

River Dart Partnership

Sept 2024

V3.0

1. Our Purpose

The River Dart Partnership exists to connect and inspire people and organisations so that they can work together across the entire catchment from the source to the sea to care for and improve the condition of the river, its wildlife and its habitats.

Our Values

The values guiding the Partnership's activities are:

- *the river is a vitally important ecosystem that needs to be protected by everyone*
- *the highest possible standards of water quality should be achieved and maintained*
- *we need a holistic catchment approach to address the multiple challenges including biodiversity loss, climate change and water quality*
- *a recognition that by working in partnership we can achieve greater impacts*

Our Vision

"A resilient River Dart that is in excellent ecological health supporting increasing wildlife, our local residents and a sustainable local economy."

Our Mission

"To bring people together to create and deliver an action plan to significantly improve the condition of the River Dart over the next five years."

2. Aims of the Partnership

- 1.1 To work in partnership to protect and enhance the biodiversity and water quality of the river and its catchment.
- 1.2 To provide a forum for interested organisations and groups to come together and improve communication and partnership working.
- 1.3 To formulate strategy and work together to implement an agreed action plan.
- 1.4 To pursue sources of funding to deliver the partnership's objectives.
- 1.5 To communicate the partnership's work to the wider public and stakeholders.

3. Membership of the Partnership

- 2.1 The Partnership is open to organisations whose work is connected to the River Dart.
- 2.2 To become a member, organisations should complete a simple membership form and nominate a representative.

2.3 The full Partnership will meet at least annually. Further meetings may be organised according to need.

4. Partnership Steering Group

3.1 The Partnership steering group exists to manage the partnership on behalf of the members.

3.2 Steering Group members are:

- The Sharpham Trust
- The Environment Agency
- Dartmoor National Park Authority
- South West Water
- South Devon National Landscape
- Westcountry Rivers Trust
- The Duchy of Cornwall
- Friends of the Dart
- Ambios Ltd

3.3 Organisations on the Steering Group should nominate representatives to attend, although others may substitute when necessary.

3.4 The Steering Group can co-opt additional members as required.

3.5 The Steering Group may elect a Chair and Vice -Chair of the Partnership for a term of two years.

3.6 Decisions in the Steering Group are made by consensus.

3.7 The Steering Group should report to the wider membership on an on-going basis.

3.8 The Steering Group will set agendas for meetings through the Chair and circulate minutes to Working Group members.

3.9 The Steering Group may establish project groups if required.

5. Hosting the Partnership

4.1 The Partnership is hosted by The Sharpham Trust who will endeavour to provide admin support, organise meetings and communications.

6. Strategy and Action Plan

5.1 The Steering Group will consult the wider Partnership and community on formulating a River Dart Catchment Action Plan.

5.2 The Steering Group may pursue sources of funding to implement the agreed plans.

7. Governance

6.1 The organisation of the Partnership and governance may be reviewed annually by the Membership.