

Box 1

local environment agency plan

HULL AND EAST RIDING FIRST ANNUAL REVIEW May 1999



ENVIRONMENT
AGENCY



ENVIRONMENT AGENCY


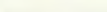

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HULL & EAST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARIES

KEY

-  CATCHMENT BOUNDARY
-  RIVER
-  TIDAL LIMIT



0 2 4 6 8 10km
Scale



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Hull & East Riding LEAP First Annual review reports on the progress made during the last year, against LEAP actions. The actions published in the LEAP are supplemental to our everyday work on monitoring, surveying and regulating to protect the environment. Some of the key achievements on our everyday work include:

- i) A Water Level Management Plan and draft conservation strategy was produced for the River Hull Headwaters, an important Site of Special Scientific Interest.
- ii) Improvements in air quality have been achieved as a result of a thermox unit successfully commissioned by BP. Significant reductions (of at least 85%) in the emissions in Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) are anticipated to result from this system.
- iii) The Region's first successful prosecution under Section 30 of Salmon & Freshwater Fisheries Act was taken against Framlingham Fisheries for the illegal introduction of fish.
- iv) The Area has made significant progress towards establishing a Customer Service Centre, operating from April 1999, which will provide an integrated response to customers needs with regard to issuing consents and permits.

In addition the review also seeks to look forward and identify future priorities, which it must be noted will be influenced by the following:

- i) Implementing action resulting from lessons learned from flooding outside the area during 1998 (an action plan was developed in November 1998).
- ii) Implementing over the next two to three years, new regulatory duties resulting from European Directives, Government policies and Agency developments.
- iii) Contributions to the comprehensive reviews of abstraction licensing and fisheries legislation.

The forthcoming year will be challenging, and we will have to achieve a balance between maintaining our regulatory work, undertaking our new duties and moving forward with LEAP actions.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Hull & East Riding LEAP is a working document covering the five-year period 1998-2003, and publicises actions that are or could be ongoing in the local area to address local environmental issues, and seeks to encourage support for and involvement in these projects from prospective partners.

1.1 The Process

The LEAP was developed through an intensive process of consultation to ensure that the views of local customers were taken into account.

The process involves three stages:

- I The Consultation Report (Aug 1997).**
 - Identifying the key local issues and proposing actions to address the issues. Extensive consultation was undertaken to obtain the views of consultees.
- II The Final Plan: published (Aug 1998).**
 - Published actions to address the issues, which the Agency will be jointly responsible, together with other identified organisations and individuals, for implementing during the lifetime of the LEAP.
- III The Annual Review: this document.**
 - This presents the opportunity to review the progress of the last year against the actions identified with the LEAP published in Aug 1998, as well as the opportunity to highlight those actions to be progressed in the coming year.

This first review document contains the following information:

- i details of key achievements for 1998/99;
- ii update on activities against LEAP actions, and 'we will' statements;
- iii identified priorities/actions for 1999/2000;
- iv highlights of a successful partnership.

Reviews of the LEAP will normally take place for the period April to March and will be published April/May of each subsequent year, until a full re-assessment is undertaken after 5 years.

1.2 Catchment Overview



The Hull and East Riding plan area has a distinctive landscape, from Chalk Wolds to the Holderness plain and the Coast and Humber Estuary. It includes several centres of population at Hull, Driffield, Beverley, Market Weighton and Hedon, with seasonal tourist centres at Bridlington, Hornsea, Withernsea and Skipsea.



The coast has a number of sites of national and international importance including the Heritage Coasts of Flamborough (including Bempton Cliffs) and Spurn, and Hornsea Mere, and includes 13 designated bathing beaches. The area is popular for walking, birdwatching, boating, canoeing, fishing, and various water sports. The coast is also economically important for commercial fisheries and tourism.



The pressures of industry and large populations are lower in this area than in the other catchments of the Ridings Area which are centred on the urban areas of West and South Yorkshire. There is however a large concentration of industry around the City of Hull and along the banks of the Humber Estuary, with many industrial estates situated within sensitive catchment areas (eg Kelleythorpe Industrial Estate at Driffield and the Carnaby Industrial estate near Bridlington).

The area faces increasing demands for industrial and agricultural development, and increasing population brings with it a demand for new housing and for the supporting infrastructure to be expanded. These pressures and land use changes impact on our natural resources, transport routes, flood defences and on local residents and biodiversity.

A separate action plan for the Humber Estuary is available, which represents the Agency's contribution towards the objectives of the Humber Estuary Management Strategy.

2.0 REPORT ON PROGRESS & FORWARD LOOK.

This review provides an opportunity to highlight the work that has been undertaken and the progress that has been made against the published LEAP actions. Each of the following sections gives a brief comment on the stated commitments made in the LEAP, while the tables summarise the published LEAP actions.

Each section also provides a brief forward look, identifying the main areas for activity in the coming year. The following initiatives and pressures have influenced priorities for the forthcoming financial year and have directly influenced the resources that will be available to address LEAP actions:

- Implementing over the next two to three years, new regulatory duties resulting from European Directives, Government policies and Agency developments (see Appendix 1);
- Implementing action resulting from lessons learned from flooding outside the area during 1998 (see Appendix 3);
- Continuing to contribute to comprehensive reviews of abstraction licensing and fisheries legislation.

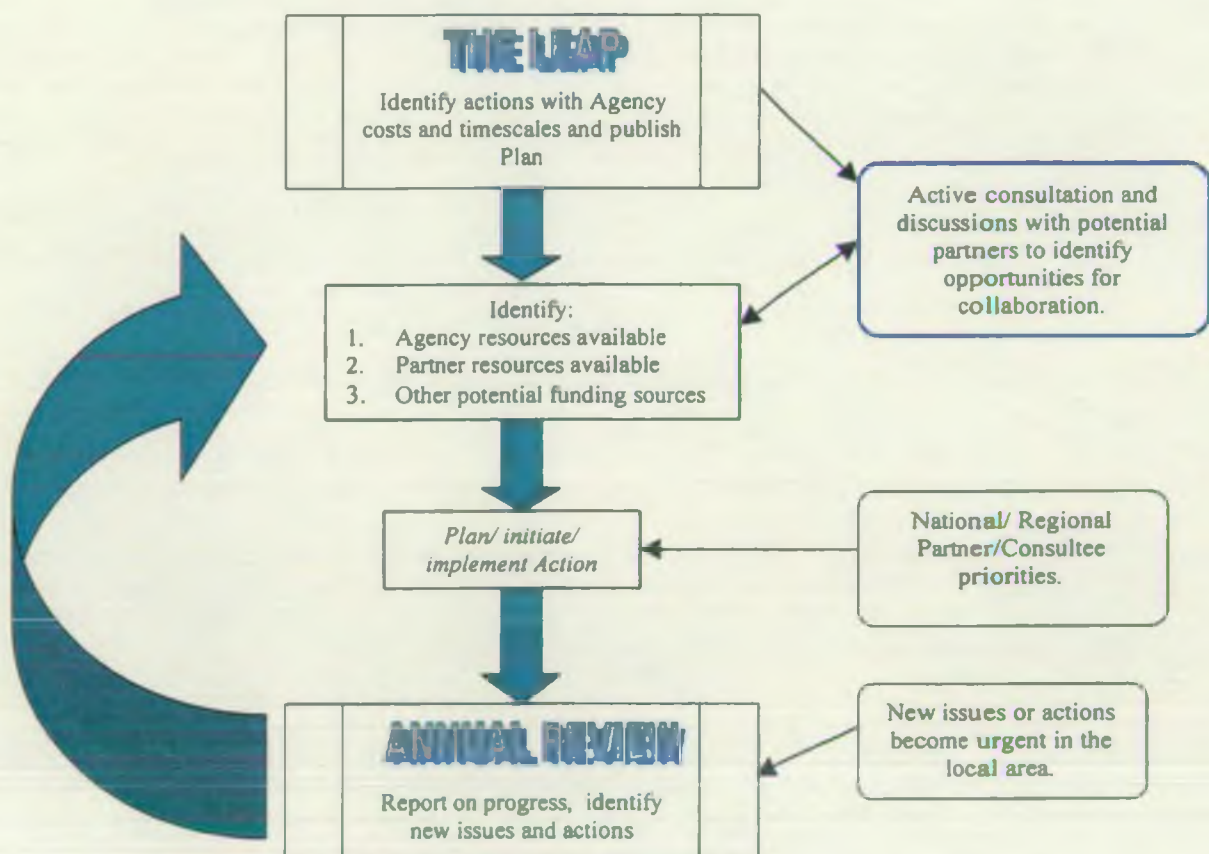
The following points should be noted:

- **Agency Statutory Role:** The LEAP does not include all of our statutory or regulatory work. Environmental protection and improvement is the aim underpinning all of our work, and the LEAP actions provide added value to this fundamental aim.
- **Resourcing the Actions:** Actions will be progressed only when resources become available (via Agency and/or partner sources), and may also be subject to national and regional priorities. Some actions will require feasibility studies and cost-benefit appraisal of options prior to work being approved. Figure 1 shows the key stages in developing the Plan into local action on the ground.
- **Linking Actions to Themes:** In order to ensure that actions and issues are discussed under the most appropriate 'theme' we continually assess and monitor reports and responses. This may result in some information changing location when compared to the final Plan (Aug 1998). We will ensure this is kept to a minimum, with full references being provided.

The following change has been made in this document:

- 1) Flood Defence issues have moved from River Basin Management to Conserving the Land.

Figure 1 Process for Developing the Final Plan into Action.



The highlighted blue box represents the current focus for progressing the LEAP. We will be seeking to determine the scale of current activities in the area, and identifying opportunities to work with others to achieve the objectives and progress actions of the LEAP (Aug 1998).

We would like you to view this Review as an invitation to get involved in integrated environmental problem solving. Local interest and collaborative potential can influence priorities, and since LEAPs are local plans we encourage support for local issues.



Addressing Climate Change and Improving Air Quality

Human activities such as energy generation, transport and agriculture are believed to contribute to climate change. Air quality is affected by economic development. Transport, energy generation and industry are the major sources of air pollution.

Key Achievements In 1998/9:-

- Hull City Council published a consultation report highlighting those local areas that are unlikely to achieve the standards set in the Government's National Air Quality Strategy.
- Significant progress has been made in developing and implementing gas management systems at landfill sites, including flaring starting at Carnaby near Bridlington and a commitment to install a recovery system at Barnsdale Bar by the end of 1999.

Final Plan Commitments:

We Will: Develop an overall Air Quality Strategy for releases from Part A processes in the LEAP Area, to ensure long term improvements in air quality.

All local authorities were supplied with data relating to emissions from Agency regulated Part A processes in order to assist them in their review of the local air quality issues. Hull City Council has provided the Agency with a consultation report on the current air quality, highlighting those local areas that are unlikely to achieve the standards set in the Government's National Air Quality Strategy.

A similar report from East Riding of Yorkshire Council was received in May 1999.

We Will: Assess the impact of the air pollution episode protocol which came into effect 1 July 1996 to enable a proactive approach to air pollution from Part A processes to be taken.

Information from the weather centre has been assessed although the results have been essentially inconclusive. The data was not able to show with any accuracy the source of pollution episodes, except for those few occasions when power station emissions were evident.

We Will: Undertake studies related to Humber Estuary Shoreline Management Plan (HESMP) in order to establish long term siltation patterns and rates, and identify potential flood risks.

The first draft of the Humber Estuary Environmental Baseline Study has been completed and includes data on the physical, natural and human environment which impact on the estuary. This geographical information system (GIS) has been built as a tool to assist in the development of the HESMP, but it will be maintained in the future and will form the basis for our data-holding system for the Humber.

An information document relating to the HESMP and related studies "The Humber Estuary: Planning for the Rising Tides" was published in April 1999. The document has been widely distributed and represents the start of the public consultation process, as we develop a long-term flood defence strategy for the Estuary.

Forward Look 1999/2000

- Provide effective input to all local authority zones of Industrial Pollution and Air Quality Management Plans.
- Emission reductions to be made from Agency regulated processes established by the Agency to meet prescribed air quality standards.
- Develop the draft HESMP identifying specific options for shoreline management and undertake wide spread public consultation.

Ref	Action	Timescale	Costs	Progress
CLIMATE CHANGE				
<i>ISSUE Information is required to identify opportunities to promote the benefits of waste minimisation.</i>				
4.3.1	Encourage collection and utilisation of methane gas from landfill and methane produced by other sites.	1999-2003 1998-1999	tbd £5 k	A draft working plan has been received for the future operation of Barnsdale Bar landfill site, which includes for the first time, an undertaking to flare the landfill gas and generate energy.
4.3.2	Initiate feasibility studies on installing active extraction with flaring or energy recovery, on existing landfill sites that passively vent gas.	1999-2003 1998-1999	tbd £5 k	A new working plan was submitted for Catwich Grange Landfill Site which includes proposals for the management of landfill gas. Discussions are underway with Catwich Grange regarding the commission of a feasibility study into flaring gas.
4.3.3	Identify and utilise sources of funding for the installation of collection & flaring/utilisation plant for gas from landfill and other sources.	1999-2003 1998-1999	tbd £5 k	No proactive actions due to resource issues.
<i>ISSUE Rises in sea levels are resulting in higher low tide levels which affects the ability of gravity drains to discharge to the Humber.</i>				
4.3.4	Undertake studies to assess options at outfalls in poor condition, and prepare action plans.	1998-2003	£35 k	The condition of several outfalls have been assessed: i) High Flaggs Refurbishment options under consideration and a scheme included in the long term plan. ii) Hessle Clough Refurbishment options assessed and the scheme about to commence. iii) Easington & Ireland Refurbishment options currently being assessed.

AIR QUALITY				
<i>ISSUE An overall air quality strategy is needed to enable the Agency to act as a consultee on local air quality plans.</i>				
4.4.1	Develop in partnership with Local Authorities, an overall air quality strategy for releases from Agency regulated processes in the area.	1998-2000	£5 k	Hull City Council have published a consultation report on the current air quality in and around Hull, highlighting those local areas which are unlikely to achieve the standards set in the Government's National Air Quality Strategy. A similar report has been produced by East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

tbd = to be determined.



Regulating Major Industries

Industry is essential for the economy and well-being of society. We work to achieve a balance so that industrial activity does not harm the environment. Our aim is to ensure that the existing management and future regulation of industry is carried out in a sustainable manner.

Key Achievements In 1998/9:-

The focus for 1998/99 has necessarily been on the regulatory and statutory role of the Agency. While some progress has been made on commitments in the LEAP, we have been unable to carry forward any LEAP actions this year.

Final Plan Commitments:

We Will: Develop environmental monitoring of IPC processes to improve information about the origin and dispersion of pollutants.

We are working in collaboration with Hull City Council to monitor the levels of Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) in the local area with the use of Hull City Council's mobile monitoring station.

The impact of the power station being constructed at Saltend will be assessed through monitoring data collected during the 18 months prior to commissioning, and for a further 2 years after commissioning. BP has environmental monitoring facilities at Hedon.

We Will: Assess the impact of Control Of Major Accident Hazards regulations (COMAH) in the LEAP area to improve environmental control over major incidents.

Together with the Health & Safety Executive (joint competent authority) we have identified those existing sites in the area which comply with the designation in the regulations of 'upper' and 'lower' tiers, which relate to the quantity of hazardous substance contained on site. The regulations are due to be published in April 1999 when any new site will be required to notify the competent authority.

We Will: Review authorisations and registrations issued under the RSA 93, with particular attention to justification of use, storage and disposal, to ensure less radioactive substances in the environment.

Reviews have been undertaken throughout the year with no significant issues being raised.

Forward Look 1999/2000

- Introduce Integrated Pollution Prevention & Control (IPPC).
- Implement COMAH Directive.

Ref		Action	Timescale	Costs	Progress
MAJOR INDUSTRY	<i>ISSUE Overall strategies for the releases from processes controlled under IPC require development.</i>				
	<i>Best practicable environmental options can be established for further sites and processes using the 3 Es methodology and similar procedures.</i>				
	4.11.1	Assess the potential for extending the existing 3 Es methodology to appropriate companies in the area.	1998-2000	£3 k	No pro-active action this year due to resource issues.



Managing Waste

All wastes must be carefully managed, so we need to know what is produced and where it goes. We also need to ensure that it is handled and recovered or disposed of without harm to the environment or human health.

Key Achievements In 1998/9:-

- The National Waste Arisings Survey provided the opportunity for the Agency to promote waste minimisation with local businesses. One company in Hull was able to identify significant potential for savings, and is now working with us to achieve these.
- We initiated a campaign to prevent pollution and promote waste minimisation on the Burstwick Industrial Estate. Twenty-two industrial units were inspected on the estate, and Agency officers were able to offer advice to unit owners on water and waste issues.

Final Plan Commitments:

We Will: Support the East Yorkshire Waste Panel to raise environmental awareness of waste disposal issues and improve the flow of information and knowledge.

The East Yorkshire Waste Panel meets on a quarterly basis and considers issues such as the National Waste Survey, recycling old computers and the work of "The Centre for Waste and Pollution Research" at Hull University. The meetings are attended by local authorities, local business and commerce and are seen as an important media for passing on important information.

We Will: Develop collaborative partnerships with local authorities to implement the Flytipping protocol and ensure that enforcement action is taken against flytippers.

An important prosecution was completed in co-operation with East Riding of Yorkshire Council. The council investigated a local builder for a breach of a planning enforcement notice and their planning officer witnessed the illegal disposal of waste. We prosecuted with the planning officer giving evidence on our behalf, resulting in a fine and costs of £4000. Further, as a result of our two pronged attack, the builder has now given a firm commitment to comply with the planners requirements.

We have liaised with Hull City and East Riding councils over the new protocol and will continue to offer advice and assistance where-ever possible.

We Will: Review the requirements of Producer Responsibility as regulations and initiatives are implemented and keep industry abreast of the implications for their business.

We have tried to ensure that industry is kept abreast of the implications for their business with regards to Producer Responsibility. As the Packaging Regulations are the first branch on the Producer Responsibility tree, we have tried to ensure that companies within our area who are affected have been made aware of their existence.

We have carried several audits on registered companies and are actively pursuing our enforcement policy with companies who are obligated under these regulations but have not registered with the Agency or a compliance scheme.

Forward Look 1999/2000

- Complete the Waste Arisings Surveys to allow the development of local and national waste strategies.
- Promote achievement of targets set by Government for Producer Responsibility (Packaging Waste) for recovery and recycling through rigorous compliance monitoring.

Ref	Action	Timescale	Costs	Progress
WASTE				
<i>ISSUE Information is required to quantify waste disposal needs in the area and to identify opportunities to promote the benefits of waste minimisation.</i>				
4.10.1	Develop collaborative partnerships with industry, business and support organisations to promote waste minimisation. Eg Regional Sustainability Plan.	1998-2000	£4 k	The National Waste Surveys provided the opportunity for the Agency to promote waste minimisation with local businesses. As a result of a waste survey visit to a Hull company identified an opportunity to achieve very significant savings associated with their current waste disposal. The company are now actively seeking recycling and waste minimisation options, with advice and input from the Agency.
4.10.2	Work with local authorities on the development of a Waste Management Strategy for the area.	1998-2001	£2 k	No proactive action.
4.10.3	Undertake a survey of 'exempt sites' in the area to identify those activities posing potential pollution threats and plan action to minimise the risks.	1999-2000	Agy £5 k Clts£15k	Spot checks have been made on selective exempt sites but it has not been possible within existing resources to undertake a full survey.
<i>ISSUE Information is required to quantify waste disposal needs in the area and to identify opportunities to promote the benefits of waste minimisation.</i>				
4.10.4	Extend existing waste minimisation concepts to the agriculture and service sectors, domestic activities and primary natural suppliers.	1999-2002	£10-15 k	The Burstwick farm campaign aimed at improving water quality in nearby Burstwick Drain as well as addressing waste issues and offering advice on waste minimisation resulted in 80 farms being inspected and 35 of the farms are to take remedial action. Working with Hull City Council for two days, the Agency promoted recycling in the home at a local shopping centre.
4.10.5	Identify where waste prevention recycling or minimisation could be encouraged and develop initiatives to promote this.	1999-2000	£3k	The National Waste Survey carried out by the Agency has highlighted many opportunities for waste minimisation initiatives within industry. However due to resource restrictions we are yet follow up on these possible opportunities.
<i>ISSUE Supervision and monitoring programmes for the land spreading of waste need to be determined.</i>				
4.10.6	Set up and maintain a database register on all sewage sludge to land activities in the area. Improve liaison between parties involved in sludge disposal. Formulate a Joint Code of Practice for the disposal of Sewage Sludge to land	1998-2000	£5 k	Yorkshire Water Services, East Riding of Yorkshire Council and the Agency have established a liaison group to discuss issues relating to the disposal of sewage sludge in the catchment.
<i>ISSUE The area is important for the import and export of waste.</i>				
4.10.7	Liaise with the Port Authorities to promote greater awareness and understanding of responsibilities with regard to Waste Management.	1998-1999	£3 k	The launch of the 'Green Project' which aims to develop a management system for collection and disposal of ships waste, involves co-operation of the several organisations.

Agy = Agency, Clts = Consultants



Managing Water Resources

Increasing pressures on water resources, including uncertainties such as climate change, require us to take a sustainable approach to water management and use, balancing the needs of abstractors and the environment.

Key Achievements In 1998/9:-

- A collaborative project with Yorkshire Water Services assessing horticultural pesticide use and disposal resulted in an action plan being drawn up for 5 glasshouse units in the Hull and Beverley areas that may pose a risk to the Sherwood Sandstone.
- Phase 1 of the multi-functional Hull Headwaters Study is substantially complete with the production of the integrated Environmental Report.

Final Plan Commitments:

We Will: Implement the options identified through the River Hull Headwaters Study in collaboration with other interest groups to integrate management for the Hull Headwaters.

A number of initiatives are currently underway including implementing a strategy for flow and water quality monitoring on West Beck to assess the impact of fish farms on the river (see also River Basin Management).

We Will: Implement Surface Water Abstraction Licensing Policy (SWALP) on all new licences in the area to ensure a balance is achieved between the needs of the environment and the needs of abstractors.

Action on implementing SWALP is on hold, pending the recommendations from the current review of existing abstraction licensing legislation being undertaken by the DETR (see below).

We Will: Actively participate in the DETR national review of existing abstraction licensing legislation to ensure the effective management and protection of water resources.

We have actively participated in the review and provided DETR with a considered response to the consultation review document. Further consideration is being given to the impact of anticipated recommendations resulting from the review, and preparation developed for implementation.

Forward Look 1999/2000

- Implement Groundwater Regulations.
- Continue implementation of the River Hull Headwaters project.

WATER RESOURCES

Ref	Action	Timescale	Costs	Progress
ISSUE Further investigations on the management of the Chalk aquifer and the spring fed headwaters of the River Hull are underway.				
4.5.1	Identify suitable boreholes and initiate regular sampling to assess long term changes in groundwater quality.	1998-2000	£40 k	A comprehensive survey of the existing boreholes has been undertaken within Ridings Area, with the co-operation of borehole owners. Existing data available data will be combined with these survey results to produce a database, and GIS map. This will lead to the identification of boreholes suitable for regular sampling to establish the long term changes and trends in groundwater quality, which will assist in the management of the water resource.
4.5.2	Use the East Yorkshire Chalk Groundwater Model: 1 In the appraisal of groundwater abstraction licensing policy.	1998-2000	£30 k	The Chalk Groundwater model is currently being developed and refined and is not yet available for active use.
4.5.3	2 To review the Chalk Groundwater Protection Zones around public water supply boreholes.			
ISSUE The Chalk aquifer is especially at risk from agricultural activities.				
4.5.4	Undertake collaborative projects in the East Yorkshire area on: 1 horticultural pesticide usage and disposal.	1998-1999	£15 k	Glasshouse units within the Hull & Beverley area have now been environmentally audited with risk assessments provided for each unit. An action plan has been drawn up in collaboration with Yorkshire Water Services to re-visit 5 units that may pose a risk to the local aquifer. This project has highlighted the need for proactive work within the Agricultural sector.
4.5.5	2 agricultural oil storage in sensitive areas	1998-1999	£25 k	Discussions are underway with ADAS, Yorkshire Water Services and the Agency to identify potential collaborative opportunities, and further funding availability.
4.5.6	Inspect all British Agrochemical Standards Inspection Scheme (BASIS) stores in the area.	1998-2003	£15 k	Inspections have been underway throughout the year and all were completed at the end of March 1999.
4.5.7	Assess earth banked slurry lagoons in the area to identify structures posing potential pollution threats and plan action to minimise the risks.	Phase 1 1999-2000 Phase 2 2000-2001	Agy £5 k Clts£25k £12 k	The pollution prevention campaign targeted in the Burstwick Drain area (see action 4.8.7) also involved the assessment of earth banked slurry lagoons. 22 farms were identified with such lagoons and action is being planned where necessary. Full scoping study awaited and funding required.
4.5.8	Assess agrochemical storage facilities at agricultural units in Ground Water Protection Zone's and plan action to minimise risk to water quality.	2000-2001	Agy £3 k Clts£30k	Project specification completed, but resources and funding awaited before commencement of scoping study.

Agy = Agency, Clts = Consultants



Integrated River-Basin Management

Integrated River Basin management is about more than just water quality, it concerns water flow, landscape, flood control works, recreation and wildlife. We consider all these factors to get the most of the river environment with the least disruption to it.

Key Achievements In 1998/9:-

- Almost 100 farms were visited in May and June 1998 as part of a pollution prevention campaign in the Burstwick Drain area. Nearly 50% of the farms inspected require remedial work, and follow-up visits are planned.
- Water Level Management plans have been produced for Pulfm, Boynton Willow Garth and River Hull Headwaters. The Plans promote greater understanding of the water environment and balance the needs of flood defence, agriculture and ecology.

Final Plan Commitments:

We Will: Appraise the options identified in Phase 1 of the multi-functional River Hull Headwaters Study, and implement options identified to maximise the ecological potential and maintain the required level of defences.

A number of initiatives are underway including a review of flood defence maintenance and identification of habitat improvement opportunities, and implementing a strategy for flow and water quality monitoring on West Beck to assess the impact of fish farms on the river (see also Water Resources).

We Will: Participate in the Asset Management Plans investment programme discussions between Yorkshire water Services and OFWAT.

The Agency's recommendations for the improvements to Sewage Treatment Works and Combined Sewer Overflows have been largely accepted in the latest Periodic Review of Water Company Charges and Investment see Appendix 2. Progress is on target for those improvements agreed under previous period review programmes (AMP2).

We Will: Identify opportunities to provide improved facilities along the lower River Hull for recreation and access for all, whilst addressing the problems associated with dereliction.

We are working closely with East Riding of Yorkshire Council to investigate the problems of moored boats on the River Hull, where many are in a state of poor repair, and particularly in the Beverley area are generally of poor environmental quality. Significant improvements have been made at Hull Bridge, where the improvements have resulted in an application by Hull Sea Cadets to take on two of the moorings.

Forward Look 1999/2000

- Progress implementation of the water level management plans for Pulfm, Boynton Willow Garth and River Hull Headwaters.
- Undertake a survey of River Hull Headwaters to identify habitat management/improvement works to implement options identified in the River Hull Headwaters Study.
- Work with Hull City Council to complete the innovative scheme "Moontide Visitor Interpretation facility" to provide information and recreation for visitors to the Hull Tidal Surge Barrier.
- Undertake pollution prevention campaigns in the Carnaby and Holderness Drain catchments.

RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT

Ref	Action	Timescale	Costs	Progress
ISSUE Further investigations on the management of the Chalk aquifer and the spring fed headwaters of the River Hull are underway.				
4.8.1 Links to section 4.5	Implement a comprehensive measurement system for abstraction and discharges from fish farms, in compliance with existing consents.	1998/99	£6 k	A strategy for flow and water quality monitoring on West Beck to assess the impact of fish farms on the river has been implemented.
4.8.2 Links to section 4.7	Undertake further investigations regarding the impact of minor control structures and riverbed modifications and implement pilot schemes.	1998-2000	£100 k	A review of flood defence maintenance and identification of habitat improvement opportunities has been undertaken. Upper Hull Habitats Improvements – tree planting and earth works programmed for the winter period with landowners and local angling clubs. Installation of angling platforms has also commenced.
	Undertake raking/breaking up of compacted gravels.	1998/99	£5 k	
4.8.3 Links to section 4.9	Identify suitable locations and undertake bankside planting and fencing to create riparian buffer zones.	1998/99 6 months	£1 k	
ISSUE There is sometimes conflict between flood defence, and farming, conservation and angling interests with regard to watercourse maintenance.				
4.8.4	Establish a forum to provide education and advice on current best practices for watercourse management.	1999-2000	tbd	No pro-active action. Proposed to amend the action to "Provide education and advice through working with existing groups such as Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group, National Farmers Union, Association of Drainage Authorities and Linking Environment And Farming (LEAF).
ISSUE Timescales for improvements in sewage treatment and the premature operation of Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO) will affect the water quality and the designated bathing beaches on the coast and risk contravention of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD).				
4.8.5	Identify and produce a business case for relevant Yorkshire Water Services assets in need of improvement within East Yorkshire.	1998-1999	£4 k	A business case has been produced which highlights the need for improvements in East Yorkshire for the disposal of rural sewage and septic tank effluent.
4.8.6	Undertake a study on the rural sewage and septic tank disposal problem in the Holderness area.	1999-2000	£25 k	Project specification produced but funding still required.

tbd = to be determined.

Ref	Action	Timescale	Costs	Progress
ISSUE <i>Many parts of the catchment are vulnerable to pollution of surface and groundwater. The Chalk aquifer is especially at risk from agricultural activities.</i>				
4.8.7	Carry out proactive prevention campaigns on farms and industrial estates in the catchment. Winestead Drain Camaby Burstwick Drain Holderness Drain Keyingham Drain Otringham Drain	1998-2002 (1998-1999) (1999-2000) (2000-2001) (2001-2002)	£23 k	The Burstwick campaign was aimed at improving water quality in nearby Burstwick Drain as well as addressing waste issues and offering advice on waste minimisation. 22 industrial units on the Industrial estate were inspected. A farm campaign in the Burstwick drain catchment was also completed, with 80 farms being inspected and receiving pollution prevention advice. 35 of the farms are to take remedial action. The Winestead farm campaign started in Dec 1998 and 70 farms were visited and given information and advice. The Camaby campaign has been subject to delay but commenced during May 1999. The Holderness Drain campaign is on target to start in November 1999.
4.8.8	Undertake a survey on the disposal of waste oils at garage premises in the area and plan a collaborative & proactive 'Oil Care' campaign.	1999-2003	Agy £5 k Clts £20k	Project specification produced but funding still required.
ISSUE <i>There are opportunities to provide improved recreation and access facilities at many locations, including for the disabled, and there are also unresolved issues relating to navigation in the area.</i>				
4.8.9	Survey all Agency land for, and develop collaborative initiatives on: 1 potential for recreational use, and access for all;	1999-2000	£10-15 k	A pilot project on the River Humber was completed and discussions are underway with user groups. Results of this pilot will be assessed for wider scale implementation to allow public or group access to Agency owned land. A project Officer with Hull City Council developed proposals further for the Moontide Visitor Interpretation facility at the Hull Tidal Surge Barrier. This innovative scheme should result in a public open space adjacent to the barrier and the Millennium Project - The Deep. The space will also encompass interpretation on the barrier for visitors.
4.8.10	2 archaeology and heritage value;			
4.8.11	3 opportunities for education and interpretation;			
4.8.12	4 extent of problems with litter in watercourses.			
4.8.13	Establish a navigation forum to promote regular liaison with navigation and other interests.	tbd	tbd	The Fisheries, Ecology & Recreation Manager was invited to join a working group on the International Association of Navigation Commissions, to report on the impact of recreational navigation on wildlife.
4.8.14	Review of code of conduct for use of Market Weighton Canal.	1999-2000	£1 k	
4.8.15	Review procedures for use of Weighton Lock and Weighton Canal.	1999-2000	£1 k	

Agy = Agency, Clts = Consultants, tbd = to be determined.

Ref	Action	Timescale	Costs	Progress
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RIVER BASIN
MANAGEMENT (cont'd)

ISSUE <i>There are extensive opportunities to improve the environmental status of the catchment by working in partnership with others.</i>				
4.8.16	Develop collaborative partnerships with Hull City Council on improvements to R Hull corridor.	1998-2000	tbd	Potential to expand this to include others areas, for example Holderness Drain at Preston Road.
4.8.17	Undertake collaborative community projects on 'Project Lifestyles'	1998-1999	£1 k	Humberside Police launched 'Operation Lifestyle' and the Agency joined other organisations in setting challenges for schools in Humberside with an emphasis on environmental awareness. Over 6000 school children took part in the operation with 64 groups taking up the Agency challenge.
4.8.18	Investigate the potential to extend WLMP approach to all watercourses in the area.	1998-2000	tbd	A trial is being initiated on the Winestead Drain to develop an Ecology Management Plan (including water level management) to maximise the benefits to the local ecology.

tbd = to be determined.



Conserving the Land

Our aim is to protect the land from water (flooding) and protect the water from land (contamination). Flooding endangers property, crops and lives. Contaminated land gives rise to water pollution and risks to health. Less obvious damage is caused by soil erosion.

Key Achievements In 1998/9:-

- Continued support for the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group has resulted in successful partnerships, with grant applications totalling £50,000 for conservation work on farms.
- We have initiated a working group to identify the potential for Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems in the area and to liaise with local authorities to raise the awareness of developers on the benefits to be gained.

Final Plan Commitments:

We Will: Identify and prioritise contaminated sites, which are having a known impact on controlled waters but where the persons responsible cannot be found.

Progress cannot be made on identifying and prioritising sites where those responsible cannot be found, until the Contaminated Land Regulations are implemented in December 1999 (see appendix 1). However, we have been working with Hull City Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council, to address the issues on contaminated sites as they were identified through the planning and re-development route.

We Will: Work in partnership with the local authority, quantify and assess the extent of groundwater pollution arising from the former Woldgate Landfill site near Bridlington.

We are working in partnership with East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC), providing them with technical advice. Consultants, appointed by ERYC to investigate the leachate levels on site, have identified proposals for short term solutions and the long term strategy. These proposals are being assessed and decisions expected by September 1999.

We Will: Improve existing flood warning service, and extend the service to more flood risk areas. (formerly River-Basin Management)

All local authorities were invited to attend seminars to discuss flood warnings and the emergency response, and to ensure that they had updated copies of the flood warning dissemination plans.

We Will: Undertake a programme of works to maintain and where necessary, improve the standard of protection afforded by flood defences. (formerly River-Basin Management)

Flood defence needs for the future are regularly assessed and where appropriate, are incorporated into an ongoing work programme (see Appendix 3). Flooding events experienced in the Midlands during Easter 1998 have resulted in the development of a national action plan (Nov 1998) which will have significant impact on the work undertaken in the next few years.

We Will: Input to the development of the Shoreline Management Plans for the Humber Estuary and the Coast to secure integrated management.

Work has continued on the Humber Estuary Shoreline Management Plan, which uses modelling to understand the natural processes taking place in the Estuary, and predict the need for defences (see also Addressing Climate Change and Improving Air Quality).

Forward Look 1999/2000

- Implement the new Contaminated Land Regulations
- Indicative floodplain maps will be issued to all local authorities.
- Continue to work with FWAG project officers to maximise benefits from farm conservation.

Ref	Action	Timescale	Costs	Progress
CONSERVING THE LAND				
<i>ISSUE There are extensive opportunities to improve the environmental status of the catchment by working in partnership with others.</i>				
4.9.1	Develop more valuable river corridors through the creation of buffer zones and sensitive land management 1 support the Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)	1998-1999	£20 k	The Agency continues to support the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group to maximise the benefits of promoting the conservation of ecology to the farming community in the area. Successful partnerships have resulted in grant applications totalling £50,000 for conservation work on farms that will increase the biodiversity of the targeted areas.
4.9.2	2 encourage take up of Countryside Stewardship Scheme and other grants			
4.9.3	Identify areas of bank erosion caused by angling activity and collaborate in action to remedy the problem.	1999-2000	£1 k	The multi-functional Hull Headwaters study is now substantially complete with the production of the Integrated Environmental Report. An initiative is underway to review of flood defence maintenance and identify habitat improvement opportunities (see actions 4.8.2 & 4.8.3) including the installation of angling platforms at Beverley Ship Yard.
<i>ISSUE Future development could impact on the environment unless the Agency maximises its influence on the land use planning system in liaison with Local Planning Authorities.</i>				
4.9.4	Establish a forum to promote greater use of Sustainable Drainage systems	1998-2000	£8 k	Ridings Area has established a working group to promote and raise awareness on the issue of sustainable drainage systems. Opportunities for pilot schemes to demonstrate the potential benefits of these systems are being sought, and we are actively seeking co-operation from local authorities through their Town & Country Planning responsibilities.
4.9.5	Provide information on best environmental practices to developers and others to promote sustainability in development.	1998-2000	£5 k	No pro-active action.

tbd = to be determined.



Managing Freshwater Fisheries

Good water quality and adequate flows are a prerequisite for healthy fish populations. We are also committed to a programme of habitat improvements, often in collaboration with other interested parties such as farmers and nature conservation groups.

Key Achievements In 1998/9:-

- Partnership work with East Riding of Yorkshire Council has resulted in a new maintenance method for Mill Race Bridge on the River Hull. This will protect an important section of spawning gravel for brown trout populations
- Following a major fish kill in a tributary of Hornsea Mere we have worked with Wassand Estate, English Nature and the Forestry Commission to create a management strategy to prevent further incidents.

Final Plan Commitments:

We Will: Utilise the results of the River Hull Headwaters study to manage flow regimes in the West Beck and the impacts of discharges.

As part of the Hull Headwaters project all fish farms were asked to submit environmental monitoring information. This will form part of a comprehensive review of current discharge and abstraction licences in the area.

We Will: Continue to work with landowners and angling clubs to break up areas of compacted gravels and monitor the success of this action in allowing fish to spawn.

A project to break up gravels on West Beck has been completed, and small dredging works undertaken on Lowthorpe Beck, Eastburn Beck, Southburn Beck and Foston Beck, which will expose existing gravels to improve potential for fish spawning.

We Will: Classify the rivers in the area according to the National Fisheries Classification System, to assist in the management of fish populations.

Fisheries survey work has continued throughout the year and will be used to produce the classifications.

Forward Look 1999/2000

- Continue to use the River Hull Headwaters study to manage flow regimes in the West Beck.
- Continue to work with landowners and angling clubs to improve the fisheries in the area.

Ref	Action	Timescale	Costs	Progress
FRESHWATER FISHERIES				
<i>ISSUE The West Beck (River Hull) is heavily used for fish farming.</i>				
4.7.1	Identify sites where fish populations have remained discrete and retained their genetic integrity, and plan action to ensure their protection.	1998-2000	tbd	No pro-active action.
<i>ISSUE The high quality fishery in the upper River Hull requires protection from pollution, low flows and modifications to the channel.</i>				
4.7.2	Monitor fish populations on the environmental mitigation and enhancement works at: 1 West Beck 2 Broomfleet Ponds	1998-2001	£5 k	No monitoring during this year, although further enhancement works to control weed growth, and improve the fisheries potential have been undertaken.
4.7.3	In collaboration with Riparian Owners seek opportunities to install fish pass structures, while ensuring the protection of heritage features.	1998-2003	£2 k	No direct action within the catchment area. However within South Yorkshire the development of an innovative rock chute design for fish passes allows the passage of both coarse and salmonid species. The design could be utilised in this area where opportunities arise.

tbd = to be determined.



Enhancing Biodiversity

Conserving and enhancing the variety of animal and plant life and the habitats in which they live is vital in improving the state of the environment.

Key Achievements In 1998/9:-

- Environmental enhancements have been carried out on West Beck, including tree planting to provide shelter for fish fry and nesting sites for birds. Surgery was also carried out on mature willows and the logs from the trees were used to create otter holts.
- A project officer was appointed for the Flamborough Head Special Area of Conservation and has produced a strategy for its management.
- The barn owl nesting box scheme that was trailed successfully on the River Hull has been extended to the Humber Estuary banks and the lower end of the Market Weighton canal. Good results were obtained with barn owls found in 4 boxes and nesting in 1.

Final Plan Commitments:

We Will: Take an active role in the National Chalk Streams Biodiversity Group and seek best practice solutions for managing the Upper River Hull.

Based on the work of the National Chalk Rivers Group and the Upper Hull Study, a programme of habitat improvements including bank management, desilting and reed planting has been developed.

We Will: In partnership with local authorities support the development and implementation of the Humber and East Yorkshire local BAPs.

We have played a significant role in the production of the Humber Biodiversity Action Plan, which has now been produced as a draft document.
The East Riding BAP is due to be produced as a consultation document.

We Will: In collaboration with English Nature review the current studies on fisheries and fisheries management on the Leven Canal SSSI.

Work carried out this year has included the removal of carp from the Canal and the introduction of pike in order to create a more balanced environment. The Hull Institute of Fisheries undertook the work for English Nature. The Canal is currently not being fished.

We Will: Work with English Nature and landowners to produce a management plan for Hornsea Mere, a site designated as an Special Protection Area (SPA) because of its importance for overwintering bird populations

The owners of Hornsea Mere are producing a management plan, and we are working with English Nature and the landowners to support the production of a management plan for the area.

Forward Look 1999/2000

- Implement the BAPs for the key species and habitats the Agency has a lead role for and undertake actions from the BAPs for which the Agency has actions.
- Support, as resources allow, the production of the East Riding and Humber BAPs.
- Investigate opportunities to expand the Barn Owl box project to the Foulness & Market Weighton canal systems.

Ref	Action	Timescale	Costs	Progress
ISSUE <i>Implementing the UK's Biodiversity Action Plan.</i>				
4.6.1	Assess the need for baseline surveys of important species, in collaboration with organisations involved in producing Local Biodiversity Action Plans, and plan action to protect.	1999-2000	tbd	<p>A survey of the water vole populations in the catchment indicated that several sites support thriving populations. The presence of the protected water voles is becoming an issue in relation to proposed new development at a number of locations in East Yorkshire.</p> <p>A Regional project jointly funded via Water UK, Yorkshire Water, and the Agency has been established with the appointment of a Rivers & Otters Project Officer with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. The project will examine the potential for expansion of the range of otter populations in East, South & West Yorkshire. Project officers for other areas of the North East Region are also in place.</p> <p>We supported the appointment of a little tern warden for the Beacon Lagoons SSSI, cSPA. The site is part owned by the Agency and managed under lease agreements by the South Holderness Countryside Society. The 1998 breeding season was very successful with the highest number of chicks fledged since the scheme began. A total of 41 pairs made 46 nesting attempts and 42 chicks were fledged. The lagoons colony is over 1% of the British Breeding population of little terns.</p>
ISSUE <i>There are extensive opportunities to improve the environmental status of the catchment by working in partnership with others.</i>				
4.6.2	Continue provision of nesting sites for Barn Owls, on the River Hull.	1998-2000	£10 k	Working with the Hawk & Owl Trust the Agency has been investigating the potential of new sites for the provision of Barn Owl boxes. This would build on the successes of last year, when nesting boxes were placed on the banks of the Humber and lower Market Weighton Canal. Barn owls successfully occupied 4 boxes including one nest.
4.6.3	Identify opportunities and plan action to extend the project to other parts of the area.	1998-2000	£1 k	
4.6.4	Extend previous partnership on the enhancement and protection of field margins.	tbd	tbd	No pro-active action.
4.6.5	Review Agency action to protect sites of local importance for nature conservation in the area.	1999-2000	£2 k	Conservation staff negotiated with English Nature and Agency Water Resources staff to ensure that sites of local conservation interest are considered during the licensing process.
4.6.6	Identify priorities for habitat conservation and restoration by carrying out a catchment review, and develop action plans.	1998-1999	£2 k	Working with English Nature and riparian owners, the Agency have improved the available habitat for the local wildlife on the West Beck, through the removal of intrusive species of reeds and replacement with more beneficial species, and some dredging works. Marginal zones have been deepened and planted with stands of Common Reed, to create a two-stage channel which will inhibit the re-growth of Reed Sweet-Grass and reduce the siltation in the main river channel. This new habitat should provide shelter for fish fry as well as nesting sites for birds such as reed warblers, sedge warblers and reed buntings.
4.6.7	Identify sites for appropriate tree planting on the River Hull corridor.	1998-1999		
4.6.8	Identify and implement habitat improvement and river rehabilitation schemes. e.g. River Hull between Baswick Landing & Hempholme Weir.	tbd	tbd	No pro-active action.
4.6.9	Implement recommendations of National R & D Project to assess the effect of predatory birds.	1998-1999	tbd	No pro-active action.

tbd = to be determined.

BIODIVERSITY (cont'd)

Ref	Action	Timescale	Costs	Progress
	Liaise with local authorities, developers and landowners to act to protect the area from:	1998-1999	tbd	
4.6.10	1 the inadvertent introduction or spread of alien weeds.			The East Riding of Yorkshire Council is working with the Agency to address the spread of 'Crassula' (aquatic weed) in the Beverley Canal. The Agency has developed draft recommendations for developers to encourage the control of phytophthora disease of alder. The draft recommendations are currently being circulated for comments. Opportunities to promote awareness of the spread of the disease are also being sought.
4.6.11	2 the spread of the phytophthora disease of alder.			
ISSUE The Agency will need to develop its role in coastal issues in liaison with the relevant agencies and bodies.				
4.6.12	Support the continuing development of the Flamborough Sensitive Marine Area (SMA) project into the Special Area of Conservation. Review topic papers in year two.	1998 - 2000 SAC project launched 7/98	£10 k	A Project Officer was appointed for Flamborough Head Special Area of Conservation and has produced a strategy for its management. The Strategy will be used guide all the partners involved (English Nature, Agency, Local Authorities) on how to preserve this most special area for the future generations.

tbd = to be determined.



Business Development

We have made clear our intention to be efficient and businesslike in everything we do. We aim to help achieve a better environment by maximising resources available for environmental improvement and realising additional resources.

Key Achievements In 1998/9:-

- The Area has made significant progress towards establishing a Customer Service Centre, which will provide an integrated response to customers needs with regard to issuing consents and permits.
- The Humber Estuary Action Plan was published setting out our programme of work on the Humber.
- The Final LEAP for the Hull and East Riding area was completed and published after extensive consultation.
- The East Yorkshire Area Environment Group discussed issues related to the Hull & East Riding LEAP, including actions arising from the Halcrow report on the River Hull Headwaters, particularly recommendations relating to increased regulation of fish farms on the river system.
- A series of successful road-shows were held with each local authority, aimed at developing relationships and understanding each other's perspective on a number of issues.

Forward Look 1999/2000

- Ensure that the Customer Service Centre is fully operational.
- Continue to develop the role of the East Yorkshire Area Environment group, including the monitoring of LEAP review process.
- Continue to develop the 'Environment First Culture' within the Area (see appendix 4).

3.0 PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships, in the form of pooled resources and expertise can bring about greater environmental benefit than could be achieved by one organisation working alone. Many organisations and individuals have responsibilities for the environment and, perhaps more importantly, *can* play a vital role in improving it. The level of interest in local communities, interest groups, local authorities and industry in tackling environmental issues has greatly increased and therefore the opportunities for greater achievement are plentiful. The hard work is usually bringing these like-minded people together at the right time, in the right place.

Many partnership initiatives involve education and awareness raising of environmental issues, as in many cases a lack of information and awareness is one of the factors, which can lead to environmental damage or neglect, whether it be accidental or deliberate. The project featured below shows one of the more innovative approaches being used to tap into the enthusiasm of young people for environment improvement and protection.

3.1 Humberside Police 'Lifestyles' Project

The Humberside Police 'Lifestyles' Project encourages young people to get involved in their own community. Each team took part in a challenge to benefit their local community; some sponsored by local companies. Over 6,000 young people got involved in 1721 teams and 700 projects were completed for judging. Many of the projects had environmental themes, including recycling, creating gardens from wasteland and pond clean-ups.



The Agency challenged teams to become Energy Inspectors and measure the amount of energy in the home that can be saved by using energy conservation measures such as turning lights off when not in use, putting a plastic-wrapped brick in the toilet cistern and saving rainwater for the garden. The idea was then to publicise the savings that everyone could make by starting a campaign in your local community with leaflets and posters. Over 60 groups took up the challenge.

The Agency also helped with a project involving clearing up after flytippers. A team of young people wanted to clean-up a ten-mile stretch of the Humber Wall between Immingham and Grimsby. The area is popular with anglers and was becoming increasingly spoilt for them by the rubbish. The team set to filling skips and were soon supported by the Environment Agency who sent tractors to help. The team gained permission for a special gate to be built at the entrance to the woods, which will still allow access for anglers, but hopefully stop further tipping by lorries and cars thought to be the main culprits.



The 'Funky 4-some' pictured developed their own project and re-designed areas of a local church garden, providing water efficient and easy to care for gardens, and including a water butt for public use when tending graves. They raised their own funds for the project through raffles, games, and selling cakes, refreshments, games and toys. They created a lovely rockery and provided a bird bath and table, and planted many shrubs, bulbs and herbs – however, they didn't realise how much hard work was needed before new plating can begin!

The top team won a holiday to Florida, and 6 runner-up teams were awarded adventure holidays in France. The Agency contributed funds to support an adventure holiday in Wales for one of the top 30 teams

The Lifestyle Project offered the opportunity to raise awareness of the environment through activity and fun. The Project has been running every summer for 10 years, but 1998 was the first year in which local companies sponsored challenges and holidays for the winners. This idea will now continue, and the Agency has sponsored the project again in 1999, as well as producing a new 'Green Challenge'. The project launch was on 7 May 1999 in which the Ridings Area manager represented the Agency.

Other Sponsors to the project include:

British Aerospace
Humberside Training & Enterprise Council
Yorkshire Water

Barclays Bank
Bridgetown Services
Chisholms Computers Ltd
Joseph & Annie Cattle Trust
East Yorkshire Motor Services
Garfield Weston Foundation
The Headley Foundation
Humberside Police Authority
McDonalds Restaurants Ltd
The Bernard Sunley Foundation
The Patrick Frost Foundation
Pentagon Communications
Royal Mail

..... and many other organisations generously contributed consolation prizes.

APPENDIX 1

NEW DUTIES OF THE AGENCY

Over the next two to three years, the Environment Agency will have a number of new regulatory duties. These result from European Directives, Government Policies and Agency developments. There maybe additional resources for some of these tasks but rigorous priorities will have to be set to accommodate the new statutory requirements.

Comprehensive reviews of abstraction licensing and fisheries legislation are also in progress.

1 Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control

The law enacting the EC Directive comes into force in October 1999 and extends the concept of Integrated Pollution Control to a wide range of industrial sectors, embraces elements of waste management licensing and includes aspects such as noise, energy and waste minimisation. It will apply straight away to new or substantially changed installations but will be phased in over an eight-year period.

2 Contaminated Land

The Environment Act 1995 (section 57) introduced the framework for a new contaminated land regime. This legislation which is due to be implemented on 1st December 1999 will provide new duties and powers to Local Authorities and the Agency that will enable the legacy of potential problem sites to tackled.

Under this new legislation the two joint regulators have the following responsibilities:

Local Authorities	Agency
Duties: Inspect their areas to identify contaminated land (CL). Consult the Agency where CL affects the pollution of controlled waters. Ensure remediation of CL. Transfer regulatory responsibility of 'special sites' to the Agency. Maintain 'remediation register'.	Duties: Ensure remediation of 'special sites'.* Maintain a register of 'special site' remediation. Prepare a national report on the state of CL. Powers: To provide advice to local authorities on; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 identifying pollution of controlled waters. 2 The remediation of contaminated land.

* Special sites are ones which effect the environmental quality standards of surface waters, major aquifers or public water supplies, or are sites with IPC processes or tar lagoons, or are owned by the Ministry of Defence.

3 Groundwater Directive

New Groundwater Regulations came into force January 1999 to implement fully this Directive. The disposal of List I or II substances (ie the potentially most polluting ones) require Agency authorisation. Disposal of sheep dip to land will require a Water Resources Act 1991 consent which will place restrictions on the quantity to be disposed, the frequency of disposal and the location. The Agency also has a duty to issues notices, prohibiting or controlling certain activities in or on ground involving List I and II substances.

4 Metal Recycling Sites

All metal recycling sites that remain unregulated are to be brought under waste licensing or registration by October 1999. This will deliver a level playing field and has potential for environmental improvement. Working relationships are being developed with the relevant trade associations and with local government. The licensing and registration process will take place between April and October 1999.

5 Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH)

This replaces the former Directive on Control of Industrial Major Accidents (CIMA) and requires operators of industrial processes involving dangerous substances to take all measures necessary to prevent and mitigate the effects of major accidents on man and the environment. The COMAH regulations place a statutory duty on the Agency, along with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) as part of a Competent Authority, to enforce the requirements of the regulations in England & Wales.

6 Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZ)

The 'Action Programme for Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (England & Wales) Regulations 1998', require the Agency to visit designated NVZs (located in East Yorkshire in Ridings Area) to assess compliance with statutory controls on fertiliser and manure use. The Agency will as far as possible adopt a partnership approach with the farming community, based on promoting benefits and education.

7 Minewaters

There are a number of issues relating to European legislation, in particular the Dangerous Substances Directive and Groundwater Directive that will impact on the way the UK deals with minewaters. These issues have implications for the Agency specifically in terms of its monitoring regime and consenting policy. It is anticipated that the bulk of the improvement work will fall to the Coal Authority, subject to adequate funding being made available. The Agency will be responsible for the regulatory role and will need to balance this additional requirement with the existing programme for minewater remediation. This will ensure that the priority for action remains focused on the significant environmental improvements, whilst maintaining progress towards meeting the objectives of the relevant Directives.

8 Habitats Directive

A European Directive came into force in 1994. Its provisions require a widespread review of environmental consents and licences to ensure that they take account of the impacts of abstractions, discharges or atmospheric emissions on Special Protection Areas (SPA) or Special Areas of Conservation (SAC). These reviews must be carried out between 1998 and 2004 on a prioritise basis.

9 Flood Action Plan

Following the severe flooding in parts of the Midlands at Easter 1998, a comprehensive review was undertaken of flood warning and response, and other measures to protect people vulnerable to flooding. The Agency has developed an action plan (November 1998) that builds on the outcomes of the review, to ensure the effective management and delivery of a flood warning service.

APPENDIX 2

UPDATE ON ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS (AMP)

The following information represents the most up to date available and supercedes that which was published in the final LEAP (August 1998).

Proposed Sewage Treatment Works Improvement Schemes for Investment during 2000-2005 (AMP3).

The investment by Yorkshire Water under the third Asset Management Plan (period 2000-2005) will be part statutory and part discretionary. Statutory investment will be to ensure compliance with EC Directives (Urban waste Water Treatment, Fisheries, Habitats). Discretionary investment will be undertaken to achieve other environmental improvements such as compliance with River Quality Objectives (RQO).

Discharge name	Receiving water name	Receiving water Chemical GQA grade	Receiving water RQO	Population equivalent	Length of river or area of SSSI affected	Driver
Aldbrough	Lambwath Stream	E	3	2200	10	U1, RQO
Beeford	Old Howe	C	1	2600	1.6	F, RQO
Burton Pidsea	Burton Pidsea Beck	D	2	700	8.4	U2, RQO
Driffield	Driffield Canal	E	2	18400	3.8	H, RQO
Holme-on-Spalding Moor	Main Drain	D	2	3700	2	U1, RQO
Keyingham	Keyingham Drain	E	3		10.8	RQO
Kilham	Lowerthorpe Beck	D	2	2200	8.7	U1, H, RQO
Leconfield	Ella Dyke	E	2	2600	2.5	U1, RQO
Nafferton	Spittle Beck/Nafferton Beck	C	2	3100	2.9	U1, F, RQO
Patrington	Tributary of Winstead Drain	E	3	2200	7.8	U1, RQO
Roos	Roos Drain	E	3	800	8.2	U2, RQO
Rudston	Gypsy Race	D	2	22	2	RQO
Skidby (Discharge to sub-surface)	Tributary of Mill Beck	U	U	2900	0.5	RQO
Skipsea	Skipsea Drain	E	3	600	3.6	U2, RQO
Skirlaugh	Lambwath Stream	3	2	400	10	RQO
Watton	Watton Beck	C	2	3000	7.7	U1, RQO
Withernwick	Lambwath Stream	E	4	400		RQO
Potential length for improvement:					90.5	

Drivers:**Statutory**

U1 – to comply with Urban waste Water Treatment Directive (population equivalent > 2000).

U2 – to comply with Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (population equivalent < 2000).

F – to comply with Freshwater Fisheries Directive.

H – to comply with the habitats Directive. (The driver relates to discharges that may impact on Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Sites are agreed with English Nature and confirmation of investment is subject to further investigation by the Agency).

Non Statutory

RQO – investment to achieve or protect River Quality Objectives downstream of STW discharge.

Proposed Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Improvement Schemes for Investment during 2000-2005 (AMP3).

Funding of environmental obligations by Yorkshire Water in the period 2000 – 2005 will address 84% of unsatisfactory intermittent discharges, in line with DETR guidance to water companies.

The drainage area zones listed are being considered for minor improvement schemes to reduce the risk of pollution from CSOs and pumping station overflows. Yorkshire Water is undertaking surveys across the Region to determine the occurrence of aesthetic pollution from any of its existing assets.

Drainage Area Zone (DAZ)	Receiving water name	Number of Discharges
Beverley	Beverley Beck	6
Bridlington	North Sea	4
Bridlington Rural	River Hull tributaries	4
Driffeld Rural	Driffeld Canal	5
Gilberdyke Rural (E)	Humber	5
Hornsea	North Sea	2
Hornsea Rural	River Hull & tributaries	9
Hull East	Humber	6
Market Weighton	Market Weighton Beck	3
North Ferriby	Humber	1
South Cave	Humber	2
Withernsea	North Sea	3

(note: None of the DAZs listed in Hull & East Riding area have been identified as causing water quality problems).

Proposed Village Drain Improvement Schemes.

Discharge name	Watercourse
Atwick	Tributary of Stream Dyke
Bewholme 1	Bewholme Beck
Bewholme 2	Bewholme Beck
Great Hatfield	Tributary of Lambwath Stream
Hollym	Tributary of Winstead Drain
Holmpton	Tributary of Nevills Drain
Lelley	Tributary of Northfield Drain
Long Riston	Riston Beck
Mappleton	North Sea
Molescroft	Molescroft Beck
New Ellerby	Lambwath Stream
Old Ellerby	Tributary of Kelwell Drain
Ottringham	Ottringham Drain
Skeffling	Tributary of Skeffling Clough
Tower Lane (Hedon Rd)	Tower Lane Beck
Weels	Tributary of Holderness Drain
Welwick	Welwick Drain

APPENDIX 3

UPDATE ON FLOOD DEFENCE PROGRAMME OF WORKS

- The £11.2m SaltEnd Flood Defence scheme was officially opened on 15 May 1998 by Elliot Morley, Minister for Fisheries and the Countryside.
- The first phase of Albert Dock scheme that protects West Hull from the Humber was completed, and discussions are underway with Associated British Ports for Phase 2 of the project. When the scheme is complete it will protect 4,600 residential properties and over 300,000 m² of commercial property against floods of up to 200 year return period.
- We contributed £2.84 million towards the total cost of £3.47 million required to replace the existing lock gates at King George Dock and Alexandra Dock, Hull. The new gates help to protect 2,000 hectares of developed land in East Hull incorporating docks, commercial properties, industrial developments and residential properties.
- Flood defence works have started at Reedness, beside the tidal Ouse. The scheme is part of the Combined Capital Works Project and involves the reconstruction of approximately 1.5km of tidal flood defences. The Construction Industry's Task Force have included The Combined Capital Works Project as a 'demonstration project' in proposals (supported by John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister), to reform the performance of the construction industry.
- Works were completed at Saltmarshe on the Lower Ouse where the current flood defences were predicted to fail within 5 years. A new concrete and brick clad, steel sheet piled wall was installed. Saltmarshe is one of four schemes which will protect 180 km² and 3,300 residential properties.
- A draft set of tender documents and drawings has now been received for flood defence works at Goole Hall.
- Work has continued on the River Hull Bank Stabilisation scheme. Basic construction of the earthbank up to design level and the placing of riverside gabions, is now complete. Work is expected to be completed during the next financial year.

Flood Warning and Emergency Response

- The Agency has published an official response to the Independent Report on the Easter 1998 floods. This identifies our key objectives in flood warning, flood defence and emergency response. Actions include publishing revised flood risk maps by September 1999, visually surveying all flood defences by April 2000, and developing and testing emergency response plans in conjunction with local authorities and emergency services.
- As part of the Easter Flood Actions, the assessment of all existing telemetry sites for performance at extreme flood levels was completed. A co-ordinated program of new and improved sites is now being prepared. Group meetings were also held with a number of local authorities on the Flood Defence Action Plan.
- The North East Region is employing a Public Relations officer specifically to raise public awareness of the Agency's flood warning service and clarify emergency response arrangements.

APPENDIX 4

INTERNAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The Agency believes in setting an example in good environmental practice; in September 1996 the Board agreed to adopt an 'Environment First Culture' to implement effective environmental management.

Our internal environmental policies, aim to reduce energy and water consumption, minimise waste and promote sustainable travel by reducing business mileage and increasing the efficiency of our vehicles.

The following points show some of our internal environmental achievements against these policies for 1998/99

- **Reduce energy use in offices and depots**

Ridings Area staff have carried out energy audits for all offices in the area. Campaigns to turn off computers when not in use have been successful.

- **Reduce water consumption in offices and depots**

Water consumption is 30% less than accepted norm for offices

- **Reduce mileage, improve transport efficiency**

Staff are encouraged to car-share to meetings, video-conferencing is used increasingly for meetings to avoid travelling. The Area more than met the target for mileage reduction.

- **Use recycled aggregates in construction works**

Schemes in South and East Yorkshire used recycled aggregates for flood defence works, saving costs and materials.

New targets are being developed for the year 1999/2000.

These are just some of the initiatives that are underway in the Agency. If you would like more information on the our internal environmental policy and performance, please contact;

Ridings Area Environmental Management Co-ordinator
Environment Agency
Phoenix House
Global Avenue
Leeds LS11 8PG

APPENDIX 5

THE ROUTINE WORK OF THE AGENCY

On a day-to-day basis, the Agency carries out a huge environmental monitoring and regulatory operation, most of which is to achieve statutory requirements. The aim of regulation is to balance the needs of people and the environment. The Agency works to:-

- conserve, redistribute and improve river, lake, reservoir and underwater supplies
- prevent and control pollution of air, land and water
- reduce the risk of harm from contaminated land and bring it back into use
- make sure waste is dealt with safely and legally
- make sure radioactive materials are kept, used and disposed of safely
- make sure flood risks are reduced and new ones are not created or exacerbated.

Regulating the environment takes place through licensing. The Agency manages licences for abstraction of water from rivers and boreholes, releases to air and water, the carrying and disposal of waste and to carry out work in, over, under or near a watercourse. Within Ridings Area we manage over 1,800 water abstraction licenses, 3,800 consents to discharge to water, 850 waste management licences, over 280 authorisations under Integrated Pollution Control for processes which make releases to air and 460 permits for radioactive materials and waste. We determine approximately 400 applications each year to work on or near water.

We monitor the environment to ensure that pollution is controlled and resources are adequately protected. We regularly monitor the quantity and quality of rivers, estuaries and the sea and check emissions from the processes we regulate. Results are reported on a public register, which can be inspected at the Agency's main offices. We run a 24-hour service for receiving reports of and responding to flooding and pollution incidents and emergencies in the air, water or on land. We also work with others to reduce the risk of harm from contamination and to bring land back into good use.

We work to minimise waste and prevent pollution through advice and education, including national campaigns, and through working with other environmental regulators. When necessary, we are prepared to enforce environmental legislation in a tough way. Those who show little regard for the law and who cause blatant and persistent damage to the environment can expect to be prosecuted.

The Agency also has the role of reducing risk to people and the environment from flooding by providing effective defences. Protecting life is our highest priority and to meet this aim we provide a flood forecasting and warning service and discourage development in flood-risk areas. In Ridings Area we also manage over 900 km of flood defences and aim to protect and improve the natural environment by promoting flood defences that work with nature.

We are responsible for maintaining, improving and developing fisheries. We regulate fisheries by issuing licences for rod angling and net fishing. We carry out improvements to fisheries by improving the habitat and fish stocks and providing advice to fishery owners. The Agency seeks to ensure that wildlife, landscape and archaeological heritage are protected both in any work we carry out and also in work carried out by others.

We have two primary statutory duties in respect of features of conservation interest; to further, wherever possible, conservation when carrying out water management functions; to have regard to conservation when carrying out pollution prevention and control functions. We also have a free standing duty generally to promote the conservation of natural beauty and amenity and the wildlife dependent upon the aquatic environment.

Our principal aim for recreation is to protect, improve and promote the water environment for recreational use. We do this by protecting existing use and creating opportunities in the course of our work and by maximising the use of Agency owned sites for recreation.

APPENDIX 6

VISION & AIMS OF THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY*Our vision is:*

A better environment in England and Wales for present and future generations.

Our aims are:

- * To achieve major and continuous improvements in the quality of air, land and water;
- * To encourage the conservation of natural resources, animals and plants;
- * To make the most of pollution control and river basin management;
- * To provide effective defence and warning systems to protect people and property against flooding from rivers and the sea;
- * To reduce the amount of waste by encouraging people to re-use and re-cycle their waste;
- * To improve standards of waste disposal;
- * To manage water resources to achieve the proper balance between the country's needs and the environment.
- * To work with other organisations to reclaim contaminated land.
- * To improve and develop salmon and freshwater fisheries.
- * To conserve and improve river navigation.
- * To tell people about environmental issues by educating and informing.
- * To set priorities and work out solutions that society can afford.

We will do this by:

- being open and consulting others about our work;
- basing our decisions around sound science and research;
- valuing and developing our employees; and
- being efficient and businesslike in all we do.

MANAGEMENT AND CONTACTS

The Environment Agency delivers a service to its customers, with the emphasis on authority and accountability at the most local level possible. It aims to be cost-effective and efficient and to offer the best service and value for money.

Head Office is responsible for overall policy and relationships with national bodies including Government.

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ENVIRONMENT AGENCY GENERAL ENQUIRY LINE

0645 333 111

The 24-hour emergency hotline number
for reporting all environmental incidents
relating to air, land and water.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY EMERGENCY HOTLINE

0800 80 70 60



**ENVIRONMENT
AGENCY**