

BS 8848: a new British Standard for the provision of adventurous activities, expeditions, visits and fieldwork, undertaken for educational, training or recreational purposes outside the UK

If you are a provider of adventurous activities, fieldwork or expeditions to destinations outside the UK, or regularly take part in such activities, we would be most grateful if you could take the time to reply to IOL to assist us in responding to this consultation.

The Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) together with the British Standards Institution (BSI) and a wide range of other organisations - 'venture providers' - including schools and universities - have spent the past nine months drafting a British Standard to benchmark good practice in safety management systems that will enable these activities to flourish.

They have now reached a stage of drafting that enables public consultation for a period of two months which will culminate in a gathering for interested parties at the RGS on Thursday 26th October 2006. It is anticipated that this will produce a number of observations that the BSI Technical Panel will then need to consider in producing the final version of the specification ready for launch as a Standard in early 2007.

A copy of the Draft standard known as BS 8848 is available for public consultation and can be downloaded from www.rgs.org/bsi

Please could you send any comments to IOL Office by Tuesday 14 October.

iol@outdoor-learning.org