### **Eco Bicester Strategic Delivery Board**

Date of meeting: 19 July 2012

Report title: Change Programmes impacting Environment Agency South East, West Thames Area

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#### 1. During the 2012/2013 financial year, the Environment Agency West Thames Area will:

- Continue to sit on the Eco Bicester Strategic Delivery Board (Sally Coble, Environment, Planning and Engagement Manager)
- Continue to invest the time of a Senior Sustainable Places Officer in the Eco Bicester Project Steering Group
- Prioritise our engagement on work in and around Bicester (through the Strategic Delivery Board, Project Steering Group, planning applications, Local Development Framework etc)
- Work closely with key parties on new and existing development in and around Bicester to help deliver environmentally sustainable outcomes

# 2. Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 The Environment Agency is continually looking to improve the way it does things. By reviewing every aspect of how we work, we can ensure that every pound we receive and spend gets the most for people and the environment.
- 2.2 A number of change programmes reached key stages of delivery on 1 June 2012. We have also reviewed our Area priorities. This report explains how these changes will affect the work we do in Bicester.

# 3. Overview

- 3.1 The Environment Agency has undergone a national review of our flood risk management structure. Changes came into force on 1 June 2012 and mainly affected our Flood and Coastal Risk Management Department and our Planning and Corporate Services Department. The changes will improve the way we work and have altered our organisational structure. The changes are designed to ensure that we are more effective, efficient and customer-focused.
- 3.2 Sally Coble now manages our new Environment, Planning and Engagement (EPE)

  Department (previously called Planning and Corporate Services) for the West Thames Area.
- 3.3 The new Area Sustainable Places Team (previously called Planning Liaison) which sits within the EPE Department will continue to focus on providing Cherwell District Council and

Oxfordshire County Council planning departments with advice on a wide range of environmental issues including flood risk, land contamination, water resources, waste management, biodiversity and pollution control.

- 3.4 Bicester is located within our West Thames Area. Wallingford and Frimley are our West Thames Area offices. The West Thames Area sits within our South East Region and our Regional office is located in Reading.
- 3.5 Appendix 1 shows the West Thames Sustainable Places team structure and geographical coverage of the 29 planning authorities that we work with.

#### 4. West Thames Area Priorities

4.1 As well as the change programmes, looking at the priorities within our Area will also allow us to continue to meet our environmental aims within our budgetary and resource constraints. Following a review of our Area priorities for the 2012/2013 financial year, we are pleased that Bicester will continue to be a priority for us. We need to prioritise our work to places and on issues where the environmental risks and opportunities are greatest enabling us to continue to achieve more with less resource. Bicester is such a place and we will therefore continue to work closely with all parties on delivering environmentally sustainable outcomes for Bicester.

#### 5. Recommendations

5.1 We would like the board to note the structural changes that have impacted the Environment Agency locally and be aware that we have prioritised our work in and around Bicester to help deliver the high environmental standards aspired by the Board. We want to help the Board create better local environments to improve the quality of places for people, support a sustainable economy and address climate change.

### **Eco Bicester Strategic Delivery Board**

#### <u>APPENDIX 1 – West Thames Sustainable Places team structure</u>

#### ENVIRONMENT AGENCY SOUTH EAST - WEST THAMES AREA – AREA SUSTAINABLE PLACES TEAM STRUCTURE

West Thames Area Office: Sub Area Office:

Red Kite House, Howbery Park
Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford, Oxon. OX10 8BD
Swift House, Frimley Business Park
Camberley, Surrey, GU16 7SQ

Team email address (both offices): planning-wallingford@environment-agency.gov.uk

Team Leader: Vicky Pinnick victoria.pinnick@environment-agency.gov.uk 0127 645 4366

**Technical Specialists:** John Woodhouse (Wallingford) john.woodhouse@environment-agency.gov.uk 01276 45 4322

Judith Johnson (Frimley) judith.johnson@environment-agency.gov.uk 01276 45 4326

Sarah Green - (Maternity Leave)

Major Projects Officers: Jon Mansbridge (Wallingford) jon.mansbridge@environment-agency.gov.uk 01491 82 8366

Lesley Tims lesley.tims@environment-agency.gov.uk 01491 82 8486

Marie Martin – (Maternity Leave)

Planning Liaison Officer 1s: Wallingford:

Cathy Harrison <u>cathy.harrison@environment-agency.gov.uk</u> 01491 82 8515 Michelle Kidd <u>michelle.kidd@environment-agency.gov.uk</u> 01491 82 8455 Jack Moeran <u>jack.moeran@environment-agency.gov.uk</u> 01491 82 8367

Ashley Maltman ashley.maltman@environment-agency.gov.uk 01491 82 8338

Chris Roe <a href="mailto:chris.roe@environment-agency.gov.uk">chris.roe@environment-agency.gov.uk</a> 01491 82 8351

Frimley:

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Neil Landricombe neil.landricombe@environment-agency.gov.uk 01276 45 4382

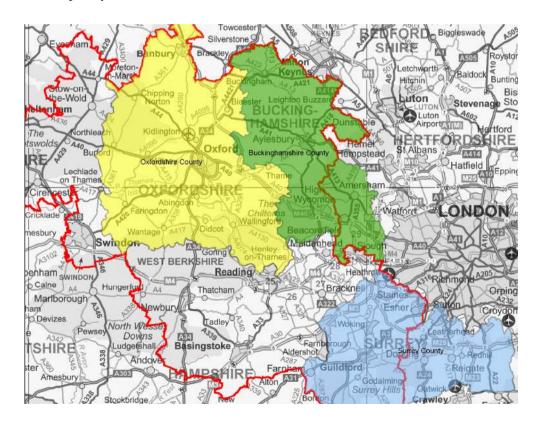
Planning Liaison Officer 2s: Jane Wilkin jane.wilkin@environment-agency.gov.uk 01491 82 8370

Vacant Post

Mini Teams 2012 (see colour coding on attached map)

Judith Johnson		Lesley & Vicky		John Woodhouse	
Southern (Neil & Katie)		North West (Cathy, Jack & Ashley)		Central East (Michelle, Chris & Jane)	
Spelthorne, Surrey Heath, Runnymede, Woking	Neil	West Berks, Oxfordshire County Council, West Oxon	Cathy	Bucks CC, Wycombe, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead,	Michelle
Elmbridge, Rushmoor, Waverley, Guildford	Katie	Swindon, Vale of White Horse, Cotswold	Ashley	Aylesbury Vale, Wokingham Reading, Bracknell Forest	Chris
Surrey CC	Katie	Cherwell, South Oxon, Oxford City,	Jack	Slough, Basingstoke & Deane (temp), Hart (temp)	Jane
	Vacant				

# **County Map**



# **Planning Authority Map**

