

Views About Management



A statement of English Nature's views about the management of Clevedon Shore Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

This statement represents English Nature's views about the management of the SSSI for nature conservation. This statement sets out, in principle, our views on how the site's special conservation interest can be conserved and enhanced. English Nature has a duty to notify the owners and occupiers of the SSSI of its views about the management of the land.

Not all of the management principles will be equally appropriate to all parts of the SSSI. Also, there may be other management activities, additional to our current views, which can be beneficial to the conservation and enhancement of the features of interest.

The management views set out below do not constitute consent for any operation. English Nature's written consent is still required before carrying out any operation likely to damage the features of special interest (see your SSSI notification papers for a list of these operations). English Nature welcomes consultation with owners, occupiers and users of the SSSI to ensure that the management of this site conserves and enhances the features of interest, and to ensure that all necessary prior consents are obtained.

Management Principles

The geological interests at these sites are finite and irreplaceable. The main management principles are to conserve the resource in the long-term, while permitting scientific usage, which often involves collecting specimens. Balancing these two opposing principles is the key to long-term positive management.

Judgment of how much collecting can be permitted, while sustaining the resource, must be made on a site-by-site basis. Collecting of specimens requires very careful management to ensure that the geological resource is conserved. Where there is any doubt, caution should be applied before removing or allowing any material to be removed.

Sites with a unique or finite geological resource are particularly sensitive because they are often small and the important interest features are typically restricted in volume. In addition to specimen collecting, any activity which conceals or requires removal of part or all of the geological interest features can cause irreparable damage or destruction.

Vegetation management, involving removal of large trees and scrub, may be required to recreate or maintain exposure of the geological features. In some cases, removal of rock debris and loose material from faces may be required.

Certain activities can cause direct damage to geological sites located on the foreshore and management should aim to avoid or, if necessary, minimise any harmful effects. Such activities include dredging, construction of pipelines, heavy machinery crossing the geological features and, in some instances, the introduction of large quantities of beech feed material.