

8.0 FUTURE USES OF THE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

8.1 Looking Ahead

- 8.1.1 The Brecon Beacons Landscape Character Assessment in its current form will be an extremely useful and comprehensive reference for the National Park Authority, suitable for many different applications (including those set out in the original brief).
- 8.1.2 It could also form a key 'building block' in the development of future studies which may be required by the National Park Authority. These future studies would require the extraction of relevant information from the Landscape Character Assessment and combining it with additional research specific to the topic being studied. These could relate (for example) to the historic environment, the built environment, perceptions of the landscape or community planning.
- 8.1.3 For example, the Landscape Character Areas could form the basis for a visitor perceptions study. This would require taking information from the Landscape Character Assessment on perceptual qualities (and possibly recreational opportunities) across the National Park, and combining it with data from a visitor survey, in order to achieve a much fuller picture of people's differing perceptions of different parts of the National Park, and how they are appreciated. This can then inform future management.
- 8.1.4 The Landscape Character Assessment could also inform the development of Design Guidance through its analysis of the relationships of settlements and buildings with the surrounding landscape. It would need to be supplemented by a more detailed survey of the National Park's buildings and the local variations in vernacular character. This would enable future development in the National Park to retain and enhance the variations in its character.
- 8.1.5 A further use for the Landscape Character Assessment is to inform topic-based sensitivity and/ or capacity studies, for example relating to wind turbines or fringe development.
- 8.1.6 In addition, the Landscape Character Assessment forms a good basis for the development of community-based projects. These would require additional survey work to build a more detailed picture of specific parts of the National Park. It could also be used in the development of partnership working with Unitary Authorities and other organisations beyond the National Park boundary.