

# 1.1.2 How are physical landscapes affected by human activity?

## Human Activity can have positive and negative effects on landscapes

Positive	Negative
An increase in employment in the tourism industry.	Seasonal jobs mean people aren't employed all year round.
Many other indirect jobs see a boost in trade due to tourism, e.g. taxi drivers	Loss of local shops to gift shops and cafes.
An increase in wealth for residents and the local economy.	Erosion of footpaths and natural land.
Tourism jobs help to compensate for the decline of employment in farming and agriculture.	Traffic and parking problems can lead to conflict with locals.
Employment keeps young people in the local, rural settlements, which in turn maintains local services, e.g. schools and shops.	Tourists buy second homes which increases house prices and locals are forced to move out.
	An increase in litter, and air pollution from cars and coaches.

## Honeypot site

Like bees around a honeypot, these sites attract many tourists because:

1. They are **interesting** and **beautiful** areas.
2. They are **easily accessible** from large towns and cities.



## Carrying Capacity

Too many people can cause big problems in honeypot sites. Issues are caused when visitor numbers exceed the carrying capacity of the area. This is the maximum amount of people an area can provide for, e.g. parking and services.

## Key Terms

<b>AONB</b>	An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. This is an area that is protected in order to conserve and enhance its natural beauty.
<b>Carrying Capacity</b>	The number of people an environment can support without experiencing negative effects.
<b>Diversify</b>	When farmers invest in providing services based on tourism, e.g. caravan sites or activities like paint-balling.
<b>Environmental Challenges</b>	Problems that are caused by human activity on landscapes or natural resources.
<b>Footpath Erosion</b>	A loss of vegetation due to people and animals trampling along countryside or coastal areas.
<b>Honeypot Site</b>	A location that attracts a number of visitors.
<b>National Park</b>	An area protected because of its beautiful countryside and wildlife so that it can be enjoyed by locals, tourists and future generations.
<b>Visitor Pressure</b>	The increasing effect an increase in tourists has on a landscape, resources and services.

People walking along the sand dunes cause erosion. This results in plants dying and the formation of blowouts in the sand dunes.

Some tourists leave litter after having a picnic or barbecue. This causes visual pollution as well as helping fires to spread quickly in the dunes during the summer months. Animals eat litter which puts biodiversity at risk.

Dogs' excrement on the beach has a negative effect on the vegetation on the sand dunes. It is not easily broken down and can stay on the surface for a long time.

Some visitors drive cars on the beach and sand dunes. This causes erosion on the beach and destroys plants, such as marram grass, which are vital in stabilising embryo dunes. This effects the succession of the sand dune system.

## How are physical landscapes affected by human activity? E.g. Ynyslas Sand Dunes

An increase in traffic causes congestion on narrow country roads. Cars are parked on grass verges and along narrow country lanes. This causes access problems for locals and farmers, resulting in conflict between users.

Many tourists visit Ynyslas whilst on holiday or on a day trip to Ceredigion.

This provides jobs for locals, increasing wealth for residents.

Keeps young people in the local area which maintains local services.

Tourists enjoy their stay and buy second homes.

House prices rise and some young locals cannot afford to buy homes.

## 1.1.2 How are physical landscapes affected by human activity?

For one distinctive landscape that you have studied; complete a mind map to show how the landscape is affected by human activity. Use chains of reasoning to help you expand your mind map.

Distinctive  
Landscape

Can you name 3 honeypot sites you have studied or visited?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

For one of these honeypot sites, explain the conflicts that occur when the site reaches its carrying capacity.

Define the following key terms:-

**AONB**

**Carrying  
Capacity**

**Diversify**

**Environmental  
Challenges**

**Footpath  
Erosion**

**Honeypot Site**

**National Park**

**Visitor  
Pressure**