



Land Management Plan consultation – have your say

In 2015 the Malvern Hills Trust (then Conservators) widely consulted on a new Land Management Plan that covered the 5-year period; April 2016-March 2021.

This plan is coming to an end soon and work is underway on an updated plan for April 2021-March 2026.

To help inform this work, Malvern Hills Trust (MHT) would welcome your help and specifically your thoughts on:

1. The Land Management Plan document
2. The land management that has been delivered since April 2016
3. Possible improvements for the next 5-year period

To help you, please find below a summary of the existing Land Management Plan (LMP) and what has been achieved. Following this, is a short consultation questionnaire.

Our Land Management Plan

The Land Management Plan (LMP) is a document written to guide the land management work of the Malvern Hills Trust (MHT).

It details the framework in which MHT's work sits, describes the land we care for, evaluates what's important, identifies objectives and programmes the work necessary to achieve those objectives.

It should therefore provide a transparent link between theory and legislation, and the practical tasks undertaken on the ground.

It is a working document intended for those managing MHT land, but it is also made publicly available

www.malvernhills.org.uk/looking-after/land-management-plan/



Key achievements of the LMP 2016-2021

The Trust's work focusses on its legal duties relating to public access and conservation of the landscape. Particular achievements since 2016 include:

Public access

- Upheld 1200 hectares (3000 acres) open to the public and maintained an array of access infrastructure (steps, benches, signs, car parks etc).
- Created and waymarked several permissive routes for cyclists to improve the cycling network. Produced a 'cycling and walking guide' to ensure everyone knows where to go.
- Improved access for families and less-able visitors by upgrading sections of path (>2km) to make them more buggy and tramper-friendly.

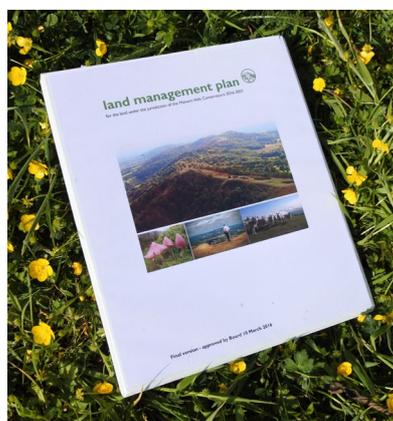
Landscape, natural and cultural heritage

- Maintained a fantastic range of 14 priority habitats including ponds, lowland mixed woodlands and species-rich pastures through a range of land management, such as livestock grazing and coppicing.
- Gained nationally important 'Sites of Special Scientific Interest' status for our hay meadow on Malvern Common.
- Increased the number of geological sites in good condition from 9 to 16 helping scientists and students study part of Earth's history.
- Restored 10 ha of secondary woodland to open habitats creating views, revealing archaeology and supporting rare wildlife.
- Repaired damage to the archaeology of British Camp – one of the finest hillforts in the country.
- Increased land under our care by 11 hectares including some strategic in-by-land purchases that will aid the management of key sites including Castlemorton Common.

Share your thoughts

Our current land management plan can be found on our website. Please share your thoughts with us by completing the below questionnaire.

Completed questionnaires should be emailed to: jonathan@malvern hills.org.uk before the 7th September.



If you have any questions regarding your submission, please get in touch.

Please do not provide representations on the MHT constitution, easement process, the precept nor any other item unrelated to land management. These should be emailed separately to info@malvern hills.org.uk

Thank you in advance for your help in what is a complex, iterative process



Your name, contact details and, if applicable, organisation:

Q1 Overall do you think MHT have done a good job of delivering public access and conservation of the landscape since April 2016?

Q2 Is the LMP document satisfactory? Has it provided a comprehensive, readable text that explains why and how MHT undertakes practical work?

Q3 How could the LMP document be improved?

Q4 Has the work that's been done delivered satisfactorily on MHT's duties relating to public access?

Q5 Has the work that's been done improved the state of Hills & Commons heritage features (archaeology, wildlife, geology, landscape)?

Q6 Have the topics/areas that quoted in the particular achievements above seen improvement and were they the correct ones?

Q7 What topics/areas should receive new or continued special effort in the next 5 years and how?

Any other comments on MHT land management?

Thank you for your contribution!