

P55 Tyne engagement & education programme

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):	B3: Engage widely to educate about river issues and encourage positive behavioural change. B4: Raise awareness and demonstrate the economic benefits of improving water quality, tackling pollution, and planning for weather extremes and climate change.

Engagement and education covering the full scope of freshwater environmental issues but focusing on: how rivers flow, runoff, extremes and how society currently manages these resources; river 'health', definitions of unhealthy and sources, how the citizen is involved and a can passively and actively improve river health; river enjoyment - knowledge leads to appreciation, access, safety, river 'sense', enjoyment for differently-abled stakeholders.

Update as at April 2013: 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):	An 'engagement officer' working with local groups on the model of Tyne Rivers Trust's River Watch. Partners would include North Pennines AONB Partnership, Northumberland National Park Authority, Groundwork, Northumberland Wildlife Trust. Possible integration with angling development.
Estimated Timeframe:	5 to 10 years
Estimated Project Cost:	£250,000 to £500,000
Potential Funding Source(s):	Charitable trusts and concerned local corporates. Funds available to specific partners.