RTD14 - Sep 2018
Nick Powe – Director of KC and Chair of ER Geopark
• Ancient human evolution
• Geological heritage
• Natural environment
• Social history
• Global connections

About 450,000 years ago
Extinct Ice Age animal fossils found alongside Stone tools
Geotourism for sustainability

- Declining visitors
- Weather dependency
- Only commercial funding
400 million years

- **Devonian** – Torquay is type locality
- **Permian** – Creatures older than dinosaurs at Goodrington
- **Quaternary** – Oldest human settlement in Europe
Formation of Pangaea
“Variscan Orogeny”
Mountain building process
Social, Economic and Environmental benefits
Adrenalin Discovery Packages
English Riviera
UNESCO Global Geopark - 2007

62.4 km² of land
41.5 km² of sea
137,000 residents
The most densely populated in the World
Urban cave
The Rock Connects us

• The geology is important but...

• .... Geopark is hollistic approach to managing and marketing a territory where geology is the “golden thread”

• Sustainable Development Goals
Marine and Terrestrial Biodiversity
Built & Cultural Heritage
Management structure
Partnerships & Networking

Zhangjiajie Geopark

Rift Valley – Baringo Aspiring Geopark Kenya

Hong Kong Geopark

Cotentin – INTERREG FCE
Geoplay Park, Paignton
World’s only geological themed children’s play area
Black Country Aspiring Geopark

Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall & Wolverhampton

256 km²
1.1 million residents
Creative

- Journey across the Bay
- The Basic Rock Song
- Global Junkjam
- Earth Echoes

www.englishrivierageopark.org.uk
As a cultural heritage attractions we need to create compelling reasons for visitors to return
Performance art in the Caves

- No seats!
- Led around the caves by the cast
- Show lasts about 70mins..
• Controlled access
• Protected site owned by company
• Balance curatorial with commercial activity
• Active archaeology
Kents Cavern Foundation
Registered charity No: 1154561

- Stone Age School
- Conservation, Education, Outreach, Research
Kents Cavern
Prehistoric Caves
UNESCO Global Geopark

STEP INTO THE STONE AGE

Tour Times Today
- 10:00
- 11:00
- 12:00
- 13:00
- 14:00
- 15:00
- 16:00

All Weather Attraction 14 Every Day

The Youngest Cave in Britain