

## PSS Initiation Check List

A stock-take to assess your starting point.

Tick	Item	Comments
	<b>Rationale</b> – check why this site/s have been chosen	
	Condition of site – when was the last condition survey done? What were the findings i.e. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Favourable</li> <li>• Unfavourable (Recovering)</li> <li>• Unfavourable (No Change or Declining).</li> <li>• Part Destroyed or Destroyed</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local perception – does the site have a public profile . It may not be one unified perception but a collection – who would know this? Could this be explored further?</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High risk – due to external pressures e.g. development, pollution, recreation</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key issues identified at starting point</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What (at this stage) is/are considered the most critical and relevant pressure(s)?</li> </ul>	
	<b>Location</b>	is that geospatial characteristics of the site?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the site/sites located within or in close proximity to a protected landscape?</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the site/sites located near people? Towns, cities, villages etc.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is this one site or a collection of interdependent sites?</li> </ul>	
	<b>Data &amp; evidence</b> What is held & by whom?	Is there up-to-date evidence specific to this site/s to inform the Rationale?  What wider data and evidence is available to inform this and to understand the context?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) data</li> </ul>	LNRS data may give area wide picture of nature recovery to help inform PSS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Records Centre data</li> </ul>	Specific to protected site/s
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional eNGO data? E.g. Wildlife Trust, Rivers Trust, bird clubs, local species groups etc.</li> </ul>	Perhaps collected through specific projects – more detailed than NE and LRC data
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WeBS data – for sites with birds as an interest</li> </ul>	
	Defra group data (see MAGIC, ask EA & FC)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water quality</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air quality</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flood risk</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Woodlands etc</li> </ul>	
	Local Planning Authority (LPA) data	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at the latest Local Plan Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA)for LPAs in the vicinity</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look at the latest Local Plan sustainability appraisal(s) for LPAs in the vicinity</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data and evidence collected to support strategic solutions, such as on nutrient neutrality</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anything else? E.g. if they own land within/adjacent to the protected site, do they have useful data/evidence on it?</li> </ul>	
	Natural England data	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSSI - Citation, map, Operations Requiring Natural England's Consent (ORNEC), Views About Management (VAMS), Monitoring Specifications,</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Special Protection Area (SPA)/Special Area of Conservation (SAC)/Ramsar – Conservation Objectives &amp; Supplementary Advice about Conservation Objectives (SACO)</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Condition assessments</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impact Risk Zones (IRZ)</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management specifications</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other data on the protected site</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consents/assents for site</li> </ul>	
	<b>Strategies, Policies &amp; Plans</b> – What is in place, who 'owns' it and how up to date is it?	Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal & HRAs assessment will list these
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LNRS</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Master Plans (e.g. whole area plans for landscape or development sites)</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site management plans</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site Improvement Plan (NE)</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LPA Local Plan(s)</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LPA SPD(s) or equivalent</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catchment Plans</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diffuse Water Plans</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flood Risk Management Plans, Coastal plans, etc</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mitigation strategies -SAMMS</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shared Nitrogen Action Plans (SNAPs)</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other</li> </ul>	
	<b>? List regulations &amp; legislation</b> impacting on site	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heather and Grass Burning Regulations</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tree felling</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other</li> </ul>	
	<b>Existing &amp; Recent Projects &amp; schemes</b>	Think about your geography
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nature Recovery Project</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landscape Partnership</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>eNGO projects</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land management schemes e.g. Countryside Stewardship, - Farming in Protected Landscapes (FIPL), Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS), Catchment Sensitive Farming</li> </ul>	
	<b>Skills - What is needed</b>	Beyond scope of one person
	Visionary – leadership Ability to ‘zoom out’ and see the big picture	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project management</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local knowledge</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mediation &amp; facilitation</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communication</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>technical understanding</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>procurement contracts &amp; commissioning</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GDPR &amp; data management</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial management</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comms &amp; events support</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholder understanding</li> </ul>	
	<b>Local Resources what is it and where is this held?</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholder contacts &amp; relationships</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local technical knowledge</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local academic resource e.g. university</li> </ul>	
	<b>Local knowledge &amp; understanding of site</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are local people living near the site aware of its existence?</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are local people living near the site aware of its designations and special qualities (do they value this)</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are local people aware that the site/sites are not in good condition</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What if any public engagement, promotion, and messaging has been undertaken connected to the site?</li> </ul>	
	<b>Wider resources</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specialist knowledge e.g. academic institutions</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify other protected sites with similar issues</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Case studies of similar areas approaches</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NE national PSS hub (tbc)</li> </ul>	
	<b>People &amp; Partnerships who are they? How active?</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Nature Partnership</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catchment Partnership</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Farm cluster group</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other strategic partnerships that affect the geography of the site e.g. sports, art &amp; culture,</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communities of interest - relevant organisations not currently in partnerships/engaged</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marine Nature Partnership</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coastal Forum...</li> </ul>	
	<b>Timelines of other impacts</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan publication</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Freeports</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landscape Recovery Schemes</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>other</li> </ul>	

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