



UK DARK SKIES PARTNERSHIP

An informal collaboration of UK protected landscapes, professional organisations and institutions. Its commitments are:

the protection and improvement of dark skies over the UK's remaining dark landscapes, including International Dark-Sky Association Dark Sky Places;

the protection of biodiversity from the negative effects of stray artificial light;

raising awareness of the need to curb both rural and urban light pollution through better lighting practice.



UK Dark Skies Partnership - who are we?

Armagh Planetarium and Observatory
www.armagh.space

Bath and Surrounds Starlit Skies Alliance
starlitskies.org.uk

Bodmin Moor Dark Sky Landscape
www.cornwall.gov.uk

Broads National Park
www.broads-authority.gov.uk

Brecon Beacons
www.breconbeacons.org

Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB
www.clwydianrangeanddeevalleyaonb.org.uk

Commission for Dark Skies
www.britastro.org/dark-skies

CPRE
www.cpre.org.uk

Cranborne Chase IDSR
www.chasingstars.org.uk

Dark Skies UK
darkskiesuk.org

Dark Sky Wales
www.darkskywales.org

Dark Source
www.dark-source.com

Dartmoor National Park
www.dartmoor.gov.uk

Dark Sky Ireland
www.darksky.ie

Elan Valley Trust
www.elanvalley.org.uk

Exmoor National Park
www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk

Friends of the Lake District
www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk

Go Stargazing
gostargazing.co.uk

Gower AONB
www.visitswanseabay.com

Institution of Lighting Professionals
www.theilp.org.uk

International Dark-Sky Association
www.darksky.org

Isle of Wight AONB
www.darkwightskies.com

Llyn Peninsula
www.discoveryinthedark.wales

Norfolk Coast AONB
www.norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk

North Pennines AONB
www.northpennines.org.uk

North Wessex Downs AONB
www.northwessexdowns.org.uk

North York Moors National Park
www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/darkskies

Northumberland National Park
www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk

Scilly AONB
www.scillyaonb.org.uk

Snowdonia National Park/ Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri
www.snowdonia.gov.wales

South Downs National Park IDSR (Moore's Reserve)
www.southdowns.gov.uk

South Downs Planetarium
www.southdowns.org.uk

Starry Skies Pembrokeshire Partnership
www.pembrokeshirecoast.wales

Visit Anglesey AONB
www.visitanglesey.co.uk

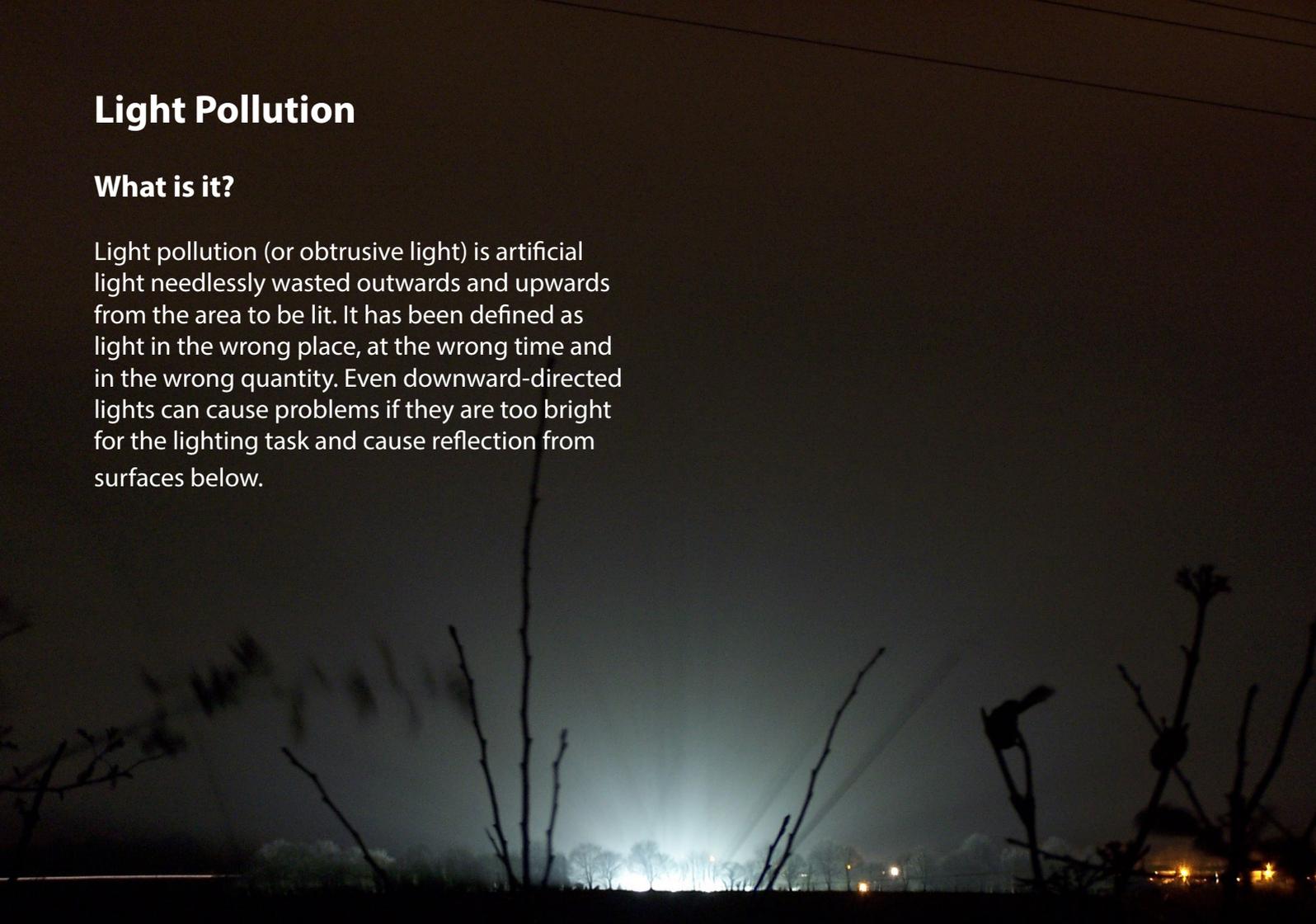
Wye Valley
www.visitdeanwye.co.uk

Yorkshire Dales National Park
yorkshiredales.org.uk

Light Pollution

What is it?

Light pollution (or obtrusive light) is artificial light needlessly wasted outwards and upwards from the area to be lit. It has been defined as light in the wrong place, at the wrong time and in the wrong quantity. Even downward-directed lights can cause problems if they are too bright for the lighting task and cause reflection from surfaces below.



A sports facility leaks light into the night sky in rural Wiltshire

Negative effects

Stray and excessive light:

causes **waste of money and energy**;

contributes to **climate change**;

causes **nuisance to others** as intrusive light;

is implicated in **human health issues**;

harms biodiversity: enormous numbers of creatures, large and small, operate at night. The nocturnal behaviour of mammals, especially bats, of owls, moths and vast numbers of other invertebrates is affected. Blue-rich LED light kills small insects;

creates **skyglow**, drawing a veil over dark, starlit skies, a sight contemplated by the human species for all its history.

Good Lighting Practice

Find out more:

APPG for Dark Skies – The All-Party Parliamentary Group of MPs has set itself the task of raising awareness and promoting real action on light pollution by H.M. Government. Find its policy recommendations at appgdarkskies.co.uk/policy-plan

Commission for Dark Skies – its website has a lot of advice and information on all aspects of light pollution: skyglow, biodiversity, health, crime, climate change, best practice... www.britastro.org/dark-skies

(CPRE) Night Blight – CPRE (The Countryside Charity) has useful local, regional and national maps of England's light pollution and dark skies. www.cpre.org.uk



Well directed, sensor-operated, not too bright



DEFRA's 'Getting Light Right' guide – theilp.org.uk/publication/getting-light-right-defra

Institution of Lighting Professionals – The UK's keynote body on all things to do with artificial lighting. Its website and Journal are a source of advice and information not only for lighting professionals, but for anyone seeking up-to-date guidance on good practice and minimising light pollution. theilp.org.uk

International Dark-Sky Association – since 1988 this U.S.-based organisation has spread the word about light pollution and its solutions. It administers its Dark Sky Places scheme, encouraging the establishment of Dark Sky Reserves, Parks and Communities worldwide. www.darksky.org

Many National Parks and AONBs are publishing good lighting guides. Two examples are at: www.chasingstars.org.uk/good-lighting-advice-2.html (Cranborne Chase AONB International Dark Sky Reserve) [Good-practice-guide-for-outside-lighting-in-northumberland.html](http://www.chasingstars.org.uk/good-lighting-advice-2.html)

Environmentally aware, sensor-operated bulkhead light