

## P44 Access for recreation

Theme(s): B: Improve people's understanding of rivers, catchments, weather extremes and climate change. Increase community participation in monitoring change and taking action to improve and protect water environments.

Goal(s): B2: Improve access to river-based recreation to engage more people in river issues.

Deliver better access and understanding around parts of the Tyne and its tributaries with a focus on maintenance and improvements for recreational access (footpaths, walking routes, cycling etc.) and using the river as a source for improving health and wellbeing and education, with a strong emphasis on community engagement and activities for everyone. Assess the potential to open up new access areas where agreement with landowners can be reached.

Encourage communities to adopt their local area – raise awareness, encourage clean ups and maintenance of footpaths (particularly next to river banks) and erosion control measures to prevent the loss of paths on eroding banks.

*Update as at April 2013: A number of organisations are very supportive of this project, particularly where it links with local authorities' green infrastructure delivery plans. A group of organisations met in March, and will meet again in April 2013, to explore the possibility of putting together a bid for funding from a number of sources to deliver a programme of awareness raising and engagement projects targeted at improving understanding and protection of the rivers in the Tyne catchment.*

Project Status:	Proposed
Potential Deliverer(s):	Local authorities (highways, access and leisure teams), Sustrans, Groundwork, Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Tyne Rivers Trust, Sport England, community volunteers, sports clubs
Estimated Timeframe:	5 to 10 years
Estimated Project Cost:	£50,000 to £100,000
Potential Funding Source(s):	Sport England capital projects, local authorities' recreation/access budgets
Green Infrastructure link:	Links to green infrastructure plans in urban areas