### Appendix 4.3

General Public Questionnaire

Hello, I'm (NAME). We're carrying out a survey on nature and nature conservation for English Nature (the Nature Conservancy Council for England) and I'd be grateful if you would answer a few questions. The information you provide will be kept strictly confidential. We do not require your name or address, only your opinions.

## a. Your Opinion About the Environment

1. How important to you is contact with nature?	
(WRITE IN THE RESPONSE, as near as possible to what the respondent	says. If the reply
is terse - e.g. 'not very' or 'absolutely essential' - then prompt WHY?)	
	i W
e Patrille de Statelling Little 2 9 Mille 2 7	He'n
h Anningtonia	3. Never
	•••••
Here and the second sec	3 Nevey
2a. Some people think there is an increasing need to protect wild plants and an	imals in England.
Would you say that, in your opinion, this is an urgent and immediate problem	, more a problem
for the future or not really a problem at all? SHOW CARD A	E A
* An urgent and immediate problem	1
* More a problem for the future	2
* Not really a problem at all	3
* Don't Know	4
2b. Which of these statements comes closest to your own view? SHOW CARD	B
(circle one answer)	
	wid.
* Governments should do more to protect the environment	
even if it means higher prices and higher taxes for everyone	1
* Governments should keep prices and taxes low, even if	
this sometimes means they do less for the environment	2
* Don't know	3
* Unable to answer	4

### b. Countryside and Habitat Preferences

HABITATS	(1)	(2)
Coasts, cliffs and beaches	ar room Account	a. Your U
Woodlands		L How important
Meadows, fields and heaths		
Rivers, lakes and ponds		ont a a ametal
Wetlands (fens, bogs and marshes)		

#### SHOW CARD C

#### Your Preferences for Particular Habitats

3. Here is a list of different landscapes and habitats. Could you please rank them in terms of how much you like and enjoy each one. Give a score of 1 to the landscape or habitat you like most, 2 to your second choice, and so on down to a score of 5 for the type you like least.

#### [ write answers in Column (1)]

#### Your Perception of Threatened Habitats

4. Each of these different types of countryside has its own special kinds of plants and animals which live together in what are called wildlife habitats. Over the last 50 years, many of these habitats have been damaged or destroyed. Could you tell me, from your own experience, or perhaps from what you've heard from the media, which of these wildlife habitats you think have suffered most losses or damage, and which the least. Could you rank them again please, with a score of 1 meaning the most losses, and a score of 5 meaning the least.

#### [ write answers in Column (2) ]

In Questions 3 and 4, if respondents assign the SAME rank to more than one habitat then give each the relevant score and ADJUST the score for the habitat ranked next highest, e.g. if two habitats are jointly ranked second then give each a score of 2, and give the next habitat (or habitats if the next ranked habitats are again joint) a score of 4.

# c. Visiting the Countryside

5. How often do you engage in each of the following activities in the countryside? (SHOW CARD D)

a. Walking more than 2 miles	1. Often	2. Sometimes	3. Never
b. Walking less than 2 miles	1. Often	2. Sometimes	3. Never
c. Cycling	1. Often	2. Sometimes	3. Never
d. Horse Riding	1. Often	2. Sometimes	3. Never
e. Birdwatching	1. Often	2. Sometimes	3. Never
f. Looking at other Wildlife	1. Often	2. Sometimes	3. Never
g. Painting or Sketching	1. Often	2. Sometimes	3. Never
h. Angling/Fishing	1. Often	2. Sometimes	3. Never
i. Visiting Historic Sites or Buildings	1. Often	2. Sometimes	3. Never
j. Visiting Pubs	1. Often	2. Sometimes	3. Never
k. Photography	1. Often	2. Sometimes	3. Never

6. Have you ever heard of the Pevensey Levels, or the Pevensey Marshes as they are sometimes known?

1. Yes

2. No

3. Don't know

7. If Yes, have you ever visited the Pevensey Levels?

1. Yes

2. No

3. Don't know

8. If Yes, then approximately how often have you visited the Levels for recreational, educational or leisure purposes over the last 12 months?

..... Visits

9. How often have you visited the following sites and attractions over the last 12 months? (SHOW CARD E)

miles L. Oftensafs-Septeliwis, streng	NUMBER OF VISITS
effes L Often L Somelimes theory	IN LAST 12 MONTHS
1. Beachy Head Nature Trail	e Cycling
2. Chailey Common	d. Horse Riding
3. Castle Hill	e. Birdweiching
4. Ditchling Beacon	C. Looking at other W
5. Ditchling Common Country Park	g. Panting or Sketchild
6. Flatropers Wood	and Anglity Anglity
7. Fore Wood	landscape or habitat you like
8. Guestling Wood	
9. Hastings Country Park Nature Trails	
10. Lullington Heath	6. Have you ever heard
11. Rye Harbour	special kinds of plants and
12. Selwyns Wood	
13. Seaford Head	hese whome habitats you the
14. Cuckmere Haven	
15. Stanmer Park Nature Trail	

### d. Valuing the Pevensey Levels

The Booklet which you have just been given tells you about the work of English Nature and one of its initiatives, the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme in the Pevensey Levels. I'd like you to spend a few minutes reading it.

10a. You pay for the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme in the Pevensey Levels through taxes (income tax, VAT, excise duty etc.). For most households this payment amounts to a few pence a year. If you had your own way, would you still be willing to pay for the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme in the Pevensey Levels (circle one)

1. Yes

2. No

3. Don't know

If answer to Question 10a was 'NO' then go to Question 12, otherwise go to Question 10b.

10b. Bearing in mind that whatever you say you'd spend on this scheme could not be spent on anything else, would your household be willing to pay an additional amount in taxes towards the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme in the Pevensey Levels? (circle one)

1. Yes

2. No

3. Don't know

If answer to Question 10b was 'NO' then go to Question 13, otherwise go to Question 11.

The following question is a bidding game. The interviewer asks respondents to answer 'YES' or 'NO' to a series of increasing amounts until they reach one which they would NOT be willing to pay. At this point they are asked how many times as much as today they'd be willing to pay for the WES scheme, i.e. some multiple from the last multiple they said 'YES' to up to the one they were not willing to pay, i.e. the 'NO' answer.

11. Recall that the majority of households in Britain pay only two or three pence a year from their taxes for the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme in the Pevensey Levels - many people, for example those on benefits, probably pay a little less, while those on very high incomes will pay rather more. Bearing in mind that there are many worthwhile nature conservation programmes in England which you might wish to support, what is the MAXIMUM your household would be willing to pay for the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme in the Pevensey Levels compared with today? Twice as much? Three times as much? Four times as much?... (and so on, using the alphabetical sequence of multiples set out below until a 'NO' answer is received)

a.	2 X	YES	NO	g.	50 X	YES	NO
b.	3 X	YES	NO	h.	100 X	YES	NO
c.	4 X	YES	NO	i.	200 X	YES	NO
d.	5 X	YES	NO	j.	500 X	YES	NO
e.	10 X	YES	NO	k.	1000 X	YES	NO
f.	20 X	YES	NO	m.	Over 1000 X	YES	NO

When a 'NO' answer is received ask the respondent Question 11a.

11a. Exactly how many times as much as today would you be willing to pay for the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme in the Pevensey Levels?

(If the response is the same as the last 'YES' answer then code that multiple at a.)

- a. ..... X
- b. Don't Know
- c. Refused to Answer

If the respondent was able to answer Question 11 or Question 11a then go to Question 14. Otherwise go to Question 15. Only ask Question 12 if the answer to question 9 was 'NO'

- 12. Which one of the following reasons best describes why you and your household would not be willing to pay for the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme in the Pevensey Levels. SHOW CARD F (circle one answer)
- a. I do not derive any benefit from the Pevensey Levels, so I do not want to pay for them.
- b. I think it is a waste of taxpayers' money.
- c. I would rather my money was spent on other conservation/wildlife initiatives.
- d. I would rather my money was spent on something more worthwhile.
- e. I'd rather someone else paid for it.
- f. The Pevensey Levels are fine as they are and don't require the WES Scheme.
- g. Other (specify) .....

### Only ask Question 13 if the answer to question 10 was 'NO'

13. Which one of the following reasons best describes why you and your household would not be willing to pay any additional taxes for the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme in the Pevensey Levels. SHOW CARD G
(circle one answer)

- a. I do not derive any benefit from the Pevensey Levels, so I do not want to pay for them.
- b. I pay enough taxes and should not have to pay more.
- c. I would like to pay more but cannot afford to.
- d. I already pay enough to support conservation/wildlife initiatives.
- e. I'd rather someone else paid for it.
- f. The Pevensey Levels are fine as they are and don't require the WES Scheme.
- g. Other (specify) .....

### Only ask Question 14 if respondent answered Question 11

14. Which one of the following reasons best describes why you and your household would be willing to pay additional taxes for the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme in the Pevensey Levels.

SHOW CARD H

(circle one answer)

- a. The Pevensey Levels are a valuable wildlife habitat and should be maintained.
- b. I would not pay this amount, I am just suggesting that the Levels are important.
- c. I'm in favour of preserving nature and the environment.
- d. I value the Pevensey Levels for a number of reasons and would be prepared to pay extra taxes to enhance them.
- e. I wished to show my support for green issues in general.
- f. It was just a wild guess, I would not really be willing to pay this much.
- g. Other (specify) .....

## e. Socio-Economic Questions

Finally, we need to ask you a few details about your household in order to investigate what sort of cross-section of the population we are sampling. All responses and the information which they contain will be treated as confidential, so please do answer the remaining questions to ensure the success of the survey.

15. How many people in your household	d are:	a. 16 or over	•••••
		b. Under 16	•••••
16. Does anyone in your household own	a car? (circle one ansv	ver)	NO NO
		0. No	1. Yes
If YES go to Question 17, if NO then	go to Question 18.		
17. Does your household own (circle on	e answer):		
Of the response is the same as the la.	One Car	0. No	1. Yes
	Two or More Cars	0. No	1. Yes
18. Did you stay on at school after 16?		0. No	1. Yes
			C.

- if YES: Did you go on to further or higher education? (circle one category)
  - a. Completed Secondary Education
  - b. Went on to Further Education
  - c. Went on to Higher Education

If NO, are you:

SHOW CARD I (circle one category)

- a. Unemployed or on a Government Training Scheme
- b. Retired
- c. Other Non -Economically Active

f YES, can you tell me what your job actually is? (probe for answer until respondent can be
placed in the appropriate SC category)
Fri = 5 AEata 6 Sun = 7 al mabmil a

20. Is anyone in your household a member of any of the following environmental or nature conservation groups? SHOW CARD J

(Please circle the answers)

0. No	1. Yes
0. No	1. Yes
	0. No

21. Are you a mem	aber of a local branch of any	of these organisations?
If YES Which?		(specify)
22. Are you a men	nber of any other local enviro	nment/conservation organisation?
If YES What is it		e. Unemplo
•••••		(specify)
23. Could you plea	ase say which of the followin	g age groups you are in? SHOW CARD K
(circle one catego	ory)	placed in the appropriate SC cases of the second se
	a. Under 16	e. 45 - 54
	b. 16 - 24	f. 55 - 64
	c. 25 - 34	g. 65 - 74
	d. 35 - 44	h. 75 +
24. Could you ple	ase say into which group you	r gross annual household income falls?
SHOW CARD L		
(circle one catego	ory)	
	a. under £3,500	f. £1 <mark>5,000-£19,999</mark>
	b. £3,500-£4,999	g. £20,000-£29,999
	c. £5,000-£7,499	h. £30,000-£39,999
	d. £7,500-£9,999	i. £40,000-£49,999
	e. £10,000-£14,999	j. £50,000 +

# f. Coding Information

To be completed by the interviewer.
LOCATION
INTERVIEWER
SEX OF RESPONDENT 0=Male 1=Female
DATE//94
DAY Mon = 1 Tue = 2 Wed = 3 Thu = 4
Fri = 5   Sat = 6   Sun = 7
TIME INTERVIEW STARTS (24 hour clock)
TIME INTERVIEW ENDS (24 hour clock)
Using the information from Question 19 can you code the HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD'S occupation into one of the following six groups:  1. Professional or Managerial: Employers and Employees 2. Skilled Occupations: Manual and Non-Manual 3. Unskilled Occupations: Manual and Non-Manual 4. Unemployed or on a Government Training Scheme
5. Retired
6. Other Non-Economically Active  OCCUPATION CODE