



# Environmental policy

## Biodiversity

Good environmental management is central to the activities of Thames Water.

The company actively seeks to limit the environmental impact of its business activities and to enhance environmental quality in areas where it has influence. Stewardship of biodiversity, both on our land holdings and where our activities may have an impact across the wider environment, is a responsibility we take seriously.

In exercising our role for biodiversity stewardship we are committed to the following objectives:

- Comply with all relevant UK, European and international legislation and statutory codes of practice.
- Abide by the Water Industry Act Code of Practice on Conservation, Access and Recreation.
- Assess the biodiversity implications of new or emerging legislation to ensure that business operations align with new standards.
- Manage our land and water holdings to conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity.
- Plan and manage our activities to avoid loss of biodiversity.
- When commissioning and undertaking projects (including capital works schemes, other projects and maintenance schemes likely to result in disturbance or other impact to land and/or water), endeavour to avoid damaging wild species and their habitats and, where appropriate, create opportunities for biodiversity enhancement.
- Aim to integrate our biodiversity activities with the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) process as arose following the International Convention on Biodiversity 1992.
- Collect, manage, evaluate, use and exchange biodiversity information, to enable us to plan and execute our activities with due regard for biodiversity.
- Maintain technical competence on ecological matters and provide training for staff and contractors to appropriate levels of understanding and awareness about biodiversity.
- Integrate biodiversity into other company policies and programmes.
- Support, engage and involve other biodiversity stakeholders and the general public.
- Measure and report on our biodiversity performance internally and externally.

Programmes to help us meet these objectives will be implemented and progress reviewed annually.

This policy will be reviewed at least once every three years.