

PLACES SCRUTINY PANEL

14th February 2013

RUTLAND WATER PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Report of the Operational Director for
Places

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| STRATEGIC AIM: | Building our infrastructure Creating an active and enriched community Creating a sustained environment |
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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To update the Places Scrutiny Panel on progress with the activities of the Rutland Water Partnership.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Places Scrutiny Panel note the contents of this report.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 The Rutland Water Partnership (RWP) was formed in 2000. It is a group of stakeholders in Rutland that meet quarterly to discuss matters concerning Rutland Water and the surrounding area, for example:

- a) Leisure, Tourism and Heritage
- b) Highways, Transport and Access
- c) Environmental Quality

4.2 The terms of reference of the RWP are attached as Appendix 1.

4.3 Membership of the RWP includes the relevant RCC Ward Members (Cllr E Baines, Cllr K Bool and Cllr T King). Cllr Baines is the current chair of the Partnership.

5. ACTION PLAN

5.1 The RWP action plan is attached as Appendix 2. As the plan has not been updated recently Appendix 3 provides up to date comments on the actions.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

| RISK | IMPACT | COMMENTS |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---|
| Time | Low | The Partnership Action plan is in need of updating. |
| Viability | Low | The Partnership is not a decision making body. |
| Finance | Low | No issues identified. |
| Profile | Medium | The Partnership advises and lobbies on high profile issues. |
| Equality and Diversity | Low | No issues identified. |

Background Papers

Minutes of the Partnership can be found here:
http://www.rutland.gov.uk/rutland_together/rutland_water_partnership.aspx

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A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.

Appendix 2 - Rutland Water Partnership – Action Plan 2010 - 2012

| Issue Ref. | Action | Lead Partners | Current Situation | Timescale |
|--|--|--|---|----------------|
| <u>Leisure, Tourism and Heritage</u> | | | | |
| LTH 1 | To develop a sustainable tourism plan which looks beyond the current funding arrangement with Anglian Water. Rutland Tourism Strategy already exists and plans have been incorporated into the tourism team work programme to refresh this strategy. | Rutland County Council (Emma Savage) Anglian Water (AW) | A 5 year agreement for funding Discover Rutland began in 2007 | By April 2011 |
| LTH 2 | To build links between Rutland Water activities and events taking place in Oakham, Uppingham and surrounding areas. | RCC (Emma Savage) Arts 4 Rutland OTC /OTP/UTC Oakham Festival | Included in programme of Discover Rutland | By April 2010 |
| LTH 3 | To review the impact on tourism and the economy that the Annual Bird Fair has and how these can be developed further. | RCC (Emma Savage) L+RWT OTC AW | Included in programme of Discover Rutland | By May 2010 |
| LTH 4 | To extend walking, cycling and horse riding routes around the Rutland Water area, by making connections with existing routes and/or reclassifying existing routes. | RCC (Highways), Anglian Water CPRE Bridleways Association | Several possible routes being explored for improvement | April 2011 |
| <u>Highways, Transport and Access</u> | | | | |
| HTA 1 | To review parking provision around Rutland Water and make recommendations on improvements required (if any) | RCC (Highways) Parish Councils Anglian Water L+RWT Natural England | No recent review except in Hambleton | September 2010 |
| HTA 2 | Improve public transport links between Rutland Water and Oakham and Uppingham | RCC (Highways) Parish Councils Anglian Water | Limited bus provision on weekday. None at all on Sundays | June 2010 |
| HTA 3 | Complete a safe off-road circuit around Rutland Water for cyclists | RCC (Highways) Anglian Water Parish Councils Natural England | Some small sections e.g. Lyndon, are still on public roads | September 2011 |

Appendix 2 - Rutland Water Partnership – Action Plan 2010 - 2012

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| HTA 4 | To work towards a Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) agreement to extend and improve public access to areas around the reservoir. N.B. Government has removed funding attached to HLS access, therefore this is no longer a priority. | Anglian Water English Nature RCC (Highways) Parish Councils Ramblers Association Bridleways Association | To establish an agreement by April 2011 | By April 2012 |
| <u>Environmental Quality</u> | | | | |
| EQ 1 | To review the boundary of the Rutland Water special policies area. The boundaries to Rutland Water Policy Area and defined Recreation Areas will be reviewed through the LDF Site Allocations and Development Control Policies Document. | RCC (David Troy) Anglian Water NFU Parish Council Natural England | Boundary for special policies is that contained with LDF Core Strategy | September 2011 |
| EQ 2 | To develop and promote environmentally sensitive farming in the Rutland Water catchment area in order to contribute to the reduction of phosphate levels with Rutland Water SSSI, which may contribute to the formation of blue/green algal blooms. | NFU Anglian Water Natural England Environment Agency L+RWT | Situation update required Promotional plan required | March 2010 October 2010 |
| EQ 3 | To develop and promote the Landscape Strategy (part of the RCC Biodiversity Action Plan) in respect of the Rutland Water Area | RCC (Craig Howat) L+RWT NFU Natural England Anglian Water | Landscape Strategy drafted for discussion | May 2010 |
| EQ 4 | Where possible, to contribute to the improvement of biodiversity within the Rutland Water area and to receive annual reports on progress on managed sites within the Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan. | Natural England L+RWT Anglian Water NFU Users Group RCC | No summary report available yet | December 2010 |
| EQ 5 | To receive information on and comment on actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon dioxide, by the adoption of energy saving practices and other relevant measures within the area. (N.B. this is included so that members are fully aware of initiatives within the area.) | RCC (Isabel Clark) Anglian Water NFU L+RWT Parish Councils Users Group | The programme is stated within the Carbon Management Plan | September 2010 |

Appendix 2 - Rutland Water Partnership – Action Plan 2010 - 2012

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| EQ 6 | To receive and comment upon information relating to the assessment of potential risks and opportunities to the Rutland Water area resulting from climate change and where possible, implement measures to reduce priority risks and pursue opportunities. | Anglian Water RCC (Isabel Clark) NFU L+RWT Parish Councils Users Group | The programme is stated in the Climate Change Action Plan | October 2010 |
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Appendix 3 - Rutland Water Partnership – Action Plan 2010 - 2012

| Issue Ref. | Action | Update |
|--|--|--|
| <u>Leisure, Tourism and Heritage</u> | | |
| LTH 1 | To develop a sustainable tourism plan which looks beyond the current funding arrangement with Anglian Water. Rutland Tourism Strategy already exists and plans have been incorporated into the tourism team work programme to refresh this strategy. | A robust delivery model in place seeking to grow membership and secure other additional funding in partnership with other Local Authority tourism teams. |
| LTH 2 | To build links between Rutland Water activities and events taking place in Oakham, Uppingham and surrounding areas. | This is included in the programme of Discover Rutland |
| LTH 3 | To review the impact on tourism and the economy that the Annual Bird Fair has and how these can be developed further. | This is included in the programme of Discover Rutland |
| LTH 4 | To extend walking, cycling and horse riding routes around the Rutland Water area, by making connections with existing routes and/or reclassifying existing routes. | This is being investigated as part of the Travel4Rutland (LSTF) project. |
| <u>Highways, Transport and Access</u> | | |
| HTA 1 | To review parking provision around Rutland Water and make recommendations on improvements required (if any) | This will be included as part of the next Parking Review which is planned for the agenda of the Places Scrutiny panel in April. |
| HTA 2 | Improve public transport links between Rutland Water and Oakham and Uppingham | The Travel4Rutland (LSTF) project will provide these links. |
| HTA 3 | Complete a safe off-road circuit around Rutland Water for cyclists | Approval was given by Council in January to make a compulsory purchase order to acquire the land required. |

Appendix 3 - Rutland Water Partnership – Action Plan 2010 - 2012

| <u>Environmental Quality</u> | | |
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| EQ 1 | To review the boundary of the Rutland Water special policies area. The boundaries to Rutland Water Policy Area and defined Recreation Areas will be reviewed through the LDF Site Allocations and Development Control Policies Document. | Submission stage Site Allocations & Policies Local Plan is being prepared for consideration by the Scrutiny Panel. The work includes a review of the special policies for Rutland Water Area and the boundary |
| EQ 3 | To develop and promote the Landscape Strategy (part of the RCC Biodiversity Action Plan) in respect of the Rutland Water Area | See below: |
| EQ 4 | Where possible, to contribute to the improvement of biodiversity within the Rutland Water area and to receive annual reports on progress on managed sites within the Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan. | Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife trust is no longer monitoring the Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan. An alternative plan should be considered. |
| EQ 5 | To receive information on and comment on actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon dioxide, by the adoption of energy saving practices and other relevant measures within the area. (N.B. this is included so that members are fully aware of initiatives within the area.) | The programme is stated within the Carbon Management Plan, with additional activities underway to improve household energy efficiency, alleviate fuel poverty and reduce domestic carbon emissions from households and businesses in Rutland through 1) the Energy Action in Rutland project (supporting households) 2) projects funded by the Department of Health Warm Homes, Healthy People fund (supporting households) and 3) projects funded by the Department of Energy and Climate Change's Fuel Poverty Fund and Green Deal Pioneer Fund (joint project across Rutland and Leicestershire) (supporting households and businesses). |
| EQ 6 | To receive and comment upon information relating to the assessment of potential risks and opportunities to the Rutland Water area resulting from climate change and where possible, implement measures to reduce priority risks and pursue opportunities. | An area wide adaptation action plan is under development for Rutland to improve local resilience to extreme weather and changes in our climate. |