

## Periodic Report - Second Cycle

### 1. World Heritage Property Data

#### 1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal

#### 1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

##### State(s) Party(ies)

- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

##### Type of Property

cultural

##### Identification Number

1303


##### Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

2009

#### 1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates (longitude / latitude)	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal	52.97 / -3.088	105	4145	4250	2009
<b>Total (ha)</b>		<b>105</b>	<b>4145</b>	<b>4250</b>	

#### 1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal - inscribed property	11/01/2008	

#### 1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

- Christopher Young  
English Heritage  
Head of World International Advice
- Paul Blaker  
Department for Culture, Media and Sport  
Head of World Heritage

##### Comment

Cadw Dr Kathryn Roberts Senior Inspector of Ancient Monuments Plas Carew, Unit 5/7 Cefn Coed Parc Nantgarw, Cardiff CF15 7QQ Telephone: +44 (0) 1443 336013 Email: kathryn.roberts@wales.gsi.gov.uk Francesca Conlon Department for Culture, Media and Sport 4th Floor, 100 Parliament St LONDON SW1A 2BQ UK

#### 1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Karen Whitney-Lang  
Wrexham County Borough Council  
  
Economic Development Department
- Janine Beggan

##### Comment

For the purpose of the UNESCO Periodic Report, details for Site Manager for Pontcysyllte Aqueduct & Canal Periodic Report need to be changed to: Karen Whitney-Lang Assets and Economic Development Department Wrexham County Borough Council 3rd Floor Crown Buildings Chester Street Wrexham LL13 8BG UK

## Section II-Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal

### 1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

- [View photos from OUR PLACE the World Heritage collection](#)

##### Comment

New website for Pontcysyllte Aqueduct & Canal WHS was developed in 2012, address as follows:  
<http://www.pontcysyllte-aqueduct.co.uk/>

### 1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)

##### Comment

Designations within Pontcysyllte Aqueduct & Canal WHS & buffer zone are: -Site of Special Scientific Interest -Special Area of Conservation -Area Of Outstanding Natural Beauty - Special Landscape Area -Green Barrier -Schedule of Ancient Monuments -Conservation Areas -Listed Buildings -Historic Parks & Gardens -Historic Landscape

## 2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

### 2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

#### Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

##### Brief Synthesis

The Pontcysyllte Canal is a remarkable example of the construction of a human-engineered waterway in a difficult geographical environment, at the end of the 18th century and the start of the 19th century. It required extensive and boldly conceived civil engineering works. The Pontcysyllte Aqueduct is a pioneering masterpiece of engineering and monumental architecture by the famous civil engineer Thomas Telford. It was constructed using metal arches supported by tall, slender masonry piers. The Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal are early and outstanding examples of the innovations brought about by the Industrial Revolution in Britain, where they made decisive development in transport capacities possible. They bear witness to very substantial international interchanges and influences in the fields of inland waterways, civil engineering, land-use planning, and the application of iron in structural design.

**Criterion (i):** The Pontcysyllte Aqueduct is a highly innovative monumental civil engineering structure, made using metal arches supported by high, slender masonry piers. It is the first great masterpiece of the civil engineer Thomas Telford and formed the basis of his outstanding international reputation. It bears witness to the production capacities of the British ironmaking industry, which were unique at that time.

**Criterion (ii):** The intensive construction of canals in Great Britain, from the second half of the 18th century onwards, and that of the Pontcysyllte Canal in particular in a difficult region, bear witness to considerable technical interchanges and decisive progress in the design and construction of artificial waterways.

**Criterion (iv):** The Pontcysyllte Canal and its civil engineering structures bear witness to a crucial stage in the development of heavy cargo transport in order to further the Industrial Revolution. They are outstanding representatives of its new technical and monumental possibilities.

##### Integrity and Authenticity

The integrity of the waterway has been maintained in hydraulic and civil-engineering structures that have remained in their original form. However, the historic embankments, made of rubble, have raised significant problems of stability and waterproofing, particularly in the second half of the 20th century. The repairs have involved the use of technical

solutions that are different from the simple initial backfills, both for structural resistance and waterproofing: concrete, steel pilings, geotextiles, etc. From the point of view of integrity, these works have made it possible to maintain the hydraulic operation of the waterway and to conserve its overall morphological characteristics. The integrity of the landscapes and the buffer zone of the property contributes to the expression of the value of the property. The property has all the elements of integrity necessary for the expression of its value, as a major historic canal of the Industrial Revolution. The few structural changes that have been made to the two large aqueducts have remained secondary, contributing to maintaining the property in use. Changes in materials have remained restricted over the history of the property. During the 20th century repairs to masonry did not always use the original types of mortar or stone. The buildings associated with the canal and its immediate environment usually achieve a good degree of authenticity.

Management and protection requirements

The technical and monumental management by British Waterways is satisfactory. The management plan is acceptable; it clearly defines the objectives of conservation, but it would be improved by a unified approach to the preservation of the buffer zone and the drafting of a plan for tourism development and site interpretation.

## **2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed**

(i)(ii)(iv)

## **2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion**

(i) Aqueducts, tunnels, embankments, cuttings, bridges, wharves, Horseshoe Falls, all set within landscape; construction methods including double track railways. (ii) Pontcysyllte Aqueduct - cast iron canal trough comprising interlocking iron plates stretches for 307m supported on cast iron ribs which span between 18 tapering stone piers, hollow in upper sections; (iv) International interest - engineers houses, engineering techniques including cut & fill calculations & contract management.

## **2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised**

Not applicable. The SOUV for Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal WHS was developed as part of the nomination process for the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal which was inscribed by UNESCO in June 2009, no revisions are currently needed to the SOUV.

## **2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value**

No further updates to the SOUV have been made since inscription in 2009.

## **3. Factors Affecting the Property**

### **3.14. Other factor(s)**

#### **3.14.1 - Other factor(s)**

None

### 3.15. Factors Summary Table

#### 3.15.1 - Factors summary table

	Name	Impact						Origin
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Buildings and Development</b>							
3.1.1	Housing							
3.1.2	Commercial development							
3.1.3	Industrial areas							
3.1.4	Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure							
3.1.5	Interpretative and visitation facilities							
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Transportation Infrastructure</b>							
3.2.1	Ground transport infrastructure							
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure							
<b>3.3</b>	<b>Services Infrastructures</b>							
3.3.1	Water infrastructure							
3.3.2	Renewable energy facilities							
<b>3.5</b>	<b>Biological resource use/modification</b>							
3.5.5	Crop production							
<b>3.8</b>	<b>Social/cultural uses of heritage</b>							
3.8.2	Society's valuing of heritage							
3.8.4	Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system							
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation							
<b>3.9</b>	<b>Other human activities</b>							
3.9.2	Deliberate destruction of heritage							
<b>3.10</b>	<b>Climate change and severe weather events</b>							
3.10.2	Flooding							
<b>3.11</b>	<b>Sudden ecological or geological events</b>							
3.11.5	Erosion and siltation/ deposition							
<b>3.12</b>	<b>Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species</b>							
3.12.2	Invasive/alien terrestrial species							
<b>3.13</b>	<b>Management and institutional factors</b>							
3.13.1	Low impact research / monitoring activities							
3.13.3	Management activities							
<b>Legend</b>	Current	Potential	Negative	Positive	Inside	Outside		

### 3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

#### 3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend	
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Transportation Infrastructure</b>					
<b>3.2.4</b>	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	static
<b>3.5</b>	<b>Biological resource use/modification</b>					
<b>3.5.5</b>	Crop production	localised	on-going	minor	low capacity	static
<b>3.8</b>	<b>Social/cultural uses of heritage</b>					
<b>3.8.6</b>	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	extensive	frequent	minor	medium capacity	increasing
<b>3.9</b>	<b>Other human activities</b>					
<b>3.9.2</b>	Deliberate destruction of heritage	localised	intermittent or sporadic	significant	medium capacity	static
<b>3.12</b>	<b>Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species</b>					
<b>3.12.2</b>	Invasive/alien terrestrial species	localised	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static

### 3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

#### 3.17.1 - Comments

Since the WHS was inscribed, the following has affected the property: - increase in visitors has resulted in additional pressure on the local infrastructure/ residential areas; - occasional graffiti which needs to be removed; - continuation of garden encroachment onto the property; and - increase in Japanese knotweed and mink species.

## 4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

### 4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

#### 4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is a buffer zone

#### 4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

#### 4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

#### 4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by the management authority but are **not known by local residents / communities / landowners**.

#### 4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are known by the management authority but are **not known by local residents / communities/landowners**.

#### 4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

A unified approach to the preservation of the WHS and its buffer zone has been achieved through adoption by Local Authorities of Supplementary Planning Guidance for the 11-mile WHS corridor. This included local community consultation but more work is proposed to raise wider awareness of boundaries and OUV.

### 4.2. Protective Measures

#### 4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

The Transport Acts of 1962 and 1968 define the Llangollen Canal as a waterway for pleasure boating, and they entrust

British Waterways with the management of the canal and its immediate surroundings. The contractual specification for management was set out by the UK Government in 1999. It explicitly includes a mission of heritage conservation and restoration of the property. The Pontcysyllte Aqueduct has been on the list of UK ancient monuments (a Scheduled Ancient Monument) since 1958, and the same is true of the Cysylltau Aqueduct over the Dee, which is within the boundaries of the property. Their protection has been stepped up by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979. Up to the present 32 structures and three landscape zones next to the property are on the List of Scheduled Buildings and Spaces under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act of 1990. Additional projects are under way concerning the buffer zone. The regulation of land-use and building permits is subject to the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order (1995), to Planning Policy Wales (2002), and to the Wales Spatial Plan (2004). These national plans are complemented by circulars specific to the various cultural and natural heritage situations that may arise in a given territory. They are applied in practice in the context of plans and decisions of the regions, Counties, and municipalities. The property is therefore affected by three regional plans and by a series of County and municipality plans. Specific planning for land use and development is currently being drawn up for the buffer zone, following the landscape assessment carried out in 2007. No element will be left without designation, and without rules governing use and control. Most of them will be protected green zones. Buildings in the Conservation Areas may not be demolished or altered without the agreement of the local authorities. There are six such authorities in the area of the property and its buffer zone. A study of the specific architectural and landscape values of these areas provides support to enable guidance for works. The Llangollen and Eglwyseg Valley is one of the 22 landscapes identified in the Register of Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales. It covers the western part of the buffer zone. The Register of Parks and Gardens 218 of Historic Interest in Wales is a complementary document that provides assistance for the management of public and private properties. Some areas of the buffer zone are covered by regimes protecting natural species and/or landscape: the special conservation zone and scientific sites of the River Dee and Bala Lake and the landscape of the Clwydian Range. In the case of works undertaken by authorities or private individuals, assistance may be requested from the Heritage Protection Review, particularly for complex situations.

#### Comment

Inaccuracies in the above pre-filled information are: • Owner and manager of the canal is now 'Canal & River Trust' (formerly British Waterways) • Scheduled Monument designation now covers 11 mile stretch of WHS – designated in 2008 in England and Wales. • There are 6 local authorities covering the WHS and its buffer zone not 6: Wrexham, Denbighshire and Shropshire • Since inscription, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB has been extended to cover much of the WHS.

#### 4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

## Periodic Report - Second Cycle

### 4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

### 4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity

### 4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is **acceptable** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies remain

### 4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

Consultation on proposed new Heritage Protection legislation for Wales is underway which may include measures for increased protection for WHS

## 4.3. Management System / Management Plan

### 4.3.1 - Management System

The partners in the management of the property are as follows:  
– British Waterways, the owner and manager of the canal; – The four local authorities involved with the property and the buffer zone; – The responsible national organisations, and in particular Cadw and English Heritage. The partners have set up a Steering Group which drew up the dossier and the management plan and coordinated the relevant studies of 2007. The Steering Group was then officially instructed to coordinate the setting up of the management plan by signing an agreement between the partners (June 2007). Its role is also to make contact and exchange views with local inhabitants and users. The management plan is a framework document for the major future directions of the heritage management of the property, the organisation of monitoring of its monuments and landscape, the assessment of pressures on the property, and economic development approaches. It is a tool for coordination between the plans and actions of the various partners. It has been defined for the period 2007–11. The canal is managed by British Waterways in accordance with a financial plan and a works schedule covering the period 2007–11. In accordance with the management plan, the works carried out must not only achieve technical objectives but also seek to improve authenticity. Building permits and works authorisations are administered by the local authorities. They include aid for private owners and guidelines for projects. The 2007 landscape study showed the need to introduce a vegetationsurroundings of the canal and for monitoring changes in the landscape of the buffer zone. The presentation to the public of a historic property with a length of 18km with many facets and of its complex

## Section II-Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal

environment is extremely challenging. An interpretation centre at the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and another at the Trevor basin have been planned since the 2004–2005 works programme. Other initiatives are necessary; such initiatives usually stem from local communities and citizens' associations interested in the canal and its values. Some facilities are necessary to cater for tourists and for visits, and some parts of the towpath also need to be renewed.

### Comment

1. The owner and manager of the canal is now the 'Canal and River Trust' (formerly known as British Waterways). 2. The initial management plan covered the period 2007-12 (rather than 2007-11). 3. There are 3 local authorities involved in managing the WHS: Shropshire, Denbighshire & Wrexham (rather than 4 as outlined above) and also the major landowner: Canal & River Trust. 4. The interpretation centre at Pontcysyllte Aqueduct was extended in 2012, providing a seasonal visitor info centre.

### 4.3.2 - Management Documents

#### Comment

Management documents which are in place for the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal: WHS Concordat (2007) WHS Management Plan (2007-12). WHS Tourism Development Plan (2011-16). Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal WHS Supplementary Planning Guidance Notes (2012) WHS Signage & Interpretation Strategy (currently under development - early 2013) Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal WHS Branding Toolkit (2010) Currently under development: i) Conservation Management & ii) Landscape Management Plans.

### 4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local / municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is coordination between the range of administrative bodies / levels involved in the management of the property **but it could be improved**

### 4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system/plan is only **partially adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

### 4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is **only partially** being implemented

### 4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **many activities** are being implemented

### 4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

Local communities / residents	Fair
Local / Municipal authorities	Fair
Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Landowners	Fair
Visitors	Fair
Researchers	Good
Tourism industry	Fair



## Periodic Report - Second Cycle

Industry	Fair
----------	------

### 4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities **directly contribute** to some decisions relating to management

### 4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

**No indigenous peoples** are resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone

### 4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is contact but only **some cooperation** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone

### 4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

WHS Landscape Management Plan due to be completed in 2014

### 4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective measures and management arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report

- Review of Pontcysyllte Aqueduct & Canal WHS governance structure undertaken in 2012/ early 2013 and proposals to change membership of the governance structure are to be considered at the WHS steering group in September 2013. - Since inscription, Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) has been developed and adopted for the WHS - The Site has been scheduled. - Part of the 11-mile WHS corridor was designated part of the wider 'AONB' within North East Wales in 2012.

## 4.4. Financial and Human Resources

### 4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc)	0%
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0%
Governmental (National / Federal)	0%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	5%
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	35%
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	35%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	0%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	0%
Other grants	25%

## Section II-Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal

### 4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

#### Comment

No International Assistance has been received from the World Heritage Fund (USD).

### 4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **inadequate** for basic management needs and presents a serious constraint to the capacity to manage

### 4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

Existing sources of funding are **not secure**

### 4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

There is **some flow** of economic benefits to local communities

### 4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **some** adequate equipment and facilities, but deficiencies in at least one key area **constrain** management at the World Heritage property

### 4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

There is **basic** maintenance of equipment and facilities

### 4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

The WHS does not have a budget which is contributed to by each of the key partners, this is a complex arrangement seeing as the WHS spans 2 countries (Wales & England), 3 local authorities (Denbighshire, Wrexham & Shropshire) and a separate landowner: Canal and River Trust. Overall the ability to significantly improve the area for tourism is lacking due to existing budgets being restricted & external funding being limited (due to the UK economic recession since the WHS was inscribed?).

### 4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Full-time	0%
Part-time	100%

### 4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Permanent	100%
Seasonal	0%

### 4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Paid	100%
Volunteer	0%

## Periodic Report - Second Cycle

### 4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

A range of human resources exist, but these are **below optimum** to manage the World Heritage Property.

### 4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Good
Promotion	Fair
Community outreach	Fair
Interpretation	Fair
Education	Fair
Visitor management	Fair
Conservation	Fair
Administration	Poor
Risk preparedness	Fair
Tourism	Fair
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Fair

### 4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Medium
Promotion	Medium
Community outreach	Medium
Interpretation	High
Education	Medium
Visitor management	Medium
Conservation	Medium
Administration	Low
Risk preparedness	Medium
Tourism	High
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Medium

### 4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is in place and **partially implemented**; some technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally **but most of the technical work is carried out by external staff**

### 4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

A WHS volunteering/ capacity building scheme has been developed in 2013 to engage local people in resourcing the visitor information centre at Pontcysyllte Aqueduct. A local conservation initiative has provided local people with the opportunity to participate in 'traditional skills' building and conservation training (funding for this is from the HLF Townscape Heritage Initiative). A project is currently being developed to engage local people in the future management of the WHS landscape.

## 4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

### 4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-

## Section II-Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal

### making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient** for most key areas **but there are gaps**

### 4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is **considerable** research but it is **not directed** towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

### 4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared with local participants and some national agencies**

### 4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

- Characterisation study: 'Cefn Mawr Dirstict', Cadw, 2011. - Conservation Area Character Assessment & Mgmt Plan, WCBC 2010 - WHS Guidebook - under development - Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB Interim Mgmt statement - DCC, 2012 - Tourism Dev Plan 2011-16 - WHS Steering Group, 2011 - 'The Plas Kynaston Canal', Railway & Canal Historical Society journal, Vol 36, Part 9 (Nov 2010)- Peter Brown

### 4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

At present Cadw is responsible for the development of Characterisation Studies for Chirk & Llangollen areas of the WHS. In 2012 a visitor survey was undertaken within the WHS to ascertain a set of baseline information regarding visitors to the WHS, to use to monitor future trends (i.e. where visitors come from, where they go when visiting the site etc, length of stay, type of interests).

## 4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

### 4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In **many locations**, but **not easily visible** to visitors

### 4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

Local communities / residents	Average
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Excellent
Local Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Local landowners	Average
Visitors	Average
Tourism industry	Average
Local businesses and industries	Average

## Periodic Report - Second Cycle

### 4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is a **limited and ad hoc** education and awareness programme

### 4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has influenced education, information and awareness building activities, **but it could be improved**

### 4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

The Outstanding Universal Value of the property is adequately presented and interpreted **but improvements could be made**

### 4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

Visitor centre	Adequate
Site museum	Not provided but needed
Information booths	Poor
Guided tours	Poor
Trails / routes	Poor
Information materials	Poor
Transportation facilities	Adequate
Other	Not needed

### 4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

Since inscription the following work has been undertaken to inform management of the WHS: Feasibility study for WHS Visitor Centre & canal extension; Audience Development Plan (2009); Tourism Development Plan 2011-16; Supplementary Planning Guidance; website: [www.pontcysyllte.co.uk](http://www.pontcysyllte.co.uk). Signage and interpretation strategy underway and due to be completed in 2013

## 4.7. Visitor Management

### 4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

Last year	Minor Increase
Two years ago	Minor Increase
Three years ago	Minor Increase
Four years ago	N/A
Five years ago	N/A

### 4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

Accommodation establishments
Tourism industry
Visitor surveys

### 4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

#### Comment

An audience development plan was developed for the WHS in 2008. A WHS Tourism Development Plan (2011-16) was

## Section II-Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal

developed in 2011. The WHS is recognised to be one of 4 key 'hubs' for investment and improvements to the tourism 'offer' within Wrexham County Borough's Destination Management Plan which was developed in 2012.

### 4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is managed but **improvements could be made**

### 4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is **limited co-operation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

### 4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

**No fees are collected**

### 4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

Details are only available for 2009 onwards in relation to question 4.7.1, seeing as the WHS was inscribed in June 2009. A WHS business club was established in 2012 with the aim of increasing co-operation between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry particularly in relation to the appreciation & presentation of the OUV. Familiarisation trips have also been undertaken to enable local businesses from the tourism industry to find out more about the WHS.

## 4.8. Monitoring

### 4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme** of monitoring, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

### 4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient** for defining and monitoring key indicators for measuring its state of conservation

### 4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff	Excellent
Local / Municipal authorities	Average
Local communities	Average
Researchers	Average
NGOs	Average
Industry	Average
Local indigenous peoples	Not applicable



**4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?**

Implementation is **underway**

**4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee**

4 recommendations were made by the WH Committee (WHC) at its 33rd session in Seville (June 2009). 3 of the 4 recommendations have been fully implemented, and 1 is ongoing. The ongoing recommendation relates to monitoring of the conversion project for the chemicals plant linked to the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct. The WHC will be kept informed of progress in line with the WHS operational guidelines.

**4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring**

WHS Steering group - currently reviewing how it monitors the delivery of key actions/ records these in order to continuously improve current arrangements.

**4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs**

**4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 management needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)**

Please refer to question 5.2

## 5. Summary and Conclusions

### 5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

#### 5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

	World Heritage criteria and attributes affected	Actions	Monitoring	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment
<b>3.5</b>	<b>Biological resource use/modification</b>					
<b>3.5.5</b>	<b>Crop production</b>	ii) An architectural masterpiece enhancing its dramatic landscape setting	- Assess the impact of garden encroachment on the property. - Explore potential to extend conservation area extension and additional controls.	- Monitoring of change to be undertaken by WHS Planning, Landscape & Conservation sub-group periodically via photographic evidence.	Monitoring bi-annually.	WHS Planning, Landscape & Conservation Sub-Group. None
<b>3.12</b>	<b>Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species</b>					
<b>3.12.2</b>	<b>Invasive/alien terrestrial species</b>	ii) An architectural masterpiece enhancing its dramatic landscape setting	- Continue to monitor levels of mink within the WHS. - Remove 'Fallopia Japonica' (Japanese Knotweed) as part of management/maintenance of asset.	Annually.	On-going.	Landowners It is recognised that it is not possible to fully manage/ treat the invasive & alien terrestrial species identified - watching brief to be maintained.

### 5.2. Summary - Management Needs

#### 5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

<b>4.1 Boundaries and Buffer Zones</b>						
		Actions	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment	
<b>4.1.4</b>	<b>The boundaries of the World Heritage property are not known by local residents / communities / landowners</b>	- Develop and deliver communication actions which explain the boundaries of the World Heritage property to a range of audiences including local communities, businesses, landowners and key WHS partner organisations.	Minimum of 1 piece of communication annually.	WHS Steering Group - all key partners	Maximise any opportunity which arises to promote the facts regarding the WHS boundaries/ WHS status (community events, consultations, advertising space, interpretation).	
<b>4.1.5</b>	<b>The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are not known by local residents / communities/landowners</b>	Develop and deliver communication actions which explain the boundaries of the World Heritage buffer zone to a range of audiences including local communities, businesses, landowners and key WHS partner organisations.	Minimum of 1 piece of communication annually.	WHS Steering Group - all key partners	Maximise any opportunity which arises to promote the facts regarding the WHS boundaries/ WHS status (community events, consultations, advertising space, interpretation).	
<b>4.4 Financial and Human Resources</b>						
<b>4.4.3</b>	<b>The budget is inadequate for management needs</b>	- Consider pooling of budgets from all key partners to achieve central budget for overall management needs. - Identify central budget holder if pooling of budgets can be achieved.	Review to be undertaken by April 2014. Pooling of budgets commencement date (if deemed achievable by key partners) yet to be identified.	All key stakeholders: landowner and 3 managing local authorities, Cadw, etc.	It is recognised that the achievement of this action is complex given: - the number of key partners involved - trans-national nature of the WHS and therefore how it is managed and - the current economic climate within the UK .	
<b>4.4.4</b>	<b>Existing sources of funding are not secure</b>	- Consider specific annual WHS core budget within each managing organisation. - Allocate specific budget for WHS within each managing organisation	- Review to be completed by April 2014 - Start date for budgets to be in place yet to be identified.	WHS Steering Group	It is recognised that the achievement of this action is complex given: - the number of key partners involved - trans-national nature of the WHS and therefore how it is managed and - the current economic climate within the UK .	
<b>4.6 Education, Information and Awareness Building</b>						
<b>4.6.3</b>	<b>There is a limited education and awareness programme</b>	- Publish WHS Guidebook; - Continue to work with Green Badge Guides to educate visitor to WHS; - Review the need to engage local education providers within the WHS governance structure. - Continue to seek external funds to deliver programmes.	- Guidebook to be published mid 2013 - Work with Green Badge Guides - ongoing - Submission of external funding applications - ongoing - Review of education providers as part of governance structure to be completed by April 2014.	- RCAHMW to lead Guidebook publication on behalf of WHS Steering Group. - WHS Steering Group to promote on-going engagement of Green Badge Guides and education providers.	- Key WHS Partners contributions being sought to complete the WHS Guidebook re: content & accuracy.	

## Periodic Report - Second Cycle

### 5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

#### 5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

The authenticity of the World Heritage property has been **preserved**

#### 5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property is **intact**

#### 5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

#### 5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values and the state of conservation of the World Heritage property are **predominantly intact**

### 5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

#### 5.4.1 - Comments

A review of the state of conservation/ Gazeteer was undertaken in 2012. This review has demonstrated that there have been improvements to the state of conservation overall, as a result of improvements that have been implemented to the WHS since 2009. Principal Engineering inspection of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct undertaken in 2011. No significant change was found to the condition of the asset.

## 6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

### 6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

Conservation	Very positive
Research and monitoring	Positive
Management effectiveness	Positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Negative
Recognition	Very positive
Education	Positive
Infrastructure development	Positive
Funding for the property	Positive
International cooperation	No impact
Political support for conservation	Positive
Legal / Policy framework	Positive
Lobbying	Positive
Institutional coordination	Positive
Security	No impact
Other (please specify)	Not applicable

### 6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

The WHS Steering Group recognises the need to constantly make visitors and local communities awareness of the reasons/ criteria for inscription - it is likely that the delivery of the new WHS Signage & Interpretation strategy (currently

## Section II-Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal

under development) will contribute to this awareness raising. The need for a specific WHS budget (jointly contributed to from key partners) has been reinforced through the WHS PR process in addition to the reliance on external funding to deliver improvements.

### 6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

Governmental institution responsible for the property
Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff
Non Governmental Organization
Local community
External experts
Advisory bodies

### 6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

yes

### 6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

Better navigation within the document (i.e. between inter-related questions on different pages) would have been beneficial.

### 6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

UNESCO	Fair
State Party Representative	Good
Advisory Body	Good

### 6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

Most of the required information was accessible

### 6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

The World Heritage Convention
The concept of Outstanding Universal Value
The property's Outstanding Universal Value
The concept of Integrity and / or Authenticity
The property's Integrity and / or Authenticity
Managing the property to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value
Monitoring and reporting
Management effectiveness

### 6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

UNESCO	Not Applicable
State Party	Not Applicable
Site Managers	Not Applicable
Advisory Bodies	Not Applicable

### 6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

Automatically generated in online version

**6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise**

None