



Broadland Catchment Partnership Terms of Reference

Context

In June 2013, Defra launched a Policy Framework to aid wider adoption of the Catchment Based Approach. The policy sets out the high level objectives for the approach, to establish catchment partnerships in every catchment in England where there is an interest in doing so to:

- i. Deliver positive and sustained outcomes for the water environment by promoting a better understanding of the environment at a local level; and
- ii. Encourage a more transparent form of decision making, in support of local collaboration or partnership working, for both planning and delivery.

The Broads Authority and Norfolk Rivers Trust are now co-hosting the Broadland Catchment Partnership. The Partnership is committed to collaborative working to improve the water environment across the whole Broadland Rivers catchment area.

Objectives

Due to the critical importance of addressing the issues to the water environment the co-hosts and partners have formed the Broadland Catchment Partnership to ensure that issues that affect the water environment are understood and appropriate measures put in place, including to:

- a) Provide a clear understanding of the issues in the catchment and enable better access and sharing of information about the water environment in the Broadland catchment
- b) Promote liaison and encourage collaborative working between existing organisations, interest groups and projects in the Broadland catchment to deliver environmental benefits and avoid duplication of effort
- c) Involve local communities in decision-making by sharing evidence and listening to their ideas;
- d) Work out priorities for action and seeking to deliver integrated actions that address local issues in a cost effective way and protect local resources through both existing and new delivery groups
- e) Help with the development of a strategic plan and specific objectives for the Broadland catchment
- f) Influence how resources are used and targeted
- g) Identify, participate in and seek additional resources for the management of the Broadland catchment
- h) Contribute to the development and planning of key environmental policies (e.g. River Basin Management Plans)

Operating Principles

- a) The Broadland Catchment Partnership will be established by the co-host organisations (the Broads Authority and Norfolk Rivers Trust)
- b) The Broadland Catchment Partnership will be administered and Chaired by the Broads Authority.
- c) The steering group will be co-ordinated and supported by the Broadland Catchment Partnership Officer
- d) Representatives from other organisations may be invited to attend and/ or participate in meetings, in respect of a particular matter or generally, by the hosts, Chair or the Partnership Officer.

Membership of the Steering Group

Membership of the Broadland Catchment Partnership steering group is not restricted to, but currently includes:

- a) Landowner representatives and business stakeholders, including: NFU, Farm Conservation, Anglian Water, Essex & Suffolk Water

- b) Public bodies, including: Environment Agency, Natural England, Broads Authority, Norfolk County Council, Water Management Alliance
- c) Charities, including: Norfolk Rivers Trust, Norfolk Wildlife Trust, River Waveney Trust, The Rivers Trust, RSPB
- d) Academics, including: University of East Anglia.

Wider membership - the Steering Group can invite and receive interest from others to join the group or provide presentations at meetings. The Steering Group will also co-ordinate the organisation or promotion of relevant events for a wider stakeholder group as and when it decides this is required.