

# Tamar Catchment Partnership Meeting

31<sup>st</sup> July 2017



## Attendees:

- Hazel Kendall – Westcountry Rivers Trust
- Rosie Lear – WRT
- Holly Pearson – WRT
- Rob Price – Environment Agency
- Yuri Artioli – Plymouth Marine Laboratories
- Eamon Crowe – Natural England
- Joe Lawrence – National Trust
- Lee Haughton – Premier Foods
- Graham Reed – Weir Quay Sailing Club/Bere Ferrer Parish Council
- Mark Page Bailey - Bere Ferrer Parish Council
- John Pask – Environment Agency
- Bonita Lightfoot – Farmer
- Debo Sellis – Devon County Council (Tavistock)
- Ashley Taylor – Duchy of Cornwall
- Garin Linnington – Forestry Commission
- Steve Payne – Devon Wildlife Trust
- Mark Summers – Cornwall Catchment Partnership
- Alex Inman – Resident
- David Smith – South West Water
- Craig Smith – Coal Authority
- Chris Avent – Plymouth City Council
- Jane Kiely – Ramblers
- John Skinner – Ramblers
- James Platts – South West Lakes Trust
- Chris Giles – Dartmoor National Park Authority
- Corinna Woodall – Tamar Valley AONB

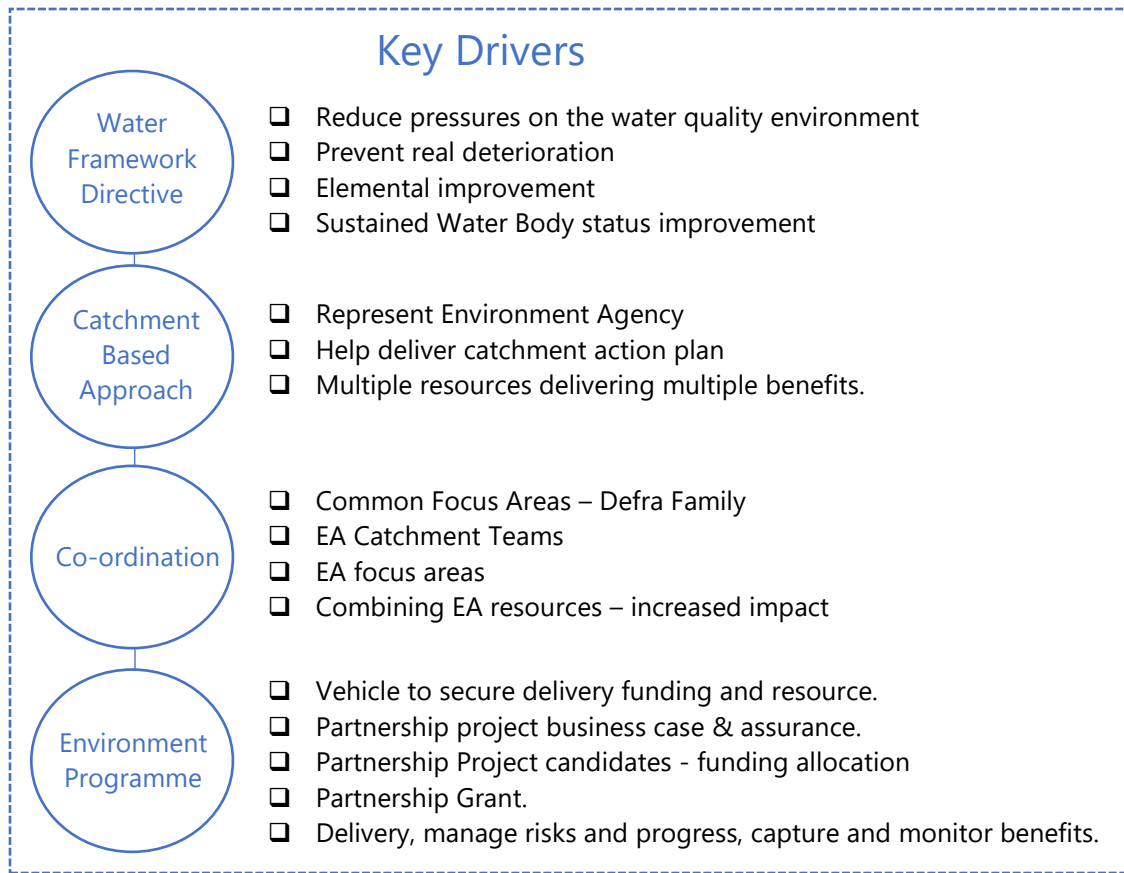
## Apologies

- Jodene Davey – Natural England
- Simon Platten – Tamar Grow Local
- Sean Comber – Plymouth University
- Jon Snowden – Environment Agency
- Charlotte Braungardt – Plymouth University
- Jess Thomasson – Environment Agency
- Paul Cottingham – NFU
- Stephanie Davies – Severn & Devon IFCA
- Kate Royston – Tamar Energy Community

- Tamar Energy Community would like to make Partners aware that the group: 1) has a community space called 'Local Matters' in Tavistock which can be used to display information; 2) would be interested to hear about and support potential renewable power or heat projects, using the Rural Community Energy Fund as a potential mechanism; 3) will be holding their annual event 'Tamar Energy Fest' in Tavistock Town Hall on Saturday October 28<sup>th</sup> and would like to hear if anyone has ideas and/or interest in getting involved; 4) are able to offer advice on energy use to local citizens and are keen to support vulnerable citizens to prepare for winter.

### **Meeting notes:**

1. Welcome
2. Overview of Tamar Catchment Partnership work, including project progress towards objectives - *Hazel Kendall, Westcountry Rivers Trust*
  - Introduction to Catchment Based Approach (CaBA) – national scheme to encourage partnership working to improve water environments.
  - Introduction to Ecosystem Services approach taken by the Tamar Catchment Partnership and the issues facing the catchment.
  - Overview of some of the Partnership's completed and ongoing projects:
    - 3 Rivers – Tackling diffuse pollution from agricultural and domestic sources.
    - Post-mining remediation work.
    - WaterLIFE project, including Tamar Festival.
    - Working with businesses – including working with Business in the Community and the Rivers Trust on their Water Stewardship Work, and looking to engage with the Courtauld group of businesses to improve their environmental footprint.
    - Update on Water Framework Directive in the Tamar Catchment – generally little change, with the majority of rivers at a moderate status. Therefore, there has not been significant declines but there is work to be done to bring rivers up to good status.
3. Intro from Environment Agency – *Rob Price, new Tamar Catchment Co-ordinator*
  - Rob has come from a business background and has been at the EA for 8 years. Before moving down to Tamar/South Devon Catchment Partnerships, Rob was Catchment Coordinator for the Welland and Nene Catchment Partnerships.
  - Key drivers from the EA perspective:



- Latest news from EA:
  - Partnership Teams – Focus Areas are Upper and Lower Tamar
  - Partnership Grant Process launched
  - Developing new funding scheme for 2018 to replace Grant in Aid which is reducing in scope
  - Environment Programme Development
  - Project Briefing Sheets
  
- 4. Discussion
  - Forestry Commission are targeting woodland creation. A significant proportion of this work has taken place in Cornwall but little has been in the Tamar Catchment. FC keen to promote the value of woodland creation.
  - Bere Ferrers Parish Council interested in developing more woodland burial sites.
  
- 5. Action Plan – the full Action Plan is large and fairly complex. This can be circulated to those who are interested, but generally WRT (as partnership hosts) are looking for input via email on ongoing and aspirational projects which we can then add to the Action Plan. We are asking partners to fill in the circulated feedback sheets as fully as possible and return to Rosie ([rosie@wrt.org.uk](mailto:rosie@wrt.org.uk)). Please get in touch if you have any questions.

6. Introduction to new Tamar CP online resources – *Rosie Lear, WRT*
  - New website (my-tamar.org) set up to become a hub for sharing information and promoting events/projects/activities with other partners and with the public – ideas and input welcome!
  - Plan to place projects going on in the Tamar Catchment onto an online map to help with promotion, partnership working and identifying further opportunities. Again, the feedback forms will be used to help populate this map – if any projects or project ideas are not yet public-facing please note this on the form and it will not go online.
  
7. Presentations from partners:
  - Derriford Community Park Project – *Chris Avent, Plymouth City Council*
    - A project working on linking up two nature reserves and a farm located in Plymouth to create the largest greenspace in Plymouth. This includes increasing public access, building a visitor education centre, and developing volunteer groups and community enterprises to ensure the sustainability of the site. See a video about the scheme here <https://youtu.be/7jAswn-UR-s>
  - Tamara Landscape Partnership (HLF bid) – *Corinna Woodall, Tamar Valley AONB*
    - A project working at the landscape scale with a focus on the character and distinctiveness of the Tamar Valley landscape. An integrated program of sub-projects has been developed including heritage, education and training, local food and much more. If successful, the project will secure £2.2million of HLF funding and will enter a two-year development stage, before commencing in full.
  - WAMM project – *Craig Smith, Coal Authority*
    - The Water and Abandoned Metal Mines Program is a government funded scheme working across England. The project identifies metal-impacted surface waters which are failing WFD, then investigates the feasibility and mechanisms for implementing solutions (eg. water treatment works). The program aims to be collaborative to gain the greatest benefits from the work.
  
8. Next steps, including future meetings and correspondence
  - Please complete your feedback form and we will be in touch to gather as much information as possible about projects in the Tamar catchment.
  - Please also suggest the level of involvement you would like to have (ranging from being on the mailing list only, through attending wider meetings, to being on the core steering group).
  - There are plans to hold a regional South-West CaBA meeting in the Autumn.