

What is the Welland Valley Partnership?

(A better name than Welland Pilot Catchment)

- A steering group of key interests – **no executive role**
- Comprises key players – **statutory and non statutory**
- Understanding the problems
- Informing everyone who is interested in the river
- Involving people, communities and organisations who want to take action
- Influencing decision making
- Delivering improvements to the Welland



The Welland Valley Partnership Vision

The River Welland, from its source at Sibbertoft to its tidal limit at Spalding, including all its tributaries, will:

- be cleaner and healthier;
- support more fish, birds, and other wildlife;
- meet the needs of drinking-water suppliers and business;
- provide a more attractive amenity for people to enjoy;
- be sensitively managed by everyone whose activities affect it;
- continue to provide drainage and flood protection.



Approach

- Provide a clear understanding of problems
- Identify what is happening
 - Who is doing it
 - What it will achieve
- Work with all interested parties
 - Organisations and individuals



Moving forward:-

- What else needs to happen
 - Get more people involved
 - What is planned
 - What else could be done
 - Who could do it



Progress to date

- Steering group established – August 2011
- WRT lead role
- Project Officer appointed December 2011 (funded by EA)
- Welland Valley Partnership Draft Report produced March 2012



What is being done

Working through Welland Valley Partnership:-

- **Water Quality**
 - Resource Protection Working Group
 - Prioritised work programme
 - Farm advisor & CFE officer
 - Leaflet for farmers
 - Grant Scheme
- **Habitats & fish**
 - Habitat Working Group formed
 - Feasibility for landscape scale restoration
 - More in channel habitat works
- **Currently awaiting outcome of CRF bids for both**



Welland Valley Partnership Draft Report

Sets out the 3 main issues & how we will tackle them but also provides:

- Information about Welland water bodies
- Existing/planned water related projects & events
- Examples of good practice & advice
- A forum to engage partners & communities
- Asks public / potential partners for
 - ideas & aspirations
 - involvement in Welland activities
- Sets the agenda for the Partnership



Next Steps

- Create greater involvement of people and partnership
 - To identify further issues
 - To take action
- Prepare the Catchment Plan – December 2012
- Seek funding for further activities beyond 2013



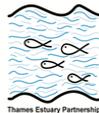
TIDAL THAMES PRESENTATION

Tidal Thames Pilot Catchment

A pilot project for a 70 mile stretch of heavily modified transitional waterbody from capital city to outer estuary co-hosted by

Thames21 (T21) and Thames Estuary Partnership (TEP)

Two charities covering a wide mix of local community engagement, commercial river users, navigation authorities, local government, 2 county councils, and many other organisations affecting the Thames.



Pilot catchment area





Collaborative working

The project is co-hosted therefore collaboration is at the heart of it.

- TEP and T21 have excellent reputation amongst key stakeholders in the catchment earned over years.
- The charities have complementary strengths.
- The project funds two part-time posts, one with each organisation allowing for exchange of ideas, flexibility of working and greater capacity to talk to stakeholders.

What have we done since mid January 2012?

- Started a new joint working relationship between two charities
- Worked with our new EA Catchment Coordinator Alice Wilson to understand the WFD issues and priorities for the Tidal Thames.
- Met our new facilitator helper and our new monitoring and evaluation helpers.
- Met senior EA WFD staff and shared a low tide wade and discussion.
- Made bids to the Catchment Restoration Fund
- Linked our pilot into a Nature Improvement Area and Flood risk plan
- Produced a summary table for the WFD pressures across 3 sub zones within our Catchment
- Identified who is or might help reduce these pressures so far
- Continued to attend the Thames River Basin Liaison Panel.
- Considered disproportionate cost at the Liaison Panel
- Decided we need to enable engagement to build our plan and refine it as we go along -not write it at the end.
- Use our two websites to make the latest version available to all.

Our problem

An assumption made by the evaluation process is that pilot projects will set up a stakeholder group to agree a vision, draft a plan, get resources and integrate actions across the catchment

Setting up a stakeholder group in an area as large and complex as the tidal Thames is too cumbersome for this stage of our project.

What are we going to do next?

- Agree framework for our Catchment Plan
- Get a wide mix of stakeholders to contribute their ideas.
- Refine the plan with an expert advisory group
- Create a virtual stakeholder group to keep all those who joined in on-board and working with us in the future.
- Have some fun

Why we chose this approach



Our Catchment Plan

In order for stakeholders and community members to be really involved it is vital they feel they are contributing to a real plan, and are able to see that plan develop and increase in its complexity, to build that sense of ownership of it.

Otherwise the risk is that people will be too far removed from the plan, believe it is just another survey and have little commitment to it.

This will also enable us to reach and involve directly in plan development, a meaningful proportion of the huge range and number of stakeholders in this highly complex and varied Catchment.

We are presently developing questions to ask at the Pop Up workshops and other meetings and events

working with our WFD facilitator before the TT Catchment Plan Outline is produced.

COTSWOLDS PRESENTATION



**Cotswolds Catchment
with
Integrated Local Delivery (ILD):**

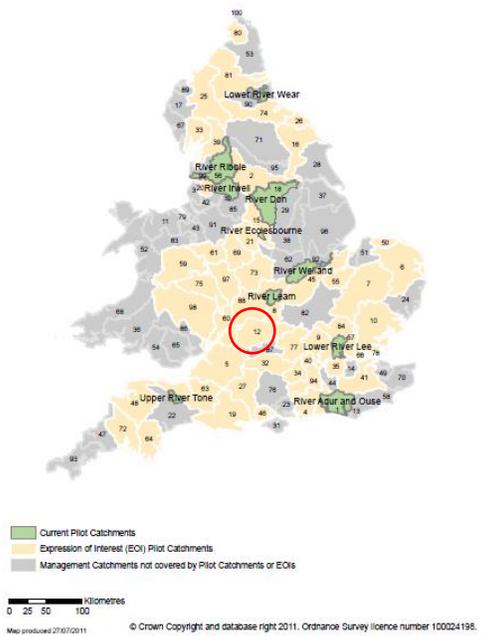
Chris Short
Countryside and Community Research Institute

Jenny Phelps
Gloucestershire Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group

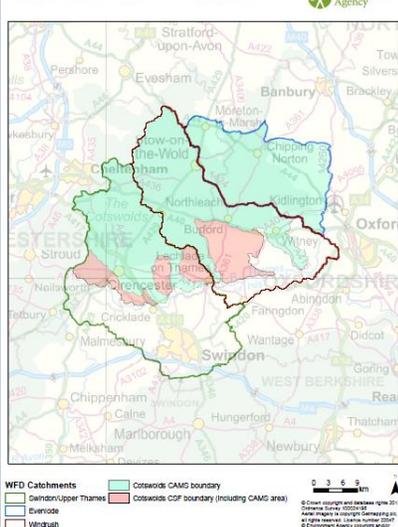
Outline

- Intro to Cotswold Catchment and WFD failures
- Approach to catchment working – ILD
- Overview of scoping task & partner identification
- Benefits of integration
- Things we have learned so far

WFD Management Catchments and Pilot Catchments



Extent of the different Cotswolds boundaries



Cotswolds Catchment

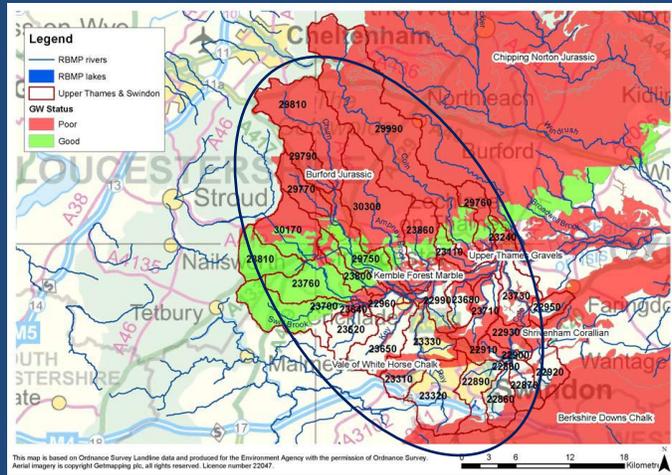
- Predominantly rural in character.
- Two AONBs
 - Cotswolds AONB (North)
 - North Wessex Downs (south)
- Principal towns:
 - Swindon and Cirencester
 - Smaller market towns (Lechlade, Fairford) throughout

Cotswolds Scarp

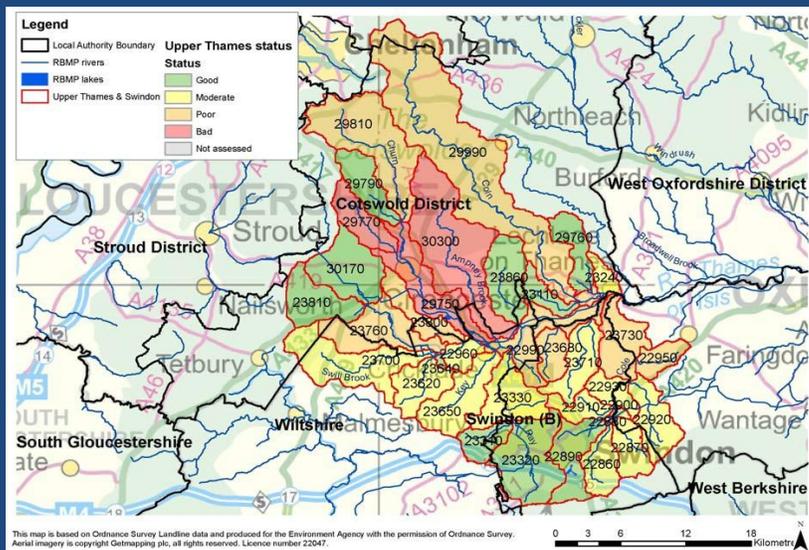


Western edge is Cotswold Scarp and behind is Thames catchment

Ground water



Current Ecological Status



No data	Good
Bad	Moderate
Poor	High
Fail	n/a - Assessment not required

indicates heavily modified water body - therefore Good Ecological Potential
 /R/ indicates water body in current programme for Stage 1 investigation with respect to water resources

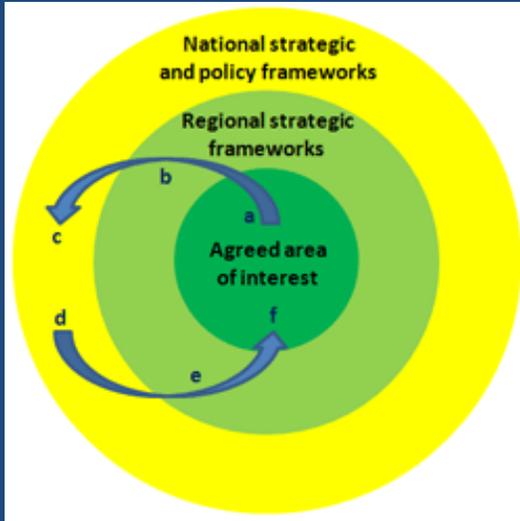
WB code (GB100090...) Heavily modified WB	WB name/ecological status	Classification driver (i.e parameter(s) that determine classification)	Phylobenthos	Macrophytes	Invertebrates	Fish	Ammonia	DO	pH	P	Temp	Annex 8 Item	GWB (I)	Chemical GWB in catchment	Quantitative GWB in	GWB (II)	Chemical GWB in catchment	Quantitative GWB in	
23650	Key (Source to Thames)	Phosphate, Ammonia (Phys-Chem), Ammonia (Annex 8)						U											
23640	Swill Brook and Thames (High Bridge to Waterhay Bridge)	Morphology, Hydrology																	
22900	Cole (Acorn Bridge to South Marston Brook)	Phosphate, Invertebrates									U								
22880	Cole (Liden Brook to Lenta Brook)	Phosphate									U								
29990	Coln (Source to Thames)	Fish	U																
30170	Thames (Source to Kemble)	Morphology, Hydrology																	
23860	Marston Meysey Brook	Invertebrates				U					U								
29760	Thornhill Ditch and tributaries at Cotswolds Water Park	Morphology, Hydrology																	
30300	WR Ampney and Poulton Brooks (Source to Thames)	Fish			U														
29770	WR Daglingworth Stream (Source to Churn)	Fish																	
29790	Elkstone Brook	Morphology, Hydrology																	




Approach to collaborative working

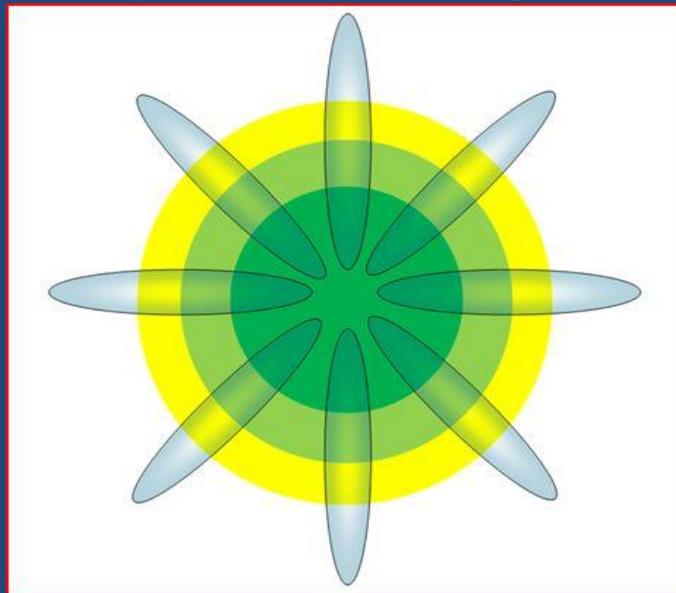
- Integrated Local Delivery (ILD) framework
 - Integrate existing related work/interests with WFD
 - Value local & national expertise
 - Respects local farming knowledge and resources
 - Reconnects communities with farmed and water environment
 - All partners working together (more from less)

Step 1 – initial scoping of assets



Local to national and back to local.

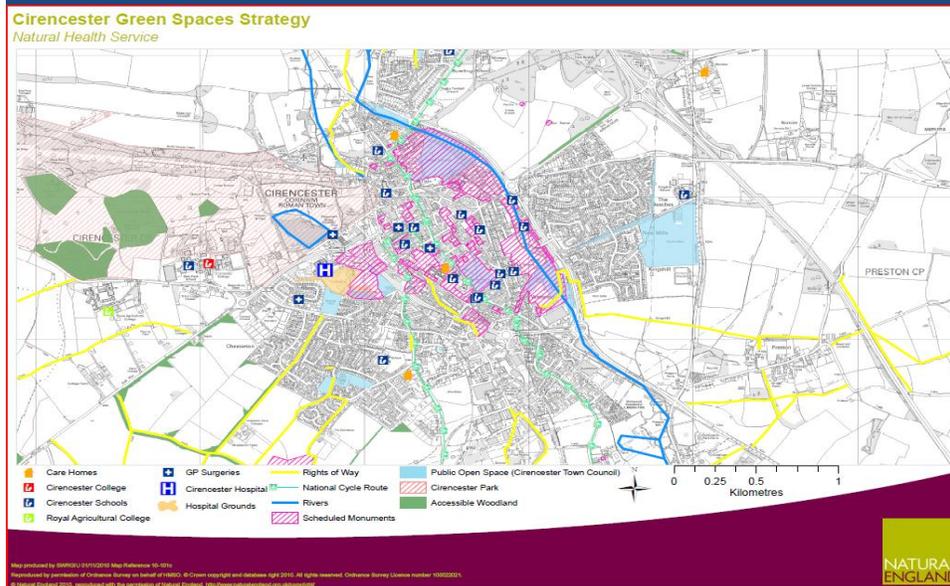
Assets linked to partners and strategies

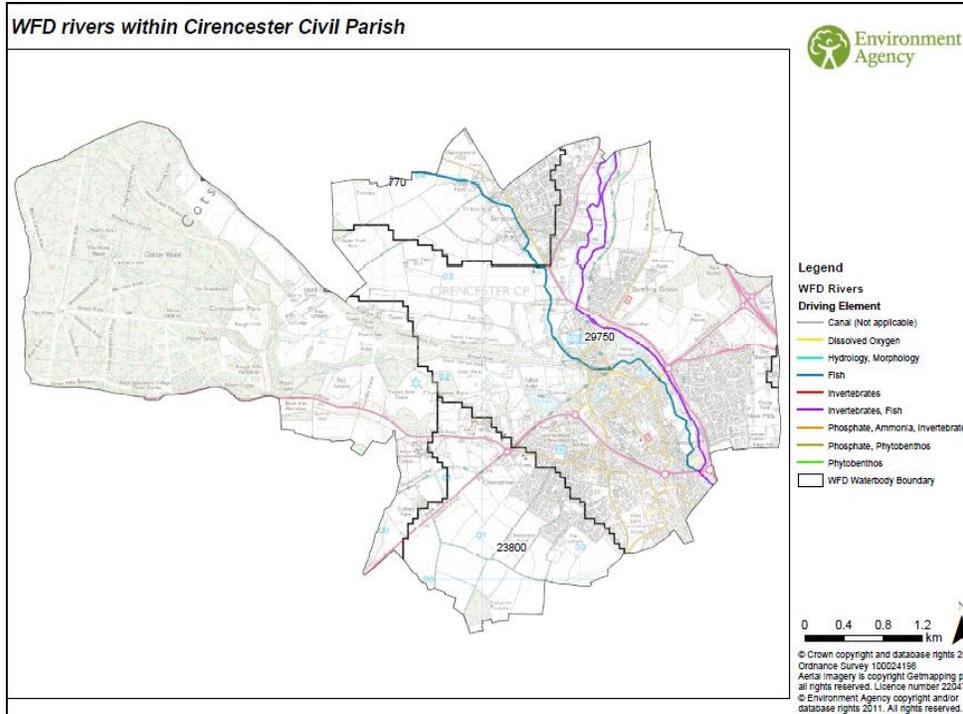


3 layers of integrated delivery

- Integration of advice from Government – agencies with diverse roles e.g. EA flood/fish
- Integrated farm advice from Defra – combining different agencies & EU directives.
- Integrated local delivery – integrating social and economic agendas with environment

Cirencester – applied to market towns - wards

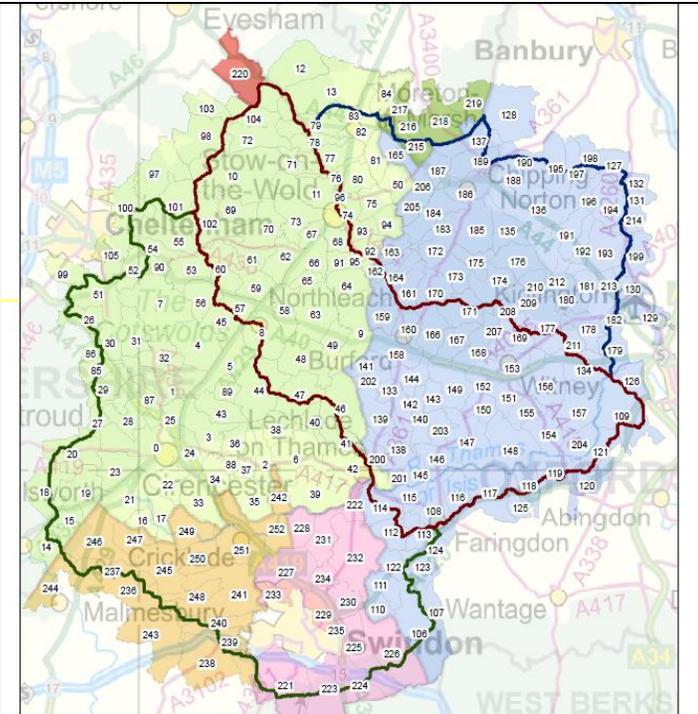




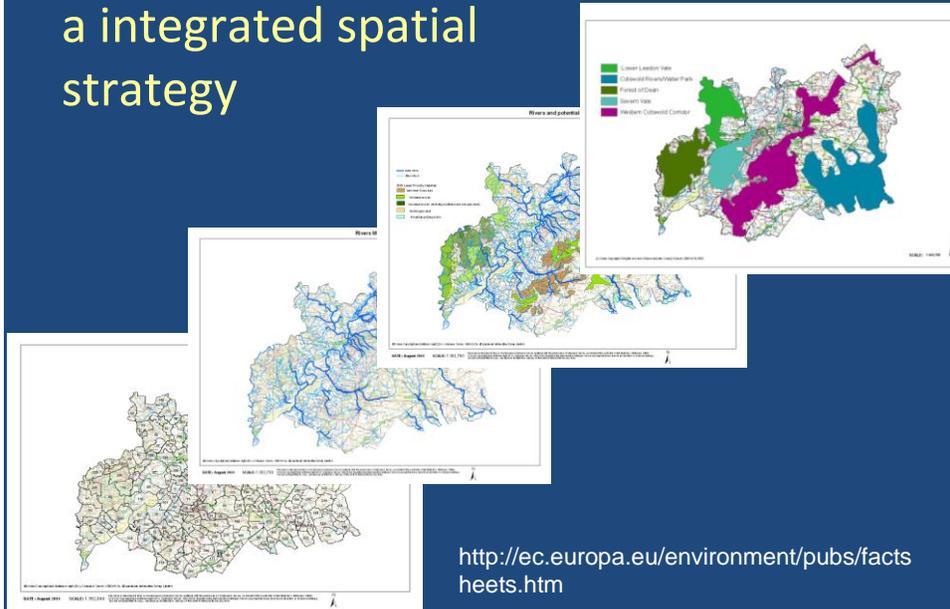
Scoping of partners – needs facilitation to join it up

- The SE Environment Agency – Environmental Mngmt & Planning, Biodiversity, Fisheries and Flooding
- Natural England – AES, FATI, ETIP, CSF, SSSIs
- Forestry Commission – EWGS
- Business West – FISS, REG, SWARM, R 4 F, S 4 P
- The Rural Payments Agency – underpinning Cross compliance and GAEC
- Parish Councils – through GRCC and Parish Plans
- District Councils – Resilience planning, development, conservation, waste etc
- County Councils – SIDP, SUDS, Highways, Education, Right of Way/ Archaeology/ Ecology
- District Councils - Conservation, Waste, Planning
- Borough/ Town Councils – Parks, Landscape, Green infrastructure, Great Western Community Forest, Save Water Swindon
- NGOs: Cotswold River Trust, Glos WT, CLA, NFU, CPRE, Agronomists, Land Agents, Cotswold AONB, Cotswold Water Park etc Media

Inspiring and
Enabling
Communities
With all
partners
working to an
Integrated
Framework
In support



EU Directives to deliver –
a integrated spatial
strategy



<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/pubs/factsheets.htm>

What we have learned so far?

- There is a clear need for join up
 - Determining the area has been interesting!
- There is overlap, duplication and single issue delivery within the catchment
- The multiple voices means mixed messages for farmers, landowners and communities
 - Role for an Integrated Catchment Plan?
- What can be achieved in a year?
 - Starting point for long-term change.

Benefits of integration

- Supports the delivery of strategic objectives
 - Partners linked to identified assets and expertise.
- Inspiring and enabling local communities
 - as a resource for delivery
- Links to community-led Planning
 - Water mentioned in PPs but limited action possible
- Assess behaviour change among stakeholders
 - Views on integrated approach, initial perception and experiences



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