



Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership Action Plan

Introduction

Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership is a focussed group of local stakeholders who are working together through a Catchment Based Approach (CaBA) to improve the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment and tributaries and bring direct on-the-ground benefit to people and wildlife now and for future.

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership has been meeting quarterly since 2013, discussing and planning ways in which it can improve the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment. Ongoing work includes sustain direct engagement with local contacts; the development of the Catchment Plan; and build a self sustaining capacity .

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Action Plan (MTCAP)

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership has reviewed the available information on this catchment and compiled the data to create the Catchment Action Plan. This incorporates the detail gathered during local stakeholder consultations delivered by Thames21, existing projects and working plans from other member organisations, Thames Landscape Strategy, River Thames Alliance, Canoe England and Environment Agency (see appendix).

The Catchment Action Plan alone will not deliver results on the ground; no member or stakeholder are bound to adhere to it. Partnership work aided by the plan will require investment by members. The Catchment Action Plan is a live document. It will continue be amended as the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership Develops

The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD)

2003-2017 and Catchment Partnerships

The European WFD became part of UK law in 2003. It gives the Environment Agency (EA) an opportunity to plan and deliver a better water environment, focussing on ecology. However post European Union further detail to be provided when available.

The WFD aimed to help protect and enhance the quality of:

Surface freshwater (including lakes, streams and rivers)
Groundwater,
groundwater dependant ecosystems,
estuaries,
Coastal waters (1 mile).

How the WFD will happen

- 1) The country is divided up into River Basin Districts, which are then subdivided into Catchments.
- 2) A management plan is required for WFD for each River Basin District, with review and updating every 5 years.
- 3) Working through the River Basin Management Plans, the WFD requires that watercourses (including rivers, lakes, groundwaters, estuaries and coastalwaters) are managed sustainably.

About the Catchment

UPDATED MAP OF CATCHMENT



The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment reaches from Hurely to Teddington (64.5 km), encompassing 14 rivers water bodies and 12 lakes of which 23 are designated heavily modified or artificial (422 km²). It includes 1 surface water operational catchment and, either wholly or partially, 2 groundwater catchments. The operational catchments have distinct characteristics and pressures, and require a different combination of measures to achieve long-term objectives for the water environment and reduce the risks of flooding.

The water bodies in the catchment are the Maidenhead to Teddington River and the tributaries; the Cut, Maidenhead, Boveney and Chalvey Ditches, the Salthill Stream and Datchet Common Brook. Also included are Desborough, Knight and Queen Elizabeth II Storage Reservoirs as well as Englemere Pond and Littleworth Ponds (SSSI).

The Thames provides an endless amount of benefits to many people, businesses, and wildlife. It is a prime recreation and leisure resource used for canoeing, rowing, fishing, walking and cruising, in the heart

of the South East of the UK. For the large population in the Thames basin this is their source of drinking water. The Thames Path National Trail runs its entire length and also forms part of a national cycleway. The catchment also is home to prominent landscape and wildlife heritage and Sites of Special Scientific Interest. It includes the rural areas of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Surrey, and the suburban towns of Maidenhead, Windsor, Slough, Bracknell, Staines, Walton-on-Thames, Sunbury and Teddington

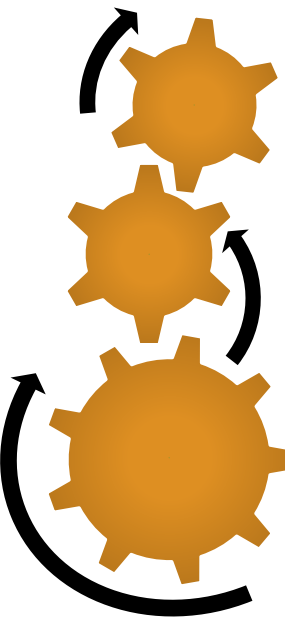


A Shared Vision for 2027

- An improved quality of the terrestrial and aquatic environment of the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment by 2021, for wildlife and people, that is protected and enhanced to safeguard its good health for the future.
- Restore and create natural river habitats and environment, which support a thriving river. Thus enabling and benefiting the movement of wildlife and people throughout the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment.
- Develop a self sustaining dynamic catchment partnership that connects people with the river and provides the opportunity for discussion and collaboration between partnership members.
- Create a partnership best encompasses and represents the diverse communities and stakeholders across the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment for decision making and delivery of local projects.
- Raised awareness and promote opportunities for education about the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment.

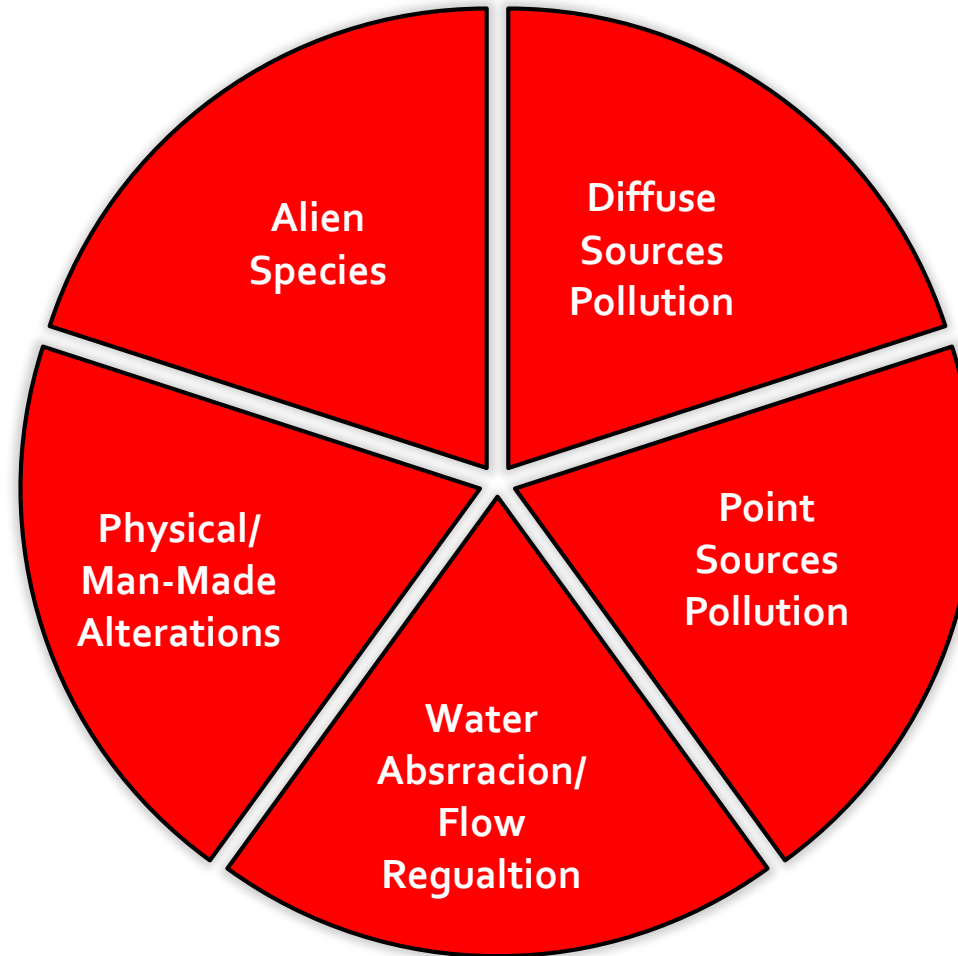
The Catchment Partnership in Action

- A dynamic and strong working relationship with representatives from the public, local authority, local organisations and local stakeholders to form the partnership group.
- Working together across the Maidenhead to Teddington to share resources and expertise, with a shared vision and common goals to improve the current profile and status of the Maidenhead to Teddington catchment.
- Providing the best single point for open discussion and collaboration working between the many individual organisations, stakeholders, and people operating across the Maidenhead to Teddington catchment.
- Promoting the wide range of recreational and leisure opportunities along the River Thames and championing best practise.
- Supporting and working with local projects, organisations, and authorities with shared aims and common goals to benefit and improve the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment.
- Engaging and increasing awareness of the risks posed and the value of rivers to the local people.
- Promoting the projects of members, the catchment partnership, and benefits of collaboration to create wide scoping external interest for future investment into the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment.



Pressures Identified

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership have identified and agreed on the pressures on the catchment.



Summary of Catchment Issues

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment is managed for leisure, to protect local people and property from flooding, and maintained for boating. The majority of these rivers are designated heavily modified. There is a high pressure from urban developments in the catchment. This has created long stretches of manmade bank. The modification of these rivers and the surrounding developments has led to diminished habitats, reduced diversity in the Thames and reduced the river's benefits as a natural resource.

Other pressures from urban and rural development have caused phosphate levels to be high in a number of rivers. Sources of nutrients in this catchment include effluent from sewage treatment works. Considerable water abstraction requires the flow on the main River Thames to be closely managed through the Maidenhead to Teddington Operating Agreement with Thames Water. The above issues and the presence of pollutants give rise to poor water quality and habitat diversity on a number of rivers, as well as varied biological quality throughout the catchment.

Since the initial assessment of status was made, the Environment Agency and its partners have been working to understand the reasons for not achieving good status. The Environment Agency has carried out over 125 investigations in the catchment area since 2009. These have helped to determine the reasons why water bodies are failing and the likely causes.



MTCP KETSO Workshop



How are the issues being tackled?

Operational Plans in the Catchment

Across the Maidenhead to Teddington catchment there are many long-standing active organisations in the that have their own operational plans. These plans are delivering actions through projects and activities locally, in turn bringing improvement and opportunity for change to the catchment. Some of these organisations are listed at the end of this Plan and their operational plans avliable to download from their webpages.

River Basin Management Plan

The Thames River Basin Management Plan published by the Environment Agency outlines work that a range of organisations will undertake within the region, including the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment, to comply with the Water Framework Directive, based on current status and reasons for failures. A draft plan for the period 2015-2021 was published in October 2014. 'Challenges and Choices' provides a summary of issues, based on Environment Agency monitoring, and possible actions.

How are the issues being tackled?

A Formation of a Partnership

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership seeks to coordinate a joined-up Catchment Based Approach (CaBA) to tackle issues, maximising resources and eventual benefits. The Partnership's approach to tackling the issues is together through direct delivery of actions against our goals.

Through consultation in 2012 and annual feedback with catchment stakeholders, a series of actions were identified to improve the catchment. The Catchment Action Plan is a live document and as such it is reviewed and amended as required at the time of review.



Volunteers clearing litter at the Jubilee River



Social

**MTCP
Goals**

**Environ
mental**

Economic

Social Goals	CP Action
Highlight and improve opportunities for well being, recreation and leisure across the catchment.	Champion the River Thames.
Raise awareness to a more sustainable use of this resource .	Source and share resources within the Lower Thames Catchment e.g. waders, boats, litter pickers, mink rafts etc. for community events.
Ensure it the environment is valued and future safe guarded.	Run an education campaign regarding the river environment and the impact of littering.
	Re-establish or support the Friends of groups.
Engage the local communities in the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment.	Invite local communities to partnership meetings.
Provide opportunities for physical engagement with the environment.	Coordinate local volunteer events.
raising awareness through communication planning	Re-establish the Friends of groups.
Work with academic institutes to carry out applied research.	Make contact with intuitions and discuss options.
Access to and along improved to bring people closer to nature.	Public Rights of Way should be reviewed to assess existing connectivity.
Propose ways in which the network can be improved.	Identify a system for volunteers to follow if they need to contact someone about the CaBA work.
Local communities are consulted and involved with the decision making process, and catchment partnership projects	

Environmental Goals	CP Action
Support flood risk management, sustainable drainage, improve connectivity, control of Invasive Non Native Species (INNS), and litter.	Highlight opportunities for increasing lateral connectivity.
	Pull INNS.
	Promote biosecurity and good practise to all water users – Check Clean Dry campaign (CCD).
	Survey longitudinal connectivity across catchment and opportunities for notching weirs and improving flows.
Improve catchment habitats.	On tributaries decanalise where appropriate and allow rivers to re-meander naturally.
	Create more backwaters.
	Create new floodable areas and reed bed reservoirs.
	Under take in-channel restoration.
	Reintroduce, recreate and connect floodplain grazing.
Maintain the River Thames and tributes.	Remove flood debris.
	Use natural construction methods where possible and appropriate.
Improve the way in which water is captured.	Create wetlands and reed beds.
Monitor and manage water abstraction and drought; water efficiency and leakage; water capture; and water levels.	Raise community awareness to be able to collect data.
	Improve water quality and reduce siltation.

Economic Goals	CP Action
To work with land stakeholders; businesses and funding bodies to create inward investment opportunities for Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment.	When funding becomes available, bid for continuation and project delivery funding.
	Explore opportunities for joint funding from external sources.
	Cross political boundary working, using current initiatives as a platform.
	Use the planning process as a way to encourage / engage developers.
	Engaging with the buying process to access section 106.
	Link in with other schemes and campaigns where possible.



Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Action Plan Project List

Project Name	Proposed Outputs (amount of tangible products delivered)
Slough Tributaries	Enable fish passage at 8 locations to open up a further 2.7km of river for fish. Improve 2km habitat in collaboration with FAS and WWT projects. Install at least 2 SuDS in collaboration with WWT creating 1Ha of priority habitat
Yellow Fish Project (Urban Diffuse Pollution Project)	
Lower Thames Improvement Project	Mitigation measures not yet in place, improvements to fish populations, mitigate water quality pressures, re-naturalising the floodplain, secure fish passage, habitat creation, re-naturalise river banks, create a range of interlinked habitats, provision of fish passage, wet woodland, reedbed creation, flood storage, community access, create additional floodplain habitat, secure natural flood risk management measures, reconnect the river and floodplain, deliver urban SUDS, resilience to climate change, water based recreation, education and engagement
Hurst Park project	1.5km hard banking to be replaced with more diverse, soft habitat. Backwater fish refuge. Flood storage. A community green space.
Desborough Island floodplain wetland restoration project	create 1ha wetland habitat
Canbury Gardens improvements (Urban)	There is currently 800m hard banking. This will be softened and diversified. habitat enhancement, improve access, disabled fishing access, required mitigation measures.
The Cut Improvement Project	Enable fish passage at Paley Street, Binfield Manor and a minimum of 5 other locations. 500m habitat enhancement associated with the fish passage projects.

Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership Network

- Association Thames Yatch Club
- Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxford – WT
- Berkshire Local Nature Partnership
- Bracknell Forest Borough Council
- [British Canoeing](#)
- Elmbridge Borough Council
- [Environment Agency](#)
- [Flood Forum](#)
- [Friends of Desborough Island](#)
- [Friends of Hurst Park](#)
- [Hampton and Molesey Riverside Trust](#)
- Jubilee River Riverside Centre
- Lower Sudbury Residents Association
- Lower Mole Partnership
- Maidenhead & Windsor Borough Council
- [Maidenhead Waterways](#)
- Natural England
- [Residential Boat Owners Association](#)
- [River Thames Angler's Conservancy](#)
- River Thames Society
- [RUG 7](#)
- [RUG 8](#)
- Runnymede Borough Council
- Slough Borough Council
- Spelthorne Borough Council
- Surrey Wildlife Trust
- SWIPE
- Teddington Society
- [Thames21](#)
- [Thames Landscape Strategy](#)
- [Thames Valley Angling Association](#)
- The Angling Trust
- The Land Trust
- [The New River Thames Alliance](#)
- [Thames River Trust](#)

