

UKGAP Theme 6: Sustaining resources for our geodiversity

**UKGAP Indicator 16: Active Geodiversity Action Plans (GAPs) in operation - the number of GAPs that completed an annual progress report, identifying the actions completed or progressed and which targets and/or objectives were met.**

### Relevance

This indicator aims to report on action for our geodiversity that is being sustained. Rather than simply looking at the number of GAPs that exist, the completion of progress reports demonstrates that a GAP is active. This implies that there is support for geodiversity by local people and that funding is most likely in place.

### Data Sources

A short email survey was completed in February 2012 of all existing local geoconservation groups within England. This included all groups affiliated to the Geology Trusts and all groups affiliated to GeoConservation UK. The email survey was sent to a total of 43 groups, of which 17 (40%) responded with data. One of these groups provided data discretely for four separate areas, giving a total of 20 data returns although only 9 of the 20 data returns comprised groups that had initiated a LGAP.

### Background to the Data

Total figures for the 20 data returns are reported. The local geoconservation groups within England were asked to indicate those year(s), for which an annual progress report on geodiversity action was published, and additionally those year(s), for which an internal review of progress was completed.

### Data

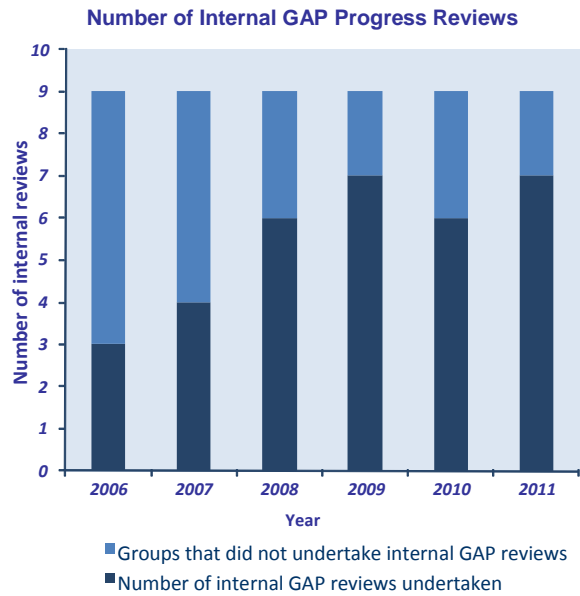
Table 1a shows the number of geoconservation groups within England that published a progress report on geodiversity action. Table 1b shows the number of groups that completed an internal review of progress. The data is presented on the following charts.

**Table 1a: Published Geodiversity Action Plan Progress Reports within England**

	Published Progress Report for Geodiversity Action					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of groups publishing GAP progress reports	0	1	1	1	2	2
Number of groups which did not publish GAP progress reports	9	8	8	8	7	7

**Table 1b: Completion of Internal Review of Geodiversity Action within England**

	Internal Review of Geodiversity Action					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Groups completing internal reviews of geodiversity action	3	4	6	7	6	7
Groups not completing internal reviews of geodiversity action	6	5	3	2	3	2



### Assessment of Trend within England

Surprisingly, only nine groups indicated that they had a GAP, although the majority of groups had published a number of leaflets and papers on the geodiversity of the local area and were involved in local geodiversity activities. Of the nine groups that had a GAP, four had published at least one progress report since 2006. One of these groups published an annual report each year from 2008 to 2011. Five-yearly progress reports are perhaps more common, and the other three groups published one progress report between 2006 and 2011. There is a gradual upward trend for both published and internal progress reviews.

Of the five groups with GAPs that did not publish progress reports, four completed an internal review. This indicates that only one group with a GAP did not complete either an internal review or publish a progress report.

It would appear that where GAPs are in existence, progress is being reported either more widely, or at the very least by internal review.

### Data Limitations and Future Recommendations

Although the data are limited to those groups who responded to the survey, the response rate (of 40%) is good for a survey of this type. In future, it would be useful to identify the year in which the GAP was first published to discern the timeframe over which progress reports are most commonly completed.

## Appendix: Questions Asked in Survey

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Please indicate the year(s) in which you published an annual or other regular progress report identifying actions completed or progressed.						
Please indicate the year(s) in which you completed an internal review of progress to date.						