

An impressionistic painting of a wetland landscape. A light-colored path or stream runs vertically through the center, flanked by dark, textured areas representing reeds or marsh vegetation. The background is a hazy, light blue-grey sky. The overall style is painterly and atmospheric, with visible brushstrokes and a muted color palette.

Broads Plan

2022-27



Broads
National Park



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Chairman's foreword



Bill Dickson
Chairman, Broads Authority

Welcome to the Broads Plan 2022-27. It is the product of a thorough review and consultation with partners and the public, and has in many ways been shaped by the Landscapes Review commissioned by the Government. The new Plan comes at a time when the Broads faces an acceleration of both existing and new challenges that will impact on all of us who care about this unique and special landscape, whatever our particular interests may be.

While the Broads Plan is published by the Broads Authority it has always been a partnership strategy representing the joint vision of the Authority, our partners and our many stakeholders. It is ambitious – as it should be – and sets bold strategic objectives. Successfully achieving our objectives depends upon a shared commitment and a strong sense of purpose, for we achieve so much more when we work alongside each other. This becomes even more vital when increasing costs, combined with diminishing public spending and private investment, are likely to be a constant feature throughout the five-year period of this Plan.

There is a much greater awareness and urgency of the need to address the impacts of climate change and flood risk, creating opportunities to inspire and support people in acting to protect this special area. As you would expect, nature recovery is at the heart of the Plan, and the importance of managing our navigation is also a key theme.

The COVID-19 pandemic has influenced many areas of our daily lives. It has contributed to the worldwide economic downturn, and on a more personal level has shifted many people's feelings about the value of nature for health and wellbeing. In the past two years, the Broads and other open spaces have seen significant increases in visitors. Alongside those who have been familiar with this area for many years, we welcome people who may be venturing here – and into the wider family of UK National Parks and other protected landscapes – for the first time.

Producing a plan of this importance is a huge task. On behalf of the Broads Authority, I am extremely grateful to everyone who helped to create the Broads Plan 2022-27. Our Members and officers look forward to working with you all to make it a success.

1. Introduction

1.1 About the Broads

Status

The Norfolk and Suffolk Broads ('the Broads') is a special member of the UK family of 15 National Parks¹. These protected landscapes are known collectively as 'Britain's Breathing Spaces' – echoing the words of the late Norfolk naturalist Ted Ellis, who called the Broads a "breathing space for the cure of souls".



An iconic Broads landscape – St Benet's Level Drainage Mill on the River Thurne. danscape.co.uk

The Broads has an equivalent status to a National Park under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, and the Broads Authority shares the same two purposes as the English, Welsh and Scottish National Parks. It also has a unique third purpose relating to the interests of navigation, and as such is defined under its own Act of Parliament known as the Broads Act².

In 2015, the Broads Authority agreed to brand the area as the 'Broads National Park' to promote more clearly its credentials and special qualities. The Authority's three purposes (section 1.2) remain unchanged.

Special qualities

Over the years, the Authority has asked people to identify the special qualities or features of the Broads they value most. Common responses include:

- The winding rivers and open water bodies – the 'broads'
- The variety of habitats
- The abundance and rich diversity of wildlife

¹ [National Parks UK // British National Parks](https://nationalparks.uk/)

² [Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Act 1988](https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/about-us/broads-act-1988)

- Navigable, lock-free waterways to explore and enjoy
- The variety of patterns and textures in the landscape
- Countryside access to both land and water
- 'Big sky' views, dark skies and a sense of remoteness, tranquillity and wildness
- The people, the visitors, the activities
- The history and historic environment: Earth heritage, heritage assets, archaeology
- Boating, boatbuilding and unique heritage fleets
- Cultural assets, skills and traditions such as thatching and millwrighting
- People's interactions with the landscape
- Waterside settlements and quiet villages

Profile and history

"On the evidence now available, they (the broads) are, beyond reasonable doubt, the flooded sites of former great peat pits, made in the natural fenland in medieval times"³.

The Broads is a distinctive and globally important wetland landscape and an important inland waterway. Home to around 6,500 people⁴, the Broads executive area (Map 1, Appendix C) covers around 303km² in Norfolk and north Suffolk between the city of Norwich to the west and the coastal resorts of Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft to the east, with a short coastal strip at Winterton and a tidal estuary at Breydon Water. Its boundaries are drawn tightly around the floodplains and lower reaches of three main rivers – the Bure, Yare and Waveney – and their tributaries, the Thurne, Ant, Wensum and Chet. The Broads is the basin at the bottom end of the much larger Broadland Rivers Catchment (Maps 2 and 3, Appendix C), with water flowing through it and out into the North Sea.

Water, not surprisingly, is the vital element linking everything in the Broads. This low-lying, mainly open and undeveloped landscape is a rich mosaic of interconnected habitats including rivers, shallow lakes ('broads'), fen, reed bed, drained marshland, wet woodland, saltmarsh, intertidal mudflats and sand dunes. Each habitat has its own special characteristics and is home to a wealth of species, many rare and some unique to the Broads within the UK.

The importance of the area is borne out by a range of international, national and local designations in recognition of its landscape, nature conservation and cultural features. These features have been shaped and nurtured over centuries by the way peat diggers, traders and merchants, reed and sedge cutters, thatchers, farmers and fishermen have lived and worked. The story of the Broads began in the Middle Ages. By the 12th century, much of east Norfolk had been cleared of its woodland for fuel and building materials. Over the next 350 years, peat digging (or turf cutting) was a major industry. As sea levels rose, the diggings were eventually abandoned and left to flood, creating the shallow stretches of water known as broads.

There are now around 63 broads, varying in size from tiny, isolated lakes to large expanses of open water. The connected broads and rivers were once part of an extensive network for communication and commerce, transporting goods such as fuel, building materials (including reed) and livestock and their products, especially wool. Villages and settlements commonly grew up around a parish staithe (landing stage), riverside common, ferry or bridge, making the most of the water environment.

The advent of the railways in the mid-19th century and motor vehicles in the 20th century brought most river-borne commerce to an end. In its place, the Broads waterways became increasingly popular for recreation, particularly boating, with more than 200km of navigable,

³ JM Lambert, JN Jennings and CT Smith in 'The Broads', EA Ellis, 1965

⁴ Mid-2020 census (experimental statistics)

lock-free rivers and open water bodies to be explored and enjoyed. Today, around eight million people a year visit the area, supporting thousands of jobs and having an impact of around £660m on the local economy⁵. Tourism, recreational boating and the marine industry, and farming and land management all continue to play an important role in maintaining and enhancing this unique, much loved landscape.

Challenges ahead

The Earth's natural resources – water, air, soil, geology and all living things – provide us with a huge range of benefits: goods such as food, fresh water and energy; services such as clean air regulation and carbon storage; and many cultural values from health and wellbeing to jobs, community development and a sense of place. These public benefits are supported by other natural functions such as photosynthesis, soil formation, vegetation growth and water cycling, underpinned by biodiversity.

The [UK Environment Act](#) became law in November 2021 to address environmental protection and the delivery of the [25-year Environment Plan](#) following Brexit. The Plan sets out the Government's goals for nature recovery including clean air, clean and plentiful water, thriving plants and wildlife, a reduced risk of harm from environmental hazards such as flooding and drought, using resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently, and enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment. The Plan also sets goals to manage environmental pressures by mitigating and adapting to climate change, minimising waste, managing exposure to chemicals and enhancing biosecurity. It emphasises the need to get better at including environmental and social costs, benefits and trade-offs in policy, investment and planning decisions.

The [Landscapes Review \(2019\)](#) highlights that national protected landscapes like the Broads are fragile, that nature in them is in crisis as elsewhere, that communities are changing and that many people do not know about these places. The report emphasises that the way we protect and improve these landscapes needs urgent and radical change “if their natural beauty is to be in a better condition 70 years from today, even better to look at, far more biodiverse, and alive with people from all backgrounds and parts of the country”.

During this Broads Plan period, the biggest challenge for our easterly, low-lying wetland landscape is adapting to climate change and sea level rise, especially in terms of managing water. Other significant issues are the state of the UK economy and the cost of living crisis; the rollout of post-Brexit legislation, particularly for [agricultural transition](#) and the management of farmland, habitats and species; the growth in demand for housing and infrastructure in the East of England; and the potential ongoing impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on our local communities, on tourism and other businesses, and on recreational trends.

The Broads is like a vast mosaic; lose one fragment and its overall integrity is flawed. This means that rather than focusing on single or favourable interests (such as food production, flood protection or economic benefit) possibly at the expense of others, we must manage this precious ecosystem as a dynamic, complex and interdependent whole.

We cannot predict exactly what the Broads will look like in 50 to 100 years' time, but we must accept that it is likely to change. By improving our knowledge and acting now, we can help to make sure it will always remain a special and distinctive place, richer in biodiversity and enjoyed by all.

⁵ STEAM data 2019, Broads including influence area

1.2 Broads Authority

The Broads Authority is a statutory body with very similar responsibilities to those of the English, Welsh and Scottish National Park Authorities. The Authority was established under the [Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Act 1988](#). Further provisions for the management of the navigation area were made through the [Broads Authority Act 2009](#). It is the local planning authority, and a harbour and navigation authority.

The distinctive shape of the Broads executive area (*Map 1*) comes from its boundary being drawn tightly around the flood plains and lower reaches of the main rivers (Bure, Yare and Waveney) and their tributaries (Thurne, Ant, Wensum and Chet).

The Authority has a duty to manage the Broads for the following three purposes:

- 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.

In practice, how much weight is given by the Authority to any of these purposes will depend upon the particular circumstances under consideration. In its commitment to integrated management, the Authority and its Broads Plan partners always look for potential win-win solutions, rather than setting the different purposes at odds with each other.

In managing the area, the Authority must also have 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 also has the duty to maintain the navigation area for the purposes of navigation to such standard as appears to it to be reasonably required, and take such steps to improve and develop it as it thinks fit. It may carry out works, and do other things in relation to any adjacent waters in or over which it has sufficient rights or interest, for the improvement of navigation on those waters.

1.3 Broads Plan

Working in partnership

The Broads Plan is the single most important strategy for the Broads National Park, setting out a long-term vision and strategic objectives to benefit its landscape, environment, local communities and visitors. As a high-level overarching plan, it draws together and guides a wide range of plans, programmes and policies relevant to the area. The Broads Plan is reviewed and updated on a regular basis, and this Plan covers the period 2022 to 2027.

While the Broads Authority is responsible for producing the Broads Plan, its success depends on strong partnership working to make the best use of shared knowledge, effort and resources. Key delivery partners are highlighted in Section 3 and in Appendix A.

Funding and resources

As the body responsible for managing the Broads, the Broads Authority receives a Government funded National Park Grant (NPG), which was £3.4m in 2021/22, and navigation income funded by boat toll payers (£3.4m in 2020/21).

In the three years to 2022 this income has come under pressure from rising costs, the impacts of Covid-19 and a static NPG (and in real terms,

the Authority's 2021/22 NPG is a reduction of 42% compared with its 2010/11 grant). In terms of navigation income, a comparison of boat toll data in 2017 (when the last Broads Plan was adopted) and 2021 shows the number of private boats remaining fairly steady; however, despite continuing investment in new boats, there has been a decrease in the hire boat fleet and more losses are predicted⁶. Future navigation income is uncertain, due largely to the ongoing effects of the UK economy and Covid-19 on boat ownership and on the domestic holiday market.

The [Landscapes Review](#) says the Government's approach to funding national protected landscapes like the Broads is not as diverse and sustainable as it should be. The Government's response⁷ is that there is limited scope to increase the core grant by the scale suggested, or to provide funding settlements that extend beyond a spending review period. However, it supports the recommendation for protected landscapes to source more investment from private and blended financing models for nature recovery and nature-based solutions, and to pursue commercial and sponsorship opportunities provided by each landscape's unique brand identity.

Along with its Broads Plan partners, the Broads Authority works hard to increase its financial resources (most significantly in recent years from EU grants and the National Lottery Heritage Fund). The Authority is a member of the [National Parks Partnerships](#), which supports closer links between businesses and protected landscapes for commercial and practical benefits, while other initiatives such as '[Love the Broads](#)' help to fund local community projects. Resources are about people too, and the dedicated volunteers who give their time and practical support

to many organisations in the Broads are an invaluable asset.

As a high-level strategy, the Broads Plan does not contain detailed costings; this information will be within the lower level business plans and operational work programmes delivering the Broads Plan's strategic objectives.

Assessing the Plan's impacts (SA and HRA)

The Broads Plan review is subject to [Sustainability Appraisal](#) (SA) to assess any significant environmental, economic and social impacts of implementing the updated plan. The outcome of the SA on the Broads Plan 2022-27 was that most of its strategic objectives (Section 3) show either a positive or neutral impact on the Sustainability Objectives in the Sustainability Appraisal framework. A small number show uncertain impacts, depending on the implementation of the objective, and none show a negative impact.

A [Habitats Regulations Assessment](#) (HRA) was also carried out to assess the impacts of this Broads Plan on local sites protected by the Habitats Regulations, including [Ramsar Sites](#), Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas. The HRA concluded that the Plan would have no adverse impact on site integrity at any Habitats Site, either alone or in combination.

It is important to note that plans, programmes and works to implement the strategic objectives in the Broads Plan will need to be undertaken in a manner that is sensitive to the environment. Works will also need to comply with relevant permits and controls to ensure environmental protection on Habitats Sites. Where relevant such plans, programmes and works will be subject to SA and HRA⁸.

⁶Private boats: 10,646 in Nov 2017 and 11,179 in Nov 2021; Hire boats: 1158 in Nov 2017 and 1118 in Nov 2021; a fall of about 40 hire boats in 2022 is predicted.

⁷[Landscapes review \(National Parks and AONBs\): government response - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

⁸The same SA scoping exercise was used for this Broads Plan and the emerging Local Plan for the Broads. The Local Plan SA will assess reasonable alternatives in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.



Buckenham Ferry, once an important crossing point on the River Yare. Tom Barrett

Monitoring and reporting

Monitoring indicators are shown against specific objectives in Tables 3–8 (Section C). We also use a ‘State of the Broads’ dataset to help assess change over time. This is usually updated as part of the Broads Plan review, but we are awaiting the publication of new national indicators for protected landscapes in delivering on the Government’s goals for nature recovery and for climate mitigation and adaptation. When we have this information, we will publish the updated ‘State of the Broads’ dataset on our website.

At the time of adopting this Plan, the Authority is working with key delivery partners to improve how we monitor and report on progress. We will post information on our website at [Strategy \(broads-authority.gov.uk\)](https://broads-authority.gov.uk/strategy).

Local Plan for the Broads

As the local planning authority, the Broads Authority is responsible for setting spatial

planning policies for the Broads executive area. The [Local Plan for the Broads](#) supports the strategic aims of the Broads Plan, through policies that are used in determining planning applications, and guidance on development and land use. The next Local Plan is due to be adopted in 2024. A number of town and parish councils partly within the Broads executive area have adopted, or are developing, [Neighbourhood Plans](#).

The special qualities and features of the Broads are also influenced by development in adjoining areas, particularly given its narrow executive boundary and low-lying, open landscape. Under the [Localism Act](#) the Authority and its neighbouring planning authorities, county councils and public bodies have a ‘duty to cooperate’ to make the most of cross-boundary strategic planning matters such as housing, transport, open space and demands on water and other resources.

2. Vision and principles

2.1 Long-term vision

The Vision for the Broads National Park (Table 1) is based on Defra’s vision for protected landscapes: ‘A coherent national network of beautiful, nature-rich spaces that all parts of society can easily access and enjoy. Protected landscapes will support thriving local communities and economies, improve our public health and wellbeing, drive forward nature recovery, and build our resilience to climate change.’⁹ Our vision has a timeframe in line with the [25-year Environment Plan](#).

Table 1 Vision for the Broads National Park to 2042

Our vision for the Broads National Park is that:

Biodiversity is at the heart of nature recovery. Our natural environment and the beneficial goods, services and cultural values it provides from food and energy to landscape character and recreation are in good condition, used fairly and sustainably, and valued by society. In particular, the precious nature of plentiful, clean, fresh water as a fundamental resource is understood and respected by all.

We are meeting the challenges of climate change and sea level rise, and the carbon reduction targets of ‘net zero’ by 2040, with well-maintained soils that retain and increase stored carbon.

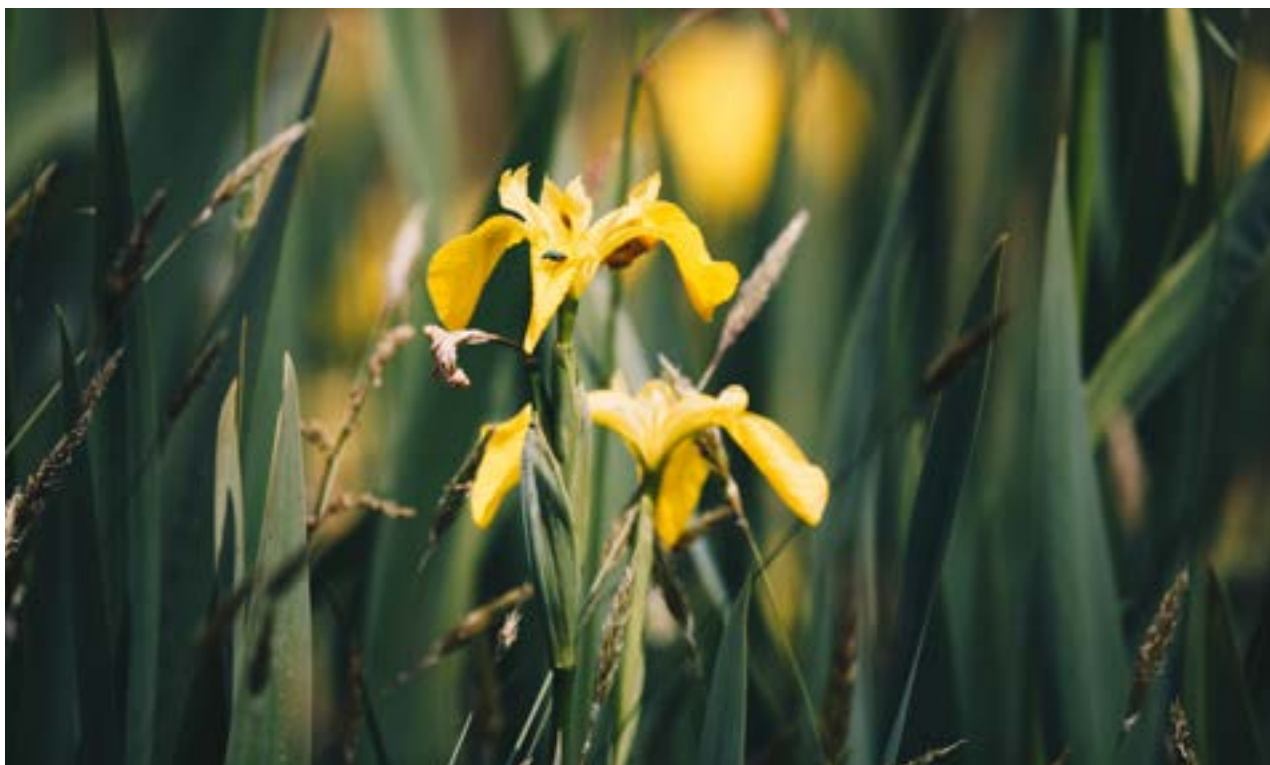
Wildlife is flourishing and habitats are maintained, restored and expanded. Land and water are managed in an integrated way, with local and landscape-scale management that creates resilience and space for nature and agriculture, enabling us to adapt to changing environmental, economic and social needs. The area’s environmental history is better appreciated through understanding its sediments, rocks and landforms.

The past and present importance of the waterways for navigation, biodiversity and recreation is recognised and cherished, and the asset is protected, maintained and enhanced.

This living, working, ‘big skies’ landscape is notable for its natural beauty, distinctive local character and historic significance. People of all ages, abilities and circumstances enjoy it as a place to live and work, as a place of escape, adventure, learning and tranquillity, and as a source of national pride and identity. Local communities are active in decisions about their future, and sustainable living is seen in action. There is a buoyant rural economy and a viable, well-used public transport network, and local housing need is being met.

The Broads National Park is forever recognised as fundamental to our prosperity and our mental and physical health and wellbeing, and is forever treasured as a unique and special place that provides a breathing space for the cure of souls.

⁹ [Landscapes Review \(National Parks and AONBs\): Government response - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)



Yellow (Flag) Iris Tom Barrett

2.2 Fundamental principles

In implementing and reviewing the Broads Plan, we support the five environmental principles set out under Section 17(5) of the Environment Act 2021:

- The **integration principle** states that policy-makers should look for opportunities to embed environmental protection in other fields of policy that have impacts on the environment;
- The **prevention principle** means that government policy should aim to prevent environmental harm;
- The **rectification at source principle** means that any environmental damage should, as a priority, be addressed at its origin to avoid the need to remedy its effects later;
- The **polluter pays principle** makes clear that those who cause environmental damage should be responsible for mitigation or compensation; and

- The **precautionary principle** states that where there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, a lack of scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation.

We also support the following principles:

- To plan and work in partnership to make the best use of shared knowledge and resources, and to avoid duplication of effort;
- To involve people from an early stage, and throughout, in decisions that may interest or affect them; and
- To support decisions with robust evidence, including scientific and local knowledge, innovation and best practice.

3. Our strategic objectives

This section sets out our strategic objectives for 2022-27 under six key themes. It is not a list of all work carried out in the Broads, including many routine operations, and further actions are likely to be developed through the plan period. While we aim to deliver an ambitious plan, the Broads Authority and its partners have finite resources, and will need to set clear priorities for action.

Appendices A and B give details about partners and abbreviations used in this section.

Table 2 Summary of strategic objectives 2022-27

Theme A Responding to climate change and flood risk

A1 Prepare a long-term integrated flood risk strategy for the Broads, Great Yarmouth and interrelated coastal frontage and maintain current adaptive coastal, tidal and fluvial flood risk management approaches for the area

A2 Work towards making all Broads Authority operations carbon neutral by 2030 and carbon zero by 2040

A3 Agree carbon reduction targets for the Broads National Park and promote action to reduce emissions

Theme B Improving landscapes for biodiversity and agriculture

B1 Restore, maintain and enhance lakes and use monitoring evidence to trial and implement further innovative lake restoration techniques

B2 Promote best practice water capture and usage across the Broadland Rivers Catchment and reduce point and diffuse pollution into the floodplain and water courses

B3 Seek biodiversity net gain and enhance areas of fen, reed bed, grazing marsh and wet woodland, to protect peatlands as carbon sinks

B4 Define, implement and monitor management regimes for priority species and invasive non-native species

B5 Improve partnership coordination and communication of Broads biodiversity monitoring and research effort, linked to the National Biodiversity Network

Theme C Maintaining and enhancing the navigation

- C1** Maintain navigation water depths to defined specifications, reduce sediment input and dispose of dredged material in sustainable and beneficial ways
- C2** Maintain existing navigation water space and develop appropriate opportunities to extend access for various types of craft
- C3** Manage water plants and riverside trees and scrub, and seek resources to increase operational targets
- C4** Maintain and improve safety and security standards and user behaviour on the waterways

Theme D Protecting landscape character and the historic environment

- D1** Record, protect and enhance local built and cultural features, archaeology, geodiversity and potential hidden heritage, including 'at risk' assets
- D2** Maintain an up-to-date Broads Landscape Character Assessment
- D3** Maintain up-to-date Conservation Area designations, appraisals and management proposals
- D4** Reduce the impacts on the Broads of visual intrusion and noise and light pollution, and promote Dark Sky Discovery Sites



Hiring a day boat is a popular way to spend a few hours on the water. David Kirkham



Easy access boardwalk leading to a view across Barton Broad. Bill Smith

Theme E Promoting understanding and enjoyment

- E1** Improve the integrated network of access routes and points (with easier access for people with mobility and sensory needs), linked to visitor facilities
- E2** Offer a coordinated and year-round programme of visitor activities that promote a 'Broads' experience', taking measures to prevent any adverse environmental impacts
- E3** Maintain and upgrade the range and provision of integrated multimedia interpretation about the special qualities of the Broads National Park, and 'point of need' information for visitors
- E4** Strengthen the quality and distinctiveness of the local tourism offer, including careers and skills training

Theme F Connecting and inspiring communities

- F1** Increase and promote accessible and 'taster' activities that foster physical and mental health and wellbeing for all, including under-represented groups
- F2** Offer varied, flexible and sustainable volunteering opportunities and skills training to suit diverse audiences
- F3** Provide and expand schools-based and outreach environmental education opportunities for young people, using the Broads as a learning resource
- F4** Provide up-to-date planning policy, site-specific allocations and planning guidance to support local community needs and ensure development happens within environmental limits
- F5** Increase income generation to support Broads-themed projects

Theme A Responding to climate change and flood risk



A bird's eye view of flooding at St Olaves on the River Waveney. Mike Page

Introduction

Sea level rise, coastal change and the predicted more rapid changes to the climate, including more frequent flooding, pose enormous challenges to the special qualities of this easterly, low-lying wetland. Responding to these challenges is central to all themes in this Broads Plan. It is clear that we need to act now, both to mitigate the scale of change (such as reducing our carbon emissions) and to adapt to the changes that are inevitable. We are likely to see key impacts for the distribution of habitats and species, visual landscape character, demands for water resources, and agricultural patterns and production.

The [Protected and Conserved Areas Joint Statement on Climate Change and Biodiversity Crises statement](#)¹⁰, which was signed by National Parks UK among others, highlights that the global family of protected and conserved areas are well placed to take rapid and far-reaching action to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss. They are also areas where billions of people connect with nature and can become inspired to play an active part in combatting these dual crises.

We must inform our adaptation and mitigation decisions with strong evidence and widespread

debate with all interests, to help us determine what is desirable and possible, and what will make us more resilient to change. The Broads Authority is working with multiple stakeholders to better understand the impacts of climate change and sea level rise on the Broads and surrounding areas, and to develop the best management options for the longer term. In doing so, we are considering how the various options may affect our local communities, businesses and visitors as well as our natural ecosystems and the services they provide such as thriving wildlife, fresh water, food, carbon capture, recreation and employment.

Managing flood risk

Water is obviously a dominant feature in the Broads, and its interconnecting characteristics present continual challenges in dealing with changes in quality, availability and levels. This section looks at flood risk management; other issues related to water quantity and quality are addressed in Theme B.

Flooding is a natural and sometimes beneficial process within a floodplain like the Broads, and the control of water has been a major influence on the form of this landscape for hundreds of years. In living with our water environment, we have to accept the associated risks and, where necessary, be adaptive to change. Flood risks

¹⁰ Statement presented to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15) in November 2021

include damage to property, infrastructure, habitats and farmland, causing distress to people and wildlife. Around 85% of the Broads executive area is at some risk of flooding, including thousands of properties and around 25,000 hectares of farmland and mainly freshwater habitats. Higher sea levels along the north-east Norfolk and north Suffolk coast bring an increased risk of sea defences being overtopped or breached. This can also hold back water trying to drain from the rivers, causing flooding to natural and built capital. A combination of particular weather conditions and high tides causing a surge in the North Sea can also push salt water higher up the system, damaging the area's freshwater biodiversity and agriculture.

The main types of flooding we face in the Broads are tidal and coastal, river (fluvial) and flooding from ordinary watercourses, surface water and groundwater. Multiple agencies called Risk Management Authorities are involved in managing flood risk, including the Environment Agency (which has a strategic overview of all sources of flooding and coastal change), Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils (as the Lead Local Flood Authorities for their respective areas), District and Borough Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and Highways Authorities.

The Broads executive area includes a short stretch of coastline between Winterton and Sea Palling, and coastal erosion can affect the area. The Broads Authority has signed up to the Norfolk and Suffolk Coastal Authorities Statement of Common Ground on Coastal Zone Planning, which has an agreed approach to make sure that land and marine planning regimes are integrated. In the current Shoreline Management Plan, the Broads' coastline is subject to a 'hold the line' policy in the short to medium term (up to 2055), and a conditional 'hold the line' policy for the longer term (2055–2105). Without this policy approach, sand dunes and associated coastline habitats and species, as well as buildings and infrastructure, could be further affected by coastal change.

Strategic flood and coastal risk management in and around the Broads used to incorporate three separate major flood defence systems: The Broads (tidal and fluvial); Eccles to Winterton (coastal); and Great Yarmouth (tidal). The [Broadland Futures Initiative](#) (BFI) is a multi-agency partnership set up to integrate flood risk management for the whole area, and produce a strategy covering the next 100 years. Work is underway to secure support and publish evidence, and the BFI will be engaging widely with stakeholders to identify the way forward, including conversations with local communities about flood risk adaptation. The Environment Agency has the lead technical responsibility and is working with the Risk Management Authorities and others, and the Broads Authority is leading on governance and communications activities.

The Broads Authority's ambition to retain the area's predominantly freshwater conditions for as long as practicable is being assessed as part of the BFI approach. It will be linked to climate change scenarios, and a shared vision that takes account of environmental, technical, socio-economic and political considerations, with planned action to help us prepare for long-term resilience and adaptation in the Broads.

Reducing our carbon emissions

Reducing carbon emissions across the Broads is a priority. In 2019 the Broads Authority adopted a [climate emergency statement](#) pledging to work towards making its operations carbon neutral by 2030 and reducing all carbon emissions to zero by 2040¹¹. It also aims to work with local communities to set a carbon reduction target and measures for the Broads National Park. A carbon footprint greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions assessment of the Broads was produced in 2022.

¹¹ In this context, 'carbon neutral' means that the offsetting carried out by the Broads Authority balances the emissions from its activities, and 'carbon zero' means there are no emissions from the Authority's activities.

More widely across protected landscapes, National Parks UK hopes to become a hub for the '[Count Us In](#)' initiative, which sets 16 steps to reduce carbon emissions based on three criteria: impact on personal carbon pollution, power to influence leaders, and ability to involve everyone. Locally, the Broads Authority has the potential to influence its own staff and volunteers as well as 6,500 residents, millions of visitors and numerous partner organisations and local businesses.

Long-term aim

The Broads National Park and its communities are responding to the challenges of climate change and sea level rise, and the Broads Authority is on track to meet its carbon

reduction target of zero emissions by 2040. Adaptive approaches and resilience standards are informed by robust evidence and wide debate on the most appropriate management options. Our decisions define the scale and expenditure of human intervention needed to protect important assets to changing regimes, and identify the actions and resources needed to implement agreed interventions. Importantly, while the Broads continues to evolve, it remains a unique and special area that retains its rich biodiversity and heritage importance and offers extensive recreation, health and wellbeing, employment and other socio-economic opportunities.

Table 3 Theme A Strategic objectives and key actions

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
A1	Prepare a long-term integrated flood risk strategy for the Broads, Great Yarmouth and interrelated coastal frontage and maintain current adaptive coastal, tidal and fluvial flood risk management approaches for the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission, carry out and publish updated and more extensive flood risk research and modelling (incl. saline incursion, risk and impact assessments of natural floodplain restoration); identify and appraise potential management actions to form adaptive strategy and engage with stakeholders [EA, BFI partners] 	BFI Broads Flood Risk SPD Broads SFRA	EA and BFI partners	BFI reporting indicators
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Broads Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and Broads Flood Risk Supplementary Planning Document as required [BA, EA, LAs] 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop flood risk management mapping, feasibility studies and project proposals in Broadland catchment, and implement on-site projects to restore natural flood management processes [EA, IDBs, BCP partners, NSFA, landowners] 	BFI BCP Anglian CFMP	Funded schemes (EA Grant in Aid, CS, CFMP)	BFI reporting indicators
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement and promote flood risk mitigation measures and advice, e.g. through Anglian Flood Risk Management Plan 2021-27, county Flood Risk Management Strategies, Surface Water Management Plans, LPA planning policy/guidance [EA, LLFAs, IDBs, LPAs] 	Anglian FRMP Norfolk FRMS Suffolk FRMS SWMPs LPA Local Plans	NCC, SCC	FRMS targets

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete planned schedule of Broadland Flood Alleviation Project infrastructure maintenance works (to May 2023) and transition period from BFAP to EA direct management of assets [EA] 	EA management plans	EA	EA schedule targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through Local Plan for the Broads review (to 2024), consider revised/new development and land use policies and guidance to respond to climate change and sea level rise [BA] 	Local Plan for the Broads	Partners	# planning applications approved by BA contrary to EA flood risk advice
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce Coastal Adaptation Supplementary Planning Document [CPE, ESC, GYBC, NNDC, BA] 	CPE	Partners	CPE schedule targets
A2	Work towards making all Broads Authority operations carbon neutral by 2030 and carbon zero by 2040	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and implement carbon reduction measures for BA operations, incl.: all road vehicles replaced with electric versions; zero/low-emission options for heavy equipment/vessels; renewable energy generation for premises; carbon-related assessments in procurement processes; green travel to work schemes [BA] Identify and implement opportunities to offset emissions from BA operations, with target of about 1,500 tonnes of offset by 2030 [BA] 	Count Us In Broads CCAP	BA, grants	BA carbon emissions annual estimate BA carbon offset targets



The impact of Storm Malik in January 2022 saw flood water from the River Yare washing away rail track foundations near Great Yarmouth. Mike Page

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
A3	Agree carbon reduction targets for the Broads National Park and promote action to reduce emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with National Park Authorities in England to establish common standards for determining joint ambition towards net-zero, incl. offsetting schemes, and apply to the Broads [BA, Norfolk CCP, Suffolk CCP] • Commission further research on sector CO2 emissions in the Broads and promote information to raise public awareness and action [BA] 	Count Us In Broads CCAP	BA, NPE, grants, private investment	NPA family indicator data Level of carbon emission reductions by spatial boundary
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree, promote and implement measures to reduce carbon emissions from local domestic, business, recreational, travel and other sources, incl.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Boating and tourism initiatives, e.g. 'Electrifying the Broads' and promotion of tourism hotspots within Electric Vehicle and Alternative Fuels strategies (see strategic objective E1), visitor green travel (incl. multi-modal transport hubs) and local food sourcing [LAs, BA, BT partners, NSBA, BHBF, local businesses, other partners] - Local Plan policy and Neighbourhood Plans, e.g. building energy design and energy sourcing, use of materials and embodied carbon - Habitat management, incl. peatland water and carbon storage and financing - see strategic objective B3 	Broads IAS Broads STS Broads WMS EtB initiative & EVS/AFS Local Plan for the Broads	Partners, regenerative tourism schemes & grants, private investment	# new funded projects in place (min. 2 by 2027) AMR data

Theme B Improving landscapes for biodiversity and agriculture



The Marsh Harrier can be seen swooping over the Broads' grazing marshes and reed beds. Jackie Dent

Introduction

The Broads is one of Europe's finest and most important wetlands, with a rich mosaic of habitats comprising, among other things, shallow lakes, rivers, fens, drained marshland, wet woodland, estuary saltmarshes, intertidal mudflats and coastal dunes. Twenty-eight sites covering a total of more than 7200 hectares are nationally designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), a third of which are also National Nature Reserves, and there are numerous County Wildlife Sites within and near the Broads boundary. Most of the SSSIs are of international importance for their habitats and wildlife as the Broads Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and the Broadland Special Protection Area (SPA), and an area of the wetland is also designated as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention. The local agriculture is primarily a mix of livestock grazing and some arable cropping, with grassland the dominant feature in the floodplain. Reed and sedge cutting remains a traditional and important local industry.

We must remember that the Broads is essentially a man-made landscape, shaped over centuries. As highlighted in Theme A, while we will always seek to retain the Broads as a special and protected landscape it is likely to alter as a result of climate change and sea level rise, leading to more saline habitats and changes in land use,

agricultural practices and cropping. Post-Brexit environmental and land management legislation, the economy, food and energy policy, leisure and tourism patterns and development growth in the East of England also bring both challenges and opportunities for the Broads landscape, wildlife and people.

Set within this context, we must seek to balance what is needed for a healthy, functioning ecosystem with the fair and sustainable use of the many benefits we get from it. This ambition is central to the [Environment Act 2021](#), which sets goals to improve the natural environment and achieve biodiversity net gain, and to the [Landscapes Review](#). Underpinning environmental policy is the [Government's 25-Year Environment Plan](#), and protected landscapes like the Broads are critical for the ambitious target of protecting 30% of UK land and halting the decline in species abundance by 2030. The commitment in relation to Nature Recovery grants for England includes creating or restoring 500,000 hectares of wildlife-rich habitat and restoring 75% of Sites of Special Scientific Interest into favourable condition by 2042. Species recovery and reintroduction will also be expanded. Local Nature Recovery Strategies are putting spatial planning for nature on a statutory basis, with Nature Recovery Network mapping prioritising local action to reduce pressures and enhance assets and benefits.

Water quantity and quality

The groundwater, rivers and broads in the Broadland Rivers Catchment (Map 2) are primary to the healthy condition and functioning of the Broads' habitats, waterways and land and water dependent businesses. To put the best management regimes in place, we need to better understand the ecological and hydrological functioning of our water and water-related habitats, and address water demands across all sectors.

Good quality water is clear, low in nutrients and free of harmful substances. It has a rich diversity of aquatic plants and supports healthy populations of fish, invertebrates and water birds. The Broads restoration programme has been active for more than 35 years, and leads the UK in developing and studying lake restoration projects. However, despite significant improvements in water quality in recent decades, monitoring shows that all Broads' water bodies and river reaches, and more than 90% of rivers in the Broads catchment, are failing European Water Framework Directive (WFD) targets¹².

Water quality continues to be affected by a combination of point source and diffuse pollution from waste water, urban areas, transport and agriculture, as well as from physical modification of water courses, changes to water flow, salinity and water abstraction. As the driest region in the UK, Eastern England is extremely vulnerable to water shortages. During droughts and other periods of water stress, rivers and wetlands can suffer damage that is then exacerbated by abstraction and other land and water management activity.

[Water Resources East](#) (WRE) was established in 2019 to bring together water, agriculture, power and environmental interests (including the Broads Authority) to look at the water needs and potential trade-offs across the sectors, balancing

considerations of customers, agriculture, the environment and the economy. The Broads has a key role in contributing to the delivery of [Environment Act](#) targets to improve water quality and quantity. The WRE is working with stakeholders to develop an integrated Water Resources Management Plan for the region. The [Broadland Catchment Partnership](#) also works with local land managers, farmers, businesses and others to take practical action to improve water quality, capture and efficient use. The next Local Plan for the Broads¹³ will include updated planning policies on water use and efficiency, as well as nutrient neutrality and other water quality measures.

Fen, wet woodland and grazing marsh

The Broads is a UK priority wetland area, with the largest expanse of species-rich peat fen in lowland Britain. Most of its fen sites are designated for nature conservation, with around 40% owned or managed by conservation organisations. The Fen Ecological Survey (2010) showed clear evidence of loss, fragmentation and decline in some areas, but also showed how other areas have been improved by focused agri-environmental support.

An estimated 13 million tonnes of carbon are stored in the Broads' peat soils. Crucially, we can expect fewer greenhouse gas emissions from peatlands with water at or close to the soil surface and carbon rich alluvial soils than from intensively drained peatlands. Good water level management can also benefit landscape character, flood control, water cleaning and biodiversity. The [England Peat Action Plan](#) (2021) sets out the Government's long-term vision for managing, protecting and restoring our peatlands so they provide a wide range of benefits to wildlife and people. The [peatlands policy statement issued by the Campaign for National Parks](#) (Nov 2021) calls for greater priority to be given to restoring and rewetting peatland of all types within National Parks, with the aim of

¹² [Water Framework Directive \(intro\)](#)

¹³ See Theme F 'Local development'

bringing it all into good condition or restoration management by 2030 at the latest. [The Lowland Agricultural Peatland Task Force](#) will publish a 'road map' for sustainable lowland agriculture, including paludiculture (wet agriculture on peatlands), in late 2022.

The Broads has the most extensive tract of wild wet woodland within Eastern England. It is of international significance and where not designated may, like other habitats located on peat soils, be at risk from drainage and from loss due to development. Natural regeneration of wild wet woodland in suitable low-quality habitats can support nature recovery.

Grazing marsh covers around half of the Broads. Some areas attract large and internationally important numbers of breeding and non-breeding birds, and there is a substantial area of internationally important dyke communities. The marshes provide a third of East Anglia's cattle grazing land, and local farmers and graziers rely on environmental land management support to optimise profit and protect the habitats. Threats to these habitats include loss to arable reversion and land drainage, development, water level regimes, flooding, drought, salt tides and invasive species.

Species

There are more than 11,000 recorded species in the Broads, including 26% of all UK BAP¹⁴ priority species and 17% of all nationally notable or scarce species. Sixty-six species are either restricted entirely to the Broads or rarely seen elsewhere in Britain. Iconic species include the Bittern, Marsh Harrier, Otter, Fen Orchid, Norfolk Hawker Dragonfly and the entire UK populations of the Swallowtail Butterfly, Dotted Footman Moth and Holly-Leaved Naiad.

However, some species are in decline or on the brink of survival. The challenges faced by

many species, including Broads' specialists, include increases in seasonal variability in river levels and depleted water resources, salinity from land drainage and tidal flooding, nutrient enrichment and pollution of the waterways, habitat loss and fragmentation, and increasing threats from invasive non-native species. Species recovery and translocation programmes can take substantial time and resources, as can managing invasive species. Gains in recent years include wintering water birds around Breydon, Fen Raft Spider, Otter, Bittern, Crane and Marsh Harrier, and the control of invasive species such as Floating Pennywort and American Mink, but much more needs to be done.

Agriculture, land use and development

Adapting land use to work more sustainably with nature and environmental change requires coordinated investment. This plan period will see the greatest changes in UK agricultural policy for half a century, with three new land management payments schemes ([Sustainable Farming Incentive](#), [Local Nature Recovery](#) and [Landscape Recovery](#)) introduced during the [Agricultural Transition Plan 2021 to 2024](#). The schemes focus on paying farmers for public goods such as clean water, improved biodiversity and climate change mitigation, alongside crop production. Some income streams may come through private revenue, such as from large corporations for carbon credits, housing developers for nutrient, water and biodiversity credits, and water companies for water quality improvements. Other action, such as for major flood risk management, air quality control and land subsidies, is likely to rely mostly on public funding.

¹⁴ [UK Biodiversity Action Plan](#)

Long-term aim

Biodiversity is thriving in the Broads, which remains a globally important wetland adapting to climate change. Sustainable land and water management practices support well-functioning ecosystems to provide multiple public goods including food, clean and plentiful water, carbon storage, abundant wildlife, landscape character, and recreation and tourism. The challenging targets to improve water quality, water supply and flood protection are being met. Opportunities are taken to establish more, bigger, better

and more joined up ecological networks, and priority species and their habitat needs are well understood and well managed to halt and reverse biodiversity decline and loss, increase resilience and adaptive ability, and pursue environmental net gain. Invasive non-native species are under control and eradicated where possible. A profitable agriculture sector provides good food while maintaining or restoring habitats to good ecological condition. Robust evidence and monitoring guide good decision making in all aspects of natural resource management.

Table 4 Theme B Strategic objectives and key actions

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
B1	Restore, maintain and enhance rivers and broads and use monitoring evidence to trial and implement further innovative restoration techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek funding to develop and implement river and broad restoration, maintenance and enhancement works for aquatic communities (incl. fish) at priority sites to meet WFD and SSSI objectives [BA, BBP partners, BASG] Complete post-works monitoring of Hoveton, Trinity and Hickling Broads' condition status, and use evidence to trial and implement further innovative restoration techniques [NE, EA, BA] 	Broads BWS Broads WMS DWPPs Hoveton Great Broad Restoration Project BASG Strategy	Partners	WFD & SSSI site condition targets, EA statutory monitoring data; WMS and DWPP targets
B2	Promote best practice water capture and usage across the Broadland Rivers Catchment and reduce point and diffuse pollution into the floodplain and water courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement water efficiency measures and planning policy to reduce water usage in new development, and promote to domestic and business water users¹⁵ [AW/ESW, non-domestic water retail companies, LPAs] 	Water resource management plans LPA Local Plans	Partners	Water company business plan targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and install 'whole farm' (and where feasible, low cost) water capital infrastructure and water retention and infiltration measures [BCP, AW/ESW, county FWAGs] 	Water resource management plans	Funded schemes, water capital grants	WSF targets, CSF data, RDPE reporting
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop cross-sector, integrated water resources management plan [WRE, AW/ESW, NFU] Implement Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP) action plans in Broadland catchment [NE, EA, AW/ESW, other project partners] 	Water resource management plans (incl. Norfolk Water Strategy Programme) WINEP AMP8 Wendling Beck Exemplar project	Funded schemes Water company funds	CAMS resource availability, WFD hydrology status AW/ESW targets, EA action plan targets

¹⁵ Also see theme F

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with farmers/land managers and organisations to implement tailored environmental land and water management measures to reduce air pollution and water pollution [BCP coordination, HA] 	Broads BWS BCP NSNRP	BCP partners ELMs, FiPL, other grant schemes, private finance HA	CS/WSF targets, CSF water capital grant targets, WFD/ SSSI/ SAC/ Nature 2000 targets
B3	Seek biodiversity net gain and enhance areas of fen, reed bed, grazing marsh and wet woodland to protect peatlands as carbon sinks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify areas suitable for rewetting for reed bed/fen creation and for commercially viable paludiculture [BA, BCP & BBP partners, farmers & land managers, IDBs, RSPB, NRT, water companies] Develop and implement tailored habitat management measures with focus on low carbon methods and nature-based solutions; support farmers and land managers in transition to LNR and ELMs schemes [BA, BBP partners, BLMB, BRASCA, RSPB, farmers & land managers] Offer advice and practical support to local reed and sedge cutters, incl. extension of cutting areas, new commercial reed beds, equipment, contracts and training initiatives [BA, BRASCA] 	Broads BWS CANAPE, NCPGS Broads CCAP England Peat Action Plan BRASCA action plan LAPTF Revere	CANAPE, NCPGS & successor grant schemes ELMs FiPL Peatland Code Partners	Total area peatland, area restored peatland (ha) Total area under BA management agreement (ha) % priority habitat in CS; SSSI condition status Carbon reduction targets BBP monitoring
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete nature conservation activities under Broads LPS 'Water, Mills & Marshes' Programme 5: Natural Landscapes by Dec 2023, and develop and implement legacy activities based on evaluation and outcomes of LPS [Broads LPS delivery partners] 	WMM and legacy schemes	NLHF LPS, partners	Broads LPS target data for NLHF
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and apply biodiversity net gain requirement for development in the Broads [BA] Develop Norfolk and Suffolk Nature Recovery Strategy and identify and map potential areas of new habitat, wildlife corridors, extended/new field buffer strips and pollinator networks [NCC, SCC, NSNRP, partners] Update and adopt Broadland Rivers Catchment Plan [BBP partners, BCP partners, farmers & land managers] 	Local Plan for the Broads NSNRP Broads BWS BCP	ELMs, partners	# investment plans completed (e.g. econet mapping) Reviewed Broadland Catchment Plan
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement integrated landscape-scale initiatives, incl. Landscape Recovery Schemes, NWT/ SWT Living Landscapes, RSPB Priority Landscapes [NBP partners, BCP partners, other partners] 	NSNRP	Partners, secured external funding	Individual project delivery targets

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Green Infrastructure and Recreational Disturbance Avoidance Mitigation Strategies – see strategic objective F4</i> 	n/a	n/a	n/a
B4	Define, implement and monitor management regimes for priority species and invasive non-native species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement priority species recovery and support programmes, incl. targeted management, spatial mapping, monitoring, research and species translocation action where appropriate [BBP partners, Highways England] 	Broads BWS	Partners, grants	Distribution of breeding wader pop., # new sites for Bittern/ Swallowtail, priority INNS data
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out invasive non-native species monitoring regimes and awareness campaigns; and make data publicly available on present/potential threats and biosecurity plans & control programmes where threats are highest [NNNSI] • Implement new biosecurity standard to minimise risks of field workers accidentally introducing/spreading biosecurity threats [BA] 	NNNSI Broads BWS Defra Group Personal Biosecurity Project	Partners, grants	NNNSI data
B5	Improve partnership coordination and communication of Broads biodiversity monitoring and research effort, linked to the National Biodiversity Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out research/monitoring to determine impacts of habitat management and manipulation techniques, and coordinate/share findings [BBP partners, BA, EA, NBN] <i>(Priority research areas 2022-27: Extension of Broads Biodiversity Audit to include assessment of guilds; Carbon emissions related to land uses; Fen ecology and water levels and quality; Prymnesium ecology and mitigation of impact on fish; Pollutant inputs; Impacts of drought, flooding and salinity; Creating markets for fen materials; Impacts of connectivity, stressors and interaction on freshwater habitats)</i> 	Broads BWS NBN	Research grants	# published papers/ research reports BBP monitoring
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete community-based research and monitoring activities under Broads LPS 'Water, Mills & Marshes' Programme 1: Interpreting the Landscape and Programme 3: Learning and Future Skills by Dec 2023; develop and implement legacy research and monitoring projects based on evaluation and outcomes of Broads LPS [Broads LPS delivery partners] 	WMM and legacy schemes	NLHF LPS, partners	Broads LPS target data for NLHF

Theme C Maintaining and enhancing the navigation



Water plants need appropriate management, as they can have a severe impact on navigation. Tom Barrett

Introduction

The Broads is an extensive and varied inland waterway system, offering 200km of boating on lock-free, meandering tidal rivers. The Broads executive area comprises approximately 3113ha of water space, including 63 permanently open water bodies covering 843 ha (*maps, Appendix C*). Many of these water bodies are traditional 'broads' formed from medieval peat diggings, while others are of more recent or different origin, such as the former gravel quarry at Whitlingham Country Park. Some broads have public navigation rights, others more limited access (generally for environmental or land ownership reasons), and some are landlocked and inaccessible to craft. The navigation reaches from the quiet headwaters of the rivers Bure, Ant and Waveney to the centre of Norwich and coastal resorts of Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft.

As the harbour and navigation authority, the Broads Authority is responsible for maintaining the navigation area. The Waterways Management Strategy (2022-27) provides the framework for the Authority's practical operations (including the management of sediment, aquatic plants, and riverside trees and scrub) to benefit the navigation while also ensuring the protection of important water plant communities and refuges and food for wildlife. The maintenance of moorings, slipways and

other waterside infrastructure is addressed in Theme E, as part of managing integrated access to and between land and water.

Managing sediment and plants

Dredging is carried out to provide reasonable depths for safe navigation, and to help restore degraded or shallowing water bodies. It also helps improve water quality by providing greater capacity for water storage, and by removing excess nutrients in the mud, reducing turbidity and creating depth for aquatic plants to flourish and stabilise the bed. Dredging the waterways and disposing of dredged material is the largest navigation maintenance cost to the Authority. River bank erosion is a key sediment source, caused by wind, tidal action, boat induced waves and feral geese. Land use and soil and vegetation type on riverbanks and uplands are also contributory factors, with headwaters contributing around 50% of sediment inputs.

A whole catchment approach to sediment management is helping to manage sediment coming into the Broads system. The Waterways Management Strategy guides the Authority's operational priorities to maintain water depth specifications and to dispose of dredged material in cost effective and environmentally sustainable ways, taking account of its value for agriculture, habitat creation, land restoration and flood

protection. A carbon budget produced for the Authority's internal operations showed that over 50% of its carbon emissions are being generated by the vehicles, plant and vessels involved in waterways management, providing a focus to reduce emissions (see Theme A) while keeping up with waterways maintenance priorities.

Thriving aquatic plants are part of a healthy ecosystem, and certain species are protected under legislation¹⁶. Recent years have seen increasing plant abundance in the rivers and broads, particularly in the upper reaches and smaller isolated broads; plants further downstream in the more tidally influenced areas are typically slower to respond to improving water quality. In a connected waterways network like the Broads, tackling the spread of some aquatic invasive non-native species is a huge and ongoing challenge. Practical work tends to focus on preventing the arrival of new species, and on controlling established species that significantly impact navigation or the conservation interest of key sites.

While the activities under this theme can enhance biodiversity, such as improving water quality by restoring depth and flow, it is acknowledged that some works have the potential to cause mainly short-term negative environmental or ecological effects; for example, dredging can increase turbidity and release contaminants, soil and nutrients¹⁷ into the water. To mitigate such impacts, the Broads Authority applies Environmental Standard Operating Procedures to all its practical and engineering works, and this guidance is generic across all operators in the Broads.

¹⁶ [Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010](#) and [Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 \(as amended\)](#)

¹⁷ In March 2022, Natural England released '[nutrient neutrality](#)' guidance to local planning authorities (including the Broads Authority) in areas where protected habitats sites are in unfavourable condition due to excess nutrients (also see Theme F).

¹⁸ Code for the Design, Construction and Operation of Hire Boats (the 'Hire Boat Code'), Jan 2022

¹⁹ Green Infrastructure and Recreational Disturbance Avoidance Mitigation Strategies

²⁰ Special Areas of Conservation/Special Protection Areas

Managing navigation safety and access

The Broads Authority manages the use of the Broads navigation to maintain safety, reduce potential conflicts between different user groups and ease pressure on busy areas. Safety on the waterways is managed through Ranger patrolling, supported by byelaws, codes of conduct and public guidance such as Super Safety Days and the 'Wear It' lifejacket campaign. Safety standards are generally high, although speeding and people falling while getting on and off boats are common problems. In 2020-21, an increase in waterways users (including many first-time domestic visitors) as a consequence of global Covid-19 travel restrictions saw a surge in safety-related incidents, including sadly a number of fatalities.

The Authority, emergency services and Coastguard work closely together to respond to incidents on the water. In 2021, the Authority increased its complement of Rangers to have a greater daily presence on the system, and produced new safety videos with local hire boat operators to give pre-visit advice to hirers. It also worked with inland waterways bodies to update the Hire Boat Code¹⁸, which contains new safety aspects including stability requirements and more emphasis on the handover procedure given to hirers. Local policing partnerships including 'Broads Beat' work with the Authority and local businesses to promote a proactive approach to maintaining safety and reducing marine-related crime such as the theft of boats and outboard motors.

A number of initiatives help to avoid overcrowding and visitor pressures in certain areas. The Broads Integrated Access Strategy (see Theme E) focuses on distributing access points and visitor facilities across the Broads system, and a regular boat census monitors boat movements and distribution to help identify stress points at sensitive sites. County GI-RAMS¹⁹ also aim to mitigate negative impacts from visitor pressure on SAC/SPA²⁰ conservation



The new and the old – Broads cruiser, with traditional wooden yachts in the background. James Bass

sites. The potential to open up new areas of navigable water space are very limited, tempered by voluntary restrictions to certain areas of water space that provide key refuges for wildlife, by other environmental or land ownership issues, and by a lack of resources. However, there are quiet access opportunities for smaller, non-powered craft such as canoes and paddleboards above the heads of the navigation. Any planning proposal to extend navigation access will need to be consistent with nature conservation interests, flood risk management, and archaeological and geological status.

The Broads Authority works with Network Rail and other operators to make sure road and rail bridges are maintained to allow access to navigators. The work of the Broadland Futures Initiative (see Theme A) includes assessing the potential impacts of climate change and sea level rise on the tidal Broads waterways and the implications for navigators, such as the available air draft and timing of when vessels can pass under bridges, to make sure these and other interests are all considered in determining future management approaches.

Long-term aim

The historic and present importance of the Broads' waterways for navigation, biodiversity and recreation is recognised and valued. The navigation and associated facilities and infrastructure are maintained and enhanced. Waterborne activity across the system is managed carefully to maximise safe enjoyment by all, minimise conflict between users and ease pressure on busy or vulnerable areas. Opportunities to improve and extend the navigable water space are pursued, consistent with nature conservation interests and water resource management. Sediment management provides necessary depths for boating, and dredged material is reused or disposed of in environmentally and economically sustainable ways. Sediment loss from agricultural land and bank erosion is minimal, with sustainable natural and constructed solutions used to protect vulnerable stretches of waterways. Banksides vegetation and water plants are managed in ways that keep waterways open to navigation, do not impact on the ecological or archaeological integrity of sites, and provide for appropriate recreation. Restriction on navigation due to bridges is minimised and mitigated wherever possible.

Table 5 Theme C Strategic objectives and key actions

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
C1	Maintain navigation water depths to defined specifications, reduce sediment input and dispose of dredged material in sustainable and beneficial ways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out annual dredging programme in priority locations to maximise compliance with defined waterways specifications (based on annual programme of hydrographic surveying, mapping and quantification), and provide water depth data to navigators [BA] Seek additional resources to improve sustainable sediment management [BA and partners] Develop and share inland waterways legislation and good practice for dredging and sediment re-use [AINA, MMO, BA] 	Broads WMS	BA and partners	% annual compliance with waterways specs, up-to-date sediment management legislation & guidance
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and prioritise stretches of lost or eroded river bank/island for restoration and implement land management protection, creation and restoration strategies, using innovative sediment re-use techniques where possible [BA, BCP] Promote good practice guidance on minimising bank erosion to recreational users and land owners/managers [BA] 	Broads WMS BCP	Funded schemes, partners	SSSI and WFD condition status, CFE records
C2	Maintain existing navigation water space and develop appropriate opportunities to extend access for various types of craft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop schemes and agreements to extend navigation access for appropriate craft, consistent with nature conservation interests, flood risk management, and geological and archaeological status [BA, partners] 	Broads WMS Broads IAS	BA and partners	Broads WMS and IAS action plan targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain navigation access through bridges and provide clearance information to navigators, incl.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiate refurbishment/replacement of Somerleyton and Reedham swing bridges, incl. secured funding and agreed design and mitigation measures, and provide clearance information to navigators [NR, BA] Maintain low bridges, incl. Carrow Bridge, to allow opening/ closing for navigators, and provide clearance information to navigators [Bridge operators, BA] 	Network Rail CP6 Delivery Plan NCC Transport Asset Mgt. Plan Broads WMS	Bridge operators	NR CP6 Delivery Plan schedule NR/BA liaison meetings
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop understanding of long-term trends in water levels and impacts on navigation, and refresh mean water level data using standardised methodology [BA, BFI] 	BFI	Partners	BFI reporting indicators
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Management of moorings, slipways and other waterside infrastructure – see strategic objective E1</i> 	n/a	n/a	n/a

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
C3	Manage water plants and riverside trees and scrub, and seek resources to increase operational targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out annual regimes for water plant cutting in navigation channels in accordance with agreed criteria, and monitor impact on plant species, distribution and abundance [BA] 	Broads WMS	BA	BA annual monitoring of managed river bank, navigation channels, water plants
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out annual tree and scrub management regimes in accordance with agreed criteria and Area Ranger strategies for managing hazards to navigation from trees on private land [BA, landowners, community groups] 	Broads WMS	BA	Routine BA Ranger checks; 5-yearly survey of riverside trees
C4	Maintain and improve safety and security standards and user behaviour on the waterways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage adherence to boat safety measures, incl. up-to-date Safety Management System and Boat Safety Scheme [BA] <i>Provision of user safety information – see strategic objective E3</i> Incorporate Hire Boat Code through local licence conditions [BA] Manage navigation aids and up-to-date reference on GIS mapping; carry out navigation infrastructure inspection and maintenance regimes to agreed annual schedules, incl. full review of navigational posts [BA] 	PMSC Hire Boat Code Broads WMS	BA	BSS compliance/ PMSC external audit Boat census, boat user/ HBO surveys
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use zoning agreements/protocols and pilot schemes as required for organised water sport activities and events (incl. water skiing, wakeboarding, power boat racing, wild swimming and competitive rowing) and provide up-to-date guidance and signage for participants and other waterways users [BA] 	PMSC Broads WMS	BA	BSS compliance/ PMSC external audit
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through ranger patrolling, events, guidance, training and guidance, promote and improve waterways recreational user safety and security [BA, NC, SC, NWSF, hire boat operators] 	Broads WMS	Partners	NPA (BA) indicators and targets

Theme D Protecting landscape character and the historic environment



Mutton's Mill, under renovation as part of the 'Water, Mills & Marshes' project. James Bass

Introduction

The low-lying, interconnected wetland habitats of the Broads follow the edges of level, open marshland and valleys drained by three principal rivers and their tributaries. This is a living and working landscape, created and influenced over thousands of years by patterns of human existence. The [Broads Landscape Character Assessment](#) (2017) summarises the physical processes that have shaped the landscape we see today. It identifies 13 distinct landscape types from coastal dunes and tidal estuary to peat fen, carr woodland and settlement fringe. Within these are 31 individual character areas, each with a unique combination of landscape features and elements.

The shallow lakes we know as 'broads' are actually man-made, mostly originating as medieval peat diggings. Arguably this makes the Broads itself one of England's most extensive industrial monuments. A long history of controlled drainage is evident from the drainage mills, raised and embanked rivers, and dykes. The location and pattern of villages and settlements have been dictated largely by historic social and economic need, with groupings often round a parish staithe, riverside common, ferry or bridge, with isolated churches on the surrounding uplands.

Built and cultural heritage

The significant built heritage value of the Broads is recognised in the designation of 25 Conservation Areas and the scheduling of 15 Ancient Monuments and more than 270 Listed Buildings. Although undesignated within the Broads Authority area, historic parks and gardens also contribute to our cultural heritage. Much has been done to protect, conserve and enhance key historic and cultural assets, and seven Listed Buildings at risk were removed from the Register between 2017 and 2021. However, there is still gradual erosion in the condition, quality and distinctiveness of the built environment. Among the most vulnerable assets are more than 70 drainage mills, an iconic and visible feature in this flat landscape. Many of these structures are isolated, inaccessible and in a deteriorating condition. Five-yearly surveys of these buildings and other listed structures is providing important evidence for action.

In line with good practice, the Authority has a programme of Conservation Area reviews (with three new CA appraisals adopted between 2017 and 2020), helping to acknowledge and preserve the special character of these important places. In many areas, unlisted buildings such as waterside chalets contribute greatly to the local character and are of special significance to local communities, and a Broads Local List

makes sure these buildings are recognised. New schemes to follow on from the successful [Water, Mills and Marshes](#) (WMM) project will continue to support local heritage projects, including the repair of drainage mills that are so integral to this landscape. Ongoing support is also needed to preserve, restore and use historic Broads craft, including trading wherries and other small craft, and the WMM legacy will add to the hard work by local heritage groups and trusts.

Other important aspects of the area's heritage are also in danger of being lost if not recognised, protected and supported. Historic England has identified the Broads as a site of Exceptional Waterlogged Heritage, but many of its archaeological features remain hidden and vulnerable to changes in water levels, development and other land use pressures. Traditional craft industries such as reed and sedge cutting, thatching and millwrighting remain a small but important part of life and landscape management in the Broads but are struggling to survive, as are other local traditions, crafts and cultures.

Geodiversity

The geodiversity of the Broads is an understated aspect of its natural heritage, with many identified sites of interest lacking designation and protection. Risks include the impacts of climate change, including coastal protection work altering the dynamics of marine erosion and sediment transport, and drying out of wetland and oxidation of peat leading to the loss of finite environmental and archaeological archives. Agricultural activity can also adversely impact the historic environment and landscape, such as by removing historic patterns of drainage and water management and separating former water mills from their functional context. Built development can also hide or obliterate access to geological assets. County geodiversity action plans for Norfolk and Suffolk help to provide a comprehensive approach to documenting,

protecting and enhancing our local geodiversity resources and understanding.

Tranquillity, dark skies and wildness

A sense of tranquillity, dark skies and wildness gives the Broads much of its character and appeal, and visual disturbance and noise and light pollution in or near the area can have an undesirable impact. Tranquillity mapping by the Campaign to Protect Rural England puts most of the Broads at the 'most tranquil' end of the spectrum, and most parts of the Broads have 'intrinsic dark skies' with the potential for some Dark Sky Discovery Sites. The Broads Authority is a member of the UK Dark Skies Partnership, which aims to tackle light pollution in protected landscapes. Within the Broads, measures to protect and enhance tranquillity, dark skies and wildness are encouraged through planning policy and design guidance, and through action such as reducing boat engine noise, zoning water skiing and powerboat racing, and undergrounding overhead electricity distribution cables. Having said that, it is the bustling activity in some areas of concentrated leisure development, such as Wroxham and Potter Heigham, that gives those areas their particular character and supports the local economy and communities.

Long-term aim

The Broads remains a dynamic and special landscape with its own sense of place and historic significance. The key physical, historic and cultural elements of landscape character are recognised, retained and actively managed while allowing the landscape to evolve and reflect the interactions between people and nature. Traditional and heritage industries such as boat building, agriculture, thatching and millwrighting thrive and wider local traditions, crafts and oral cultures are maintained and celebrated. Archaeological sites and historic built and cultural assets are recorded, protected and enhanced, halting

further degradation and loss and contributing to landscape integrity. The built environment continues to reflect the activities of people living and working here, embracing traditional and innovative design that ensures new and historic structures are compatible with the landscape, energy efficiency is improved, and environmental benefits and socio-economic stability and growth are promoted. Earth

heritage features are protected and enhanced where possible, and people understand the evolution of our environment over deep time. People enjoy the sense of tranquillity, wildness and dark skies; at the same time, the bustling nature of some areas is supported in keeping with the overall character of the Broads and the needs of its communities.

Table 6 Theme D Strategic objectives and key actions

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
D1	Record, protect and enhance local built and cultural features, archaeology, geodiversity and potential hidden heritage, including 'at risk' assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain comprehensive Heritage at Risk (HAR) Register and work with building owners to remove sites from register [BA] • Maintain Broads Local List of heritage assets and carry out 5-yearly, thematic and conservation area-based surveys of assets for inclusion on list [BA, parish councils] • Produce planning guidance for 'at risk' heritage assets as appropriate, including those at risk from flooding [BA, HE, NCC] 	HAR Register Broads Local List	Parish Councils, building owners, partner	# buildings removed from HAR Register # new heritage assets added to Local List £ funding and # new projects
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Broads LPS 'Water, Mills & Marshes' Programmes 1: Interpreting the Landscape, 3: Learning and Future Skills, 4: Historic Landscapes, and 5B: Natural Landscapes (by Dec 2023); develop and implement legacy interpretation activities based on evaluation and outcomes of LPS [Broads LPS delivery partners] 	WMM and legacy schemes	NLHF LPS, partners	Broads LPS target data for NLHF
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop evidence base and policy to improve awareness, understanding and protection of the Broads' exceptional waterlogged archaeology, and develop management plan [NAT, BA, NCC, SCC, HE] • Implement measures to document, protect and enhance local geodiversity sites and assets across identified work areas in county Geodiversity Action Plans [NGP, GeoSuffolk] 	Norfolk and Suffolk County Geodiversity Action Plans	Partners	Evidence base and management plan

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Broads LPS 'Water, Mills & Marshes' Programmes 3A: Heritage Construction Skills Training and 4E: Land of the Windmills (by Dec 2023); develop legacy opportunities for skills training and apprenticeships [Broads LPS delivery partners]; Provide vocational heritage skills training and work experience opportunities [FE providers, BEEN, BA, Broads LPS legacy] Support local reed and sedge cutting industry – see objective B4 	WMM and legacy schemes	NLHF LPS, BEEN & FE providers, BIS/BEIS	Broads LPS target data for NLHF # trainees/ work experience participants in target schemes
D2	Maintain an up-to-date Broads Landscape Character Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresh Broads Landscape Character Assessment to inform Local Plan review, planning decisions and Conservation Action Plans [BA] Use Broads Landscape Conservation Action Plan to inform completion of Broads LPS 'Water, Mills & Marshes' programmes and development of legacy opportunities [Broads LPS partners, BA] 	Broads LCAP CAA schedule WMM and legacy schemes	NLHF LPS, partners	Broads LPS target data for NLHF
D3	Maintain up-to-date Conservation Area designations, appraisals and management proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement 5-year programme of Conservation Area Appraisal reviews to provide up-to-date Conservation Area designations, appraisals and management proposals; designate new Conservation Areas as appropriate [BA, LAs, parish councils] 	CAA schedule	Partners	CAA 5-year schedule (BA)
D4	Reduce the impacts on the Broads of visual intrusion and noise and light pollution, and promote Dark Sky Discovery Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement funded schemes in scheduled Broads undergrounding wires programme and bid for further schemes [Ofgem/UK Power Networks, BA] 	UKPN Schedule 9 Statement	Ofgem/ UK Power Networks	Ofgem/ UKPN programme schedule
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresh Broads dark sky mapping assessment and monitoring, and apply for status of Dark Sky Discovery Sites in the Broads [BA] 	Dark Sky Discovery Sites	BA	Dark sky mapping



The Broads was chosen as a 'Green Space Dark Skies' location in 2022, creating choreography with low impact lights sensitive to the night-time environment. Geoffrey Tibbenham

Theme E Promoting understanding and enjoyment



A unique and tranquil Broads experience on Ra, Britain's first solar-powered passenger boat. Tom Barrett

Recreation and integrated access

More than eight million people a year²¹ visit the Broads National Park to enjoy outdoor activities on land and water. With more than 200km of inland navigable lock-free waterways, the area is best known for leisure boating, but it also contains part of National Cycle Route 1, and 303km of public rights of way including three county long distance trails and part of the national England Coast Path trail. The coast and urban centres such as Norwich and Great Yarmouth also provide opportunities for open access and recreation.

There are currently more than 12,000 craft licenced to use the Broads²², and the boating community plays an important role in contributing towards the upkeep of the navigation. The majority of boats are privately owned, but the hire boat industry remains a major part of the Broads economy, and diversification and improvements in environmental and quality standards have been crucial to its ongoing survival. Boat building, chandlery and repair are also significant local industries.

While there has been a trend in recent years towards bigger boats, most boating is still in

small motorised craft and sailing boats, the latter having been integral to the Broads landscape since the 19th century. Small craft such as canoes and stand up paddle boards are becoming increasingly popular, particularly with young people. Managing user safety on the water has become a growing focus, as highlighted in Theme C. Other popular activities include angling (estimated to bring in more than £100million a year to the local economy), walking, cycling, horse riding and visiting local sites of interest. The strong appeal of the local wildlife, notably birds, boosts visitor numbers throughout the year.

All these activities rely on good public access on land and between land and water, along with appropriate visitor services and facilities. The need to plan for the impacts of climate change, particularly changing water levels and flood risk, is acknowledged. It is also important to provide access in ways that will not damage fragile wetland habitats or disturb wildlife. Due to its geography and waterways network, much of the area is also relatively difficult to access and the best (and sometimes only) way to reach certain parts of the system is by water.

In common with other National Parks, most visitors come to the Broads by private car. In some areas, particularly popular sites, this contributes to carbon emissions, increases

²¹ STEAM data for Broads and area of influence

²² [Toll numbers at Sept 2021 - Navigation Committee report item 7 Appendix 1](#)

such high visitor numbers also brought significant safety and environmental problems. It is too early to say how the trends caused by Covid-19 might influence tourism in the longer term.

Visitor information

Clear, consistent and coordinated information about the area helps to strengthen visitor understanding and enjoyment, both before and during visits. In 2015 the Broads Authority agreed to brand the area as the 'Broads National Park', to promote more clearly its National Parks UK membership credentials and special qualities. While the Broads may mean different things to different people, branding and key messages aim to capture the area's essence and value, and encourage people to value and care for it.



Ranworth visitor centre Jullian Claxton

Long-term aim

The value of the Broads National Park as a place for escape, adventure, enjoyment, inspiration and reflection is recognised and treasured. The area offers a wide range of high quality, distinctive and memorable activities on water and on land, in suitable locations and in harmony with the special status and qualities of the area and its communities. Boating remains integral to local recreation, alongside other popular pursuits of angling, walking, cycling and experiencing the rich natural and cultural assets of this wetland landscape. Year-round regenerative tourism actively supports the natural environment and a thriving local economy. Physical access on and between land and water is managed sensitively to maximise the health and wellbeing benefits of open space to all, while ensuring the resource itself is not degraded. Where possible, improvements are made to the access network, linked to visitor destination points and sustainable transport. Clear, consistent and high-quality information helps people to understand, respect and enjoy the area's special qualities. The natural, built and cultural heritage and local traditions that reflect the character of the Broads are understood, documented and promoted.

Table 7 Theme E Strategic objectives and key actions

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
E1	Improve the integrated network of access routes and points (with easier access for people with mobility and sensory needs), linked to visitor facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create and maintain web-based map of Broads visitor infrastructure and facilities incl. moorings, hook up points, etc. [BA] 	Broads IAS	BA	IAS targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement working agreements and other measures to improve strategic network of toilet facilities (incl. Changing Places accessible toilets) and refuse & recycling facilities [BA, LAs, local businesses] Develop and implement 5-year maintenance delivery plan for network of solar/electric hook up points [BA] 	Broads IAS EtB initiative EV and AFS strategies	BA, LAs, local businesses	IAS targets

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and where possible enhance BA 24-hour free mooring network, informed by boat census and strategic priority sites data [BA] • Install new small craft launch facilities linked to parking, craft hire points and published trails [BA, BC, BLAF, HBOs, RWSP] • Review and update boat census methodology, incl. GIS mapping to monitor/assess spatial relationships between waterways usage and pressures on protected sites [BA] • Implement projects in county Rights of Way Improvement Plans/Green Infrastructure Plans and River Wensum Strategy to improve provision of access points between land and water and mooring/stopping points [NCC, SCC, BLAF, RWSP, BA] 	Broads IAS RWS County AIPs/ GIPs Neighbourhood plans	BA, BLAF, partners	Broads IAS targets BA boat census BA
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Norfolk Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan and East Suffolk Walking & Cycling Strategy; Develop new cycleways and cycle hire provision schemes, incl. Active travel routes and Norfolk Trails) [NCC, SCC, BA, BLAF, RSPB] • Implement projects in county Rights of Way Improvement Plans (AIPs) and Broads Integrated Access Strategy to promote circular horse-riding routes [NCC, SCC, BA, BLAF] • Promote action through local transport improvement plans to improve transport to and within the Broads, e.g. Bus Back Better Strategy [NCC, SCC, BA] 	Broads IAS Broads STS County cycling and walking strategies Transport Strategy for the East and county transport improvement plans County AIPs Neighbourhood plans	Partners	Strategic plan targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement agreed initiatives to support local fisheries and provision of Broads' angling facilities [EA, angling bodies/ community groups] 	Community angling plans Broads STS	Partners	Plan targets
E2	Offer a coordinated and year-round programme of visitor activities that promote a 'Broads' experience', taking measures to prevent any adverse environmental impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide and promote annual, year-round visitor events programme, incl. Outdoors in the Broads, Walkability, Royal Norfolk Show, Dark Skies Festival [BT, BA, DMOs, NGOs, AONBs] 	Broads STS	Partners	# and spread of events, visitor attendance
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and promote year-round, high quality/low environmental impact 'experiential' itineraries, events and packages, linked into coastal and urban visitor offers [BT, BA, LPS partners, HBOs, TBs, WCOs, LAs, NGOs] 	Broads STS	NA LEP, EXPERIENCE project (NCC), partners	Visitor/event surveys, BA boat census

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete activities under Broads LPS 'Water, Mills & Marshes' Programmes 1: Interpreting the Landscape and 2: Exploring the Landscape and access improvements to Angles Way; Develop and implement legacy interpretation projects based on evaluation and outcomes of LPS [Broads LPS Board delivery partners] 	WMM and legacy schemes	NLHF LPS, partners	Broads LPS target data for NLHF
E3	Maintain and upgrade the range and provision of integrated multimedia interpretation about the special qualities of the Broads National Park, and 'point of need' information for visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the Broads National Park identity, incl.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain up-to-date Broads National Park and Visit the Broads social media channels and Visit the Broads website, linked to destination websites at local to international level [BA and partners] Deliver multimedia destination marketing campaigns featuring Norfolk & Suffolk, East of England, UK waterways and UK National Parks [BA and partners] Promote Broads National Park brand at local sites and events, provide brand assets and guidelines to local businesses, and install brand signage, promotional art and interpretation at appropriate locations [BA and partners] 	Broads STS	Partners	BA social media metrics, survey data
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide comprehensive on-site information to visitors, incl.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain Broads information presence at strategic hubs incl. yacht stations, visitor centres, gateways and key sites; provide Wi-Fi access at yacht stations and visitor centres [BA] Produce and promote Broads visitor newspaper, Broad Sheet, trail/location maps, interactive tools and creative projects (e.g. visual arts, drama) [BA] Improve availability and range of information on easier access within the Broads [BA and partners] 	Broads STS	Partners	BA visitor centre usage, print distribution numbers, social media metrics
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide information and other resources to encourage environmentally aware and responsible visitor behaviour (e.g. litter disposal, use of barbecues, recognising invasive species, accessing protected habitats) [BA and partners] Provide safety information and support to recreational users and tourism businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>also see strategic objective C4</i> 	Broads STS	Partners	Visitor survey data, boat handover surveys

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
E4	Strengthen the quality and distinctiveness of the local tourism offer, including careers and skills training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement measures to assess and guide quality and environmental sustainability standards and local distinctiveness in local tourism provision, incl. quality assurance certification/award schemes and visitor feedback sites [BT partners, TBs, NA LEP, BA] 	Broads STS	BT Marketing Plan grants, partners, NA LEP	Visitor feedback survey data, # quality/certification schemes in place
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide tailored tourism staff recruitment and training programmes and events through hire boat operators and tourism businesses; develop and offer initiatives to young people wishing to pursue tourism-related careers [BT partners, DMOs, TBs, BHBF, NA LEP, BA] 	Broads STS	Partners, NA LEP	Visitor surveys, # training courses/young people entering industry



Promoting the 'Broads experience' to a wide audience at the Broads Village, Royal Norfolk Show. Julian Claxton

Theme F Connecting and inspiring communities



Environmental education gives many young people an introduction to the UK's special landscapes. Andrew Midgely

Landscapes for everyone

The [Landscapes Review](#) recognises that our National Parks and other protected landscapes are sometimes seen as an exclusive, mainly white and middle-class club, with rules only members understand and too little done to encourage first-time visitors. Those who miss out tend to be older people, the young, those from lower socio-economic groups, people with disabilities and black, Asian and minority ethnic communities. The Review sets out proposals to help people from all walks of life, ages and abilities to experience and enjoy our special landscapes. The Covid-19 pandemic has also given many of us a new perspective on the personal appeal and value of getting out into nature for our physical and mental health and wellbeing. At a local level, experience shows that a first-time visit is often enough to show someone that the Broads is not an exclusive club, but it is also important to provide practical and longer-term support for those who need it.

People can feel disconnected from the natural environment for various reasons, such as a lack of physical or cultural access, mobility, information or simply motivation. Offering accessible, inspiring, and free or affordable opportunities can encourage people to 'go the extra mile' and reconnect – or perhaps connect for the first time – with all that nature has to

offer. A recent success is the 'Water, Mills and Marshes' programme, which has delivered outreach projects enabling under-represented groups, including local migrant communities and young people, to experience the Broads at first hand. Another positive initiative is social prescribing, which recognises the benefits of the outdoors for all-round health and wellbeing.

Environmental education

The Broads is a wonderful outdoor resource for environmental education as a 'classroom without walls', and for wider outreach. Our long-term aim is that the Broads is a source of enjoyment, learning and personal development for every child in Norfolk and Suffolk during their school career, echoing the 'night under the stars' ambition of the Landscapes Review. However, providers often have to focus limited resources where they are likely to have most impact, particularly for young people who might otherwise not have a chance to experience an outdoor landscape like the Broads. The [Education Strategy for the Broads](#) identifies the need to increase our resources to build on existing school-based and outreach activities, including new projects following the end of the 'Water, Mills & Marshes' scheme in 2023, and partnerships established by Generation Green.

Volunteering

Volunteering is a long-established way to involve people in their local landscape, from practical conservation and survey work to supporting education and recreation events. An important focus for the future is to retain and build our volunteer resources by offering more varied and flexible volunteering opportunities to suit everyone, whatever their personal circumstances. The BA Volunteer Strategy has been updated, with an action plan for 2023–28.

Local development

The Broads executive area straddles parts of six district authority areas (Broadland, East Suffolk, Great Yarmouth, North Norfolk, Norwich and South Norfolk) and is home to around 6,500 people. The Broads Authority is the local planning authority, while the district councils retain all other local authority powers and responsibilities. County planning responsibilities, including minerals and waste planning, sit with Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils. The [Local Plan for the Broads](#) helps to achieve the aims of the Broads Plan through development management policies that seek to preserve and improve the area's built environment and economy while protecting and enhancing its biodiversity, waterways, landscape character and historic environment.

The National Planning Policy Framework identifies the Broads as an area where development may be restricted because of its landscape and scenic beauty. However, it is bordered by areas identified as urban growth locations including Norwich, Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft (all 'gateways to the Broads') and the Local Needs Housing Assessment²⁴ calculates that 358 new dwellings are needed for the Broads by 2041.

²⁴ Great Yarmouth Borough Council and the Broads Authority: Local Needs Housing Assessment 2022: ORS draft report, April 2022

²⁵ Implementing Norfolk and Suffolk Coast RAMS – see [Habitat mitigation \(broads-authority.gov.uk\)](https://broads-authority.gov.uk/habitat-mitigation)

²⁶ Updates on nutrient neutrality – see [Planning permission \(broads-authority.gov.uk\)](https://broads-authority.gov.uk/planning-permission)

While development and regeneration attracts business investment, contributes towards local services and infrastructure improvements and supports a higher quality of life, growth at the scale being planned is not without environmental impact. Robust, up-to-date planning policies and cooperation between the relevant local planning authorities will continue to be essential. The Local Plan for the Broads is under review, with an expected adoption date of 2024.

Green Infrastructure and Recreational impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategies (GIRAMS) for Norfolk and Suffolk²⁵ will be used to help prevent additional recreational pressure on European designated sites, in part due to the proposed housing growth in the wider local area. In March 2022, Natural England released guidance to local planning authorities (including the Broads Authority) in areas where protected habitats sites are in unfavourable condition due to excess nutrients, with a requirement for new development to achieve [nutrient neutrality](#). At the time of writing this Plan, the Authority is working with neighbouring Local Planning Authorities on how to address this issue²⁶.

Income generation

Section 1.3 highlights the pressures on the Broads Authority's income, and the need for those managing England's protected landscapes to seek increased and more diverse sources of funding. The Authority will continue to work with its Broads Plan partners and the National Parks family to improve income generation to support local projects and services.



Broads Authority volunteers Tom Barrett

Long-term aim

People from all walks of life and all ages and abilities are able to connect with the Broads for their health and wellbeing. Educational and outreach opportunities make use of the area's natural and cultural assets to inspire and motivate everyone, especially young people, as part of lifelong learning. People feel actively involved in decisions about the future of the Broads. Volunteering provides beneficial opportunities for enjoyment,

wellbeing and enhanced life skills, and is recognised as a valuable resource in looking after the Broads. Strong planning frameworks and cross-boundary cooperation between local authorities provide vibrant opportunities for socio-economic and environmental sustainability, regeneration and diversification in ways that continue to protect and enhance the distinctive character and assets of the Broads and support thriving local communities.

Table 8 Theme F Strategic objectives and key actions

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
F1	Increase and promote accessible and 'taster' activities that foster physical and mental health and wellbeing for all, including under-represented groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build on legacy of Generation Green initiative and Broads LPS 'Water, Mills & Marshes' programmes & mental health research to develop new partnership projects via Norwich Integration Partnership, Restoration Trust, social housing providers, etc. [BA, GG, WMM, other partners] • Provide accessible, affordable 'try it out' activities for new and under-represented audiences [community/ amenity groups, local businesses, BA, other partners] • Provide nature-based health & wellbeing activities, e.g. Active Outdoors, Wellbeing Walks, Green Gym, green & blue social prescribing schemes and community connectors schemes [LAs, health & social care sector, volunteer sector, BA, other partners] 	WMM and legacy schemes Partnership schemes	NLHF LPS, local businesses, other partners	Broads LPS target data for NLHF NHS wellness statistics (to be determined)
F2	Offer varied, flexible and sustainable volunteering opportunities and skills training to suit diverse audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement BA Volunteer Strategy action plan 2023-28 [BA] • Provide varied, flexible volunteering opportunities (incl. 'casual volunteering' events) and associated skills training through multiple sources and sites [BA, TCV, VN, WCO, other partners] 	Broads VS Partner volunteer programmes	Partners	NPA (BA) annual indicator data
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement opportunities through Broads LPS 'Water, Mills & Marshes' Programme 3D: Broads Young Rangers and 3E: People Engagement; Develop legacy volunteering opportunities and projects based on evaluation and outcomes of LPS [Broads LPS delivery partners] 	WMM and legacy schemes	NLHF LPS, partners	Broads LPS target data for NLHF

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
F3	Provide and expand schools-based and outreach environmental education opportunities for young people, using the Broads as a learning resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement BA Education Strategy action plan 2023-28 [BA] Produce enhanced range of environmental education schemes, activities and resource tools (incl. Broads Curriculum materials and teacher training support) and promote/deliver to local schools [BA, BEEN partners] 	Broads ES Broads Curriculum	BEEN, other education providers	# participants in target
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete schools-based educational opportunities under Broads LPS 'Water, Mills & Marshes' programmes; develop and implement legacy youth learning and future skills opportunities based on evaluation and outcomes of LPS [Broads LPS delivery partners] 	Broads ES	NLHF funding, partners	Broads LPS target data for NLHF
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build resource capacity to deliver more outreach educational activities for school-aged children by sourcing external funding and sponsorship, training volunteer supervisors and other means [BA, BEEN] 	Broads ES	Partners	Additional new resources in place
		<p>Implement projects for young people focused on skills training, practical experience and progression, incl.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build capacity to continue objectives of Generation Green initiative, incl. employing project officers to maintain links with YHA residential experiences, and develop successor projects [GG partners, others] Provide and expand range of life skills outreach programmes, award and apprenticeship schemes (incl. John Muir Award, Forest Schools, BA Youth Rangers, Broads Discovery Days), and progression routes for participants [BEEN, Broads LPS delivery partners] 	Broads ES	Partners, award schemes, apprenticeship schemes Access Unlimited Coalition	# participants in target schemes, participant feedback
F4	Provide up-to-date planning policy, site-specific allocations and planning guidance to support local community needs and ensure development happens within environmental limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and update Local Plan for the Broads and provide planning advice, incl. pre-application service [BA] Produce, adopt and promote new Design Guide for the Broads in line with NPPF requirements [BA, parish councils] Engage with local communities, stakeholders and prescribed local 'duty to cooperate' bodies on strategic planning matters [BA, LPAs] Implement Green Infrastructure and Recreational Disturbance Avoidance Mitigation Strategies to extend and protect biodiversity value of sites [NSNRP, NCP, NSPG] 	Local Plan for the Broads , other LPA Local Plans County RAMS/ GIRAMS	BA, LPAs	NPA planning targets, duty to cooperate principles met

Ref	Strategic objectives	Key actions 2022-27 [lead delivery partners]	Delivery links	Resources	Monitoring
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop site masterplans and funding bids to support proposals for strategic sites with significant built, cultural, natural heritage, recreation or green infrastructure value, incl. Hoveton Riverside Park, How Hill, Whitlingham Country Park [BA, LPAs, HHT, WCT] 	Site management plans	Partners	Site management plan targets
F5	Increase income generation to support Broads-themed projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support and develop partnership income generation, e.g. private and blended financing models for nature recovery, carbon credits, corporate sponsorship, National Parks Partnerships initiatives, visitor giving schemes, retail sales at visitor centres, etc. [BA, BT, NPE, NA LEP, charities/trusts] 	NPP Love the Broads	Broads Trust, businesses, other partners	Love the Broads data NPP data New income generation streams



Paddle sports like canoeing and stand up paddle boarding are becoming increasingly popular with young people in the Broads. Tom Barrett



Appendix A Broads Plan partners

Many organisations, groups, partnerships and individuals will help the Broads Authority to deliver this plan's strategic objectives. While we cannot list them all here, key partners and partnerships are shown below (see Appendix B for a list of abbreviations).

Partners

[Anglian Water](#) provides a water supply to much of the Broadland catchment and sewerage services throughout the catchment. [Essex & Suffolk Water](#) supplies water to parts of the south and east of the catchment.

British Marine and its regional association the **Broads Hire Boat Federation** represent operators of holiday hire cruisers, yachts and day boats.

The Broads executive area straddles six **District Council** areas: [Broadland](#), [East Suffolk](#), [Great Yarmouth](#), [North Norfolk](#), [Norwich](#) and [South Norfolk](#). The councils provide a range of community services including housing, planning (outside the Broads executive area), and waste collection and recycling. The coastal councils are also coastal erosion risk management authorities.

Within the Broads area, the [Environment Agency](#) is responsible for water quality and resources, fisheries, conservation and ecology, the regulation of major industry including waste and the treatment of contaminated land, and for managing flood risk from main rivers, reservoirs, estuaries and the sea.

[Historic England](#) is a public body offering expert advice on heritage issues and promoting the wider conservation of the historic environment. English Heritage, as an independent charity, oversees the National Heritage Collection of historic properties.

[Internal Drainage Boards](#) are independent public bodies responsible for managing water levels in low-lying areas. As the district land drainage authorities, IDBs supervise land drainage and flood defence works on ordinary watercourses.

The [National Farmers Union](#) (NFU) champions British agriculture and horticulture, campaigns for a sustainable future for British farmers and provides professional representation and services to its farmer and grower members.

The [National Trust](#) is a charity working to preserve and protect historic places and spaces. It is one of the UK's largest landowners and owner of a large number of heritage properties, including historic houses and gardens, industrial monuments, and social history sites.

[Natural England](#) aims to enhance England's wildlife and landscapes and maximise the benefits they bring to the public. It focuses on agri-environment land management, habitat and landscape conservation, coastal public access and National Trails, and conservation designation.

[Norfolk County Council](#) and [Suffolk County Council](#) are responsible for a wide range of public services within their respective counties including social care, public safety, roads and transport, education, environment and waste management. As highway authorities, their responsibilities include public rights of way for the Broads. The councils are also the Lead Local Flood Authorities, responsible for managing the risk of flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses and leading on community recovery.

The [Norfolk Rivers Trust](#) works to restore, protect and enhance the water environments of Norfolk for wildlife and people through conservation, education and advice.

The [Norfolk & Suffolk Broads Charitable Trust](#) (Broads Trust) manages the 'Love the Broads' fundraising initiative and promotes improvements for people who work in, live in and visit the Broads.

[Norfolk Wildlife Trust](#) and [Suffolk Wildlife Trust](#) are charities working to protect and enhance county wildlife and wild places including reserves, and promote environmental education. Norfolk Wildlife Trust is the oldest Wildlife Trust in the country.

More than 90 **parish council** areas sit partly within the Broads executive area. The level of government closest to the community, the councils represent local interests, deliver services to meet local needs and support community life and wellbeing.

The [RSPB](#) is a nature conservation charity that protects and manages special places for wildlife, saves species from extinction and encourages people to experience and help protect wildlife and nature.

The **Royal Yachting Association** and the regional **Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association** represent the interests of private users of pleasure craft.

Partnerships

The [Broadland Catchment Partnership](#) aims to improve the water environment and provide wider benefits for people and nature through a coordinated catchment-based approach. The partnership is co-hosted by the BA and the Norfolk Rivers Trust.

The goal of the [Broadland Futures Initiative](#) (BFI) is to agree a framework for future flood risk management that copes more effectively with our changing climate and rising sea level. The BFI is represented on the [Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance](#).

The [Broads Biodiversity Partnership](#) (hosted by the BA) seeks to improve biodiversity through a coordinated approach at a landscape scale.

The [Broads Environmental Education Network](#) involves education bodies, charities, businesses and others in improving people's understanding of the Broads, including through the 'Broads Curriculum' online resources for schools.

The **Broads and Norfolk Coast Land Managers Board** manages the local [Farming in Protected Landscapes](#) grant scheme, supporting farmers and land managers to carry out projects that benefit the natural environment, mitigate climate change impacts, provide public access and support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses.

The [Broads Local Access Forum](#) is a semi-independent body established under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act. It advises the Broads Authority on improving and promoting access to land within the Broads and adjacent parts of Norfolk and Suffolk.

[Broads Tourism](#) is a forum for local tourism businesses through the [Visit the Broads DMO](#). It aims to promote the Broads as a high quality, 'green' visitor destination through quality standards, staff training and clear, coordinated messages that define the area's status and special qualities.

The [Greater Norwich Development Partnership](#) involves Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk councils working on a Joint Core Strategy that sets a long-term vision and development objectives for the area. The Broads executive area must be regarded in the Joint Core Strategy.

[National Parks England](#) promotes the needs of the country's 10 National Parks. More widely, [National Parks UK](#) looks after the interests of the 15 National Parks in England, Scotland and Wales.

The [New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership](#) works with businesses and public sector partners to drive enterprise in Norfolk and Suffolk.

The [Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership](#) has a shared vision for the conservation, enhancement and restoration of the county's biological diversity.

The [Norfolk Coast AONB Partnership](#) and [Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB Partnership](#) are designated as outstanding landscapes whose distinctive character and natural beauty are so precious that it is in the nation's interest to safeguard them. Part of the Norfolk Coast AONB overlaps with the Broads Authority executive area.

The [Norfolk Geodiversity Partnership](#) and **GeoSuffolk** record, conserve and promote appreciation of the local geological and geomorphological diversity.

The **Norfolk & Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership** was set up to help deliver the 25-year Environment Plan commitment to create a national Nature Recovery Network of biodiversity-rich places.

The [River Wensum Strategy Partnership](#) delivers projects to enhance the river corridor through Norwich and increase its access and use by the public.

Appendix B Abbreviations

Table 9 Abbreviations used in Broads Plan

AINA	Association of Inland Navigation Authorities	DWWP	Diffuse Water Pollution Plans
AIP / GIP	Access Improvement Plan/ Green Infrastructure Plan	EA	Environment Agency
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	ELMS	Environmental Land Management Schemes
AW / ESW	Anglian Water / Essex & Suffolk Water	ESC	East Suffolk Council
BA	Broads Authority	EtB	Electrifying the Broads
BASG	Broads Angling Services Group	EVS/AFS	Electric Vehicle and Alternative Fuels Strategies
BAWAG	Broadland Agricultural Water Abstractors Group	FE	Further Education
BBP	Broads Biodiversity Partnership	FiPL	Farming in Protected Landscapes
BC	British Canoeing	FRMP / FRMS	Flood Risk Management Plan / Flood Risk Management Strategy
BCP	Broadland Catchment Partnership	FWAG	Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group
BEEN	Broads Environmental Education Network	GG	Generation Green
BEIS / BIS	Dept. for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy / Dept. for Business, Innovation & Skills	GI-RAMS	Green Infrastructure / Recreational Disturbance Avoidance Mitigation Strategies
BFI	Broadland Futures Initiative	GYBC	Great Yarmouth Borough Council
BHBF	Broads Hire Boat Federation	HA	Highways Authorities
BLAF	Broads Local Access Forum	HBO	Hire Boat Operators
BLMB	Broads Land Management Board	HE	Historic England
BM	British Marine	HHT	How Hill Trust
BRASCA	Broads Reed and Sedge Cutters Association	HLF	Heritage Lottery Fund
BRCP	Broadland Rivers Catchment Plan	IDB	Internal Drainage Board
Broads BWS	Broads Biodiversity and Water Strategy	LA/ LPA	Local Authority / Local Planning Authority
Broads CCAP	Broads Climate Change Action Plan	LAPTF	Lowland Agricultural Peat Task Force
Broads ES	Broads Education Strategy	LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authorities
Broads IAS	Broads Integrated Access Strategy	LNR	Local Nature Recovery
Broads LCAP	Broads Landscape Character Assessment Plan	MMO	Marine Management Organisation
Broads LPS	Broads Landscape Partnership Scheme	N&SNRP	Norfolk and Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership
Broads STS	Broads Sustainable Tourism Strategy	NA LEP	New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership
Broads VS	Broads Volunteer Strategy	NAT	Norfolk Archaeological Trust
Broads WMS	Broads Water Management Strategy	NBIS	Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service
BSS	Boat Safety Scheme	NBP	Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership
BT	Broads Tourism	NC / SC	Norfolk Constabulary / Suffolk Constabulary
CAA	Conservation Area Appraisal	NCC / SCC	Norfolk County Council / Suffolk County Council
CAMS	Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy	NCPGS	Nature for Climate Peatland Grant Scheme
CANAPE	Creating a New Approach to Peatland Ecosystems	NE	Natural England
CCP	Climate Change Partnership	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
CFE	Campaign for the Farmed Environment	NGP	Norfolk Geodiversity Partnership
CFMP	Catchment Flood Management Plan	NLHF LPS	National Lottery Heritage Fund Landscape Partnership Scheme
CPE	Coastal Partnership East	NNDC	North Norfolk District Council
CS	Countryside Stewardship	NNNSI / INNS	Norfolk Non-Native Species Initiative / Invasive non-native species
CSF	Catchment Sensitive Farming		
DMO	Destination Management Organisation		

NP / NPA	National Park / National Park Authority
NPE	National Parks England
NPP	National Parks Partnerships
NR	Network Rail
NRT	Norfolk Rivers Trust
NSBA	Norfolk & Suffolk Boating Association
NSFA	Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance
NSNRP	Norfolk & Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership
NSPG	Norfolk Strategic Planners Group
NWSF	Norfolk Water Safety Forum
NWT	Norfolk Wildlife Trust
PMSC	Port Marine Safety Code
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
RWSP	River Wensum Strategy Partnership
RWT	River Waveney Trust
RYA	Royal Yachting Association
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
SMP	Shoreline Management Plan
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SWMP	Surface Water Management Plan
SWT	Suffolk Wildlife Trust
TBs	Tourism businesses
TCV	The Conservation Volunteers
UKPN	UK Power Networks
VN	Voluntary Norfolk
WCO	Wildlife, heritage and conservation bodies
WCT	Whitlingham Charitable Trust
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WMM	Water, Mills & Marshes project
WSF	Water Sensitive Farming

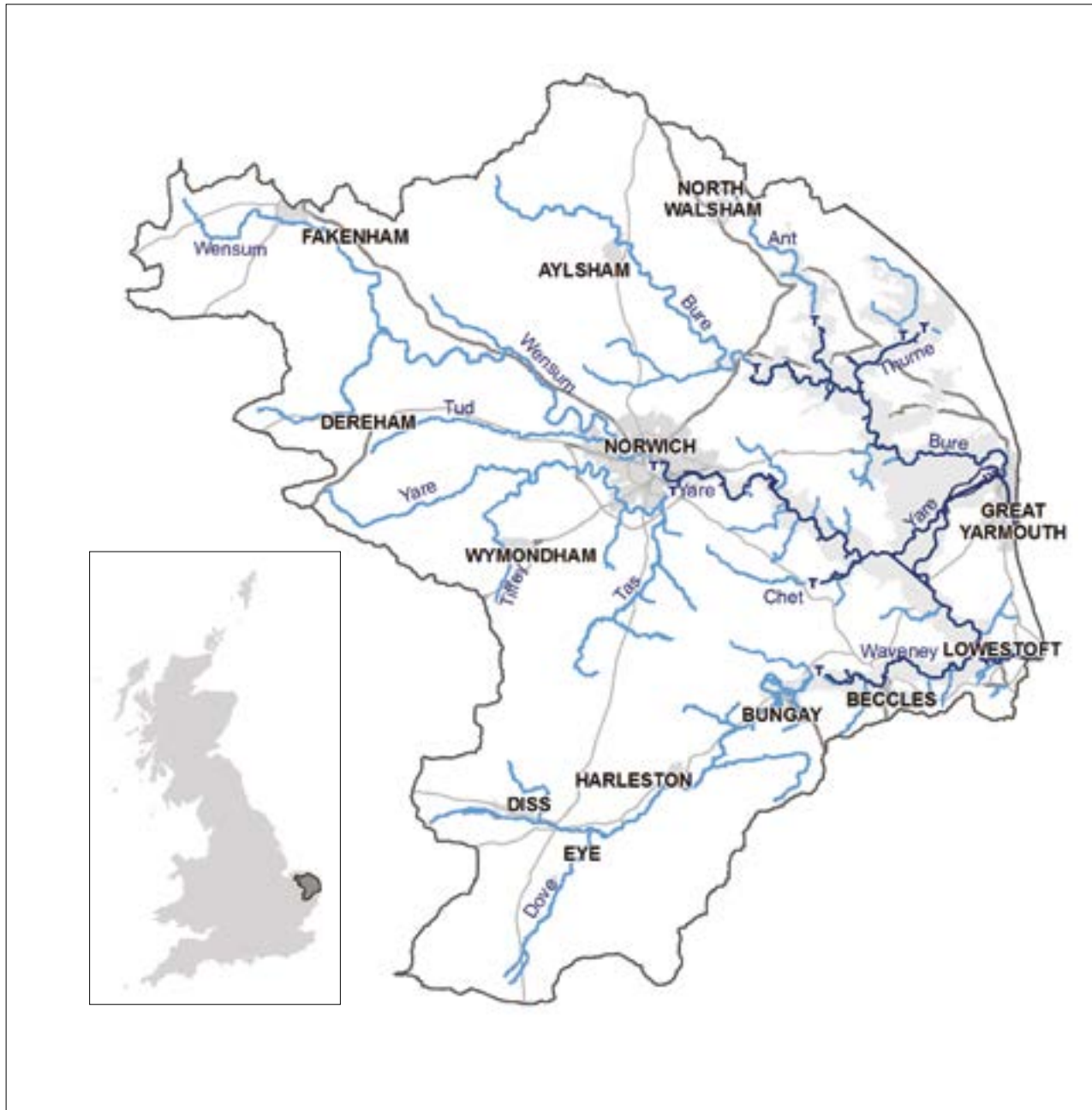
Appendix C Maps

Map 1 Broads executive area



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Map 2 Broadland Rivers Catchment



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Map 3 Water space, Broads Authority executive area

