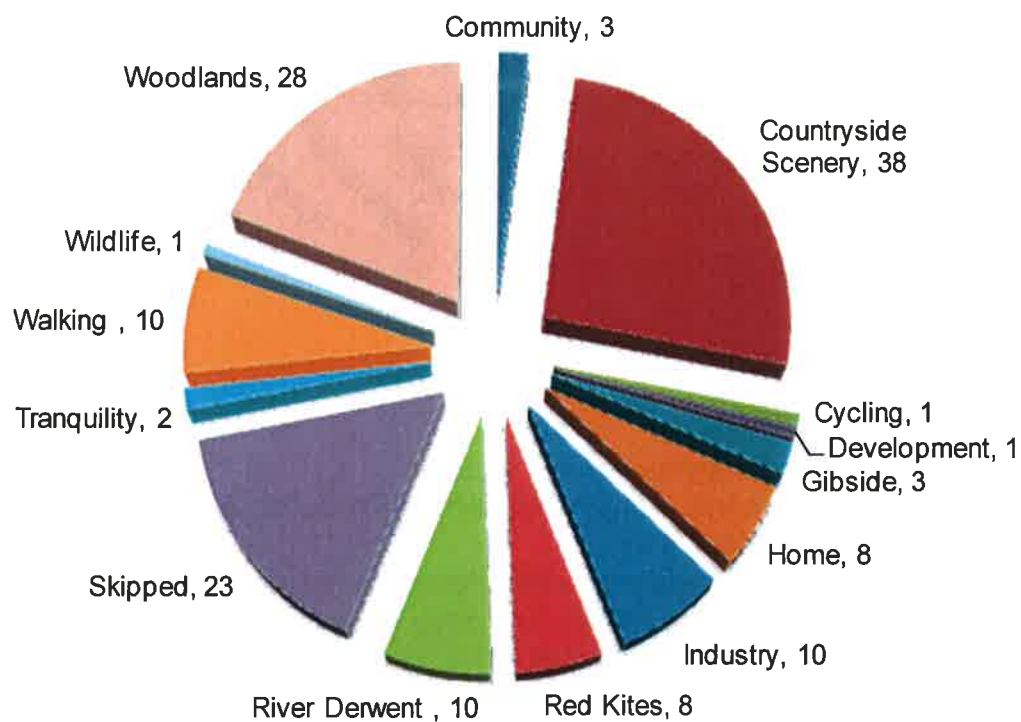


## Are you aware of the Derwent Valley in North East England?

From the 142 respondents, 137 are aware of the Derwent Valley in North East England and progressed onto question 2.

## What is the first thing that comes into your head when you think about the Derwent Valley area?



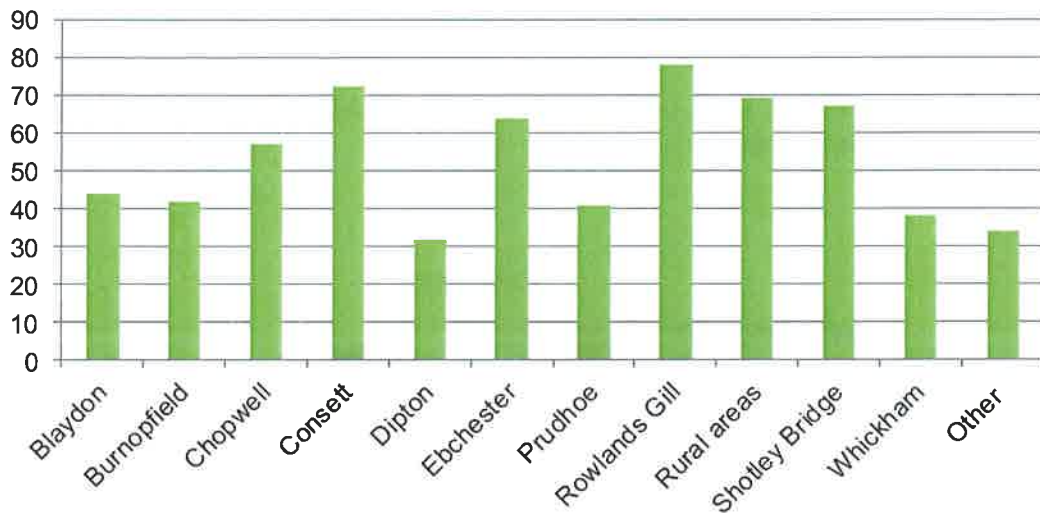
### Key Findings:

- From the 137 respondents, 119 answered question 2.
- 38 respondents thought of the countryside scenery within the Derwent Valley.
- 28 respondents thought of the woodlands within the Derwent Valley area.

## Do you ever visit the Derwent Valley?

From the 126 respondents who answered question 3, 122 have visited the Derwent Valley.

## If yes, where?



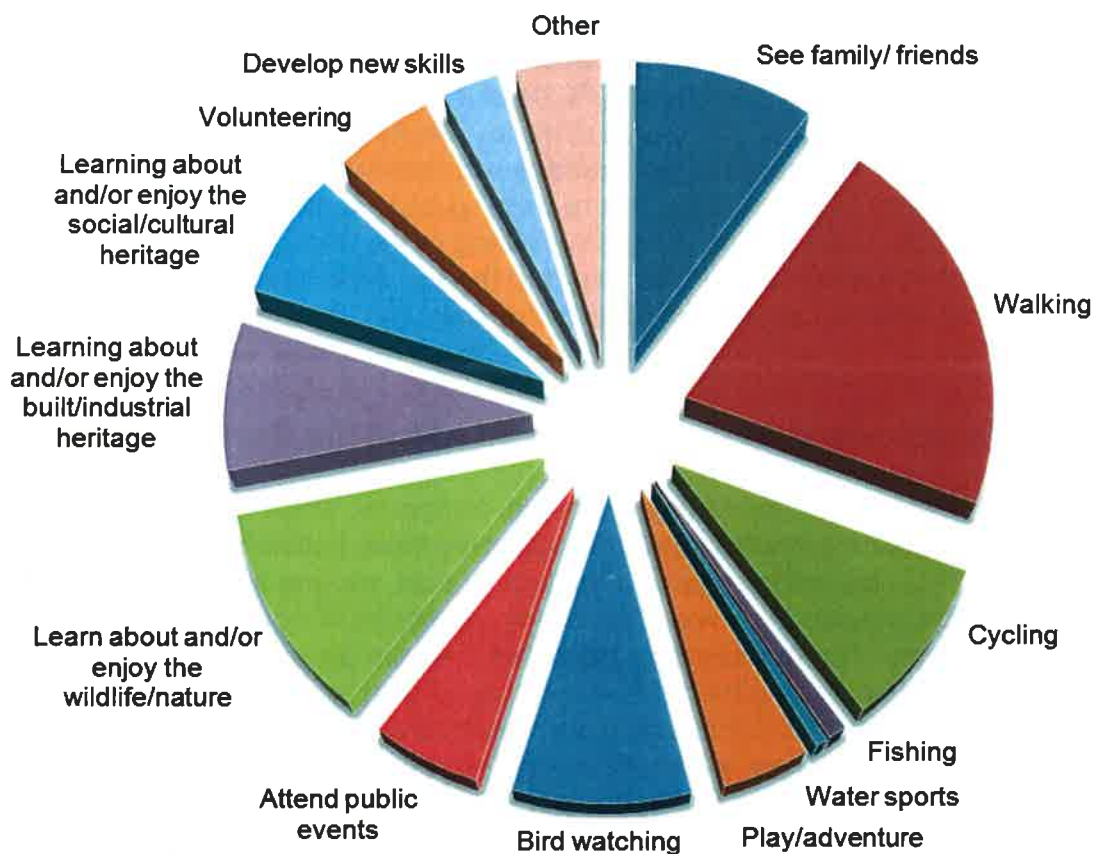
### Key Findings:

- 122 respondents answered this question.
- The most commonly visited areas were Rowlands Gill, Consett, rural areas and Shotley Bridge.
- The least visited areas were Whickham and Dipton.
- 34 respondents listed areas in the other category. The most frequent being Blackhall Mill and Gibside or all areas within the Derwent Valley, non-specific.

### How often?

The results indicate that the majority of the respondents, 72/120, are those that live within the area. 30 respondents visit only a few times each year, 11 visits every weekend, 9 would like to visit more often and 6 visits once a month. 2 respondents which never visit have specified this is due to relocating to a different area.

## What do you like to do there?



### Key Findings:

- Most important: Walking, learning about and/or enjoying the wildlife/nature and visiting family/friends.
- Least important: Water sports and fishing.

### Summary:

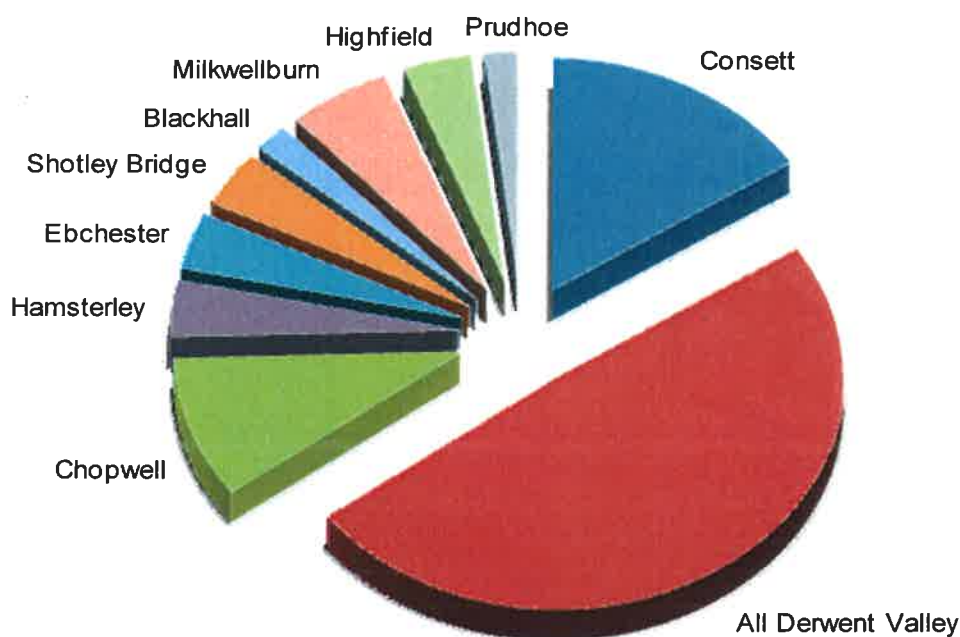
The results indicate a large proportion of the respondents who visit the Derwent Valley do so to enjoy walking, followed by learning about and/or enjoying the wildlife and natural surroundings. Cycling and bird watching both have equal ratios of respondents. The few respondents who enjoy fishing and water sports could be due to the lack of facilities to participate. Other activities respondents most commonly noted were for work and art.

## **What is important to you about the area?**

91% of respondents found that wildlife and nature conservation in the area was the most important issue, followed by 76% of respondents indicating physical access to enjoy activities e.g. to explore wildlife or to exercise. Almost half of the respondents believe community involvement in conservation/heritage activities is important as is the restoration of existing built heritage. 43% believed there is a lack of information about what there is to do within the Derwent Valley. Many respondents are concerned with issues in regards to the heritage with many indicating there should be better management of the heritage, more training opportunities in heritage/conservation skills and increased recording of the heritage. 12% believe there is a lack of information about how to get to the Derwent Valley. Other categories mainly included access and the community involvement.

## **Are any of the following problematic to you within the Derwent Valley?**

The majority of respondents found that access to footpaths, woodlands and the open countryside is not a problem within the area with only three indicating the issue always worries them. Issues in regard to the lack of built, natural and cultural heritage divided the respondents mainly into the categories of not a problem to this concerns me at times. Ten respondents indicated they are always worried in regards to the lack of natural heritage experiences such as helping to plant ancient woodlands. A large proportion of the respondents believe few volunteering opportunities are not a problem within the area. The majority of the respondents are concerned at times about the lack of interpretation about the heritage of the area with eleven indicating they are always worried about this issue. It is thought by the greater part of the respondents that the environments poor condition is a little bit of a problem and concerns them at times with thirteen respondents indicating they are always worried about the issue.

**Where in the Derwent Valley do these problems exist?****Key Findings:**

- 77 respondents skipped this question.
- Half of the 65 respondents which answered this question believe the problems are evident across the entire Derwent Valley and where unspecific in their response.
- A large proportion of the respondents believe Consett is an area in which the problems exist followed by Chopwell.
- Small numbers of respondents believe these problems exist in the other areas mentioned.

