

River Don

The River Don Catchment has been identified as a priority area to focus our actions on due to the developments that are being planned around the upper section of the river (source to A19) and the opportunities for improvement that these developments can bring.

Health of the river

- Overall status is POOR
- Failing for ECOLOGY and the impact of MODIFICATIONS
- Using DEFRA's National Funding Criteria* it comes out as a Priority Waterbody

Objective

- To have a vision for the river.
- To improve element and overall status of the river.
- To focus on opportunities and wider benefits from the new developments.
- To involve partners and the Local Nature Partnership
- Understand the contaminated land issues in the catchment

Actions

- Internal catchment group focus to improve knowledge and understanding of the pressures on the river (walkovers, ecological and water quality monitoring).
- Discussions with the Local Council Planners around the International Advanced Manufacturing Park (IAMP) and extension to Follingsby Business Park.
- Discussions with the IAMP consultants developing a master plan for the site.
- Discussions with the LNP around developing a vision for the river.
- NWL assets i.e. South Shields interceptors are at capacity. Their assets/permits need reviewing due to the increase in the catchment it takes.
- Compromised CSO at Bolden Flatts. NWL are currently assessing their options. There could be potentially more flow to the Don
- Ecology baseline data take and sondes deployed – August 2015

Outcomes

- Improved knowledge of the pressures on the waterbody on the upper reach of the river to inform our WDF investigations (Investigative Ecological survey and sonde deployment)
- Open dialog with the Local Councils around the environmental impacts and opportunities from the developments
- Site meeting and sharing of information/data with the IAMP master plan consultants

*Protect and restore, Reverse real deteriorations, Drive improvements where benefits are the greatest, WFD Classification improvements, integrated actions through the CaBA

Northumberland, Durham and Tees Tyne Catchment Priority Places



Making a great place even better

- Don Project submission in to the Environment Programme Medium Term Plan
- NWL and South Tyneside Council completed retrofit of SuDS and resolved connections on Fellgate Estate September 2015

Partners

- Gateshead Council
- South Tyneside Council
- Local Nature Partnership
- Arup
- Northumbrian Water Group