



North York Moors National Park

Protecting our Dark Skies

Why are Dark Skies important?

Culture & Heritage



- Inspires art & music
- Rural & coastal heritage
- Landscape impact
- Part of modern culture
- Crucial for oral histories
- Many constellations named after natural world

Education



- ‘Gateway science’
- Inspires our children
- Experience of awe & wonder
- For all ages

Wildlife



- Artificial light impacts:
 - Nocturnal species e.g. moths, bats, owls, hedgehogs
 - Reduced abundance and diversity of invertebrates
 - Reduced pollinator activity
 - Diurnal species e.g. birds awake too late/early
 - Impacts on flora

Why are Dark Skies important?

Rural Economy



Dark skies economy
Astro tourism
Business collaboration
Oral histories

Energy Usage



Wasted money ££££
Light is a pollutant
Knows no boundaries
Why light the sky?
Glare is wasted energy
Unlike microplastics or
particulates it's 'easy' to fix

Health & Mindfulness



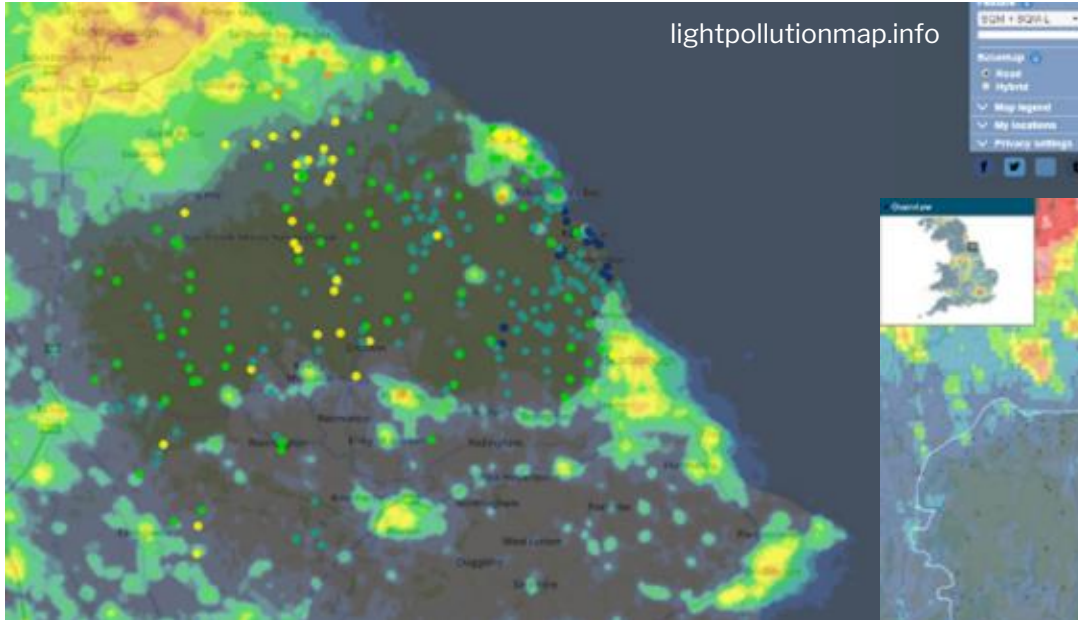
Impacts on circadian rhythms
linked to heart disease, cancers,
obesity, dementia
'Modern scurvy'
Growth in reconnecting with
natural world
Mental health benefits

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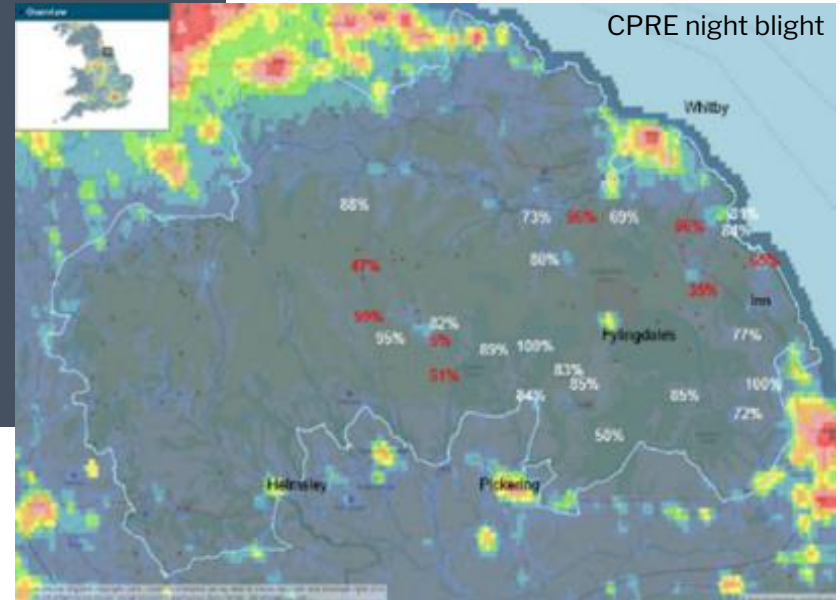
- ✦ Half of the National Park is after dark!
- ✦ National Parks are the best places to experience truly dark skies

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Measurements and compliance

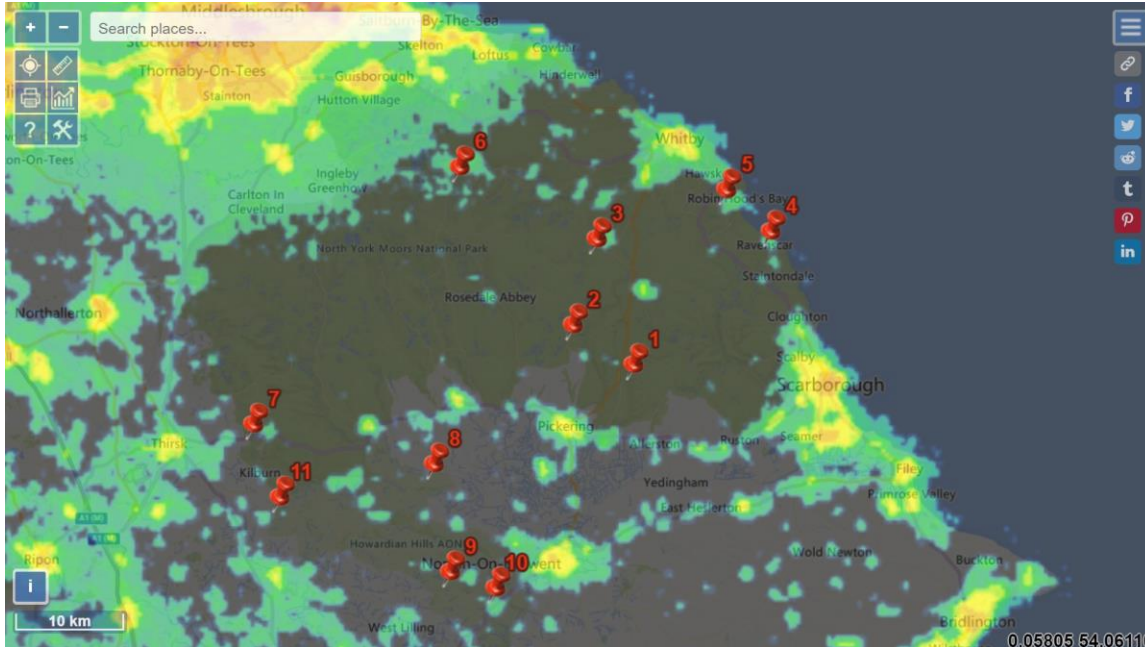


Over 3500 meter readings and
2000+ lighting fixtures logged



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Measurements and compliance

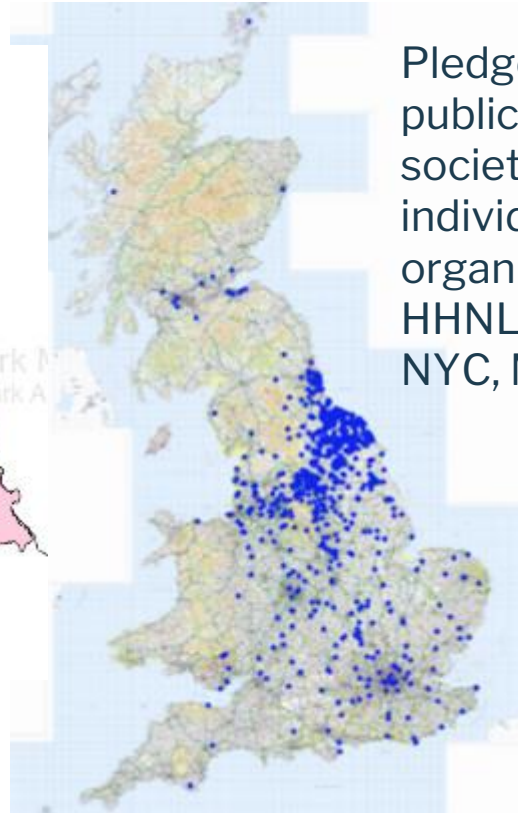
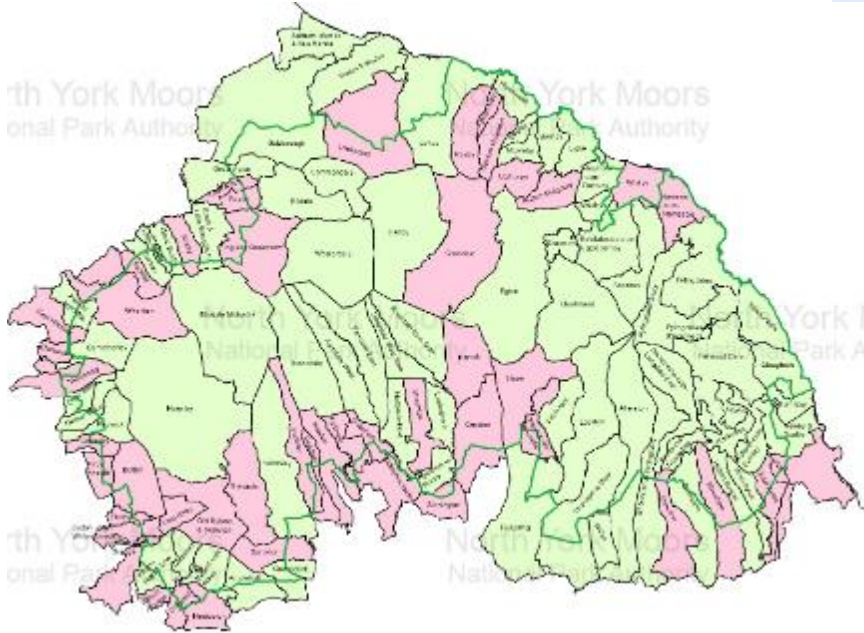


lightpollutionmap.info

- A network of fixed meters is being rolled out Adding to the continued for of our amazing volunteers
- Helping us better understand our dark skies
- Providing more robust data records
- Informing on where we might expand the core zone

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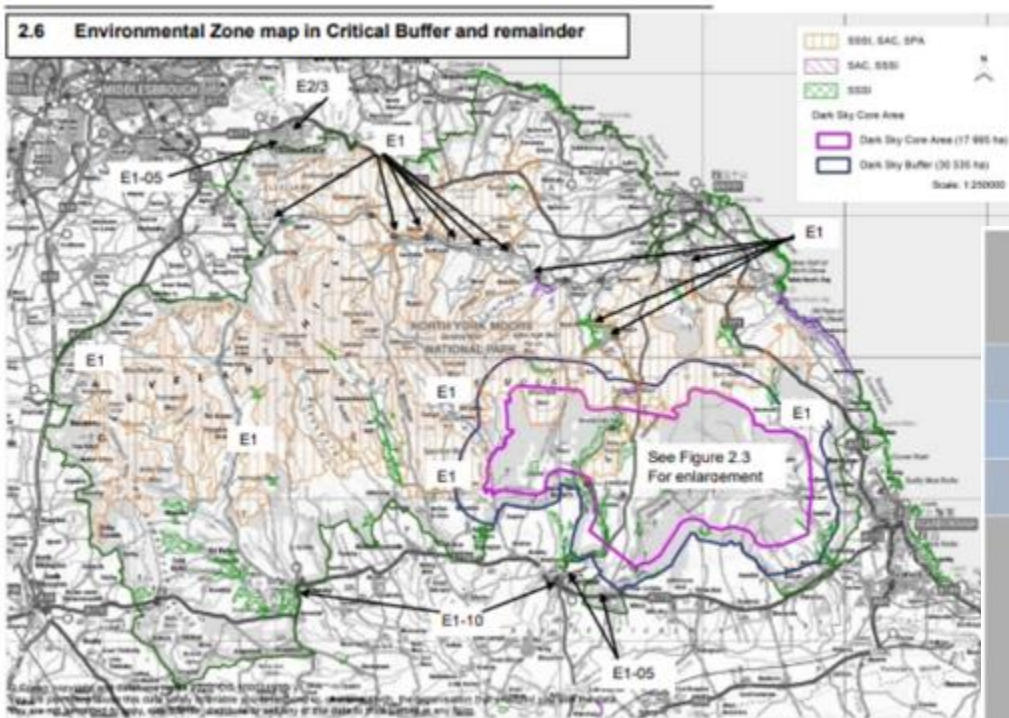
Demonstrating support



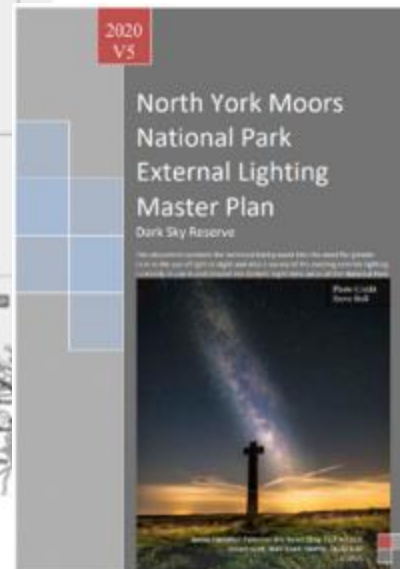
Pledges of support from the public, parish councils (wip), societies, high profile individuals, land owners and organisations including HHNL, FE, NT, YWT, CPRE, NYC, MOD

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Lighting management plan



Framework for Planning and
advice for applicants
Supplementary Planning
Document now added



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Events, outreach and education



The demand and interest in events grows year on year with a significant uplift for the rural economy.



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Identify non dark skies friendly lighting



- Old style lights result in wasted energy, wildlife disruption, landscape impacts and nuisance
- Modern lighting is increasingly being used for decorative purposes



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Identify and promote Dark Skies Friendly lighting

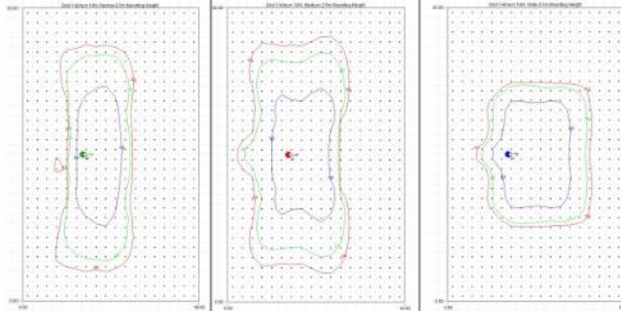


Good LED lighting when used correctly offers significant energy saving and control options.

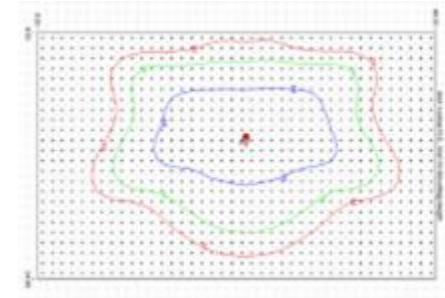
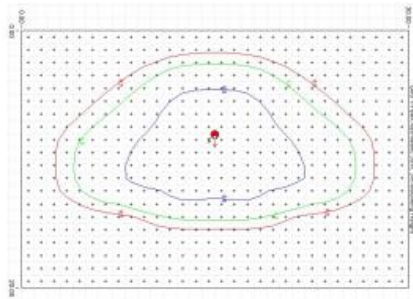


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Identify and promote Dark Skies Friendly lighting



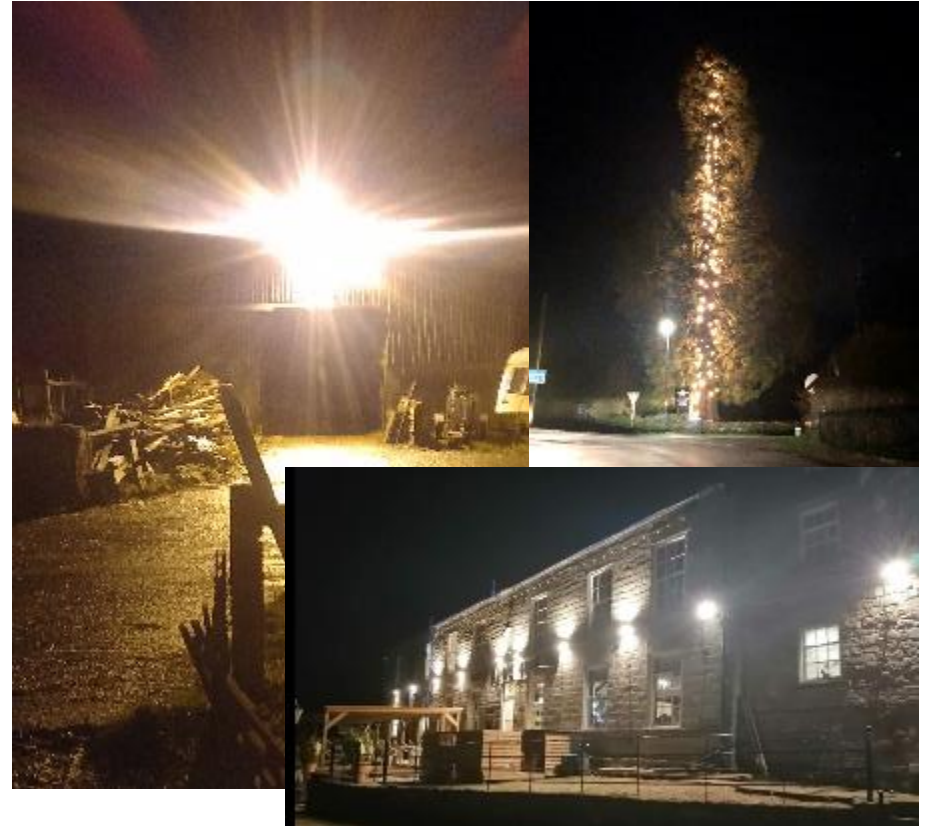
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Lighting control and improvement

- Farms
- Stables
- Pubs
- Accommodation providers
- Village halls
- Large properties
- Area schemes with landowners
- Dark Skies Friendly Community scheme
- Planning advice and enforcement



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Deliver lighting improvement projects (holiday accommodation)



- Is the light needed?
- When is it needed?
- How much light is needed?

We all need light for different reasons



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Lighting improvement projects (small farm)



- Images typical of many rural farms with unshielded lighting visible from many miles away.
- Light causes glare, disorientation and deep shadow which is difficult to work in and creates health and safety issues

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Lighting improvement projects (small farm)



Low level driveway lighting instead of unshielded floodlights



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Lighting improvement projects (large farm)



Even the largest sites can achieve lighting that...

- is better controlled
- is appropriate to the need
- costs less to run
- has lower wildlife impact
- reduces landscape impact
- is comfortable to work in

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Lighting improvement projects (small farm)



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Lighting improvement projects (pubs/inns)



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Lighting improvement projects (housing)



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Lighting improvement projects (visitor centres)



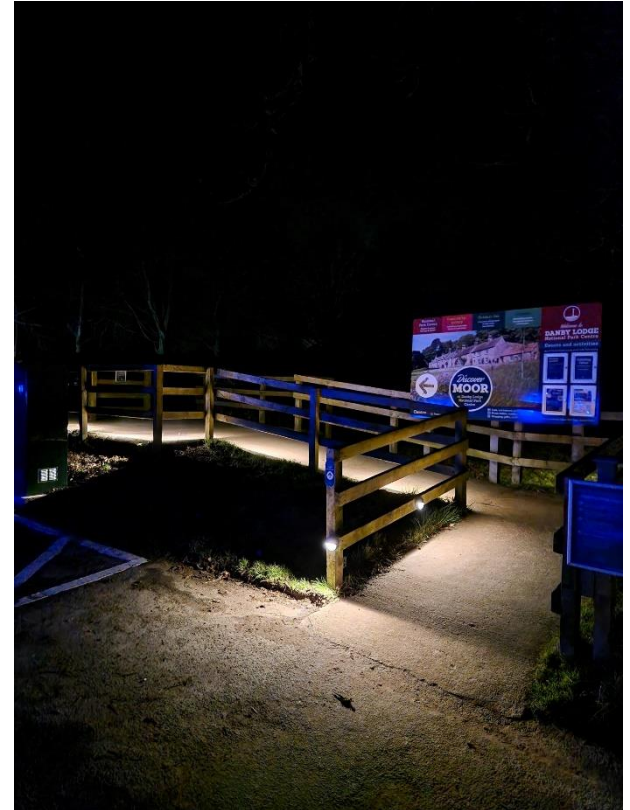
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Lighting improvement projects (visitor centres)



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Lighting improvement projects (visitor centres)



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Lighting improvement projects (communities)



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Lighting improvement projects (communities)



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Lighting improvement projects (visitor centres)



Dark Skies Lighting Improvement Schemes

Dark Skies Friendly Communities

Our Dark Skies Friendly Community scheme, which is a joint initiative with the Howardian Hills National Landscape (outside the NYMNP IDSR and an important buffer) has the following basic criteria



- Show community support for the scheme
- Undertake a lighting audit to identify areas for improvement
- Deliver a community lighting improvement project
- Agree to run at least two outreach events per year
- Promote the status and dark skies conservation efforts on websites and in newsletters and locally by displaying the Dark Skies Friendly Community plaque in a prominent location

Dark Skies Lighting Improvement Schemes

Dark Skies Friendly Communities

NYM Completed: Hawnby, Coxwold, Ampleforth Abbey

Howardian Hills: Bulmer, Terrington and Crayke

In progress/discussion: Botton Village, Bransdale, Nawton, Lastingham, Hutton le Hole



Credit: Howardian Hills National Landscape

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Help, inform and educate

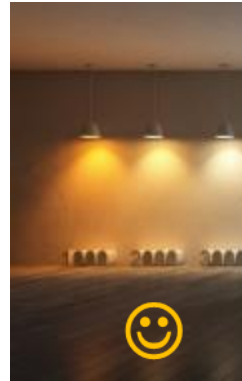
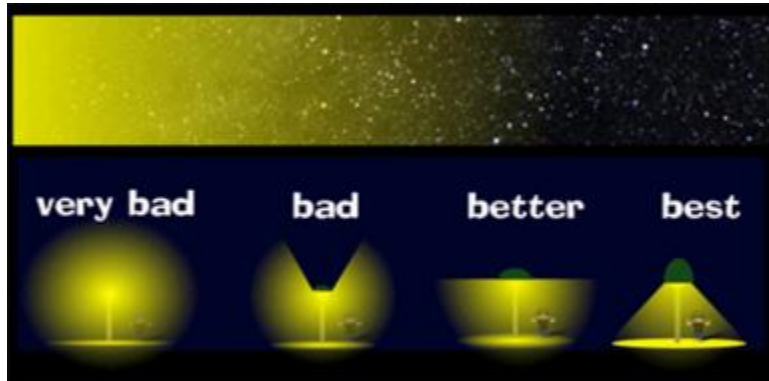


BADLY AIMED **500W** HALOGEN FLOODLIGHT



WELL AIMED **100W** FLOODLIGHT

Develop key messages to help reduce poorly targeted obtrusive lighting



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Help, inform and educate



Poor lighting causes glare
which can cause both safety
and security issues



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Help, inform and educate

It's not about banning light, it's about encouraging responsible use of light.



Light only what you need



Light only when you need it



Light at a suitable level to the need

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Momentum is building....



RBC.COM
The argument for switching off lights at night
The light pollution produced by street lamps, advertising boards, flood lights and our homes is...

World famous night sky view 'ruined by ridiculously bright Shell garage'

Comment

 **Tom Sanders**
Friday 20 Jan 2023 3:13 pm



1.3k
SHARES



A Shell garage has been accused of destroying a Northumberland village's world-famous view of the night sky (Picture: SWNS)



THETIMES.CO.UK
Fewer car thefts on roads with 'part-night lighting'
Street lighting may help rather than hinder criminals who break into cars, a study has suggested...

Garden lighting: effects on wildlife

Night-time lighting either from security lights or decorative garden lighting illuminates our garden spaces after dark, but what about the effects on wildlife?

[See it on YouTube](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)



THEGUARDIAN.COM
LED streetlights decimating moth numbers in England
'Eco-friendly' lights found to be worse than sodium ones – but both contribute to insect decline...



Saving the small things that run the planet

Bugs

Our Work

Campaigns

News & Stories

Get Involved

About Us

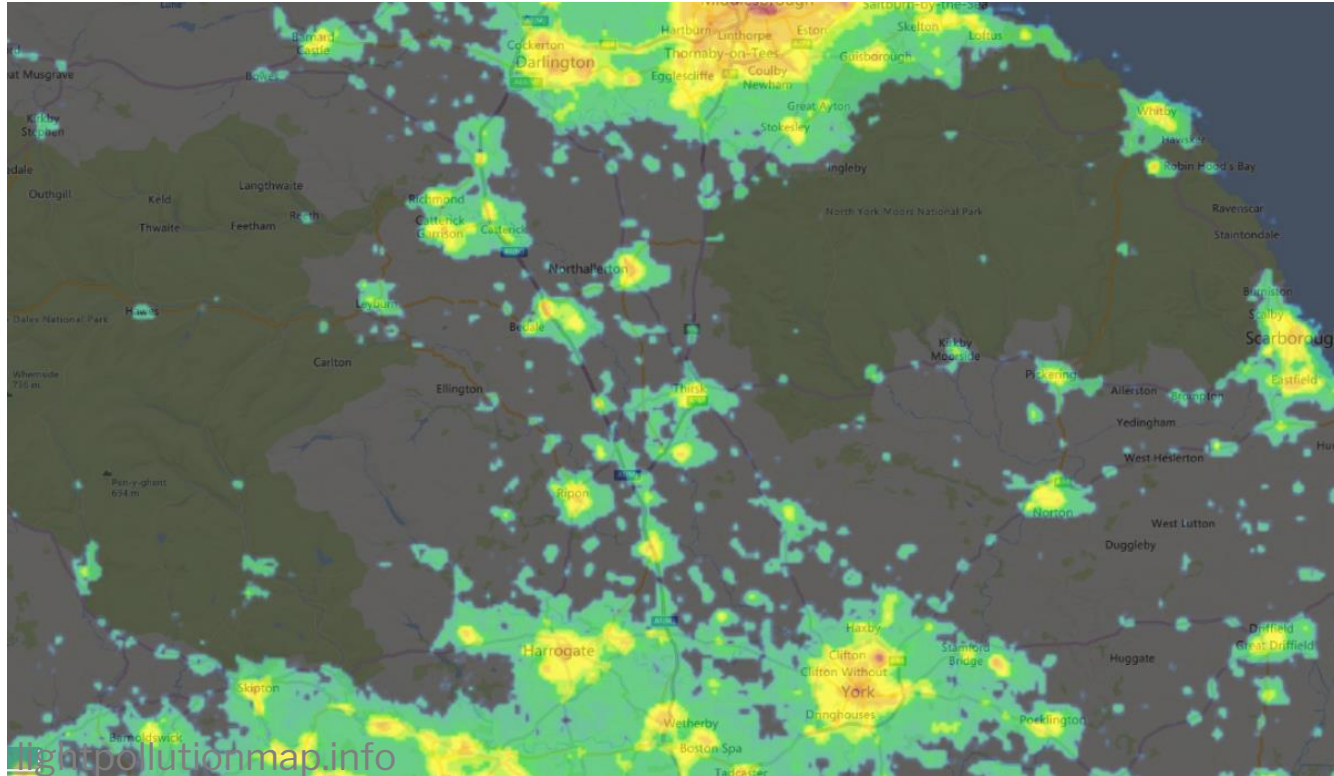
Home > Campaigns > Light Pollution > Don't Neglect the Night

Don't Neglect the Night



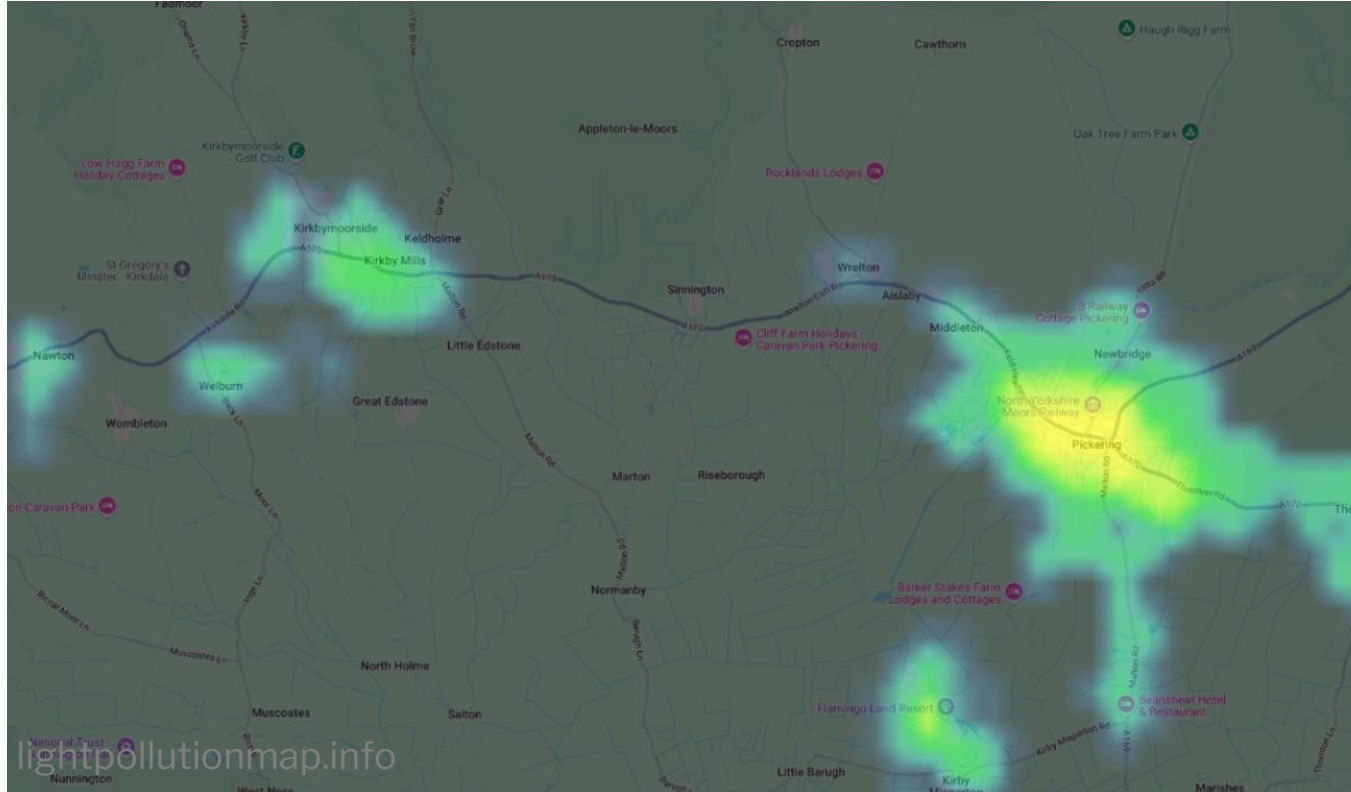
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The journey continues....



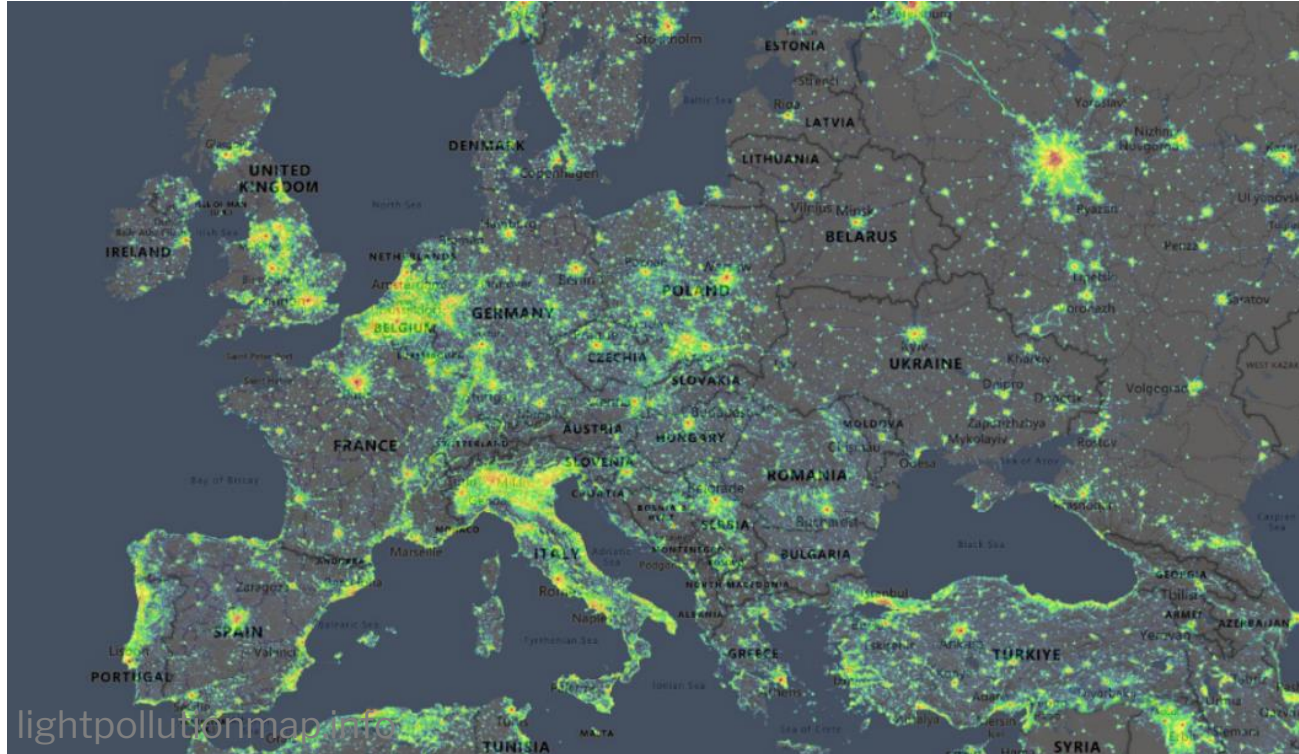
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The journey continues....



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The journey continues....



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The journey continues....



Credit Richard Darn

Help prevent this...

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The journey continues....



Credit Mike Hawtin! ☺

Help protect this...

For culture
For education
For the rural economy
For nature
For human health
For the climate
and for ££££

What you can do

- ✦ Consider the Dark Skies Friendly Community scheme
- ✦ Audit your neighbourhood lighting (we can provide advice)
- ✦ Make lighting improvements – we can help if you need new fixtures £!
- ✦ Spread the word to family, friends, neighbours and businesses
- ✦ Join, support or form a community group
- ✦ Comment on planning applications
- ✦ Levelling Up and Regeneration (LURA) Act 2023
 - a relevant authority should take appropriate, reasonable, and proportionate steps to explore measures which further the statutory purposes of Protected Landscapes
 - as far as is reasonably practical, relevant authorities should seek to avoid harm and contribute to the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty, special qualities, and key characteristics of Protected Landscapes

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We have calcium in our bones, iron in our veins, carbon in our souls, and nitrogen in our brains. 93 percent stardust, with souls made of flames, we are all just stars that have people names. *Nikita Gill*



North York Moors
National Park

Thank You

Any questions?