

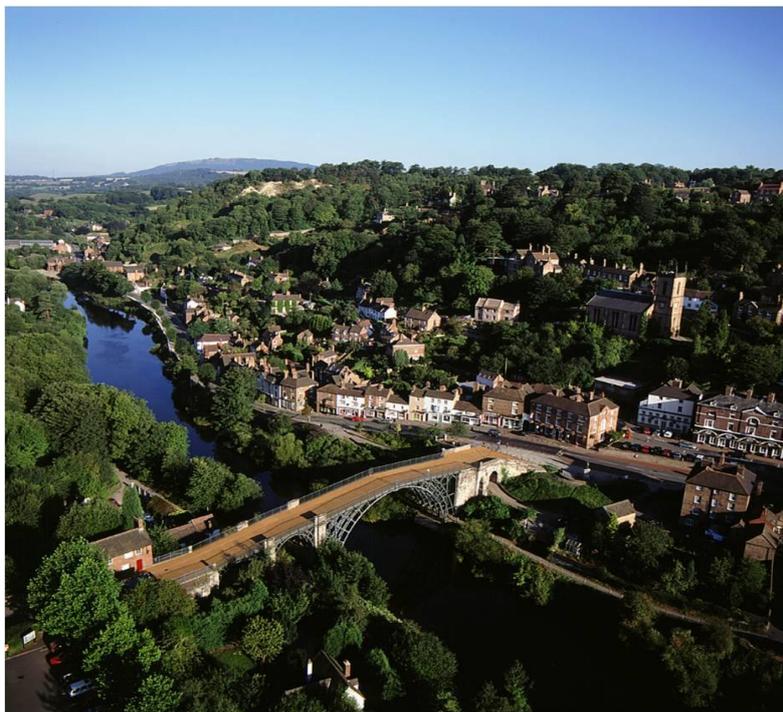


Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site Management Plan Consultation

The Ironbridge Gorge is one of Britain's first World Heritage Sites (WHS), inscribed onto the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) World Heritage List in 1986. The Ironbridge Gorge is of universal significance for its unique role in the development of the Industrial Revolution that largely originated in Britain in the eighteenth century and later spread across the world.

Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site is one of 29 in the UK and only 1031 globally. UNESCO manages the WHS list and requires that they should have a management plan. Ironbridge's current Plan was last updated in 2010 and it now needs updating. A new draft plan has been produced and the WHS Steering Group is carrying out a consultation on its proposals.

The consultation runs from 28 June to 5 August 2016. The Draft Management Plan is available to download as a PDF (973.69 KB).



Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site, showing the Iron Bridge

WHAT IS A MANAGEMENT PLAN?

The Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Management Plan provides an agreed framework for its management among its varied stakeholders and property owners.

The purpose of the Management Plan is to ensure the preservation and protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Ironbridge World Heritage Site; this includes the significant monuments, the archaeological sites and the historic buildings and sites, all within a historic and accessible landscape. The Plan also aims to improve the interpretation and understanding of the cultural landscape to its visitors and inhabitants and enhance the living community within the WHS through social and economic regeneration. Social interaction,

among both visitors and inhabitants and cultural and ecological stewardship is promoted throughout the Plan. Continuing research into the origins and history of the Ironbridge WHS will inform appropriate future management of the site.

The draft Plan looks in greater detail at what are the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the site – this is the way that UNESCO describes what makes a site significant. It looks at why the Ironbridge Gorge is internationally important and the descriptive details of the significance of the Site; an assessment of the issues and challenges affecting the Site together with the opportunities and objectives to overcome these; the management of the Site; and finally details how the actions will be implemented, monitored and evaluated.

The draft Management Plan aims to:

- Describe the character of the WHS
- Describe the Site's attributes
- Describe the current governance of the Site
- Assess the Site's challenges, issues, opportunities and objectives for the future:
 - Conservation of the historic fabric
 - Traffic & parking
 - Land stability
 - Tourism & visitor management
 - Natural environment including the River Severn and its banks
 - Community resilience
- Set out the management and co-ordination of the Site
- Set out actions for the next 5 years in an action plan

How to contribute your views on the Draft Plan

Your contribution is valuable. The aim of the consultation is to support the production of an appropriate functional Management Plan, which has the support of those involved in the WHS.

We are inviting written responses to this consultation by 5 August 2016 [on-line](#) via the Telford&Wrekin Council website. If you are unable to use the on-line form please email whsadmin@ironbridge.org.uk or alternatively, write to: WHS Administrator, Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, Coach Road, Coalbrookdale, Telford TF8 7DQ. We would be grateful if you could clearly indicate in your response which part (s) of the consultation paper you are responding to, as this will aid the analysis of responses received.

Printed copies for reference will be available at:

- Telford & Wrekin Council - Addenbrooke House Reception, Ironmasters Way, Telford, TF3 4NT (Mon – Fri 8.45am to 5pm)
- Southwater Library, Southwater Square, Southwater Way, Telford, TF3 4JG (Mon – Fri 10am to 6pm, Sat, 10am to 4pm)
- Madeley Library – 21-22 Russell Road, Madeley, Telford, TF7 5BB (Mon – Tues 10am to 5pm, closed Wed, Thurs 10am to 6pm, Fri 10am to 5pm, Sat 10am to 4pm)
Madeley Town Council Offices – Jubilee House, 74 High Street, Madeley, Telford, TF7 5AH (Mon – Fri 10am to 4pm)
- Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust Offices, Coach Road, Coalbrookdale, Telford, TF8 7DQ (Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm)
- Broseley Library – Old School, Bridgnorth Road, Broseley, TF12 5EQ (Mon 2pm – 6pm, closed Tues & Weds, Thurs 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 6pm, Fri 2pm to 5pm, Sat 9.30am – 1pm)
- The Gorge Parish Council Offices – Unit C22 Maws Craft Centre, Jackfield, Telford, TF8 7LS (Tues 2pm – 5pm, Weds & Thurs 9am – 1pm)

To View the Draft Plan on the Telford & Wrekin Council website PC access points are available at the following libraries:

- Southwater
- Wellington
- Newport
- Madeley
- Dawley
- Oakengates
- Stirchley

Drop-in Sessions

Public drop-in sessions will be held between 4pm and 7pm on the following occasions:

- Monday 4 July – Broseley Library, Old School, Bridgnorth Road, Broseley, TF12 5EQ
- Wednesday 6 July - The Glass Classroom, next to Enigenuity, Coalbrookdale, TF8 7DQ
- Tuesday 19 July - The White Hart, 10 Wharfage, Ironbridge, Telford, TF8 7AW
- Wednesday 20 July – Madeley Town Council Offices, Jubilee House, 74 High Street, Madeley, Telford, TF7 5AH

Handling your response

Following the closing date, all responses will be analysed and considered along with any other available evidence to help us finalise the Management Plan. They will be considered by the Steering Group when they are presented with the final version of the Plan.

We aim to have the finalised Management Plan agreed and in place by the end of 2016.

Questions

Please consider the following questions when submitting your responses:

- Does the vision accurately capture the long term ambitions for the WHS?
- Will the vision encourage the management of the Site in a way which protects the OUV while balancing the needs of residents, visitors and other users of the Site?
- Are there any factual errors?
- Do the challenges, issues, opportunities and objectives and associated actions address the main issues affecting the management of the WHS and will they help us achieve the vision?
- What should be the priorities within the five year timeframe of the Plan?
- Are there any other objectives that should be incorporated?
- Are there any serious omissions in the Plan?
- Are there other ways you would like to get involved?

Comments and Complaints

If you have any comments about how this consultation has been conducted please send them to: whsadmin@ironbridge.org.uk or write to: WHS Administrator, Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, Coach Road, Coalbrookdale, Telford, TF8 7DQ