

**Education Strategy 2012-2016: Progress Report June 2013**  
Report by Education Officer

<b>Summary:</b>	This report provides members with an update on the progress of the Education Strategy 2012-2016. Members are asked to note the report.
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**1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The Broads Authority has a wide role in delivering, supporting and co-ordinating environmental and Broads related education.
- 1.2 The Authority formally approved the adoption of the Education Strategy 2012-2016 at the meeting of 20 January 2012.
- 1.3 This report is to update members on the progress currently achieved in delivering the strategy.

**2 The Strategy**

- 2.1 The Education Strategy provides a framework and action plan for cross-cutting educational activity related to all three purposes of the Broads Authority and to the delivery of the Broads Plan. In particular it will help to deliver Broads Plan objective PE3 to “enable a wider range of people, particularly those from hard to reach groups, to understand experience and actively benefit from the resource of the Broads”.
- 2.2 The Strategy focuses on the more formal side of education in the Broads, including work with schools, colleges and other educational groups, and sets out the priorities for Broads education delivery.
- 2.4 The Strategy seeks to promote the best use of resources and integrated partnership working and sets out five strategic objectives, together with an action plan for delivery.

**3 Progress Report**

- 3.1 The strategy has five key objectives, which translate to specific targets within a five year action plan. Significant areas of progress towards the strategic objectives are given below:

**Objective 1: To develop educational partnerships that together work to provide every child within five kilometres of the Broads Executive Area with a ‘Broads experience’ at some time in their school career.**

A key objective has been to identify the schools who do not currently use the Broads for educational activities. To this end, a database is in preparation to work with partners within the Broads Environmental Education Network (BEEN), including Norfolk County Council.

Three meetings of BEEN have taken place to date, with 40 organisations being represented. A BEEN steering group has been established. Partner organisations are involved in the development of a “Broads Curriculum”, elements of which can be delivered by partners to local schools throughout the Broads.

Several active partnership projects have been initiated or continued, including:

- Working with the Country Trust to offer Broads discovery days to schools from socially deprived areas both locally and nationally.
- Working with the Short Stay Schools for Norfolk to deliver longer term education to children outside mainstream education
- Working with Norfolk Education Action for Development on the Eco Challenge project delivering education for sustainability to Youth Groups both locally and internationally.
- Working with the Norfolk Archaeological Trust developing activities and resources for St Benet’s Abbey.

Two new web based resource packs have been developed and uploaded onto the Broads Authority website, for use by primary schools.

Numerous school presentations about the Broads have been delivered, including seven specifically related to the Broads Outdoors Festival and five related directly to topic work about water or rivers. Such school presentations build strong links with local teachers.

**Objective 2: To provide Broads orientated learning opportunities for young people from socially deprived urban areas and other disadvantaged backgrounds.**

A close working relationship with the Short Stay Schools Network for Norfolk has allowed the development and delivery of a Broads related “Forest School” style programme at Whitlingham Country Park.

Whitlingham Country Park has also been the venue for Forest School groups from Larkman Primary School (self led), Locksley School, YMCA and City College, including the new MINT project. Most of these activities have been led by Broads Authority Rangers

A Broads education related training course for 13 teachers and support staff from Catton Park and Mile Cross was held in 2012.

The partnership with the Country Trust has allowed 14 schools from socially deprived areas of Tower Hamlets, Ealing, Norwich, Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft to visit the Broads on educational visits. A further 16 visits are scheduled for 2013.

**Objective 3: To focus on 14 to 18 year olds to encourage continued learning and development related to the Broads and associated environmental issues.**

Working with the Senior Ecologist, the Education Officer ran workshops at three V1th form Conferences in 2012/13, at Norwich Castle Museum and at Fakenham High School.

A new project with South Norfolk Council has been developed to offer Broads conservation days to up to 150 14-16 year olds from ten local schools over 2013. Students will also have the opportunity to gain the John Muir Trust Discovery Award.

9 students from Bungay High School gained the John Muir Trust Explorer Award in 2012, alongside BTEC qualification in Countryside and Environment studies.

Eight students from local schools were given work experience placements in 2012. A further seven are confirmed for 2013.

A new ecology orientated GCSE/A'level resource pack has been developed and is awaiting field testing with groups before uploading to the BA website.

**Objective 4: To deliver a high quality education service with measurable outcomes in line with national guidance and best practice.**

Seven new education volunteers have been recruited and training courses have been run for both volunteers and rangers. In addition, four "teacher champions" from local schools have been involved in the development of materials for the Broads Curriculum.

The Broads Authority Education provision has achieved quality assurance with the Short Stay Schools Network.

**Objective 5: To raise the profile of the Broads as a rich and varied environmental educational resource and to build on current good practice.**

There has been good press coverage about Tower Hamlets school visits to Hoveton, and Eco Challenge Groups to How Hill, and nine local primary

schools have been involved in a competition to promote the Broads Outdoors Festival.

### **3 Next Steps**

- 3.1 The priority actions for 2013/14 within the Strategy and Action Plan will form the basis of the work plan for the coming year.

### **4 Conclusion**

- 4.1 The Education Strategy seeks to promote the best use of resources and integrated partnership working whilst maximising the delivery of high quality Broads specific education. Members are asked to note this progress report.

Background papers: Education Strategy 2012-2016  
<http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/broads/live/authority/meetings/broads-authority/2012/01-20/%5Bappendix%5D%20Education%20Strategy%202012-2016%20ba200112%20Appendix%201.pdf>

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Broads Plan Objectives: PE 3.2, PE3.3

Appendices: APPENDIX 1 - Education Strategy Action Plan 2012-2016

## Education Strategy Action Plan 2012-2016

<b>Objective 1: To develop educational partnerships that seek to provide every child within five kilometres of the Broads Executive Area with a 'Broads experience' at some time in their school career.</b>					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Specific Target</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>BA Lead and other partners</b>	<b>Progress June 2013</b>
Identify gaps in current provision. The BA will work with Broads Environmental Education Network (BEEN) and the County Councils to identify schools which are not already visiting the Broads, and directly target them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create list of schools to be included.</li> <li>• Identify those schools which do not come out into the Broads for educational activities.</li> <li>• Identify action plan for tackling these schools with BEEN group, including identifying where Broads Authority may be best placed to become involved.</li> </ul>	December 2012	High	Education Officer/BEEN/ NCC	Schools list created.
		February 2012	High		BA and NCC investigating methods of data collection for schools who do not come out to the Broads for educational activities.
		June 2012	High		BEEN Partner organisations collaboration agreed.
Within BEEN, develop a Broads School Curriculum, elements of which can be delivered by partners to local schools throughout the Broads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With partners, bring together the specialism of other education providers to create an education package for schools which will encompass a wide variety of themes and embed the importance of the Broads.</li> <li>• Develop "Broads Teacher Champions" within schools.</li> </ul>	December 2013	Medium	Education Officer/BEEN/ Volunteers	Broads Curriculum in development. Framework proposed and discussed at BEEN meetings in Nov2012 and February 2013. Further work needed on subject headings but partner organisations identified and developing resources for some key areas. BA and Partner organisations working on development and production of resources.
		Summer 2015	Medium	Education Officer/BEEN	4 "Teacher Champions" recruited and assisting with the development

					of resources.
Assist and support partner organisations in the development and delivery of Broads related projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with partners on projects such as the Windmill Project, INSTINCT project (invasive species) and others. This would develop resources, training, and direct educational approaches according to the needs of the project.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	High (though dependent on opportunities and organisational capacity)	Education Officer/BEEN/ Other Partners	<p>Clear active partnerships developed with a range of organisations including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NEAD</li> <li>How Hill Trust</li> <li>SWT</li> <li>Norfolk Archaeological Trust</li> <li>Short Stay Schools for Norfolk</li> <li>Country Trust</li> <li>South Norfolk Council</li> </ul>
Ensure web based information is up to date to allow schools to gain the most current and accurate information about the Broads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and update education pages (including information sheets) on Broads Authority website and develop new resources.</li> <li>Review and create links to partner websites with educational resources.</li> </ul>	May 2012	High	Education Officer/Website Officer/ BEEN	Some work completed. 2 new educational Resource Packs uploaded. Further resources in development and to be completed.
		August 2013	Medium	Education Officer/BEEN/ Website Officer	Partner organisations have agreed. Proforma to be sent in Summer 2013.
Local primary schools village/small town schools within/ very close to the Broads Executive Area should be engaged in the work of the Authority. Relationships should be developed with local schools and information disseminated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get a contact name for each of the key schools in or close to the Broads executive area.</li> <li>Use contact to disseminate information, inform about other initiatives, etc.</li> <li>Develop contacts into "Broads Teacher Champions".</li> <li>Review and prioritise.</li> </ul>	December 2013	Medium	Education Officer/ Ranger Team	<p>Key contacts list in preparation and is being used to target schools within 5km of Broads Executive Area for dissemination of information, eg re family activities within the Broads Outdoor Festival. Strong links being forged with a number of local primary schools within the Executive Area via specific project work. Direct contact with over 1,000 local pupils in 2012.</p> <p>5 local "Teacher Champions" recruited.</p>
Ongoing					
Ongoing					

Ensure all children are aware of how to behave safely when they visit the Broads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with other organisations to attend and promote safety events, including 'Get Safe for Summer' campaign.</li> </ul>	Summer 2012 and ongoing	High	Ranger Team/Education Officer	Some safety work carried out with Infant and Primary schools.

<b>Objective 2: To provide Broads orientated learning opportunities for young people from socially deprived urban areas and other disadvantaged backgrounds.</b>					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Specific Target</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>BA Lead and other partners</b>	<b>Progress June 2013</b>
Forest Schools Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivery of bespoke Forest Schools learning package to school groups from urban areas (Use 'Wilder Qualifications' pack for older age groups to enable accreditation and qualifications to be achieved).</li> </ul>	Ongoing but seek to review annually in light of staff resources and work priorities.	Medium but dependent on historic commitment, demand and funding.	Ranger Team/Education Officer/Volunteers	Bespoke Forest School learning package being delivered and further developed alongside the Short stay Schools for Norfolk. Further Forest School delivery to City College.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with groups to develop new ways of delivery including facilitating the opportunity for school teachers to provide their own Forest Schools courses in the Broads.</li> </ul>	August 2012	Medium	Education Officer/Ranger Team/NCC	Whitlingham Country Park offered as a resource to self led Forest School groups including Larkman Primary School and Locksley School.
		September	Medium	Education	Not progressed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek funding for additional officers to expand the Forest Schools programme to other areas of the Broads (and for their recruitment and/ or training).</li> </ul>	2013	(dependent on funding opportunities)	Officer	
<p>Broads Discovery Days</p> <p>In partnership with the Country Trust and other organisations, develop a number of unique Broads experiences targeting schools in areas with high indices of multiple deprivation and those without contact with other education providers in the Broads. Offer activities not easily available at other education centres and focus on the special qualities of the Broads.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Country Trust to identify schools to attend and identify dates.</li> <li>Work with groups to seek funding opportunities to progress project.</li> <li>Identify activities to engage groups with Broads and Broads messages.</li> <li>Pull together team including volunteers to deliver activities.</li> <li>Review process and outcomes.</li> </ul>	<p>May 2012 and Ongoing</p> <p>June 2013</p> <p>May 2012</p> <p>December 2013</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>Education Officer/Country Trust/Ranger Team/TIC Staff/Volunteers</p>	<p>Broads Discovery Days provided for 5 Tower Hamlets schools and 9 local primary schools in 2012. Discovery Days for 10 local and 6 East London Schools scheduled for 2013. Service level agreement agreed with Country Trust to aid funding bids.</p> <p>Broads orientated package of activities identified and being delivered.</p> <p>Team of volunteers recruited and trained to support delivery. Further recruitment ongoing</p>
<p>Work with and support partners to give Broads Authority expertise to wider social inclusion projects based around Broads related subjects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue working with NEAD on the Windmill project, and explore ways of developing and expanding the project.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Medium	Education Officer/NEAD/ other partners	<p>Close work with NEAD on Eco Challenge project, (the successor to the Windmill Project). The BA has delivered the field work element of this project to 5 Youth Groups from both the local area and internationally. Further work planned in the future.</p>



**Objective 3: To focus on 14 to 18 year olds to encourage continued learning and development related to the Broads and associated environmental issues**

Activity	Specific Target	Timeframe	Priority	BA Lead and other partners	Progress June 2013
"For Peats Sake" Project. This national project aims to involve local GCSE and A'level students in the monitoring of peat resources within the Broads and to investigate the role peat plays in carbon storage. It links with similar projects being undertaken by most national parks in the UK.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaise with national park authorities to set up the scheme and find funding.</li> <li>Set out delivery mechanism for project including staff time necessary.</li> </ul>	June 2012	High	Education Officer/Partner schools/BEEN partners	Liaison with other National Parks and training completed. Pack developed and awaiting trials with targeted schools in May/June 2013.
		June 2012	Medium		
BTec Land and Environment and Environmental Diploma. Direct practical involvement with small groups of year 9 and 10 students from local secondary schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued involvement with existing commitments to Bungay High School students, and Future Education as necessary.</li> <li>Review all requests for input from other schools and groups based on time and resource required.</li> </ul>	Ongoing. BHS BTec delivered by June 2012.	High to June 2012 thereafter Low	Education Officer/ Ranger Team	Project completed. 9 students from Bungay High School attained John Muir Trust Explorer Award in June 2012.  New Project established with South Norfolk Council. 10 days practical conservation work committed for 2013
		Ongoing	Low	Education Officer	Ongoing
GCSE and A'level Students will be supported by the production of appropriate curriculum-linked web based	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set up database to record the amount and type of requests that the Authority</li> </ul>	Ongoing	High	Education Officer/ Volunteers	Database established.

information about the Broads and linked to wider BA initiatives	receives to help inform any educational material produced.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Broads Futures Sheets to see if they can be easily updated.</li> </ul>	October 2012	Medium	Education Officer/ Volunteers	To be commenced.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review other resources available with BEEN.</li> </ul>	February 2013	Medium	BEEN/ Education Officer/ Volunteers	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop new on-line resources as appropriate to identified need.</li> </ul>	Ongoing; Completed June 2016	Medium	BEEN/Education Officer	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify funding sources to allow production of material.</li> </ul>	June 2014	Low		Not commenced.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Teacher Champions to share web based resources and lesson plans.</li> </ul>	June 2015	Low	Teacher Champions/BEEN/ Education Officer	Some work started.
Work Experience Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify appropriate opportunities for work experience within the Broads Authority. (This must be done in clear conjunction with BA operational requirements and work programmes).</li> </ul>	January 2012	High	Management Team/Forum	Clear methodology and procedures for work placement students established.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek to offer</li> </ul>	June 2012	High	Education	8 students from local schools given

	<p>appropriate experience opportunities for school and college students, with a particular focus on local placements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and amend annually depending on staff work programmes and the availability of suitable placement opportunities.</li> </ul>	<p>and ongoing</p> <p>November 2012</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Officer/Volunteer Coordinator/Other BA staff</p>	<p>work experience placements in 2012.</p> <p>At present 7 placements offered for 2013 .</p>
<p>Develop John Muir award scheme with groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver John Muir award to existing groups such as YMCA, City College and Future Education. (The John Muir Award is an environmental award scheme focused on wild places. It encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment, in a spirit of fun, adventure and exploration).</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Education Officer/Ranger Team/Volunteers</p>	<p>9 John Muir Explorer Awards awarded to Bungay High School Students in 2012.</p> <p>Award scheme currently offered to students at Earthsea School and in partnership with South Norfolk Council.</p>

Via BEEN, assist in the delivery of INSET training for school staff to link the Broads to Schemes of work for Geography and Science KS2-KS4 (linked to production of web based information)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Norfolk County Council to explore areas where the Broads Authority could add value to the training of teachers to deliver Broads-based environmental education.</li> </ul>	June 2013 and ongoing	Low	Education Officer/NCC	In-service training course held for 13 teachers/support staff in Jan 2012. Further Courses planned.
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<b>Objective 4: To deliver a high quality education service with measurable outcomes in line with national guidance and best practice.</b>					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Specific Target</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>BA Lead and other partners</b>	<b>Progress June 2013</b>
Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge Scheme. This scheme looks to identify quality education providers. The Authority will apply for LOTC Quality Badge based on small number of common Broads Authority educational activities e.g. delivery of Broads Discovery Days and Forest School.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify specific areas of educational work to put forward for scheme.</li> <li>Apply for assessment.</li> </ul>	June 2013	Low	Education Officer/Rangers	Not started
		December 2013	Low		
Maintain accurate records of group visits and talks. This will allow the Authority to adapt its approach to education as the information shows is appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set up database or spreadsheet to capture information.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	High	Education Officer/Volunteers	Database established. Recording ongoing.

<p>Volunteers. Review the recruitment of volunteers to find those capable and willing to deliver wider informal education and to provide flexible delivery of education.</p> <p>All staff and volunteers engaged with education should be checked via the CRB and have some training.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review recruitment process for volunteers.</li> <li>• Continue to CRB check all volunteers.</li> <li>• Develop education training for volunteers.</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>December 2012</p>	<p>High</p> <p>High</p> <p>High</p>	<p>Volunteer Coordinator/ Education Officer</p> <p>Volunteer Coordinator/ HR staff</p> <p>Education Officer/Volunteer Coordinator/ Ranger Team</p>	<p>6 new education volunteers recruited. 3 trained.</p> <p>CRB checking procedure under review following Government guideline revisions</p> <p>3 new volunteers trained in March 2013.</p>
<p>All staff involved with delivering education should have some level of training. This may be through in house sharing of expertise. Continued development should also be included within this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify any staff who have not received any training or where further development may be necessary.</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Education Officer/ Ranger Team/Section Heads</p>	<p>Ranger training course in environmental education ran in March 2013. 6 rangers trained.</p>
<p>Develop a set of quality indicators, to evaluate the impact of education at all levels e.g. visiting staff and a sample of students over short medium and ideally long timescales. A measure of quality assurance should be developed and applied across the Authority for those staff involved in delivering talks/visits etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review measures already taken (e.g. for National Park reporting).</li> <li>• Set out list of key areas for measurement and targets or achievement against these.</li> </ul>	<p>December 2014</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Education Officer/NPA Educators Group/ Visitor Services Manager</p>	<p>Not progressed.</p>

**Objective 5: To raise the profile of the Broads as a rich and varied environmental educational resource and to build on current good practice**

Activity	Specific Target	Timeframe	Priority	BA Lead and Other Partners	Progress June 2013
Ensure that all projects and new initiatives and resources are widely and appropriately publicised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch Broads Curriculum and other projects with appropriate press coverage.</li> <li>• Engage teacher champions in promotional coverage.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Medium	Communications Team/Education Officer/Teacher Champions (when recruited)	Press releases about Eco-challenge project in October 2012 and April 2013.
Develop competitions and other resources for local schools as part of other Broads Authority and partner events eg the Broads Outdoors Festival.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch competition to schools as part of Outdoor Festival.</li> </ul>	April 2013	Low	Education Officer/Communications Team.	9 Primary Schools involved in Broads Outdoors Festival Competition 2012.