

Business Development in the West Pennine Moors

Lancashire County Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

Brief

BE Group was commissioned as a follow up to our work on the Darwen Market Town Initiative Healthcheck and Action Plan.

The study had three aims:

- A comprehensive audit of existing and planned visitor attractions in the West Pennine Moors
- GIS mapping of the type and location of businesses
- Theming of businesses and visitor attractions to develop clusters strategies.

Activities

BE Group conducted a wide ranging survey of businesses which were identified using literature reviews, internet searches and site surveys.

Consultation was undertaken with stakeholders and businesses to identify areas of opportunity and key issues facing this rural area.

Outcome

The study identified 227 businesses in the West Pennine Moors and a further 129 on its periphery, but which impact on it. This information was mapped using GIS and was used to inform the identification of clusters. 16 clusters were recommended for development covering both geographic and thematic areas.

The study will be used to focus activity in the rural economy and encourage linkages between businesses, agencies and the six local authorities that overlap the area.



Businesses by Type in the West Pennine Moors

