

Ditchling Beacon Questionnaire

We would like to hear about your long-term aspirations for the common and the wider landscape, and any changes you would like to see.

This survey is being carried out by Footprint Ecology on behalf of Sussex Wildlife Trust. It is part of the 'Changing Chalk' project, which is supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund. Please see this website <https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/changingchalk> for further information.

All the data we collect will be anonymous.

Q1 What activity do you most often visit Ditchling Beacon for? Please tick one.

- Walking
- Dog walking
- Cycling/mountain biking
- Horse riding
- Running/jogging
- Quiet relaxation
- Wildlife/bird-watching
- Picnics/family outings
- Meeting friends
- Work

Other (please detail):

Q2 How often do you visit Ditchling Beacon? Please tick one.

- Daily
- More than once a week
- Weekly
- 2 to 3 times a month
- Monthly
- Less than once a month

Q3 Do you tend to visit more at a particular time of year? Please tick all that apply.

- Spring (Mar-May)
- Summer (Jun-Aug)
- Autumn (Sept-Nov)
- Winter (Dec-Feb)
- Equally all year
- Don't know

Q4 Has your use of Ditchling Beacon changed since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic? Please tick one.

- No change
- Visiting more
- Visiting less

Any other changes (please detail):

Q5 How do you usually travel to Ditchling Beacon? Please tick one.

- Car/van
- On foot
- Cycle
- Public transport
- Horse-box/lorry
- On horseback

Other:

Q6 Are you a member of Sussex Wildlife Trust? Please tick one.

- Yes
- No

Your views

Please see the accompanying online animated presentation or the static document on the website <https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/changingchalk>.

Q7 Why do you visit Ditchling Beacon? **Please tick all that apply.**

- Landscape/views
- Peace and quiet
- Wildlife
- Suitable walks
- Good for dogs
- Meeting others
- Easy access on foot
- Easy access by car
- Easy access by bike
- Good parking
- Horse riding access

Other (please give details):

Q8 **When visiting Ditchling Beacon do any of the following concern you?** Please tick all that apply.

- Nothing concerns me
- Disturbance or damage to wildlife
- Bridleway/path surfaces
- Dog fouling
- Litter
- Uncontrolled dogs
- Encountering horses
- Encountering joggers
- Encountering cyclists
- Encountering a cow or sheep
- Professional activities
- Anti-social behaviour

Other (please give details):

Q9 **What changes would you like to see, if any, to how Ditchling Beacon is managed for visitors?** Please tick all that apply.

- None
- Better parking
- Better footpaths
- More on-site information
- More seating
- More events e.g. guided walks

Other (please give details):

Q10 **Tree and scrub management will be necessary to keep the open grassland, and Ash Dieback (Chalara) means that tree removal for safety is necessary. Do you think the current balance of open grassland and woodland/scrub at Ditchling Beacon is:**

- About right
- Too much woodland and scrub
- Not enough woodland and scrub
- Don't know/not sure

Further details:

Q11 **Some mowing is required to help prevent scrub encroachment and maintain the area of open grassland. Do you think the area currently mowed at Ditchling Beacon is:**

- About right
- Too much
- Not enough
- Don't know/not sure

Further details:

Q12 **Livestock grazing is necessary to maintain the area and diversity of flower-rich grassland. Do you think the grazed area at Ditchling Beacon is:**

- About right
- Too small
- Too big
- Don't know/not sure

Further details:

Q13 If grazing were to be extended, it would be necessary to ensure the animals did not stray off the site or onto the road. Which of the following fencing methods would you prefer at Ditchling Beacon (given that full public access would be maintained at all times)?

- Large fenced enclosures
- Several small enclosures
- Boundary fencing with all access points maintained
- Temporary fencing (e.g. electric)
- Don't know/not sure

Other (please give details):

Q14 Do you have any other comments regarding grazing at Ditchling Beacon?

Q15 Do you have any other comments regarding Ditchling Beacon?

Q16 Would you be interested in taking part and doing more at Ditchling Beacon? Please tick all that apply.

- Volunteer work parties
- Friends group
- Guided walks

Other (please give details):

If you are interested in volunteering at Ditchling Beacon, please get in touch, either by email: swtvolunteering@sussexwt.org.uk or phone: 07796844641.

Q17 What is your home postcode (to enable us to see where site users come from)?

Thank you for your participation.

Completed questionnaires can be sent to the following address:

Ditchling Beacon Consultation, c/o Fenella Lewin, Practice Manager, Footprint Ecology, Forest Office, Cold Harbour, Wareham, BH20 7PA.

Or alternatively email to commons@footprint-ecology.co.uk