



Tamar Catchment Partnership

Terms of Reference

Geographical scope

The Tamar Catchment Partnership covers the hydrological catchments of the entire main Tamar and Tributaries river systems. To ensure the partnership is representative of the whole catchment existing geographical partnership will play a key role in the steering group and the Tamar partnership will work closely with its neighboring catchment partnerships (Cornwall & South Devon).

Thematic scope

The partnership enables a multi-functional, multi-partner delivery of the Defra 25 year Environment Plan. The focus being the improvement of the freshwater environment (but to include associated estuarine and coastal waters) and working towards the support and delivery of key objectives of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the SW River Basin Management Plan (RBMP). The Partnership is also driven by Defra's Catchment Based Approach Policy Framework and the Guide to Collaborative Catchment Management.

The challenges faced by the catchment have been identified under the following themes; water quality, water quantity, space for wildlife, greenhouse gases, engagement, and recreation, leisure and culture. The catchment plan is organised around these themes and highlights actions that can be taken to deliver improvements.

Role of the partnership

- To bring together relevant organisations and partnerships to agree the strategic priorities at the catchment level that will conserve and improve the health of the water environment of the catchment and support new or existing Projects or Plans which aim to deliver similar objectives.
- To review available data to understand current WFD failures within the Tamar catchment and the drivers behind them.
- To gather and maintain a strategic overview of the current catchment-based activities across the Tamar, to understand and reinforce linkages for a Partnership Approach.
- To provide a forum for discussion of issues and coordination of activity, contributing to the development of a Catchment Partnership monitoring and evaluation process.
- To continue to identify and develop projects and funding streams which will realise key objectives and aim to optimise delivery of Eco System Services (ESS) where appropriate.
- To support the Environment Agency in developing an appropriate River Basin Management Plan, required under the Water Framework Directive.
- To support adjacent catchment partnerships through the sharing of information and activity prioritisation wherever possible.

Status

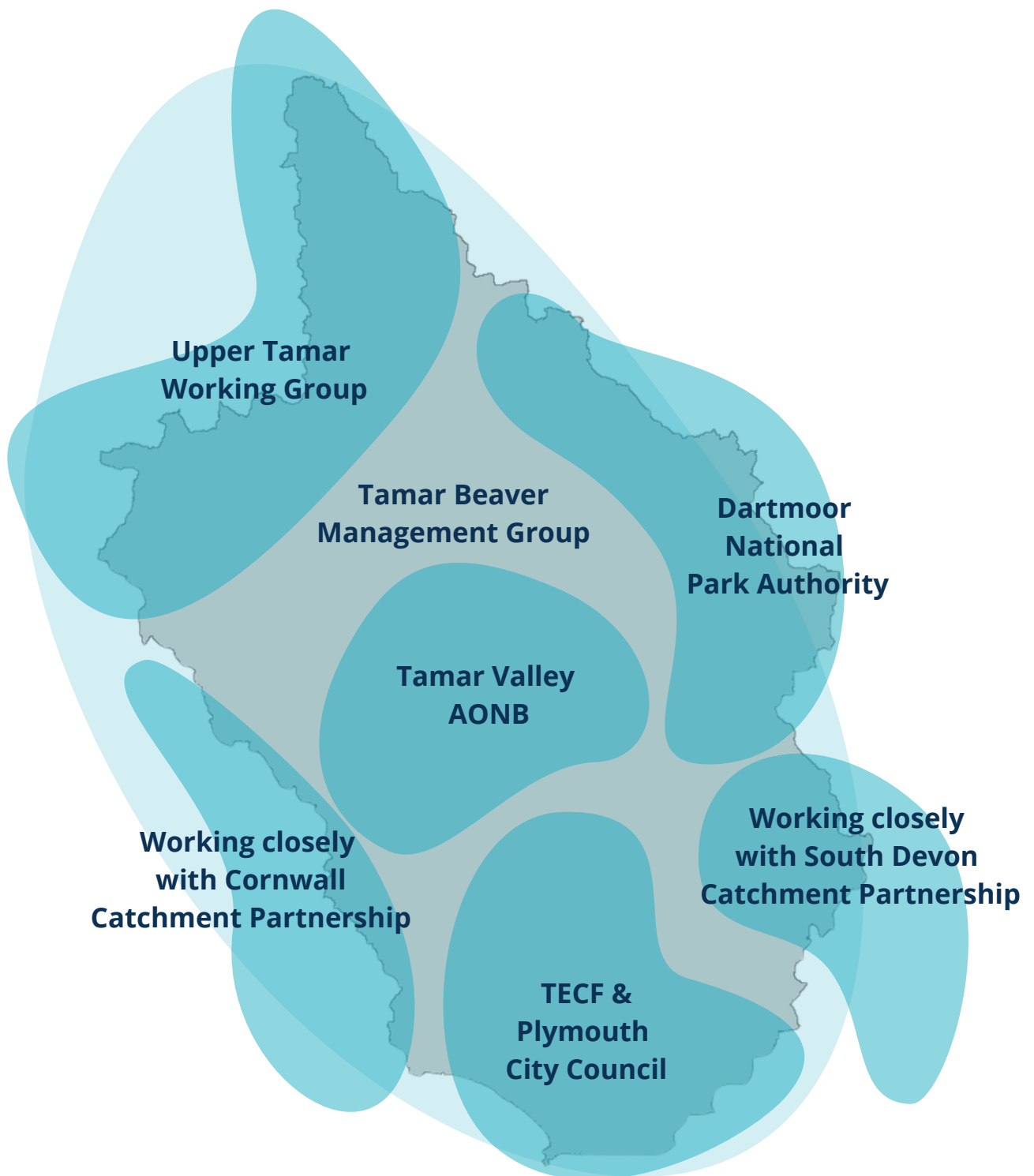
- A voluntary, non-statutory body which is mandated by the Environment Agency.
- Unincorporated and not a legal entity.
- Projects and activities recommended or supported by the Catchment Partnership are led by organisations best placed to do so.



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The Catchment Partnership aims to act as a link between existing partnerships in the catchment to facilitate communication and collaboration while avoiding duplication of efforts.





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Partnership structure



Steering Group

Composed of representatives of the major geographically themed partnerships within the catchment and several key organisations. Actively encourage wider support through identifying opportunities for linkage and disseminate the work and ethos of the Tamar Partnership. This group will identify and develop funding streams and project delivery in line with the catchment plan and work to integrate the Collaborative Catchment based approach into their partnerships /organisation through the guidance for good governance and monitoring metrics

- Invited to attend steering group meetings
- Invited to attend partnership meetings
- Invited to annual catchment event
- Actively involved with planning
- Actively involved with funding & delivery
- Receives newsletter

Technical members

Professional individuals or representatives of organisations interested in collaborative working to achieve multi-benefit outcome. Encourage wider support through identifying opportunities for linkage and disseminate the work and ethos of the Tamar Partnership.

- Invited to attend partnership meetings
- Invited to annual catchment event
- Regularly involved with planning
- Regularly involved with funding & delivery
- Receives newsletter

Wider partnership

Open to anyone in support of the Tamar Catchment Partnership, its aims and objectives.

- Invited to annual catchment event
- May attend some meetings & contribute to discussion on an ad hoc basis
- Takes part in citizen science & community events
- Receives newsletter