



Report of the Gower AONB Team Leader

Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group – 11 December 2017

Light Pollution / Dark Skies on Gower

Light pollution/dark skies has been raised at recent Steering Group meetings and this report provides a summary/update to the current situation.

Current available evidence is provided by pan-Wales studies based only satellite imagery and GIS data. The most recent of these studies was published for the Countryside Council for Wales in 2009, which was an update to a study undertaken in 1997.

The current AONB management plan includes Objective 17: Assess current levels of tranquillity, noise and light pollution, with an action to 'Develop and undertake baseline/monitoring approaches for tranquillity/dark sky.

In this context, Gower AONB Team Leader has had recent meetings and discussions with Welsh Government, Dark Skies Wales and Natural Resources Wales.

Particularly regarding dark skies - it is clear that empirical data is required as baseline data to inform any further work or development of Gower AONB as a dark sky area/designation. Swansea Council has asked Dark Sky Wales to undertake this required fieldwork and reporting. Gower AONB Team Leader will issue the report for discussion at the next AONB Partnership Steering Group.

Chris Lindley
Gower AONB Team Leader
4 December 2017