Risk, Audit and Governance Committee

23 November 2026
Agenda item number 12

Corporate Partnerships Register

Report by Head of Governance

Summary

The Broads Authority maintains a register of its key partnerships with external organisations. The latest Corporate Partnerships Register (Appendix 1) is attached for members' information.

Recommendation

To note the updated Corporate Partnerships Register (November 2026).

1. Corporate partnerships

1.1. The Broads Authority works in partnership with a wide range of organisations to meet its statutory purposes and deliver the strategic objectives for the Broads.

1.2. These partnerships add value to the Authority's work by helping us to:

- coordinate and increase project delivery, access new resources, achieve economies of scale and reduce waste and duplication;
- tackle complex, cross-sector and Broads-wide issues and share risks;
- build understanding and relationships between different organisations and sectors, and with our stakeholders and local communities;
- develop new ideas and ways of working; and
- hold greater influence together than as individual partners.

1.3. A 'partnership' refers to an arrangement involving the Authority and one or more external organisations, from any sector, who share responsibility for agreeing and implementing actions to meet common goals. Within each partnership, partners agree a formal structure or identifiable working process, contribute to objectives, share any risk in proportion to the benefits each receives, and share information.

1.4. In this context, a partnership does not include a traditional contractual arrangement where the delivery of a service or project has been awarded to a contractor, or to groups of elected members or officers from local authorities and others who come together to discuss strategy or policy. It also excludes ongoing day-to-day contact with statutory agencies whose responsibilities impact on or link closely to our work, such as

Natural England or the Environment Agency. That said, there are occasions when the relationship with such bodies may constitute a partnership arrangement.

2. Partnerships protocol

2.1. The Authority will only enter into a formal partnership arrangement if it is able to invest the staff time, assets, knowledge, and funding to play a full and constructive role. Before entering into a new arrangement, it will make sure that:

- the partnership's aims and objectives are clear, and it can be shown how they contribute to the Authority's statutory purposes and objectives;
- there are clear terms of reference setting out how the partnership proposes to achieve its objectives;
- the financial responsibilities of the respective parties are clearly established;
- the partnership represents value for money, and the Authority could not achieve the same outcome more cost effectively;
- there is a clear exit strategy should the partnership fail to meet its objectives;
- there is a nominated responsible officer for the Authority; and
- the need for member involvement in any Partnership Board is considered.

2.2. Management Team approval, and full Authority approval in some cases, will be obtained before entering into a new partnership agreement.

3. Corporate Partnerships Register

3.1. The Register gives details for each partnership including purpose, partners and lead Authority officer, perceived benefits, duration, financial arrangements, tasks and an approximation of the amount of officer time involved in each partnership.

3.2. The Management Team reviews the Register on a regular basis and may also commission an evaluation of the internal management and governance arrangements in place for any partnership.

3.3. Having reviewed the Register in early November, the Management Team considers that all live partnerships are meeting their original aims and objectives, internal management and governance arrangements are adequate and appropriate, and the partnerships represent value for money.

3.4. Since it was last published, there have been five additions to the Register:

- Lowland Agriculture Peat Water Discovery Pilot (LAPWDP+)
- Broads Peat Partnership
- National Parks England

- National Parks UK Learning and Engagement Working Group
- Network Rail

3.5. Since it was last published, there have been two partnership schemes removed, as identified in the Register:

- Fibrebroads PEF+
- Water Restoration Fund

3.6. The updated Register is at Appendix 1 to this report. Any feed back from the Risk, Audit and Governance Committee will be reported verbally at the Broads Authority meeting on 27 November 2026.

4. Risk implications

4.1. Associated risks and mitigation measures are noted in our Corporate Risk Register or operational level Directorate Risk Registers.

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Date of report: 04 November 2026

Appendix 1 – Corporate Partnerships Register (November 2026)

Appendix 1

Corporate Partnerships Register

The register at Table 1 shows the Broads Authority's corporate partnership arrangements with external organisations. A 'partnership' in this context refers to an arrangement involving the Authority and one or more external organisations, from any sector, who share responsibility for agreeing and implementing actions to meet common goals.

Within each partnership, partners agree a formal structure or identifiable working process, contribute to objectives, share any risks in proportion to the benefits each receives, and share information and good practice. Any significant identified risks to the Authority associated with these partnerships are noted in our Corporate Risk Register or relevant Directorate Risk Registers.

Table 1

Corporate Partnerships Register (reported to Risk, Audit & Governance Committee 23/11/2026 and Broads Authority 27/11/2026)

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
ASSOCIATION OF INLAND NAVIGATION AUTHORITIES (AINA) **Purpose**: Represents the collective views of navigation authorities to Government, regulators, other policy makers, funders and stakeholders. Provides information, advice and good practice for managing, operating and developing inland waterways for navigation and wider use. **Partners**: 18 partners including the Canal & River Trust, Environment Agency, BA and National Park Authorities, local government authorities, private canal companies, internal drainage boards, public and charitable trusts. **BA lead officer**: Director of Delivery	Gives collective voice greater than sum of constituent members, such as access to senior DEFRA officials and chance to influence policy and regulations.	Ongoing	BA contribution £3,~~820~~935 in 2025~~4~~/2~~5~~6	Represent issues for Broads navigation Officer inputs vary, but mainly reading technical papers or sharing information with AINA members A key organisation for the Authority to be involved in.

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
BROADLAND CATCHMENT PARTNERSHIP **Purpose:** Steers a catchment approach to source funding, agree targets and deliver practical projects in collaboration. It is an informally constituted partnership. **Partners:** BA, Norfolk Rivers Trust, Environment Agency, Natural England, Water Management Alliance, Anglian Water, Essex & Suffolk Water, NFU, RSPB, Norfolk Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group, NWT, SWT, The Otter Trust, Norfolk County Council, Wensum Farmers, National Trust, WRE, River Waveney Trust, UEA, BAWAG **BA lead officer: Catchment ~~and Farming~~ Officer**	Supports catchment-wide project planning and delivery. Partner activities can be co-ordinated to achieve greater impact with collective ability to meet catchment water management challenges.	Ongoing	BA contribution approximately £2~~6~~0k p.a. in officer time £1~~4.25~~3k income from CaBA in agreement with Norfolk Rivers Trust	Coordinate partnership 0.3~~5~~ FTE from November 2026

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
fBROADLAND FUTURES INITIATIVE **Purpose**: To develop the future management of flood risk in the Broads area. **Partners**: BA, Environment Agency, Natural England, NFU, RSPB, Norfolk County Council, Suffolk County Council, District Councils, Water Management Alliance, Coastal Partnership East, Wildlife Trusts, National Trust. **BA lead officer**: Director of Delivery **BA members:** Matthew Shardlow (Tony Grayling) as reserve) on Elected Members' Forum	Coordination of partner activities to achieve greater impact, with collective ability to meet flood risk management challenges.	Ongoing	Small financial contribution each year to facilitate meetings.	Chair partnership meetings, provide comms support, review technical information, present at events and provide data and guidance. 50 hours p/a
BROADS BEAT **Purpose**: Dedicated Police presence for the Broads alongside BA patrols to ensure safety and security on the Broads. **Partners**: Norfolk Constabulary (lead partner), BA, Environment Agency **BA lead officer**: Head of Ranger Services	Operational benefits to BA Rangers through practical day-to-day liaison with local Police.	Ongoing	Primarily financed by Norfolk Constabulary. Additional funding discretionary for all other sponsors. BA contribution £2,500 p.a. (2024~~4~~5/2~~5~~6) plus officer time to assist Broads Beat patrols.	Mainly an information and intelligence sharing partnership. Another key organisation to be linked into.

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
BROADS BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP **Purpose**: To steer nature recovery to source funding, agree targets and deliver practical projects in collaboration. It is an informally constituted partnership. **Partners**: Anglian Water, Buglife, British Dragonfly Society, Broads Authority, Broads Society, Butterfly Conservation, Environment Agency, Essex & Suffolk Water, Freshwater Habitats Trust, Natural England, National Farmers Union, National Trust, Non-Native Species Initiative, Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service, Norfolk County Council, Norfolk Flora Group, Norfolk Wildlife Trust, Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society, Plantlife, RSPB, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, University of East Anglia, Water Management Alliance. **BA lead officer:** Environment Policy Adviser	Monitors and consults on the Broads Nature Recovery Strategy (BNRS) and its Delivery Plan. Supports nature recovery project planning and delivery. Partner activities can be co-ordinated to achieve greater impact, with collective ability to meet nature recovery challenges	Ongoing	Small financial contribution each year to facilitate meetings. Officer time (chairing meeting, updating BBW Strategy and Action Plan)	Review annual action plan. Hold partnership meetings every 3-4 months. 45 hours p/a

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
BROADS TOURISM (Visit the Broads) **Purpose**: To develop and promote a high quality and environmentally-friendly tourism industry in the Broads, fulfilling the BA's second statutory purpose and the duty to foster the economic and social well-being of those who live and work in the Broads. **Partners**: Local tourism businesses and promoters, BA **BA lead officer**: Head of Communications	Supports coordinated approach to working with tourism businesses and promoters to encourage and manage common messages and sustainable tourism in the Broads.	10 year agreement concludes March 2026. Future partnership working which places less financial and resource demand on the Authority to be agreed	BA provides in-kind administrative support to Broads Tourism board, as well as occasionally producing publications and attending shows or other promotional events. Direct financial support of £5,000 for VtB marketing activity in 2025 which promotes the area. Indirect financial support of £3,000 for additional advertorial pages in Broadcaster.	Provide admin support for meetings and comms support. Attend Board meetings in advisory capacity, manage website and Broads National Park social media accounts, work with DMOs, provide support to promote area to visitors. Estimated 650 hrs per year of officer time.

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
Suffolk and Norfolk Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) **Purpose**: Boost the region's visitor economy by improving destination management, accessing national funding and resources from VisitBritain/VisitEngland, and promoting sustainable, year-round tourism **Partners**: Visit East of England, Local DMO's and Local Authorities **BA lead officer**: Head of Communications	Influence on strategic marketing of Norfolk and Suffolk to visitors Joint delivery of Suffolk & Norfolk Destination Management Plan 2024-2029	Ongoing	None	Attendance at 4 Board meetings per year and Chair of Visitor Economy Group – approximately 20 hours per year.

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
Community Rail Norfolk – Bittern and Wherry Lines Community Rail Partnerships **Purpose**: To embed rail into the heart of local communities by enabling, empowering, and engaging with existing Community Rail Partnerships to help them grow the rail market and make local lines and stations a stronger part of their local communities. Maximise opportunities for third party funding for station improvements especially to deliver wider social, economic, and environmental benefit. **Partners**: Greater Anglia and the Bittern and Wherry Lines Community Rail Partnerships **BA lead officers**: Head of Communications / Partnership & External Funding Manager	Enable joint promotion of sustainable travel around the National Park. Access to joint project work and funding opportunities that benefit second purpose activities.	Ongoing	No financial commitment to the Authority and occasional opportunities to bid for project funding	Attendance at Bittern and Wherry Lines partnership meetings and Community Rail Norfolk Board (Vice Chair). Approximately 36 hours per year.

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
FARMING IN PROTECTED LANDSCAPES **Purpose:** The programme, developed by Defra, and delivered locally through the Broads Authority and Norfolk Coast AONB, supports farmers and land managers in carrying out projects that support the natural environment, mitigate the impacts of climate change, provide public access opportunities or support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses. **Partners**: Norfolk Coast AONB. The Local Assessment Panel includes representatives of the farming and land-owning community, environmental NGOs, the Broads Authority, the Norfolk Coast Partnership and Natural England. **BA lead officer**: Farming in Protected Landscapes Officer~~Catchment and Farming Officer~~	The funding will pay for projects, on one landholding or across a number of holdings, which provide direct benefits to the Broads.	~~Until March 2025.~~ Funding for FiPL Officer until March 202~~7~~9	Overall allocation for the Broads varies each year. Land Management Board will act as FiPL grant decision making board with specific Terms of Reference.	Comply with the National Framework. Hold regular Local Assessment Panels. Report monthly to DEFRA. 1~~.5~~x FTE p/a

Fibrebroads PEF+ **Purpose:** Builds on the initial Fibrebroads project to unlock paludiculture (meaning "the profitable production of wetland crops") as a new opportunity for farmers in the Broads. **The project will:** Use spatial mapping to identify and prioritise opportunities for paludiculture based on habitat needs and water demands. Further explore the most viable paludiculture products by developing and testing high value acoustic insulation products created from reed fibres. Assess the feasibility of large-scale reed harvesting in the Broads and foster collaboration among landowners, farmers, and machinery developers. Inform how farming systems adapt to climate change and sea level rise, whilst enhancing biodiversity and water management. **Partners:** BA (lead), Natural England, Norfolk Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group, ESG Natural Capital (wetland fibre processors), Woolly Shepherd (acoustic designers) , Cranfield University, Paul Eldridge (reedcutter). **BA lead officer:** Paludiculture Officer	Project is funded by Defra through the Paludiculture Exploration Fund (PEF) as a priority within the Environment Plan, with strong links to Net Zero and Peatland Action Plan. Funding makes significant difference to BA's ability to work with farmers and land managers to unlock the multiple barriers with our partners around land and water management.	From March 2025 to March 2026	Overall value is £175,280.39	Comply with the conditions of the grant. Employ Project Officer. Coordinate the partnership, reporting and multiple contracts. 1.2x FTE p/a

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
NATIONAL PARKS PARTNERSHIP **Purpose**: Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) set up to pursue engagement of the UK National Parks family with the corporate sector. **Partners:** UK National Park Authorities and BA **BA lead officer**: Chief Executive	Brings in additional funding, corporate support and a raised profile to the Broads as a member of the National Parks family.	Ongoing	BA contribution is £10,000 in 2025/26	None
NATIONAL PARKS UK COMMUNICATIONS TEAM **Purpose**: National promotion and branding of UK National Parks and BA **Partners**: UK National Park Authorities, National Parks Partnerships, National Parks England and BA **BA lead officers**: Head of Communications	Raises the profile of National Parks with the public through a jointly funded Communications Team	~~Until 2024/25~~Ongoing?	Funding from 15 UK National Parks and National Parks Partnerships. BA contribution in 20~~25/~~26 is £8,000.	Participate in ongoing joint communications and marketing activity as required. Attend twice yearly Heads of Comms meetings (1 in-person/1 online) 100hrs PA

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
PUBLIC SECTOR CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT (PSCA) **Purpose:** To support collaborative procurement and facilitate co-operation on shared objectives related to flood risk management, maintenance, and related activities in which the Broads Authority serves as the delivery partner. **Partners:** Broads Authority, Environment Agency **BA lead officer:** Head of Construction, Maintenance & Ecology	To facilitate joint working on dredging re-use, food defence asset maintenance and other activities, where the standard procurement route through Environment Agency frameworks would be a barrier to effective local working with the Authority. The Authority is able to invoice for certain works that would otherwise be solely funded from revenue budgets.	Start: June 2024 Ends: June 2029 (subject to review)	Invoices raised for individual tasks. Rates updated annually.	Annual rates for Authority plant, equipment and staff time are provided to the EA. Agreement programme of work is set annually. Approx. 5 hours p.a on PSCA. Additional staff time on individual tasks is variable but this time is all integrated into operational work programme priorities.

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
RIVER WENSUM STRATEGY PARTNERSHIP **Purpose**: To promote the regeneration and management of the River Wensum in Norwich **Partners**: Norwich City Council, Norfolk County Council, Environment Agency, Norwich HEART, Norwich Society, BA **BA lead officer**: Delivery Board attended by Waterways & Recreation Officer.	Coordinated management of River Wensum. Opens up opportunities for funding and supports partnership working on cross-party issues such as access/mooring improvements and dealing with anti-social behaviour and abandoned vessels.	Strategy adopted by BA in July 2018; all actions assigned to BA completed by 2024.	No further action agreed at meeting. No CIL applications submitted in 2024.	No further actions associated to BA officer.
UK NATIONAL PARKS CHARITY FOUNDATION **Purpose**: To provide a vehicle for charitable giving by the corporate sector. **Partners**: UK National Park Authorities and BA, though not all have yet committed to membership. **BA lead officer**: Chief Executive	National charity established in response to experience of National Park Partnerships in engaging with the corporate sector, which showed that some companies would like to contribute to National Parks but can only do so to a registered charity.	Ongoing	No assets as yet.	None.

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
WATER RESTORATION FUND **Purpose:** To promote understanding of the Broads by engaging the public in volunteering through water quality monitoring, and by promoting understanding of the Broads in a changing climate through virtual environments. It will also help to conserve and enhance the Broads through detecting water quality issues which can be raised with the EA and Anglian Water, as well as producing a strategic plan for monitoring and developing projects across the catchment which will improve the water environment of the catchments which feed into the Broads **Partners:** River Waveney Trust, Norwich University of the Arts, and BA **BA lead officer:** Head of External Funding	The RWT already have the skills, knowledge and community connections needed to carry out this work without needing to start build relationships with the community, recruit volunteers and build knowledge. NUA have the technology and equipment to develop virtual environments in a way which requires specialist skills and knowledge.	Project to run April 2025 to March 2026.	A grant from the Water Restoration Fund will finance the project. This is a total of £205,376.49 including £54,613.30 of funding for Broads Authority officer costs.	2.5 days a week of Catchment and Farming Officer's time and 2 days a week of Head of External Funding's time was built into the project proposal. There is flex in this to fund other staff time as needed.

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
WHITLINGHAM CHARITABLE TRUST **Purpose:** To secure the effective management of Whitlingham Country Park including the development of policies and provision of visitor services on site. **Partners:** Arminghall Settlement and Broads Authority **BA lead officer:** The Broads Authority is a member of the WCT, represented by the Chief Executive. The Authority appoints four Trustees to the Board of Trustees.	Whitlingham Country Park is a gateway to the Broads and helps raise the profile of the Broads with the public, particularly people living in Norwich.	Ongoing	There are four members of the Trust which is limited by guarantee. In the event of the Trust being wound up each member agrees to contribute £1.	BA staff administer the appointment of Trustees. Chief Executive attends the AGM representing the Authority
BROADS HERITAGE PARNERSHIP: A VISION FOR THE FUTURE **Purpose:** To develop and deliver a bid to the NLHF's Landscape Connections programme. **Partners:** Multiple; to be confirmed through partnership agreement as part of funded partnership development work **BA Lead Officer:** Head of External Funding	Funded partnership development work which brings together new and previous core partners together to collectively develop the new multi-project, multi-partner bid for the NLHF Landscape Connections programme.	This project will end in ~~November 2026~~January 2027	Funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) of £129,312	BA leads and administers the partnership. 1 FTE for Partnership Development Officer, 3 days a week for Head of External Funding time.
LAPWDP+ (Lowland Agricultural Peat Water Discovery Pilot)	A grant from the EA will finance the project. This is a total of £78,441			

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
Purpose: **Partners:** NEFF, NFWAG, BA, Cranfield. **BA Lead Officer:** Environment Policy Advisor	including £27,508 of funding for Broads Authority officer and costs including National Conference and Site Feasibility Studies and Podcast series.			
Broads Peat Partnership **Purpose**: To restore and manage peatland landscapes, carbon-rich soils, and their associated farming systems across the Broads and surrounding peat valleys—delivering outcomes for carbon storage, biodiversity, flood mitigation, water quality, heritage conservation, and resilient local communities. This work will be aligned with regional and national environmental goals, while supporting sustainable farming practices as part of the solution **Partners**: Anglian Water, Broads Authority, Broads IDB, Cranfield University, Environment Agency, Essex and Suffolk Water, National Farmers Union, Natural England, Norfolk FWAG, Norfolk County Council, Norfolk Environment, Food and Farming Ltd, Norfolk	To share expertise, resources, and data transparently and engage stakeholders and community groups in water management to build understanding of the small changes and new practices that may be needed within existing business models, which they can carry out in a secure and profitable way, while also seeking their support for restoration and monitoring efforts. Potential for this partnership to lead to	Agreement in effect from date of signature for an initial 5-year term. Partners may exit with 6 months' notice; remaining partners may continue under revised terms.	Multi-sourced funding (public, private, voluntary, carbon finance) to be sourced to develop demonstration and case studies.	Broads Authority as lead partner to manage logistics, funding administration, and meeting coordination.

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
Rivers Trust, Norfolk Wildlife Trust, River Waveney Trust, Suffolk County Council, RSPB, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, UKCEH, UEA, Waveney Lower Yare and Lothingland IDB **BA Lead Officer:** Environment Policy Advisor	externally funded projects.			
National Parks England **Purpose:** NPE's strategic priorities are to transform nature's recovery; developing a climate action programme; sustainable farming and landscape management; and improving people's health, well-being and recovery through equitable access and connection to nature and culture. **Partners:** National Parks across England – Dartmoor, Exmoor, Lake District, New Forest, Northumberland, North York Moors, Peak District, South Downs, Yorkshire Dales. **BA Lead Officer:** Chief Executive	A collective voice of English National Park Authorities, working together to achieve the strategic priorities through influencing policy.	Ongoing		
National Parks UK Learning and Engagement Working Group	Collaborative work undertaken to develop	MOU agreement in effect.	Each partner providing £3,000 of funding	A BA representative will be appointed to the Steering Group

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
Purpose: To enable and coordinate the Scheme to prepare and submit external funding applications by supporting and part-funding a Grants' Development Consultant. **Partners:** Lake District National Park Authority; Brecon Beacons National Park Authority; Cairngorms National Park Authority; Dartmoor National Park Authority; Eryri National Park Authority; Exmoor National Park Authority; Loch Lomond &The Trossachs National Park Authority; New Forest National Park Authority ; North York Moors National Park Authority; Northumberland National Park Authority; Peak District National Park Authority; Pembrokeshire National Park Authority; South Downs National Park Authority; Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority **BA Lead Officer**: Education Officer	and submit external funding applications on behalf of the Partners.	The partnership runs from June 2026 until the contract for the Grants' Development Consultant comes to an end or is terminated	towards the full costs of the Grants' Development Consultant	
Network Rail **Purpose:** To ensure that bridges operate effectively ensuring that the navigation remains open to boaters, providing them access across the Broads network.	Network Rail maintains several bridges spanning the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads. In 2010, The Broads Authority entered into 'Undertaking'	Ongoing	None	The Director of Delivery has regular contact with Network Rail staff and attends joint meetings with

Name, purpose, partners and BA representatives	Benefits of partnership to the BA	Duration and type of partnership	Financial arrangements	BA tasks & officer time commitment (approx.)
BA Lead Officer: Director of Delivery	between the Broads Authority Network Rail to establish that Network Rail is willing to use their "reasonable endeavours" to operate the bridges properly. This 'Undertaking' establishes agreements around communications, notifications about bridge works, publicising bridge closures, and improving the working relationship between Network Rail and The Broads Authority.			network managers and operators.

Recently ended partnerships

Corporate Partnerships that have ended since this register was previously reported.

Table 2

Details of partnership agreement	Benefits to the BA	Details of partnership closure
Fibrebroads PEF+ **Purpose:** Builds on the initial Fibrebroads project to unlock paludiculture (meaning "the profitable production of wetland crops") as a new opportunity for farmers in the Broads. **The project will:** Use spatial mapping to identify and prioritise opportunities for paludiculture based on habitat needs and water demands. Further explore the most viable paludiculture products by developing and testing high value acoustic insulation products created from reed fibres. Assess the feasibility of large-scale reed harvesting in the Broads and foster collaboration among landowners, farmers, and machinery developers. Inform how farming systems adapt to climate change and sea level rise, whilst enhancing biodiversity and water management. **Partners:** BA (lead), Natural England, Norfolk Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group, ESG Natural Capital (wetland fibre processors), Woolly Shepherd (acoustic designers) , Cranfield University, Paul Eldridge (reedcutter).	Project is funded by Defra through the Paludiculture Exploration Fund (PEF) as a priority within the Environment Plan, with strong links to Net Zero and Peatland Action Plan. Funding makes significant difference to BA's ability to work with farmers and land managers to unlock the multiple barriers with our partners around land and water management.	Project was for 1-year and ran from March 2025 to March 2026.

Details of partnership agreement	Benefits to the BA	Details of partnership closure
BA lead officer: Paludiculture Officer		
WATER RESTORATION FUND **Purpose:** To promote understanding of the Broads by engaging the public in volunteering through water quality monitoring, and by promoting understanding of the Broads in a changing climate through virtual environments. It will also help to conserve and enhance the Broads through detecting water quality issues which can be raised with the EA and Anglian Water, as well as producing a strategic plan for monitoring and developing projects across the catchment which will improve the water environment of the catchments which feed into the Broads **Partners:** River Waveney Trust, Norwich University of the Arts, and BA **BA lead officer:** Head of External Funding	The RWT had the skills, knowledge and community connections needed to carry out this work without needing to start build relationships with the community, recruit volunteers and build knowledge. NUA have the technology and equipment to develop virtual environments in a way which requires specialist skills and knowledge.	Project was for 1-year and ran from April 2025 to March 2026.

Register updated: 04/11/2026
Next update due: November 2027
Presented to Risk, Audit & Governance Committee 23/11/2026 and Broads Authority 27/11/2026

Contact officer: Head of Governance