

Development and consultation on a Vision and Strategic Action Plan for the River Frome by the Severn Vale Catchment Partnership

The Catchment Based Approach is an inclusive, civil society-led initiative that works in partnership with Government, Local Authorities, Water Companies, businesses and more, to help manage and restore catchments in England. Catchment partnerships are actively working in all 100+ river catchments across England and cross-border with Wales, directly supporting achievement of many of the targets under the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan, including in the Severn Vale.

The [Severn Vale catchment partnership](#) (SVCP) is hosted jointly by the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and the Severn Rivers Trust, with membership drawn from a wide range of public, private and third sector organisations, including Stroud District Council.

The SVCP has developed a [draft Vision and Strategic Action Plan](#) for the River Frome, and recently carried out a public consultation on the draft plan. The draft vision and action plan contains a series of ambitious objectives and actions for the Stroud River Frome. Examples of Actions include:

- Seek funding for at least 5 additional barrier removals or easements across the catchment
- Re-naturalise the river channel by introducing woody debris at 30 sites
- Reconnect 5km of headwater river with the floodplain by removing embankments and remeandering straight sections of
- Run annual Yellow Fish and misconnection campaigns, engaging 10 schools, residential and business communities
- To double the current number (750) of natural flood and drought management measures across the catchment
- Seek funding to identify the causes of zero flows in at least 2 sections of the river and, where possible, develop proposals to reduce or reverse these impacts.

Stroud District Council has responded positively to this consultation as it fits well with our own 2030 Strategy, particularly in the way it combines actions that will help mitigate both the climate and ecological emergencies and includes ambitious objectives and actions on natural flood management, nature recovery and community involvement in these.

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