishment / re-stock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weed/tidy</td>
<td>Cut up and remove large wood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hazard survey</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Plantation 9 ‘North of Drumlin’ car park’**
Requires little management and only moderate tree risk category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fell/prune</td>
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**Plantation 10 ‘South of Drumlin car park’**

<table>
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<th>Task</th>
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<tr>
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</table>

**Plantation 11 'West of Drumlin car park'**
Small patch of trees, gaps in boundaries that could be re-stocked if desired.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<th>2015</th>
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<tr>
<td>Plant</td>
<td>Native tree / shrub mix to boundaries</td>
<td>Check establishment / re-stock</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Plantation 12 ‘The Pylon’
Situated on the eastern side of the Drumlin and occupying a wet and exposed site. Ground conditions are affected by a stream that creates a ‘wet flush’ across the woodland. The area is congested and requires selective thinning, with the emphasis on aspen. Thin gradually to avoid wind blow, working from the centre outwards. Consider replanting to create wildlife–friendly understory and introduce an evergreen component for shelter.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Task</th>
<th>2013</th>
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Plantation 13 ‘Top of Drumlin Steps’

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WCS (1)
Area of newly planted ‘whips’

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WCS (2)
Area of newly planted ‘whips’

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**Conservation of landscape**
Drumlins are small glacial hills formed by the retreating of the glaciers as they retreated back into the Lake District area. A number of Drumlins surround the Estuary and one or two have habitation around their highest points. The Drumlin within the Wyre Estuary Country Park – Stanah is managed as amenity grassland, woodland and conservation grassland and is important for the long ranging views of the surrounding area, the Forest of Bowland and the Lake District. Horses are restricted from the Drumlin during the winter months due to the ground being too soft.

**Maintaining Historical Character**
Cockle Hall was a 2 bedroomed cottage next to the River Wyre opposite Wardleys Creek, which stood during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. An area immediately North of the current picnic site (that bears the same name) comprises of an area of Damson and Apple trees, within which stood the cottage (no current evidence of the cottage remain). The ‘Riverside Path – South’ passes through the orchard and visitors like to pick the Damsons during the Autumn. Management consists of attempting to maintain the orchard trees, preventing damage to the trees during the fruiting period by ‘enthusiastic pickers’ and interpreting the area, currently with temporary displays / information (with a long term desire to install a permanent interpretation panel when budgets allow.)
3.6: Community Involvement

Key Criteria

- To raise awareness and involve local communities in improving their local environment and caring for their coast and countryside.
- To provide opportunities for all in different ways to take part.
- Provision for all sectors of the community

Wyre Coast & Countryside Service currently has approximately 70 Volunteers, many of whom volunteer at the Wyre Estuary Country Park, as the main base of the Coast & Countryside Team. These Volunteers are an integral part of the management of the Country Park with over 700 volunteer days being supported at the Wyre Estuary Country Park each year. Local people are encouraged to volunteer in a variety of capacities within the Country Park and across the Borough. These include the Walking Wyre health walk leaders, volunteer rangers, teen rangers, community groups, friends, practical task group volunteers and volunteer guided walk leaders.

The Riverside Room is the base for all volunteer activities in the Country Park and for training and meetings of the Volunteer Service. It is also promoted to educational, volunteer and community groups, to act as a base for exploring the Country Park or as a general meeting venue.

Two local youth environmental groups - Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch group and the Wyre Estuary Country Park Teen Rangers - meet regularly in the Riverside room and are actively involved in the management of the site.

The beginnings of a Friends Group were previously put in place, but unfortunately were not developed to their potential and partly due to a change of staff are currently lapsed. However, the benefits of a Friends group are acknowledged and it is seen as a priority to resurrect the group. There is a wide community base already involved in the Wyre Estuary Country Park at Stanah who are all potential Friends. These include the many Volunteer Rangers, Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group, a representative of the Teen Rangers, Water sports enthusiasts who use the slipway, the Bee Keepers who have hives on sites, Beaumont College, members of the flyball club who use the site, local schools (in particular those that annually use the site for an inter school cross country competition), other schools and colleges who use the site regularly, regular Tramper users, as well as regular users of the park.

The Wyre Estuary and associated habitats are increasingly popular with schools and colleges; individual students have used the park and its facilities for college projects. Expanding interest in environmental education has led to increased use of the park by schools and youth groups. Ranger-led or self-led activities are increasing, prompting the development of the existing environmental education pack for schools to promote the services offered. The number and range of schools and community groups interest in environmental education has increased in recent years. Approximately 500+ students engage in outdoor environmental education each year.
The Riverside Room provides an ideal base for voluntary, community and education groups to explore the Wyre Estuary Country Park and its varied habitats. The building contains a meeting room, an accessible toilet and refreshment making facilities. Regular booking include Beaumont College and an Art Class. To the rear of the building is an ‘outdoor classroom’ with a workshop area, willow coppice bee hives, pond and mini woodland trail.

An Environment Education leaflet promotes the educational facilities available at the Park. This is complimented with a full Education Pack that compliments the National Curriculum and QCA schemes of work for key stages 1 and 2. The Education pack is reviewed and updated on an annual basis. Recent developments have incorporated local authority objectives to raise and promote environmental awareness.

Two motorised all terrain trampers are available to hire and together with accessible, risk assessed routes, allow visitors with different levels of physical ability to access the parks trails and paths. The Tramper is serviced by Wyre Borough Council Transport Engineers every 6 months.

Students from High Furlong School and from Beaumont College (Lancaster) are actively involved in the sites management and development. Day residents are encouraged to participate in practical activities as part of an outreach programme. Student work experience placements, youngsters involved in the Duke of Edinburgh and Princes Trust awards are frequently supported at the site.

An increase in the demand for memorial benches means that placement of benches will need to be strictly controlled to replace those in need of repair and to regulate spacing and numbers. Applications for memorial benches are regulated and now steered to alternative memorial features e.g. carved structure, memorial trees/woodland.
3.7: Marketing

Key criteria

- Good provision of information to users.
- The Country Park promoted as a community resource.

Wyre is fortunate to share both coast and country, with the towns of Garstang, Fleetwood, Poulton-le-Fylde, Thornton Cleveleys along with the Forest of Bowland (AONB) and surrounding rural villages. Each area offers a different experience for visitors with attractions, places to visit, places to stay and eat. Wyre Council actively markets all the parks in the borough as tourist attractions and valuable places for its residents to visit. Our parks provide a quality of life and boost the local economy, as set out in the business plan;

Wyre, a Place of which People are Proud
Our Priorities;

PRIDE IN OUR PLACES (A)
We will clean up Wyre’s streets and public spaces
We will protect and enhance the coast
We will work with partners to provide additional affordable homes
We will boost enterprise, encourage investment and create jobs for local people
We will address poor housing and reduce the number of empty homes

PRIDE IN OUR PEOPLE (B)
We will work with partners to improve health and people’s sense of well being
We will support families in greatest need
We will work with partners to reduce already low levels of anti-social behaviour and crime
We will maximise opportunities to increase people’s job skills
We will tailor our services to meet the needs of our communities

PRIDE IN OUR PERFORMANCE (C)
We will deliver savings year on year
As One Team we will focus our services on Customer need
We will have an excellent reputation

Wyre has a dedicated Corporate Communication Team to ensure that all Wyre’s parks are promoted and updated through the latest technology, the key objectives are to:

- Inform existing customers
- Attract new customers
- Develop and maintain loyalty
- Stimulate enquiries
This is achieved in a number of ways;

- By ensuring that the Wyre Estuary Country Park - Stanah is included in the Council’s marketing plans.
- By constantly updating the dedicated Wyre Estuary Country Parks pages on the Council website (www.wyre.gov.uk) and the tourism website Visit Wyre (www.visitwyre.co.uk). It will include information regarding facilities, activities, events and current management plans.
- By writing at least six articles a year to go into local newspapers, internal bulletins or other local marketing media.
- By working towards all signage being part of a corporate style that is relevant to the site, it must be informative and educational. It will contain the following:

  Historical information
  Environmental information
  Interpretation on how these affect the management of the site and its facilities
  Provide interpretation for the Green Flag initiative.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT MARKETING METHOD</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Message</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notice boards (13 across borough)</td>
<td>Current and potential visitors to the Wyre area and local residents</td>
<td>Detail forthcoming events</td>
<td>As and when new items for publication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>Wyre residents, visitors</td>
<td>Events and activities to provide quality of life for residents and boost local economy</td>
<td>Annual events see below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotional brochures</td>
<td>Entries in the Wyre What’s On, Wyre Walks, Wyre Guide and Kids Stuff summer programme.</td>
<td>Details of the parks</td>
<td>Published Annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Press activity</td>
<td>Wyre residents and visitors. Regional, local and specialist press. Internal Wyre Council publications</td>
<td>Promoting the parks. Linked to awards such Green Flags and new features.</td>
<td>As and when</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyre Voice Community Newspaper</td>
<td>All Wyre residents</td>
<td>Good news features placed in Wyre Voice community newspaper.</td>
<td>Bi-annually</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facebook Page</td>
<td>Facebook Users</td>
<td>Details of the Park, Events happening and a weekly update.</td>
<td>Updated Weekly</td>
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## Guided Walks in the Wyre Estuary Country Park 2014

### January

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.00 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm - 3.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>Teen Rangers</td>
<td>10.00 am - 1.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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### February

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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.00 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th &amp; 9th</td>
<td>Make a Rustic Stool from a Log</td>
<td>10.00 am - 4.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm - 3.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Birdwatching for Kids</td>
<td>10.30 am - 12.00 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>Teen Rangers</td>
<td>10.00 am - 1.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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### March

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>Wildlife Gardening &amp; Composting Day</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm - 3.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>Teen Rangers</td>
<td>10.00 am - 1.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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### April

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<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Fun in the Woods</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.00 noon</td>
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<td>9th</td>
<td>WildAid Wednesday Wildlife Club</td>
<td>10.00 am - 3.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.00 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>WildAid Wednesday Wildlife Club</td>
<td>10.00 am - 3.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th</td>
<td>Easter Fun</td>
<td>10.30 am - 12.00 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm - 3.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>Teen Rangers</td>
<td>10.00 am - 1.00 pm</td>
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### May

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm – 3.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am – 11.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Wyre Way Challenge – Day 1</td>
<td>9.00 am – 4.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Wyreside Bees</td>
<td>7.00 pm – 8.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Teen Rangers</td>
<td>10.00 am – 1.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>WildAid Wednesday Wildlife Club</td>
<td>10.00 am – 3.30 pm</td>
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### June

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am – 11.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Wild Flower Walk</td>
<td>7.00pm – 9.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.00 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm – 3.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Teen Rangers</td>
<td>10.00 am – 1.00 pm</td>
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### July

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<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.00 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm – 3.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Fun in the Woods</td>
<td>10.00 am – 12.00 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>WildAid Wednesday Wildlife Club</td>
<td>10.00 am – 3.30 pm</td>
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### August

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>WildAid Wednesday Wildlife Club</td>
<td>10.00 am – 3.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>WildAid Creatures of the Night</td>
<td>8.00 pm – 9.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Earth Story</td>
<td>10.30 am – 12.00 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Moth Evening</td>
<td>8.30 pm – 10.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>WildAid Wednesday Wildlife Club</td>
<td>10.00 am – 3.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Parachute Games &amp; Grass Skiing</td>
<td>10.30 am – 12.00 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Wyre Estuary Country Park Open Day</td>
<td>11.00 am – 4.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm – 3.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Bugs &amp; Beasties at the Country Park</td>
<td>10.30 am – 12.00 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; &amp; 24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Make a Stick Chair</td>
<td>10.00 am – 4.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Saltmarsh Saunter</td>
<td>7.00 pm – 9.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Bird Feeders</td>
<td>10.30 am – 12.00 noon</td>
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### September

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walkin Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am – 11.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>WildAid Creatures of the Night</td>
<td>8.00 pm – 9.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.00 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Heritage of the Wyre Estuary</td>
<td>10.00 am – 1.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Bat Evening</td>
<td>7.30 pm – 9.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm - 3.00 pm</td>
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<td>24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
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<tr>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Teen Rangers</td>
<td>10.00 am – 1.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Wyreside Bees</td>
<td>2.00 pm – 3.30 pm</td>
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### October

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Family Sculpture Day</td>
<td>11.00 am – 4.00 pm</td>
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<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm – 3.00 pm</td>
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<td>22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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<td>25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Teen Rangers</td>
<td>10.00 am – 1.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>WildAid Wednesday Wildlife Club</td>
<td>10.00 am – 3.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Bird Boxes</td>
<td>10.30 am – 11.30 am</td>
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### November

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.00 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm – 3.00 pm</td>
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<td>19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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<td>22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Teen Rangers</td>
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### December

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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am – 11.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Stanah Squirrels Wildlife Watch Group</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.00 noon</td>
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<td>15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>2.00 pm – 3.00 pm</td>
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<td>17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Walking Wyre Health Walk</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
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3.8: Management

Key Criteria

- Implementation of the Management Plan

Country parks were first established through the Countryside Act 1968 and were created to provide areas of ‘countryside on your doorstep’. The Wyre Estuary Country Park, situated on the urban fringe of Thornton Cleveleys fulfils this criteria. The Wyre Estuary Country Park was established to meet recommendations made in the 1987 Wyre Borough Council Tourism Strategy.

The Wyre Estuary is included within the Morecambe Bay complex and is therefore designated a SSSI, SPA and Ramsar site. There are a number of local and regional strategic plans that influence the management of the Wyre Estuary Country Park particularly the Wyre Council Business Plan 2012/13 - 2014/15 which identifies several key actions within its objectives.

The Council’s values underpin everything we do and are promises which we want staff to subscribe to

- One team - one council
- Open and honest
- Here to help
- Efficient and business-like
- Innovative
- Proud of our council

Additionally there are other documents affecting the management of the Park include:

- Wyre Business Plan 2012/13 - 2014/15
- Wyre Sustainable Community Plan 2007-2025
- Wyre Borough Council Local Plan.
- Coastal Defence Strategy.
- Morecambe Bay Management Scheme.
- Best Value Improvement Plan
- Wyre Borough Council Comprehensive Performance Assessments.
- Wyre Estuary Country Park Action Plan
- WBC Environmental Policy.
- Shoreline Management Plan (EA).
- SPA.
- RAMSAR.
- SSSI.
- DDA.
- WBC Biodiversity Strategy
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan
- LA21
The Wyre Estuary Country Park - Stanah is managed by the Councils Coast and Countryside Service and is supported by corporate services and partnerships with external organisations. The Coast & Countryside Team work across the whole of the Borough of Wyre, with one Ranger dedicated to the Wyre Estuary Country Park, receiving cover and assistance from the other three Rangers.

The **Coast & Countryside Team** consists of:

- Coast & Countryside Manager
- Coast & Countryside Rangers x 3
- Assistant Coast & Countryside Ranger – (Part Time)
- Coast & Countryside Assistant – Admin Support (Part Time)

The Coast and Countryside Service receive assistance in managing the Wyre Estuary Country Park from:

- **Parks and Open Spaces Team**
  - Senior Parks Development Officer
  - Parks Development Officer
  - Tree & Woodland Officer
  - Playground Inspector
  - Parks Maintenance Officer
  - Thornton / Poulton Parks Team

- **Waste Management - Operations Team**
  - Operations Area Manager (Thornton Cleveleys, Carleton & Poulton)
  - Operations Area Officer (Thornton Cleveleys, Carleton & Poulton)
  - Street Cleaning Team

- **Engineering Services**

- **Built Environment Team**
  - Senior Estates Surveyor
  - Building Surveyors x2

- **Culture, Leisure & Tourism Team**
  - Tourism Development Officer
  - Arts & Events Officer
  - Volunteer Co-Ordinator

- **Corporate Communications Team**
  - Communications Manager
  - Marketing Officer
  - Communications Officer
  - E-Communications Officer
  - Graphic Designer

- **People & Places Administration**
The Main External partners include:

- Proprietors of The Wyreside Café
- Danfo (Who manage the toilets)
- Lancashire County Council – Highways
- Lancashire County Council – Environment
- Environment Agency
- Natural England

In addition to the Community Partners already mentioned above.

Training

Wyre Council is an Investor in People and is dedicated to a performance management scheme. Employees have continued development appraisals to enable any training and development needs to be discussed so all employees can fully undertake their job role.

Review of the Management Plan

This plan is to be a live working document and, shall be amended/updated annually and reviewed at the end of the five year period.
Appendix 1 - Health & Safety

Arrangements and procedures

Accident/Incident Near Miss Notification
Staff or volunteers involved or witness to an accident reports the occurrence immediately to the Country Park Ranger. An accident form is completed at the very earliest opportunity (Appendix 5). This is then forwarded up the chain of command to the Health and Safety Advisory Officer. The Riverside Room houses reference Health and Safety manuals and Risk Assessment documents.

Fire and other emergencies

A fire risk assessment was first completed in 2009 and is reviewed annually at the Wyre Estuary Country Park to ensure that both life and property are adequately protected from risk of fire and explosion. Fire evacuation instructions are posted in prominent positions around the buildings and site evacuation drills are undertaken regularly and reviewed at least once a year.

Incidents of theft or vandalism

In the occurrence of theft and vandalism countryside staff will immediately make the area safe from harm or disturbance. Incidences are recorded and reported to the Police. Damage to buildings is also immediately reported to the Council’s ‘Building Maintenance’ team who arrange for repair or making safe of any damage and or removal of graffiti.

Violence

Verbal abuse and threats are the most common type of incident faced by staff and volunteers at the Country Park. Physical attacks are comparatively rare. The Police deal with any incidents involving members of the public.

Firearms offences

Very occasionally firearms offences occur on site. Under these circumstances a thorough description of the offence is required and the Police are contacted immediately. Details of the incident are recorded on the corporate incident form. The Country Park staff have an excellent working relationship with the community police officers and police community support officers (PCSO). The site is patrolled frequently by the PCSO’s.

Flytipping and Asbestos

Occasional fly tipping does occur at the site. In manageable quantities the Country Park team removes fly-tipping and reports occurrences to the Council’s Street Scene Department. In greater quantities fly-tipping is reported immediately and arrangements are employed to have it removed as soon as possible. Under such circumstances fly-tipping is made safe from the public with appropriate advisory signage and barriers. Contractors licensed in accordance with Asbestos (Licensing) Regulations 1983 will undertake all asbestos removal work.
Audit

Risk assessments are reviewed on an annual basis and whenever any major changes take place on site. Written records of inspections with identified problems and remedial actions taken are made and kept on file.

Contractors

Contractors must be made aware in writing that, when work is undertaken on site, they must comply with the Council’s safety rules in addition to discharging their own statutory health and safety obligations. Only ‘authorised’ contractors who have received appropriate induction will be allowed to carry out work for the Council. Contractors must be reminded that they must report all accidents/incidents whilst working for the authority to their contact.

First Aid

Suitable and sufficient supplies of first aid equipment for use at the site are housed in each of the sites centres. All staff are first aid trained on a three day first aid at work course, for the purposes of administering first aid to any injured employee or visitor to the premises under the control of the Council. Wyreside cafe staff are also trained in first aid. Coast and Countryside Volunteers are required to attend a one day first aid training course which allows individuals to administer first aid, lasting for a period of one year. The location of first aid points and contacts are distributed around the site.

Hazardous Substances

Staff and volunteers at the site can be exposed to health risks, both immediate and long term, resulting from exposure to hazardous substances i.e. paint, cleaning products, wood preserver. Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002 requires precautions to be undertaken to prevent or control exposure to substances whether they have immediate (acute) or long term (chronic) affect on health. In accordance with these regulations, the Coast and Countryside Service ensures when placing orders for materials, that the manufacturers/suppliers are instructed to forward the relevant material data sheets. These will then be used to carry out a COSHH risk assessment for each harmful substance that they use. The assessments are kept on file and reviewed annually or whenever a new substance is introduced.

Staff using hazardous substances or likely to come into contact with them, must be informed of the hazards. They must be trained in safe working practices such as following control measures and use of personal protective equipment. A trained contractor controls the application of any pesticide or herbicide at the site. Wyre Council’s pesticide policy states that attempts to use pesticides are as limited as possible, as stated in the Environmental Policy. Pesticides are applied annually as part of the mowing contract on all paths that form the Wyreside trail and applied early in the morning in appropriate weather conditions. Any applications comply with the Environment Agency standards. Pesticides are only purchased from suppliers on the DEFRA approved list and suppliers are required to dispose of empty containers.
**Lone Working**

In the course of their duties, site staff and volunteers work on site away from the Riverside Room or Visitor Centre liaising with visitors and staff alike. The Country Park staff identifies this and risk assessments exist to determine what risks this entails and implements the necessary controls. The following procedure exists and is followed by staff and volunteers:

- Always book out when leaving their normal place of work.
- Ensure details of their mobile phone or other means of communication are available.
- Insert an expected return time.
- If delayed or arrangements are changed contact the Country Park Ranger or Assistant Countryside Ranger and let them know.

Should a lone worker become overdue (by thirty minutes):

- A member of the team should contact them on their mobile phone.
- If they cannot raise them, they should phone if possible a contact on the site visited or their home.
- If still unable to contact them, a senior manager should be informed and they should notify the police.
- A senior member of staff should remain in the office until the situation is resolved.

If an out of hours visit is necessary, this must be made known to their line manager in advance and where a threat of violence or abuse is anticipated two officers should attend and police assistance should be considered. In all cases where violence manifests employees should withdraw from a situation rather than put themselves at risk.

**Manual Handling**

All operations, which involve manual handling, are assessed prior to commencement.

- The first priority is to determine if manual handling can be avoided or minimised
- Secondly can mechanical assistance be introduced

If the answer to either of these is yes then providing it is reasonably practicable to do so manual handling is not used. If the answer is no a manual handling risk assessment is carried out to determine the control measures necessary.

**Needle-Stick Injuries**

Discarded needles have been found in litter bins, refuse sacks, and on site. Therefore there is a very small risk that employees may be exposed to infection. Sharps boxes and litter picker sticks are available at various points on site. The Country Park team assesses the risk of needle stick injury associated with each task performed by staff and volunteers at the site and introduce procedures highlighting any necessary controls to minimise that risk including provision of personal protective equipment.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

The authority's policy is that PPE is used only where other methods of risk control are insufficient. The selection, issues, use and care of PPE including the need for safety
footwear will be determined through risk assessment. All staff and volunteers are required to wear PPE in situations where it has been deemed necessary.

**Risk Assessment**

Where contractors, people external to the council or maintenance activities are taking place, the information from the risk assessment should be used to produce a method statement. This is simply a list of steps to follow in an easy to read format, which lead the employees through each operation. The Country Park Ranger is responsible for ensuring that all risk assessments within the department are reviewed annually or when an operation, the environment or the person carrying out the operation changes.

**Smoking**

Wyre Council has a no smoking policy that applies to the inside of all of its premises and vehicles.

**Training**

The level of training will depend on the activities an individual is involved in and their level of responsibility. No one will be asked to undertake any activity unless they are competent and will be provided with additional supervision and training as required ensuring their health and safety.

**Visitors and Members of the Public to a ‘Work’ site**

While visitors and members of the public are on the site of any work being undertaken, the same rules and procedures bind them as employees of the authority. A Wyre Council employee must accompany visitors entering areas of work. The authority will ensure so far as is reasonably practicable that access to dangerous areas of their property, such as roofs, is restricted and notices are erected alerting people to the dangers. Where construction work is being carried out on behalf of the Coast and Countryside Service, all sites must be securely fenced and gates locked when everyone has left the site. Before leaving the site it is essential to:

- Immobilise all machines and where available ensure that window and door guards in place.
- Remove or block off all access ladders to restrict access to scaffolding or other high areas.
- Back-fill all deep trenches where possible or otherwise fence off.
- Store all hazardous substances on site in a locked container. Store any other tools or equipment in a locked container to guard against theft as well as misuse

**Work Equipment**

The Coast and Countryside Service will ensure that all portable electric equipment is portable appliance tested every twelve months, in accordance with the provision and use of work equipment regulations. The Coast and Countryside Service will ensure that all
Vibrating equipment is tested for Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome (HAVS) every two months. Each piece of equipment will be tagged with a date of when the next test is due on it.

**Dog fouling**

Wyre Council employs officers to deal with problems associated with dogs. The council acknowledges that residents class dog fouling as a priority.

To address this and other problems, Wyre Council has contributed toward the funding of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) across the Borough who are authorised to issue Fixed penalty notices for both littering and dog fouling.

**What the officers will do:**

- Investigate reports of dog fouling
- Investigate reports about dangerous dogs
- Issue Fixed Penalty Notices when dog mess is not cleared away
- Initiate legal proceedings for dog fouling
- Patrol areas subject to frequent fouling
- Put up signs concerning fouling
- Advise on the installation of dog waste bins
- Install, maintain and empty dog bins installed on public land or on the public highway
- Undertake educational activities on responsible dog ownership

The Country Park staff and volunteers are proactive in addressing the problem of dog fouling at the Wyre Estuary Country Park:

- Liaise with Council officers and PCSO's to combat dog fouling
- Raise awareness of responsible dog walking by talking with visitors and handing distributing poop bags.
- Ensuring dog waste bins are clean, emptied regularly and maintained c/o maintenance contract.
- Conducting guided activities with visitors emphasising the impact that dog fouling and inappropriate dog walking behavior can have on sensitive areas of the site.
- Investigating opportunities to promote responsible dog walking e.g. through events, interpretation and activities.

**Natural Play Area**

The Natural Play Area was a new addition to the site during the Spring of 2011. The play area, stage, seating and woodland are inspected daily by Country park staff and volunteers and once a week by a dedicated playground inspector. All staff and volunteers are trained to implement inspections and implement appropriate recording. Any equipment defects are reported immediately with appropriate action taken to disable the equipment if necessary. An annual playground inspection is implemented by ROSPA.
Appendix 2 – Accident / Incident Form

Author: Occupational Health & Safety
Ref. Number: WOH&S 0012
Version No.: 1.1 of 2
Version date: March 2007

ACCIDENT/INCIDENT/NEAR MISS
REPORT FORM
FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY TEAM USE ONLY

SECTION A – TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PERSON INVOLVED, OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE, AND PASSED TO THE LINE MANAGER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACTIVITY/PREMISES.

1. PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE PERSON INVOLVED (PLEASE PRINT)
Employee Surname ____________________ Forename(s) _____________________
Member of Public Home Address ________________________________________
Contractor ___________________________________________________________
Agency Postcode ____________________ Home Tel No _____________________
Service User Age ____________________ DOB ______________ M/F
Pupil Job Title _________________________________________________________
Other (Please Specify) Service Area ____________________ Section _____________________
Based At ____________________ Employee No _____________________

2. ACCIDENT/INCIDENT/NEAR MISS DETAILS
Date _____________________________ Time _____________________________ AM/PM
Time Started Work ____________ Normal Finishing Time ____________ Time Finished ____________
Address _________________________________________
Exact Location (Office, Kitchen, Poolside, etc.) _________________________________________________________
Give Full Details, Including Nature Of Activity Being Undertaken (Include Diagrams Or Photographs If Appropriate)
___________________________________________________________________________________________
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___________________________________________________________________________________________(Continue On A Separate Sheet If Necessary)
If Fall From Height, Please Give Distance _______________________
Was Work Equipment Involved YES/NO
Was It In Operation YES/NO
Details Of Above (Type, Model, Make, Part Causing Injury etc)
Give Details Of Any Damage Or Defects To Property/Vehicles/Work Equipment

3. VERBAL/PHYSICAL ABUSE DETAILS
Assailant Surname ___________________________ Assailant Forename(s) _____________________
Home Address _____________________________________________________________________________
Is The Employee Member of Public Contractor Agency
Person? Service User Pupil Other (Please Specify) ______________________________________________
If An Employee – Please Add the Following Details
Job Title ______________________ Directorate __________________ Division _____________________
Was The Incident Verbal Abuse Face-To-Face/Telephone (Please Specify) ______________________________
Sexual Racial Neither
Other (Please Specify) _______________________________________________________________________
Is the Occurrence New Regular Occasional
4. INJURIES/ACTION

Parts(s) Of The Body Affected (State Left Or Right) __________________ __________________________
Nature And Extent Of Injuries/Ill Health (Bruise etc) __________________________________________

Treatment Given/Action Taken

Who Administered Any Treatment Did The Person Go To Hospital YES/NO

Doctor/Nurse Self First Aider If Yes Time Spent in Hospital ____________________________

Paramedic Other __________________ Date _________________ Immediately From Scene YES/NO

5. WITNESSES

Name ______________________________________ Name ________________________________________
Address ______________________________________ Address ________________________________
Contact Number ______________________________ Contact Number __________________________

6. UNION MEMBER (OPTIONAL INFORMATION)

Are You A Member Of A Union YES/NO If Yes, Please State Which Union _______________________

Ask Your Manager If You Want A Copy Of This Form For You To Forward To Your Union Safety Representative

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS CORRECT

Person Completing The Form _______________________________________________ Signature _______________________________

Date And Time First Reported _______________________________ To Whom? __________________________

SECTION B – INITIAL INVESTIGATION, TO BE COMPLETED BY INVESTIGATING OFFICER/LINE MANAGER.

Investigator’s Name (Please Print) __________________________________________________________
Job Title ____________________________

Are You Satisfied That The Details Given In ‘Section A’ Are Correct? YES/NO

If No, Please

Give Details

Is It Likely That The Person Involved Will Be Off Work For More Than 3 Days? YES/NO
Was The Person Involved Performing Work Related Duties? YES / NO / N/A
Directly Supervised? YES / NO / N/A
Was Any Issue? YES / NO / N/A
Was It Being Used At The Time? YES / NO / N/A
Has A Risk Assessment Been Completed For This Task/Activity? YES / NO / N/A
If YES, Please Attach A Copy
Immediate Cause of Incident?
Underlying Cause of Incident?
Immediate Action To Prevent Recurrence?
Future Action To Prevent Recurrence?
Is Further Training Required? YES/NO

If Yes, Please Specify ________________________________

Was Feedback Provided To The Person Involved Following The Investigation? YES/NO
Who Was The Person’s Line Manager At The Time?

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IS CORRECT

Signature of Investigator _______________________________ Date ____________________________

Counter Signature of Manager Signature ______________________________________ Name (Please Print)
Job Title ____________________________

THE COMPLETED FORM, ALONG WITH ANY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION, IS TO BE FORWARDED TO THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OFFICER
### Teen Rangers

#### Events Programme 2014

*For Young Adults 14yrs and above*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25th January Saturday</td>
<td><strong>Birds, Birds, Birds</strong>&lt;br&gt;Discover Birds - learn to identify different birds including Woodland Species, Waders and Wildfowl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd February Saturday</td>
<td><strong>Woodland Days</strong>&lt;br&gt;We will be learning how to manage the wooded copses, finding out about coppicing, planting trees and learning winter tree identification.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd March Saturday</td>
<td><strong>Natural History of the Wyre Estuary Country Park</strong>&lt;br&gt;Today we are going to discover the different habitats found on the Country Park and what lives in them at this time of year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th April Saturday</td>
<td><strong>Country Park Spring Clean</strong>&lt;br&gt;Help prepare the Country Park for the busiest months of the year. Patrol the park, cut back the vegetation and then complete a wildlife survey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th May Saturday</td>
<td><strong>Spring Surveys</strong>&lt;br&gt;As part of our Spring surveys we will be exploring the fascinating world of butterflies, bugs and birds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st June Saturday</td>
<td><strong>Ranger for a Day</strong>&lt;br&gt;Join the Ranger as they complete their daily duties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Month</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>No Meeting - (Summer Holidays)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>No Meeting - (Summer Holidays)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td><strong>Saltmarsh Saunter</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th September</td>
<td>Venture onto the Marshes and discover about this very special Habitat and its unique wildlife.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td><strong>Countryside and Crafty</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th October</td>
<td>A fun morning of activities spent learning rural craft(s).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td><strong>National Tree Week</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd November</td>
<td>Celebrate this national event with tree and hedge planting activities and aftercare tree management at the country park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>No Meeting - Happy Christmas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please wear clothes and footwear suitable for outdoor activities. You might get Mucky!

**Activities**

10am – 1pm

Teen Rangers Contact:

Duncan Byrne  
Wyre Estuary Country Park  
River Road  
Stanah  
Thornton Cleveleys  
Lancashire  
FY5 5LR

Tel: 01253 887515  
Emails: Duncan.byrne@wyre.gov.uk
Wyreside
Nectar-rich
Allotment
Garden
Wyreside Nectar-rich Allotment Garden

Location:
Wyre Estuary Country Park, Stanah

Aim of the garden:
To demonstrate to visitors to the country park that an ordinary suburban garden can attract and support wildlife, and still be beautiful and productive

How we will do it:
✓ By growing easily available ornamental and edible plants which will attract wildlife, specifically bees, butterflies, moths and bats
✓ By selecting plants to ensure a continuous supply of nectar and pollen from spring through to autumn
✓ By using organic growing methods, without the use of chemical pesticides or fertilizers
✓ By using companion planting to attract beneficial insects and deter pests
✓ By using composting methods to recycle garden waste
Plant list:
No need for nettles - ornamental plants that are attractive to bees, butterflies and moths:

**Spring – March/April/May**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shrubs:</th>
<th>Flowering currant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hazel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulbs:</td>
<td>Bluebell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crocus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Muscari grape hyacinth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perennials/annuals</td>
<td>Aquilegia (Columbine)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cowslip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Foxglove</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Myosotis (Forget-me-not)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Primrose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pulmonaria (Lungwort)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summer – June/July/August**

| Shrubs/Climbers      | Hebe               |
|                      | Honeysuckle        |
| Perennials/Annuals   | Cornflower         |
|                      | Evening Primrose   |
|                      | Feverfew           |
|                      | Geranium (Cranesbill) |
|                      | Knapweed           |
|                      | Marigold           |
|                      | Nepeta (Catmint)   |
|                      | Nicotiana (Tobacco plant) |
| Herbs                | Borage             |
|                      | Chives             |
|                      | Hyssop             |
|                      | Lavender           |
|                      | Mint               |
|                      | Rosemary           |
|                      | Thyme              |

**Autumn – September/October**

| Perennials           | Anemone            |
|                      | Aster (Michaelmas Daisy) |
|                      | Eupatoria (Hemp Agrimony) |
|                      | Sedum (Ice Plant)    |
Vegetables - Plot A
- Early potatoes – followed by salads/leeks
- Broad beans
- Runner beans
- Companion planting – Tagetes marigolds

Vegetables - Plot B
- Onions from sets
- Carrots
- Leeks
- French beans
- Companion planting – poached egg plant

Other vegetables
- Salads where they will go

Fruit
- Blackcurrant
- Raspberry
- Gooseberry
- Rhubarb
- Companion planting – feverfew, marigolds
Action Plan:

October/November 2013:

- Dig over garden plot and remove perennial weeds
- Sow green manure in vacant vegetable garden areas
- Plant spring flowering perennials, bulbs and shrubs
- Set up composting area and make leaf mould

February 2014

- Order seeds, seed potatoes and onion sets
- Chit seed potatoes
- Sow broad beans in pots

March

- Prepare seed beds
- Sow vegetable seeds in situ
- Plant out broad beans, chitted potato and onion sets
- Sow hardy annuals
- Plant out late flowering perennials

April/May

- Sow French beans in pots
- Keep beds weed free and well watered

June/July

- Plant out French beans
- Sow leeks and spring cabbage

August/September

- Plant out winter vegetables
- Collect seeds/take cuttings for next year
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To Buy</th>
<th>£ - p</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shrubs/Climbers:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ribes sanguinium (Flowering currant)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corylus avellana (Hazel)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lonicera periclymenum (Honeysuckle)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosmarinus (Rosemary)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lavandula (Lavender)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Herbs (from seed)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Borage</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chives</td>
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<td>Hyssop</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thyme</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Flowering plants (from seed)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cornflower</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Evening Primrose</td>
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<td>Feverfew</td>
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<td>Nicotiana (Tobacco plant)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sundries</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8ft canes (for beans)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organic fertilizer (pelleted chicken manure)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Peat free potting compost</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wyre Estuary Country Park – Stanah Picnic Area

5 Year Action Plan 2014 -2018
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Lead Officer</th>
<th>Create a Welcoming Place</th>
<th>Management year</th>
<th>Resource Implications</th>
<th>Measures and Review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site patrol followed by repairs as required.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Implement and Review Best Working Practices</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Manager, Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implement and Review Best Working Practices</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Open Spaces team</td>
<td>Park Ranger</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implement and Review Best Working Practices</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Implement annual maintenance programme</td>
<td>Wyre Estuary Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Implement and review</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Country Park team</td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implement and review</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Manager, Country</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implement and review</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Open Spaces team</td>
<td>Park Ranger</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implement and review</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Review: Annually</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implement and review</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-design &amp; Re-surfacing areas of Visitor Centre Car Park</td>
<td>Senior Engineer (Wyre Council)</td>
<td>Works programmed for March 2014</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Engineers</td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review and prioritise objectives.</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Contractors</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Manager, Country</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Target areas of concern and prioritise funding</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Park Ranger</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Implement Works</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Review: Annually</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Review and prioritise objectives.</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Re-line Car Parks , zebra crossing, bus stop, one way system, accessible bays, coach bay and parking for staff</td>
<td>Senior Engineer (Wyre Council)</td>
<td>Works programmed for March 2014</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Engineers</td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Review and prioritise objectives.</td>
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<td>2017</td>
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<td>Review: Annually</td>
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<td>Review and prioritise objectives.</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Lead Officer</td>
<td>Create a Welcoming Place</td>
<td>Management year</td>
<td>Resource Implications</td>
<td>Measures and Review</td>
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<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Installation of a Toddler playground within the grassland boundaries of the Family area</td>
<td>Landscape Architect (Wyre Council)</td>
<td>Installation programmed for March 2014</td>
<td>Management and maintenance</td>
<td>Management and maintenance</td>
<td>Management and maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of upgraded path created by 'Re-made' project</td>
<td>Wyre Estuary Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Undertake Management and maintenance</td>
<td>Management and maintenance</td>
<td>Management and maintenance</td>
<td>Management and maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Lead Officer</td>
<td>Healthy Safe &amp; Secure Management year</td>
<td>Resource Implications</td>
<td>Measures and Review</td>
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<td>Action</td>
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<td>Management year</td>
<td>Resource Implications</td>
<td>Measures and Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dog fouling</td>
<td>Wyre Estuary Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>2014: Introduce fixed penalty notice training for site based staff</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2015: Two month period of Control Order Leaflet Distribution and consultation</td>
<td>Thornton Area Officer</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger, site based</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016: Issue Fixed Penalty Notice as required</td>
<td>On Site Staff</td>
<td>staff</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2017: Regular review, clearing and monitoring of problem areas</td>
<td>Control Order Leaflets</td>
<td>Review: Daily</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2018: Issue Fixed Penalty Notice as required</td>
<td></td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>2014: Two month period of Control Order Leaflet Distribution and consultation</td>
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<td>Country Park Ranger, site based</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2015: Issue Fixed Penalty Notice as required</td>
<td></td>
<td>staff</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2016: Regular review, clearing and monitoring of problem areas</td>
<td></td>
<td>Review: Daily</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2017: Issue Fixed Penalty Notice as required</td>
<td></td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2018: Issue Fixed Penalty Notice as required</td>
<td></td>
<td>Thornton Area Officer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remove tidal debris, mud and silt</td>
<td>Wyre Estuary Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>2014: Action maintenance works Spring and Summer</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger / site based</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2015: Action maintenance works Spring and Summer</td>
<td>On site staff</td>
<td>staff / Volunteers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016: Action maintenance works Spring and Summer</td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td>Review: Daily</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2017: Action maintenance works Spring and Summer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2018: Action maintenance works Spring and Summer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Country Park Ranger, site based</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain clear sightlines for visitors</td>
<td>Wyre Estuary Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>2014: Follow targeted annual maintenance programme to ensure personal security</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger / site based</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2015: Follow targeted annual maintenance programme to ensure personal security</td>
<td>Assistant Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>staff / Volunteers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016: Follow targeted annual maintenance programme to ensure personal security</td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td>Review: Daily</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2017: Follow targeted annual maintenance programme to ensure personal security</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2018: Follow targeted annual maintenance programme to ensure personal security</td>
<td></td>
<td>Country Park Ranger, site based</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Lead Officer</td>
<td>Clean and Well Maintained</td>
<td>Management year</td>
<td>Resource Implications</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daily patrols</td>
<td>Wyre Estuary Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Site patrols covered 364 days a year. Site patrols covered 364 days a year.</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<td>Ensure quality standards are maintained throughout the year.</td>
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<td>Implement patrol cover Review patrol targets Review patrol targets Implement patrol cover Review patrol targets Implement patrol cover Review patrol targets Implement patrol cover Review patrol targets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Litter and waste</td>
<td>Wyre Estuary Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Ensure site is litter picked and bins monitored on patrol Allow flexible working schedule to ensure site is patrolled daily. Review best working practices</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site cleanliness is priority</td>
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<td>Ensure site is litter picked and bins monitored on patrol Allow flexible working schedule to ensure site is patrolled daily. Review best working practices</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appropriate number of dog and waste and recycling bins on site</td>
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<td>Ensure site is litter picked and bins monitored on patrol Allow flexible working schedule to ensure site is patrolled daily. Review best working practices</td>
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<td>Buildings are kept to a good standard of maintenance</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Site patrols implemented and duty reports completed</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger Volunteers Council staff</td>
<td>Measured by: Buildings team Country Park Ranger Site based staff, Review: Periodically by Buildings Team / Coast &amp; Countryside Manager</td>
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<td>Infrastructure is managed to support usage of the site</td>
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<td>Site patrols implemented and duty reports completed</td>
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<td>Vandalism is managed at ground level</td>
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<td>Site patrols implemented and duty reports completed</td>
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<td>Site patrols implemented and duty reports completed</td>
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<td>Site patrols implemented and duty reports completed</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<td>To develop features of interest and access opportunities at Cockle Hall</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Manage &amp; Maintain</td>
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<td>Manage and Maintenance Country Park Ranger Country park assistant Volunteers</td>
<td>Measured by: Coast &amp; Countryside Manager, Country Park Ranger/ site based staff, Review: Monthly</td>
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<td>Investigate opportunities to develop visitor interaction with area around Wyreside cafe and landscape design</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>2014</td>
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<td>Measured by: Coast &amp; Countryside Manager, Country Park Ranger / site based staff</td>
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<td>Wyreside cafe</td>
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<td>Implement annual maintenance programme ensuring the site is well maintained and targets are met</td>
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<td>Measured by: Park Ranger/ site based staff</td>
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<td>Country Park Assistant Volunteers</td>
<td>Review: annually</td>
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<td>Parks and Open Spaces team</td>
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<td>Woodland management</td>
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<td>Measured by: Woodland &amp; Tree Officer, Country Park Ranger, Coast &amp; Countryside Manager</td>
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<td>Search for capital bids to implement access improvements</td>
<td>Commence improvements (pending funding) Completion</td>
<td>Commence Year 2 of improvements (Pending funding) Completion</td>
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<td>Seek and procure environmentally sustainable materials and supplies*.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pesticides and herbicides</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Herbicides used on footpath edges and on Japanese Knotweed.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<td>Train staff to legal spraying competencies</td>
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<td>Spraying must be kept to a minimum and within guidelines according to codes of practice.</td>
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<td>Follow guidelines according to LA21 &amp; Environmental best Practices.</td>
<td>Follow guidelines according to LA21 &amp; Environmental best Practices.</td>
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<td>Green Transport</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Support the corporate Green Transport strategy</td>
<td>Support the corporate Green Transport strategy</td>
<td>Support the corporate Green Transport strategy</td>
<td>Support the corporate Green Transport strategy</td>
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<td>Woodland management</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Implement 5 year management programme (see woodland management)</td>
<td>Ongoing and review</td>
<td>Ongoing and review</td>
<td>Ongoing and review</td>
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| Green Tourism Business Scheme (GTBS) | Country Park Ranger | Apply for GTBS award 2014 – 2016  
Develop action plan following guidance in GTBS audit to engage in positive sustainable action. | 2014 | Ongoing | Country Park Ranger  
Wyreside Cafe  
Measured by:  
Coast & Countryside Manager  
Country Park Ranger, GTBS standards, Wyreside Cafe  
Review: 6 months |
|  |  | Engage with business stakeholders to action and improve sustainability performance.  
Ongoing | 2015 |  |  |
|  |  | Monitoring and assessing performance indicators will target performance to attain Gold status  
Ongoing | 2016 |  |  |
<p>|  |  | Attain Gold status | 2017 | Ongoing |  |
|  |  |  | 2018 |  |  |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Lead Officer</th>
<th>Conservation and Heritage</th>
<th>Management year</th>
<th>Resource Implications</th>
<th>Measures and Review</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Define conservation and heritage targets</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Define conservation and heritage status and develop long term targets ensuring their conservation status</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Achieve Local Nature Reserve Status (LNR)</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger Volunteers Assistant Countryside Ranger</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maintain favourable condition of SSSI and BHS on site.</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Maintain favourable condition of SSSI and BHS on site.</td>
<td>Measured by: Coast &amp; Countryside Manager Country Park Ranger</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Monitor conservation status of sites of conservation interest</td>
<td>2016</td>
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<td>Review: Monthly / Annually</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Identify, develop, deliver 2, site based natural history surveys</td>
<td>2017</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Implement Wyre Biodiversity Action Plan</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<td>Engage with local and national bodies to address conservation and heritage status</td>
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<td>Engage visitors with Guided activity programme</td>
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<td>Create new areas of habitat as appropriate</td>
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<td>Engage 2 volunteers conducting natural history surveys</td>
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<td>Identify NVC classification for woodlands and grasslands.</td>
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<td>Action</td>
<td>Lead Officer</td>
<td>Conservation and Heritage</td>
<td>Management Years</td>
<td>Resource Implications</td>
<td>Measures and Review</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify conservation based site operations to conserve features of</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Deliver maintenance schedule and review management operations</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside</td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conservation interest</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliver maintenance schedule and review management operations</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliver maintenance schedule and review management operations</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliver maintenance schedule and review management operations</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliver maintenance schedule and review management operations</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Vegetable allotment demonstration garden including extended</td>
<td>Volunteer Ranger</td>
<td>Implement the area specific action plan.</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>season nectar planting</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Plant area with veg/fruit/ and early and late flowering plants</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Wyreside Nectar-rich Allotment Garden'</td>
<td></td>
<td>Source funding to help manage area</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hold Wildlife Garden and Compost Day – March 2014</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implement the area specific action plan.</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of conservation areas</td>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>Priorities</td>
<td>Measures and Review</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grassland</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amenity Grass verges</td>
<td>Verges strimmed 2 foot wide Height level left between 20 mm -30mm</td>
<td>Invertebrates, amphibians, flora Well maintained verge</td>
<td>Measured by: Country Park Ranger, Green Spaces, Coast &amp; Countryside Manager Review: Monthly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non amenity grass verges</td>
<td>Left un-strimmed 60% Thistles strimmed pre-flowering</td>
<td>Invertebrates, amphibians, flora Well maintained verge</td>
<td>Measured by: Country Park Ranger, Green Spaces, Coast &amp; Countryside Manager Review: Monthly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car park edges</td>
<td>Height level must not exceed 100mm</td>
<td>Invertebrates, amphibians, flora Well maintained edges</td>
<td>Measured by: Country Park Ranger, Green Spaces, Coast &amp; Countryside Manager Review: Monthly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drumlin grassland</td>
<td>Mown monthly on low cut not exceeding 30 mm</td>
<td>Invertebrates, amphibians, flora Well maintained grassland</td>
<td>Measured by: Country Park Ranger, Green Spaces, Coast &amp; Countryside Manager Review: Monthly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amenity grassland mowing</td>
<td>Mown fortnightly on low cut not exceeding 30 mm</td>
<td>Invertebrates, amphibians, flora Well maintained amenity grassland</td>
<td>Measured by: Country Park Ranger, Green Spaces, Coast &amp; Countryside Manager Review: Monthly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of Conservation Areas</td>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>Priorities</td>
<td>Measures and Review</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| WCS1 & WCS2 (Drumlin Woodland) (planted 2011 – 2012) | Grass and encroaching vegetation removed from root level.  
  - Beating up required up to 2015 | Sustained growth of young trees | Measured by: Country Park Ranger, Tree and Woodlands Officer, Coast & Countryside Manager, Grant funders  
  Review: Monthly |
| Woodland management | Woodland maintenance work under review with Woodland and Tree Officer, as per Woodland Management Plan.  
  - Dead or dying trees removed according to health and safety concern.  
  - All dead / cut timber to stay on site for conservation purpose. Large cuts of timber to be logged, stacked into Habitat Piles and /or created into crafts as per activity programme. | Retain standing dead timber  
  - Create rows of cut timber as a conservation ‘dead hedge or as habitat piles | Measured by: Country Park Ranger, Tree and Woodlands Officer, Coast & Countryside Manager  
  Review: Annually |
<p>| Drumlin hedgerow | Monitor growth of Drumlin hedgerow and maintain to standards observed in National hedgelaying association. | Lay hedge 2014 | Measured by: Country Park Ranger, Tree and Woodlands Officer, Coast &amp; Countryside Manager |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Priorities</th>
<th>Measures and Review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Monitor reedbed</td>
<td>• Retain favourable condition status for the saltmarsh</td>
<td>Measured by: Country Park Ranger, Coast &amp; Countryside Manager, Natural England, Lancs Wildlife Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Discourage access through the reedbed</td>
<td>• Safety of recreational users</td>
<td>Review: Annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Retain favourable condition status for the saltmarsh</td>
<td>• Increase understanding of the unique qualities of the reedbed (BAP habitat)</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Safety of recreational users</td>
<td></td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Increase understanding of the unique qualities of the reedbed (BAP habitat)</td>
<td></td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Increase understanding of the unique qualities of the saltmarsh (BAP habitat and SSSI)</td>
<td></td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Priorities</th>
<th>Measures and Review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Monitor impact of access on the saltmarsh flora and fauna</td>
<td>• Retain favourable condition status for the saltmarsh</td>
<td>Measured by: Country Park Ranger, Coast &amp; Countryside Manager, Natural England, Lancs Wildlife Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide written and verbal Interpretation and information about the saltmarsh</td>
<td>• Safety of recreational users</td>
<td>Review: Annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Safety of recreational users</td>
<td></td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Increase understanding of the unique qualities of the saltmarsh (BAP habitat and SSSI)</td>
<td></td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of Conservation Areas</td>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>Priorities</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHS sites</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manage BHS mosaic grassland habitat</td>
<td>• Monitor mosaic grassland</td>
<td>• Improve biodiversity condition status for the mosaic grassland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Manage access along the area</td>
<td>• Safety of recreational users</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Increase understanding of the unique qualities of the grassland mosaic (BAP habitat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manage BHS wyre estuary</td>
<td>• Monitor woodland bluffs and wyre estuary saltmarsh</td>
<td>• Improve biodiversity condition status for the woodland bluffs and saltmarshes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Manage access along the area</td>
<td>• Safety of recreational users</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Increase understanding of the unique qualities of the woodland bluffs and saltmarsh edges (BAP habitat)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wyre Estuary Biodiversity Action Plan -

**Key Objective** - Ensure that the site is managed to maximise and enhance the value to biodiversity

1. Being fully mindful of relevant wildlife legislation that prohibits certain activities eg disturbance of nesting birds or roosting bats.
2. Avoid clearing back vegetation which could be suitable sites for ground nesting and roosting birds and mammals and invertebrate breeding areas.
3. Undertake management and public event activity during the most appropriate times to achieve minimal disturbance to wildlife

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Lead Officer</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Increase understanding of biodiversity issues with staff and volunteers</td>
<td>Hold an annual biodiversity site assessment with team</td>
<td>Feb 2016</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Manager</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Raise awareness of the value of the park to biodiversity</td>
<td>Hold minimum of one event a year to celebrate the wildlife of the park</td>
<td>Oct 2016</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>Completed/Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Develop an interpretive feature/notice board that helps to illustrate the wildlife of the park</td>
<td>Oct 2016</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Increase information on website and café and information point on weekly wildlife records</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Increase biodiversity volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>Undertake monthly site visits with volunteers to encourage biodiversity survey and conservation management of the park</td>
<td>Oct 2016</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>Completed/Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Appoint student placements to support survey and habitat management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Monitor the biodiversity of the site</td>
<td>Undertake surveys to develop a species and habitat list that can be updated and monitored for change.</td>
<td>Oct 2016</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Amend the management of the park in the light of the survey results</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Work with the Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership to secure increased awareness of the value of the Wyre Estuary</td>
<td>Attend quarterly Morecambe Bay Delivery Meetings and prepare projects plans for future partnership working.</td>
<td>Oct 2016</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Manager</td>
<td>On-going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Work with the Lancashire Local Nature Partnership to secure support for the Wyre Estuary</td>
<td>Attend LNP meetings and prepare plans to future partnership working.</td>
<td>Oct 2016</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Manager</td>
<td>On-going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Deadline</td>
<td>Lead Officer</td>
<td>Achievement</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Manage existing biodiversity to maintain condition and to improve where appropriate</td>
<td>Survey the site for invasive species</td>
<td>Oct 2016</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>On-going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Survey site for damage – ascertain any causes and mitigate</td>
<td>Oct 2014</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Remove invasive species as a part of the annual maintenance programme</td>
<td>Oct 2016</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Create new areas of habitat as appropriate</td>
<td>Identify opportunities for new habitat such as wetland area and habitat piles</td>
<td>Feb 2011</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>Woodland creation and maturity of existing woodlands completed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Identify habitat mosaic on the wyre estuary coastal path north</td>
<td>Oct 2014</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>On-going following new path creation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Create opportunities for wetland habitats</td>
<td>Feb 2014</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>Pond creation as part of the Beaumont College / volunteer activity programme, Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Work with the Wyre Catchment Partnership</td>
<td>Attend wyre catchment partnership meetings, develop joint action plan for the Wyre Catchment including the Wyre Estuary</td>
<td>Aug 2014</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Manager</td>
<td>On-going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Update management plan with key joint actions for the Wyre Estuary and implement</td>
<td>Aug 2014</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>On-going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Lead Officer</td>
<td>Community Involvement</td>
<td>Management year</td>
<td>Resource Implications</td>
<td>Measures and Review</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyre Catchment Partnership – Estuary Group</td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Manager</td>
<td>Development of the Wyre Catchment Partnership - Council is a member. Support the Estuary Group to develop actions for the Estuary Enable the estuary groups to have an input into the development and management of the park.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Measured by: Wyre Catchment Partnership, Coast and Countryside Manager, Coast &amp; Countryside Ranger, Volunteers Partners. Review: Annually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Lead Officer</td>
<td>Community Involvement</td>
<td>Management Year</td>
<td>Resource Implications</td>
<td>Measures and Review</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Consultation</strong></td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Engage and consult with park users in matters of change to the infrastructure of the site. Park users to be consulted following all major proposals to change of landscape and infrastructure. Arrangement a meeting of the Wyre Estuary Watersports Users Club.</td>
<td>Review consultation methods and report findings. Review requests from Watersport group. Deliver outcomes from Watersport users, as appropriate. Arrange a meeting of the Wyre Estuary Watersports Users Club.</td>
<td>Review consultation methods and report findings. Review requests from Watersport group. Deliver outcomes from Watersport users, as appropriate. Arrange a meeting of the Wyre Estuary Watersports Users Club.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Visitor surveys</strong></td>
<td>Aim to complete 150 surveys per year. Feedback from visitor surveys will steer management and maintenance decisions. Aim to complete 100 visitor surveys per year.</td>
<td>Aim to complete 200 surveys per year. Feedback information into management plan targets. Review visitor survey format.</td>
<td>Aim to complete 200-250 surveys per year. Feedback information into management plan targets. Review visitor survey format. Deliver new method of engaging with surveys.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Lead Officer</td>
<td>Community Involvement</td>
<td>Management Year</td>
<td>Resource Implications</td>
<td>Measures and Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Host community led events</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Promote the park to community groups to use as an events space</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Respond to feedback from users and promote the park to community groups to use as an events space</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>Coast and Countryside Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review the use of the park by the community and develop involvement plan</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliver involvement plan</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>Coast &amp; Countryside Manager, Country Park Ranger, site based staff, number of attendees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review: Monthly figures and annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community events and activities link in with Active Wyre and national programmes</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Deliver community events, develop natural surroundings to accommodate environmental learning, engage with visitor feedback to deliver 2015 activity programme</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Feedback from customers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliver community events, develop natural surroundings to accommodate environmental learning, engage with visitor feedback to deliver 2016 activity programme</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Coast and Countryside Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliver community events, develop natural surroundings to accommodate environmental learning, engage with visitor feedback to deliver 2017 activity programme</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliver community events, develop natural surroundings to accommodate environmental learning, engage with visitor feedback to deliver 2018 activity programme</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deliver community events, develop natural surroundings to accommodate environmental learning, engage with visitor feedback to deliver 2019 activity programme</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Lead Officer</td>
<td>Management year</td>
<td>Resource Implications</td>
<td>Measures and Review</td>
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| **Leaflets & Interpretation** | Country Park Ranger  
Coast and Countryside Manager | 2014          | Provision of new site leaflet, well distributed, web site accessible. | Source funding opportunities for provision of formal site interpretation  
Promote amphitheatre | Funding sourced through grants, corporate budgets, stakeholders, Friends group  
Country Park Ranger  
Coast and Countryside Manager  
Comms Team  
Tourism Officer  
Recharge: site leaflet | Measured by:  
Coast & Countryside Manager  
Country Park Ranger  
Corporate Communications  
Review: quarterly |
|                        |                                                   | 2015          | Review natural history information including bird watching. | Delivery of formal site interpretation  
Promote amphitheatre |                        |
|                        |                                                   | 2016          | Provision of natural history information well distributed, web site accessible. | Source funding opportunities for provision of formal site interpretation  
Promote amphitheatre |                        |
|                        |                                                   | 2017          | Audit of current signage and formal site interpretation  
Source funding opportunities  
Promote amphitheatre | Fire |                        |
<p>|                        |                                                   | 2018          | Provision of activity, event and sightings activity through Wyre Blog | Fire |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Lead Officer</th>
<th>Marketing</th>
<th>Management Year</th>
<th>Resource Implications</th>
<th>Measures and Review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Events and activities</strong></td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Continue to develop and deliver the Wyre Estuary Country Park Open Day in August</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Continue to develop and deliver the Wyre Estuary Country Park Open Day in August</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Corporate Communication team</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Develop and deliver small scale events and activities</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Coast and Countryside Team</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Continue to develop and deliver the Wyre Estuary Country Park Open Day in August</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Develop and deliver small scale events and activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review educational visits. Provide target of visiting groups for year.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Provision of business opportunities to outsource environmental education activity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| <strong>Provision of educational material</strong>  | Country Park Ranger                 | Review educational visits. Provide target of visiting groups for year.     | 2014            | Country Park Ranger                                                                  | Measured by:        |
|                                        |                                     | Provision of business opportunity to outsource environmental education activity | 2015            | Corporate Communication team                                                          |                     |
|                                        | Coast and Countryside Manager       | Review educational visits. Provide target of visiting groups for year.     | 2016            | Coast and Countryside Team                                                             |                     |
|                                        |                                     | Environmental education provider operating on site.                         | 2017            | Country Park Ranger                                                                  | Review: monthly     |
|                                        |                                     | Delivery of environmental education                                           | 2018            | Volunteers                                                                            |                     |
|                                        |                                     | Review educational visits. Provide target of visiting groups for year.       |                 |                                                                                        |                     |
|                                        |                                     | Deliver provision of educational material in accordance with corporate and national outcomes. |                 |                                                                                        |                     |
|                                        |                                     | Review educational visits. Provide target of visiting groups for year.       |                 |                                                                                        |                     |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Lead Officer</th>
<th>Marketing</th>
<th>Management year</th>
<th>Resource Implications</th>
<th>Measures and Review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise and funding / income generation</td>
<td>Coast and Countryside Manager</td>
<td>Site leaflet produced in house, outsourced printing.</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Coast and Countryside Ranger</td>
<td>Measured by: Coast &amp; Countryside Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Site banner funded through external partner</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Tourism Officer</td>
<td>Coast and Countryside Ranger / site based staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Host 1 art/music events on the outdoor stage</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Events Officer</td>
<td>Corporate Communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review use of Riverside room facility and provide structured review of facility</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Communications Team</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Events Officer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Identify free promotion through corporate communications</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Coast and Countryside Manager</td>
<td>Review: monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implement review of Riverside room to encourage awareness and income</td>
<td></td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Continue to develop and deliver the Wyre Estuary Country Park Open Day in August</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Investigate tendering options i.e. Farmers Markets.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Host 2 art/music events on the outdoor stage</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Free promotion through corporate communications</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Host 3 art/music events on the outdoor stage</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sustainable income generation and continuous development of enterprise and funding generation opportunity.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Seasonal farmers markets hosted on site (if appropriate)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Host 3+ art music events on the outdoor stage</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review of Riverside Room completed and operations installed</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sustainable income generation and continuous development of enterprise and funding generation opportunity.</td>
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<td>Review of Riverside Room completed and operations installed</td>
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<td>Measures and Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implementation of management plan</td>
<td>Country Park Ranger</td>
<td>2014 - 2018</td>
<td>WECP Management Group</td>
<td>Measured by:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All relevant staff, stakeholders, partner organisations are able to</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Management plan</td>
<td>Management plan</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>participate the development and delivery of management plan.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>involving all stakeholders</td>
<td>Review: Annually</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wyre council's vision is delivered</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ensure monitoring and development framework is delivered with</td>
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<tr>
<td>timescales, budgets and funding proposals in place</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clear and defined policies are in place and adhered to</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Green Flag Award criteria is being used as a monitoring tool.</td>
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<td>• Stakeholders, partners have an opportunity to input into the</td>
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<td>management of the site through a framework decision making process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Sites aims and objectives are realistic and achievable.</td>
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<td>• Training and support for staff and volunteers is available.</td>
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<td>• Consultation is progressed and reviewed.</td>
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<td>• Safeguard of the local environment.</td>
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</table>