



local environment agency plan

Staffordshire Trent Valley



ENVIRONMENT
AGENCY

Sustainable Development

“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

(1987 BRUNDTLAND REPORT, “OUR COMMON FUTURE”)

The Environment Agency is committed to the principles of sustainable development and this is reflected in our vision for the area:-

“A sustainable local environment that is attractive, clean and diverse, balancing the needs and aspirations of people whilst maintaining and enhancing the diversity of flora and fauna. An environment that contributes to the economic and social well-being of the area.”

Increasing demands from society on the environment are not always sustainable in the long term and this can result in a conflict between users and other interests in the local environment.

Our aim, through partnerships with local authorities, industry and the general public is to help balance these demands and conflicts in a manner that protects the natural resources of the area, whilst realising the development potential and needs of the area.

The Staffordshire Trent Valley

The population within Staffordshire Trent valley is about 820,000, concentrated in the urban conurbations of Stoke-on-Trent, Newcastle under Lyme, Stafford, Lichfield, Cannock and the northern outskirts of Wolverhampton. Manufacturing remains important in the local economy providing nearly 30% of all jobs. Stoke-on-Trent is traditionally known for its pottery industry and for coal and steel production. This is now broadening to include new manufacturing and service industries. Hem Heath, the last colliery in North Staffordshire closed last year and the land will now be incorporated into a major redevelopment scheme known as Trentham Lakes. The County town of Stafford is a major service centre and includes the county police headquarters, a Royal Airforce base, army barracks and a university. Unemployment is below the national average and with good communications (M6 & M54 and the west coast mainline), a strong local economy and generally attractive countryside, pressures for development are increasing. Redevelopment and renewal, particularly in Stoke and Cannock provide the opportunity for an improved urban environment.

Also within the area lies Cannock Chase. This is a conservation area covering some 2,400 ha and has been designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Protection Through Partnership

We aim to work in partnership with Local Authorities, industry, environmental groups and many other organisations and individuals who share the interests of the area. Land use planning, education and initiatives such as pollution prevention and waste minimisation have important roles in improving the local environment and help us all work towards the world-wide goal of sustainable development.



Cannock Chase



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Welcome

“Our environment should contribute to improving our quality of life.”

This leaflet highlights some local environmental issues within the Staffordshire Trent Valley area. The area is based on the catchment of the River Trent and covers most of Staffordshire and includes parts of Wolverhampton and Walsall.

You can help to improve the environment by completing and returning the enclosed questionnaire and become actively involved in the Local Environment Agency Plan (LEAP) consultation exercise. Please take the time to read the leaflet and return the questionnaire before 25 September 1997, because your opinion counts!

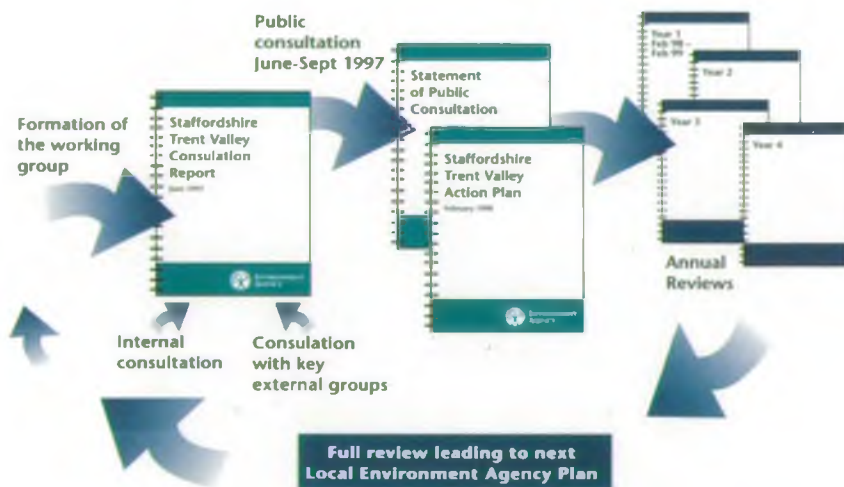
Who are we?

We are the Environment Agency and we were formed on the 1 April 1996, bringing together the expertise of the National Rivers Authority (NRA), Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Pollution (HMIP), Waste Regulation Authorities (WRA's) and a number of smaller units from the Department of the Environment. The formation of the Environment Agency provides for a more holistic, comprehensive approach to the protection and management of the environment.

Our statutory roles include pollution control, waste regulation, water resource management, flood defence, wildlife conservation, water based recreation and navigation. A number of issues require a joint approach if they are to be solved as the Agency is only one of a number of organisations involved in regulating and managing the natural environment.

Local Environment Agency Plans

Local Environment Agency Plans (LEAPs) introduce the work and responsibilities of the Environment Agency and explore the natural resource of the area, highlighting the environmental issues we consider need to be tackled with regard to the land, water and air.



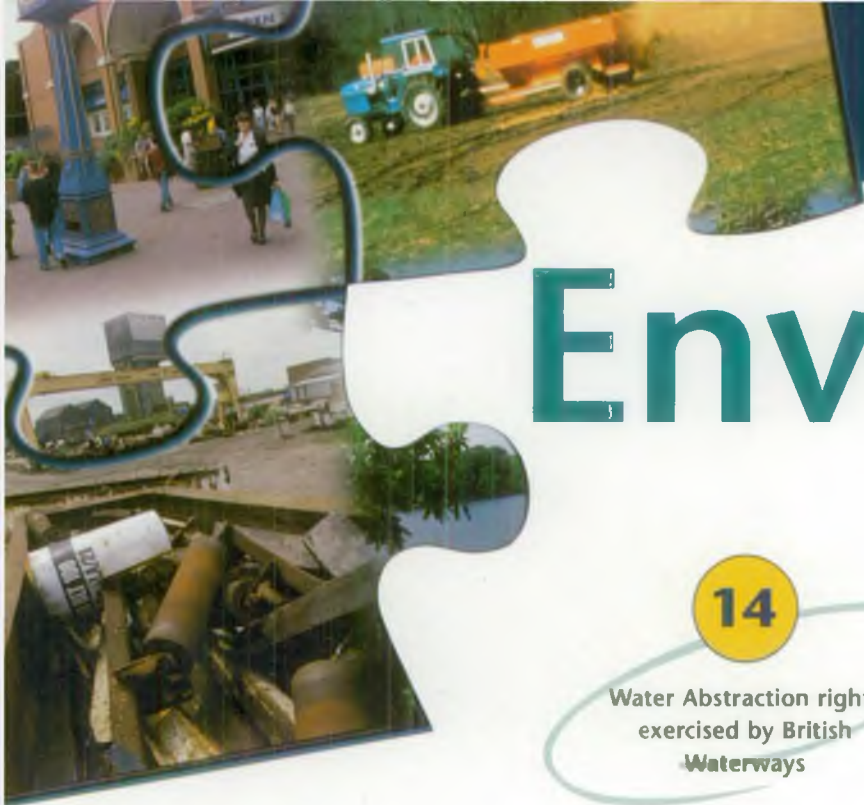
The Staffordshire Trent Valley LEAP is part of a national programme to ensure coverage of England and Wales by the end of 1999. The plans are non-statutory and are based on local river catchments. They provide a focus for those concerned with the future of the local area.

The LEAP Process



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Environmental Is



14

Water Abstraction rights exercised by British Waterways

2

Investment in the Sewerage System in Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle under Lyme

17

Redevelopment along the banks of the Fowlea Brook and the River Trent in Stoke-on-Trent

13

Over abstraction from the Foresbrook aquifer

4

Poor fishery and poor biological quality in the River Trent from Tittensor to Hoo Mill

20

Flood Defences at Stafford

15

Flow restricted abstractions in the River Sow Catchment

21

Flooding from the Rising Brook, Stafford

Photographs show:
Hanley Town Centre
Muck Spreading
Longton Colliery
Knypersley Reservoir



The issues shown here very briefly summarise 24 issues that have been identified in the Staffordshire Trent Valley Local Environment Agency Plan Consultation Report. If you would like further information or have comments you would like to raise, then please complete and return the questionnaire that should be with this leaflet, or contact **Jonathan Jenkin, Environment Planner, The Environment Agency, Sentinel House, Wellington Crescent, Fradley Park, Lichfield, Staffordshire WS13 8RR. Telephone 01543 444141.**

Issues in the Staffordshire Trent Valley



Global Issues

- The improvement of river water quality (Issues **3**, **5** and **6**)
- The need for more air quality monitoring (Issue **8**)
- Environmental monitoring of significant industrial sites (Issue **9**)
- Biodiversity and the protection and improvement of natural habitats (Issues **16**, **18** and **19**)
- Effective management of waste to meet "Making Waste Work" targets (Issue **22**)
- The reduction of ceramic waste in Staffordshire Trent Valley (Issue **23**)



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Waste Minimisation

The targets for sustainable waste management have been set by the government through the Department of the Environment "Making Waste Work" targets. Such targets place a legal requirement for many companies to publish environmental policies covering waste issues and to recycle a certain percentage of their waste generated. We will need to develop strong contacts with local companies in order to ensure the success of recycling and waste reduction targets. Possible partners include the Chambers of Commerce, Staffordshire County Council, Business Links, local universities, consultants and a number of the county's larger companies.



For general enquiries please call your local Environment Agency office. If you are unsure who to contact, or which is your local office, please call our general enquiry line.

**ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
GENERAL ENQUIRY LINE**

0645 333 111

The 24-hour emergency hotline number for reporting all environmental incidents relating to air, land and water.

**ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
EMERGENCY HOTLINE**

0800 80 70 60



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NATIONAL LIBRARY &
INFORMATION SERVICE

MIDLANDS REGION

10 Warwick Road
Olton, Solihull
B92 7HX



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