Governance Structure

Catchment Based Approach (CaBA)

Steering Group

BACP Resources:
- Wessex Water - Funding co-host
- West of England Rural Network (WERN) - Charitable co-host
- Independent Chair
- BACP Catchment Co-ordinator
- EA Catchment Co-ordinator
- Catchment Partnership Support/Assistant
- Strategic Advocates

Other Partnerships:
West of England Nature Partnership
West of England Rural Network
Severn Estuary Partnership
Avon Frome Partnership

Flow of communication

Delivery Forum

Local Action Groups

Project Task Groups
Roles and Responsibilities

**Catchment Based Approach (CaBA)**

The CaBA is an inclusive, civil-society led initiative that works in partnership with Government, Local Authorities, Water Companies, Businesses and more, to maximise the natural value of our environment. The CaBA was established in 2012 by Defra to provide a national framework to support the 100+ catchment partnerships across England.

**Steering Group**

The Steering Group comprises of management level representatives from a variety of organisations including: Environmental NGOs; local government; community groups; agricultural sector; water companies and Defra agencies who have the capacity to make decisions and cascade information appropriately within their organisations.

The Steering Group will help to identify issues and opportunities to improve the water environment, commissioning monitoring/data gathering as appropriate. The Steering Group will help to identify, and access funding made available through other mechanisms to support the development and delivery of partnership projects, where possible informing and communicating with relevant Strategic Advocates to unlock funding. The Group will also review financial and technical reports and oversee the management of the Catchment Partnership Fund.

The Group will provide support to Local Nature Partnerships and other relevant partnerships and respond to consultations to steer the development of Local Plans and policies on matters related to water and sustainable land management in the catchment, helping to facilitate sustainable management and development across political boundaries.

**Project Task Groups**

The Project Task Groups will form as and when required to support the development and delivery of specific partnership projects. Existing partnerships/initiatives that are delivering water-based improvements across the catchment will be welcomed to feed into the partnership to ensure joined-up delivery.

**BACP Resources**

The **Independent Chair** will provide direction and advice to the Steering Group/Strategic Advocates and other relevant partnerships/groups to help progress the delivery of the BACP Action Plan/Catchment Plan and to deliver sustainable water management across the catchment.

The **BACP Catchment Co-ordinator** helps to facilitate the progress and development of the partnership, coordinating and supporting BACP Groups and supporting the development and delivery of partnership projects that deliver multiple benefits. When funding is required to help deliver actions that have been agreed, the Catchment Coordinator will help partners collaboratively identify and apply for appropriate funding.

The **Environment Agency (EA) Catchment Co-ordinator** provides a consistent point of contact for partners to engage with the EA. They will also provide regular updates to the BACP regarding the status of Government funding and work closely with all partners to develop and ensure the delivery of partnership projects.

The **Catchment Partnership Assistant Role** provides support to all groups and individuals within the partnership to ensure communication and work efforts are joined up. They will also ensure the Action Plan is updated annually and provide a conduit of communications/information between the BACP and the CaBA.

The **Strategic Advocates** are senior representatives from local government, Local Nature Partnerships, Local Enterprise Partnerships, land management/agricultural interests and from the environmental, community and business sectors. They can be called upon to provide high level political/strategic advice to help collaborative delivery to improve the water and land environment on a catchment scale.
BACP Funding and Hosting Arrangements

The purpose of the BACP is to co-ordinate and facilitate partnership working to improve the water environment within the Bristol Avon catchment. The Partnership will coordinate a strategic, sustainable and more cost-beneficial approach to delivering solutions to the water-based issues through the collaborative delivery of the Action Plan.

The BACP can share resources, skills, data and knowledge through the Steering Group, Delivery Forum and supporting roles (identified on the previous page) to help secure funding for delivery of the partnership projects identified within the Action Plan. Where a blockage is found, issues can be raised with Strategic Advocates to identify alternative/more appropriate ways to deliver multi-benefit outcomes.

Catchment Hosts

The Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership is currently co-hosted by Wessex Water and the West of England Rural Network (WERN).

Wessex Water acts as the Funding Host. As part of the company’s commitment to working in partnership, a full-time Catchment Co-ordinator will be funded until March 2025. Funding will also be provided for an Independent Chair, Catchment Partnership Assistant Role and web/communication expertise as required.

Currently, WERN is acting as the Charitable Co-Host of the BACP. WERN will apply for CaBA Hosting funding on behalf of the BACP as required. WERN will also help to take an oversight to the management and delivery of the Catchment Partnership Fund.

Catchment Funding

The Steering Group has supported the development of the Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership Fund; this will be administered annually on behalf of the partnership. The purpose of the Fund will be to support the development and delivery of projects that will improve the water environment within the Bristol Avon Catchment and where possible aid the delivery of the projects outlined in the Action Plan. To find out about the Catchment Partnership Fund please see the links at the bottom of the page to the BACP website.

When funding becomes available (through various sources) the BACP will work collaboratively to ensure the agreed partnership projects identified in the Action Plan are financially supported. An ongoing challenge for the BACP is to diversify the funding sources and secure more longer-term funding to support the continued delivery of projects.

Contact the BACP:

If you would like to find out more about the BACP please email: info@bristolavoncatchment.co.uk or visit our website: www.bristolavoncatchment.co.uk
Please contact us if you would like to know more about the membership of any of the BACP groups.

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