

# Broads Authority committee structure

**Broads Authority**  
**Meets six times a year**

A statutory body set up under the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Act 1988, whose general duty is to manage the Broads for the purposes of:

- conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Broads;
- promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Broads by the public; and
- protecting the interests of navigation

while having regard to:

- the national importance of the Broads as an area of natural beauty and one which affords opportunities for open-air recreation;
- the desirability of protecting the natural resources of the Broads from damage; and
- the needs of agriculture and forestry and the economic and social interests of those who live or work in the Broads.

The Authority shall also:

- (a) maintain the navigation area for the purposes of navigation to such standard as appears to it to be reasonably required; and
- (b) take such steps to improve and develop it as it thinks fit.

## Executive committees

**Audit and Risk Committee**  
**Meets three times a year**

The Committee provides an independent, high-level focus on the audit assurance and reporting arrangements that underpin good governance and financial standards. Its role is to:

- Review the Authority's accounts and finances to ensure they are prepared in accordance with accounting policies and good practice.
- Take a strategic view on whether the resources allocated to the Authority are used effectively and efficiently in pursuing its purposes and objectives.
- Obtain assurances from a range of measures and reports that value for money is obtained in the use of these resources, and that risk and performance are actively managed to achieve best results.

**Planning Committee**  
**Meets every four weeks**

The committee exercises many of the BA's powers and duties in relation to town and country planning including development plan making, determination of planning applications, enforcement, and historic environment management.

## Consultative committees

**Navigation Committee**  
**Meets five times a year**

A consultative committee whose role is to comment on and advise the BA on all matters relating to the management of the navigation area and navigation expenditure. It is made up of 5 BA members and 8 co-opted members (2 co-opted members are also appointed to the BA).

**Broads Local Access Forum**  
**Meets quarterly**

A statutory advisory body established under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act, whose role is to provide guidance and advice to the BA on the improvement of public access to land within the Authority's executive area, and to contribute to opportunities for the enjoyment of the area.

## Consultative/ advisor

**Broads Engage Workshops**

Interest and community groups meet to discuss topics of importance to local stakeholders and the Broads Authority.