

catchment management plan

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ALT CROSSENS

first annual review

JULY 1998



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FOREWORD

The Alt/Crossens Catchment Management Plan has proven to be a valuable mechanism for the former National Rivers Authority (NRA) to initiate examination of the water related environmental issues within the catchment. The CMP has been instrumental in achieving improvement on issues and also establishing partnerships and collaboration with a wide spectrum of organisations.

The Agency is committed in future to continuing the work of CMPs through Local Environment Agency Plans (LEAPs). In addition to the water based issues, LEAPs will address those which are now part of its wider responsibility encompassing water based issues, waste management and industrial processes.



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VISION FOR ALT/CROSSENS CATCHMENT

To realise the environmental potential of the Alt/Crossens Catchment, the Environment Agency will work in partnership with catchment users to create and maintain a balanced water system, to meet both their needs and demands and those of the environment. In pursuit of this the Environment Agency is closely involved with the Mersey Basin Campaign and the Alt 2000 initiatives.

The Environment Agency vision for the catchment in twenty-five years is as follows:

- There will be a standard of water quality throughout the catchment which enhances the amenity of the surroundings, allowing coarse fisheries to be established throughout the catchment and promoting other legitimate water based uses.
- The type and location of development within the river corridor and flood plain will have been minimised through liaison with local planning authorities, increasing green corridors, thereby reducing flood risk, enhancing conservation interests and avoiding unnecessary overloading of sewerage systems.
- River water levels within the catchment will satisfy the interests of flood defence, irrigation/abstraction, conservation, fisheries and recreation.
- Resources will be managed and protected, enabling sustainable use which ensures no unacceptable detriment to water users, watercourses or other groundwater dependant features.
- There will be an increased biodiversity of the natural habitat along the river corridor and improvements to the ecological value and protection of the archaeological value of wetland areas, based on existing Environment Agency initiatives and in partnership with other organisations.

The Environment Agency is continuing the commitment to produce integrated management plans encompassing issues arising within the areas over which it has responsibility or through partnership and liaison with other groups.

Local Environment Agency Plans (LEAP's) will be produced for all areas by the year 2000. This includes those areas covered by a CMP. The CMP will provide an update of progress until superseded by the publication of a LEAP.

**ALT/CROSSENS
CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN
FIRST ANNUAL REVIEW
JULY 1998**

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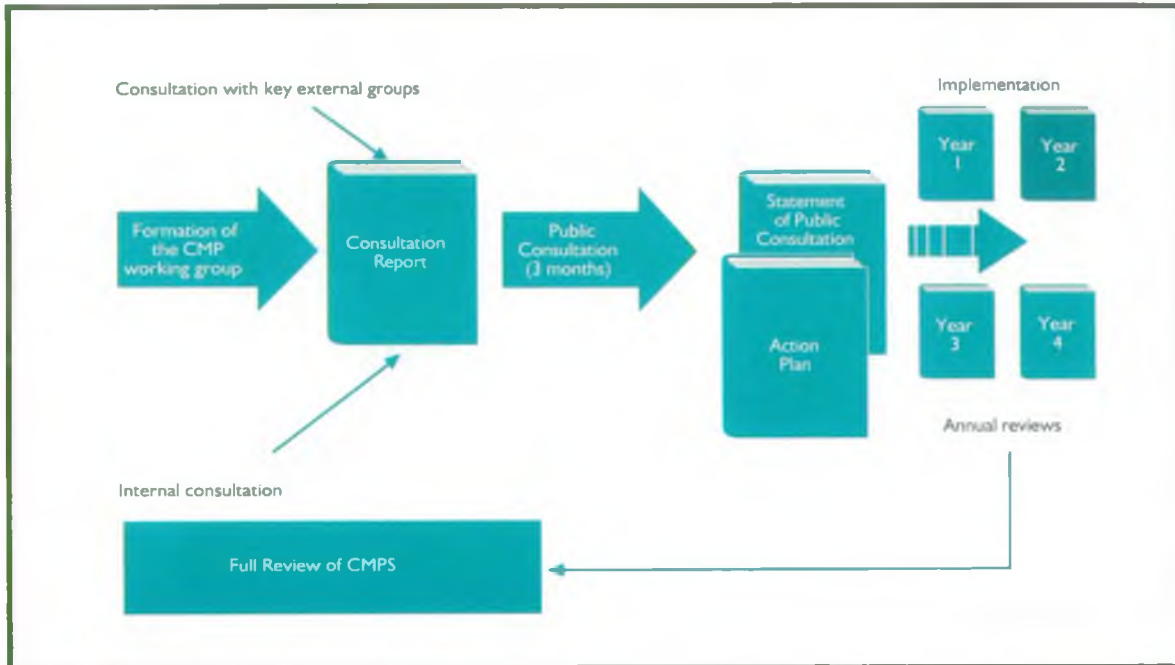
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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Environment Agency began its work of managing the environment in England and Wales on 1st April 1996. The Agency has responsibilities for the environmental protection of water, land and air. The Catchment Management Plan was initiated by a predecessor authority, the National Rivers Authority. This Annual Review of the plan therefore deals with the management and protection of the water environment.

1.2 Catchment Planning Process



1.3 This First Annual Review of the Alt / Crossens Catchment Management Plan provides an update of the actions taken to resolve the issues raised in the Alt / Crossens Action Plan (published October 1996). The purpose of this annual review is to keep informed and involved those organisations and individuals who participated during the consultation period of the Alt / Crossens CMP.

2. UPDATE ON THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

2.1 The catchment area covers the River Alt and its tributaries, the catchment to Crossens Pumping Station and the Sefton and West Lancs Coast.

Alt Catchment

2.2 The River Alt rises in Huyton and flows 28 km to its tidal limit at Hightown. The catchment area includes North Liverpool, Knowsley, Aughton and Ainsdale. The catchment can be divided into two main sections:

- Upstream of Maghull, the river drains mainly urban and industrial areas.
- Downstream of Maghull, the catchment consists of a predominantly pumped drainage, which flows through a low lying rural area.

The River Alt falls within the scope of the Mersey Basin Campaign and the River Alt 2000 initiative.

Crossens Catchment

2.3 The Crossens catchment comprises three main watercourses:

- The Sluice, rising to the east of Rufford.
- Middle (also known as Back) Drain, which drains the central area of mosslands.
- Three Pools which rises in the south east corner of Ormskirk and flows north west, skirting Southport.

The Agency is considering the future designation of the River Alt as a sensitive (eutrophic) area.

2.4 In 1998 a new CSW joint initiative project is to start. Involved in this initiative will be the Agency, NWW and Local Authorities in the catchment. This initiative will entail publicity events e.g. "Making the right connection" road shows. A Regional Priority List of new CSW problems has been produced and submitted to NWW.

2.5 Other joint initiatives within the catchment include the formation of an Environmental Task Force as part of a Welfare-to-Work Scheme. The objective, in conjunction with local authorities, is to assess the impact of litter and the aesthetic quality of watercourses requiring action.

2.6 The Blueprint for the Alt Catchment and its tributaries, published February 1998, identifies those issues, within the catchment, which can be resolved with the involvement of local people and businesses. It was considered that involvement of locals would be attained by focusing on local stretches of the catchment. The aim of this approach is to increase the sense of ownership relating to local stretches. Identification, at each stretch, issues such as water quality, litter, habitat/landscape improvements and access are contained within the document. The necessity of education and raising awareness of local issues are both highlighted in the blueprint.

2.7 Within the catchment there have been discussions between the Agency and Sefton Coast Management. These discussions have highlighted the need for a water resources management strategy for the whole of the Sefton Coast.

2.8 The Agency has a role in implementing the European Habitats Directive. The Directive's objective is to maintain, and where necessary, restore favourable conservation status in respect of designated areas, which comprise Special Protection Areas (SPA's) and Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's). Approximately 13083 hectares of coastal zone have been designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's) due to the international importance of the sand dunes along the Sefton Coast. The dunes are also proposed as a Special Area for Conservation (SAC) and as a Special Protection Area (SPA). These wetlands support rare species such as Natterjack toads and rare plants and also provide habitats for over-wintering waders and wildfowl.

2.9 There are a variety of pressures on the plant and animals of the environment. It is essential to undertake monitoring to assess the current state of ecosystems in order to know how to best direct resources, and assess the impact or potential future impacts of water abstractions. For example, several golf courses are planning to increase their abstraction rates which may have significant impact on habitats. Resulting from monitoring exercises there will be a requirement for the Agency to review Abstraction Licences affecting designated sites between 1994 and 2004, and ensure that it uses its powers to contribute to conservation objectives of these sites. The Agency has collaborated with English Nature, Joint Countryside Advisory Service (JCAS) and Sefton Life Project to examine all abstractions, in particular golf courses, on the Sefton Coast.

3. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

3.1 Since the publication of the action plan a number of significant issues have been resolved or projects completed in partnership with other organisations. These issues range from water quality problems identifying the extent of invasive weed and regeneration of habitat along the watercourse

3.2 Actions which have reached completion are as follows:

- Provision of tertiary treatment at Ainsdale WwTW by NWW Ltd in September 1997.
- Installation of secondary treatment facilities at Southport WwTW by NWW Ltd in 1996.
- Completion in Summer 1997 of the implementation of drainage area plans and schemes leading to the abandonment of approximately 38 storm overflows in Ainsdale.
- Agreement was reached in 1995 for modifications to flood defence regimes within the Crossens catchment. Monitoring is currently being undertaken.
- Identification of areas with invasive weeds has been collated in July 1997.
- Phases 1 and 2 of the Alt rehabilitation scheme for the regeneration of the watercourse have been completed in late 1997.

3.3 In addition to the above, work on the hydraulic model of the River Alt to resolve the increase of surface water run-off from new development, commenced in March 1998.

ACTIVITY PLANS

Key

The Agency	Environment Agency
EH	Environmental Health
LA	Local Authority
NWW	North West Water
MWDA	Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority
FWAG	Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group
JCAS	Joint Countryside Advisory Group
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
NFU	National Farmers Union
—	completion of action
.....	on-going action

3.0 PROGRESS TABLE - ALT CROSSENS

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION						PROGRESS
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00	FUTURE	
1.	Failure to meet objectives below Fazakerley WwTW	Install additional treatment at Fazakerley WwTW. Trade effluent control	NWW NWW	 The Agency Owners Occupiers	Not made available	—	—	—	—			A detailed survey using the Urban Pollution Management manual is complete. A scheme is due to start in September 1998 for completion in March 2000. This will provide additional storage and improved treatment at the works. The Agency is considering the future designation of the River Alt as a sensitive (eutrophic) area. A detailed survey has been undertaken that has identified Knowsley Industrial Estate as being the main source of EQS failures in the River Alt downstream of Fazakerley WwTW's. Desilting of the foul sewers on the industrial estate was completed in March 1998 and a pollution prevention campaign is planned for Q2/3. This will be in conjunction with NWW and Knowsley MBC. Trade effluent consents are being reviewed and monitoring of the sewers and the river is on-going.
2.	Failure to meet objectives below Hillhouse WwTW.	Install additional treatment at Hillhouse WwTW.	NWW		Not made available	—	—	—	—	—		As Fazakerley WwTW
3.	Failure to meet objectives below Ainsdale WwTW.	Install tertiary treatment at Ainsdale WwTW.	NWW		Not made available	—	—					A scheme to install tertiary treatment was completed in September 1997. Monitoring is on-going.
4.	Failure to meet objectives below Haskayne WwTW.	Additional effluent treatment at Haskayne WwTW required or transfer of flows to Hillhouse WwTW.	NWW		Not made available						_____	Under consideration for AMP3.
5.	Failure to meet objectives below Burscough WwTW.	Extension to Burscough WwTW required to provide tertiary treatment for all flows.	NWW		Not made available						_____	Work is underway looking at the costs and benefits associated with the improvements required. This has been proposed as an AMP3 scheme.
6.	Failure to meet objectives below Southport WwTW and poor water quality in Crossens Pool.	Provision of secondary treatment facilities for increased flows arriving at the works due to sewerage improvements.	NWW		Not made available	—						Secondary treatment facilities were installed and commissioned by NWW in 1996.

7

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION						PROGRESS	
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00	FUTURE		
7.	Impact of overflows from combined sewerage systems and associated failures to meet objectives.	Ensure completion and implementation of drainage area plans/schemes.	NWW										
		Ainsdale (Fine Janes Brook)			Not made available	—	—						Work completed Summer 1997. Approximately 38 storm overflows were abandoned in 1997.
		Southport (Fine Janes Brook / Three Pools Waterway)			Not made available	—	—	—					Southport Stage 2B Scheme now underway and due for completion in September 1998.
		Fazakerley (Fazakerley Brook)			Not made available						—		No work programme is scheduled for this current review period.
		Maghull (Moorhey Brook)			Not made available						—		No work programme is scheduled for this current review period.
		Maghull (Maghull Brook)			Not made available						—		No work programme is scheduled for this current review period..
		Southport (Designated Coastal Bathing Water)			Not made available	—							Southport Interceptor Sewer Scheme completed May 1996.
		Knowsley (Croxtheth Brook / Alder)			Not made available	—	—	—	—	—		Scheme completion by 2000	Catchment survey undertaken. Results to be reported January 1998.
		Birkdale (Birkdale Sand Dunes)*			Not made available	—	—	—	—	—		As above	Catchment survey and drainage area investigations completed and reported by January 1998. Two overflows have since been sealed and NWW are currently considering options to remove the remaining overflow. The scheme is funded by NWW's "efficiency savings".

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION						PROGRESS
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00	FUTURE	
7. cont	Impact of overflows from combined sewerage systems and associated failures to meet objectives.	Liverpool (Deyes Brook) Tarleton (Tarleton Runner / Mere Brow WwTW) Apply development control restrictions (e.g. Tarleton area)	The Agency	LA	Not made available Staff Cost	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	-----	No work programme is scheduled for this current review period. No work programme is scheduled for this current review period. On - going.
8.	Impact of contaminated surface water discharges from separate sewerage systems.	Outstanding CSW problems from the original CSW three year project to be resolved e.g. - Stocksbridge Village, discharge to River Alt. - Green Lane discharge to Tue Brook. - Moorhey Brook, near Maghull. - Dovers Brook, near Maghull. - Salerno Drive discharge to River Alt. Ensure newly identified CSW problems are resolved e.g. Weaver Avenue (Simonswood Brook) Chisletts Close, Burscough (Boathouse Sluice) Sugar Brook, Fazakerley Deyes Brook, West Derby	NWW	Agents EH Industry Householders Agents EH Industry Householders	Not made available Unknown (dependant on problems found)	—	—	—	—	—	—	New CSW project to start in 1998 including joint Agency, Alt 2000, NWW and LA publicity events e.g. "Making the right connection" road shows. A Regional priority list of new CSW problems has been produced and submitted to NWW. Investigations into the high priority problems, which include several CSW's within the Alt / Crossens catchment, are to be undertaken, funded through NWW 's "efficiency savings".

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION						PROGRESS
			LEAD	OTHER		95	96	97	98	99	FUTURE	
						96	97	98	99	00		
9.	Impact of industry / industrial estates and associated failures to meet objectives.	Assess impact of discharge.	The Agency	NWW Owners/ Occupiers	Staff Costs	—	—	—	—	—		On-going
		Survey industrial premises using the "Site Right" campaign procedures.	The Agency	NWW Owners/ Occupiers	Staff Costs	—	—	—	—	—		On-going
		Carry out necessary remedial work e.g. Simonswood Industrial Estate Burscough Industrial Estate.	Owners/ Occupiers		Unknown (dependant on problems found)	—	—	—	—	—		On-going
10.	Impact of farming.	Improve understanding of pollution problems by providing advice / information .	The Agency	MAFF NFU Agricultural Consultants	Staff Costs	—	—	—	—	—		Progress in education and awareness raising amongst the farming community achieved through the efforts of Farming 2000. A campaign is planned for the Crossens catchment this year.
		Provision of "on farm" pollution prevention facilities where watercourse is affected by farming inputs e.g. Chisnall Brook.	The Agency FWAG Farmers		Unknown (dependant on problems found)	—	—	—	—	—		On-going
		Promote set-aside buffer strips alongside watercourse.	MAFF	The Agency	Unknown	—	—	—	—	—		The Agency has promoted buffer strips in the targeting of countryside stewardship for the West Lancs area.

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION						PROGRESS
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00	FUTURE	
11.	Impact of leachate from waste disposal sites.	Undertake chemical study of the surface water sewer, St.Helens Gutter, Dovers Brook and River Alt downstream.	The Agency	MWDA	Staff Costs	—						On-going
		Identify landowner for Sefton Meadows and Sefton Meadows extension I.	The Agency		Staff Costs	—	—					On-going
		Undertake investigative study of Sefton Extension 2 and draw up solutions for containment of leachate.	MWDA		Not made available	—						A scheme has been proposed to intercept the leachate
		Remedy known leachate problem at Sefton Meadows Extension 2 by improving containment.	MWDA		Not made available	—	—	—				A scheme has been proposed to intercept the leachate.
12.	Impact of leachate from contaminated land.	Undertake detailed investigation to determine extent of groundwater and surface water contamination.	LA Developer Site Owner		Unknown (depends on nature of site)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		On-going
		Determine "land use" criteria and set quality standards accordingly.	LA Developer Site Owner		Unknown (dependant on future land use)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		On-going
		Remedy situation by removing pollutants.	LA Developer Site Owner		Unknown (solution dependant)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		On-going

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION						PROGRESS
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00	FUTURE	
13.	Impact of highway drainage and urban run-off.	Identify existing discharges requiring remedial work in liaison with the appropriate Highways Authority.	The Agency	Highways Authority	Staff Costs	—	—	—	—	—		On-going
		New discharges to be dealt with under latest pollution prevention guidelines at planning stage.	The Agency	Highways Authority	Unknown (Solution dependant)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		On-going
		Improve drainage arrangements on existing discharges (reed bed maintenance, oil interception, silt traps) to limit pollution.	Highways Authority		Unknown (Solution dependant)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		Reed beds designed for Moorhey and Tue Brooks. Liaison with the Highways Agency regarding the scheme for Switch Island.
14.	Impact of litter and aesthetic quality of watercourses.	Liaise with local authority to agree watercourses requiring action.	The Agency	LA	Staff Costs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	_____	On-going. Possible use of Environment Task Forces as part of "Welfare to Work" scheme.
		Liaise with local pressure groups/ local authorities or NWW (depending on source of litter) to organise teams capable of removing litter.	The Agency	NWW LA Local campaign groups.	Staff costs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		As above
		Continuing education campaign documenting the nuisance litter causes and distribute leaflets to local groups, businesses and public encouraging voluntary groups to remove rubbish e.g. Streamcare - a Mersey Basin Trust initiative.	The Agency	Alt 2000 campaign. Mersey Basin Campaign.	Leaflet production £2000 (Estimated) Staff Costs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	_____	On-going

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION					PROGRESS		
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00		FUTURE	
15.	Management of water levels.	Carry out a study on the water resource availability in the Crossens catchment. Develop a model of the Crossens catchment based on this study.	The Agency		£25,000	.....	.....	.....				On-going. Scheduled for completion in 1998.	
		Impose embargo on new summer licences from the Crossens catchment pending results of the study.	The Agency		No Cost	—							
		Water level management plans to be drawn up for: Downholland Moss SSSI Martin Mere SSSI Mere Sands Wood SSSI CBH's/SLBI	The Agency	English Nature Landowner	Staff Time	—			—				Downholland Moss due to commence September 1998. Martin Mere completed late 1997. Mere Sands Wood due to commence April 1998.
		Screening of abstraction licence for impact on water quality, conservation, water resources and flood defence interests.	The Agency		Staff Time	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....			On-going
		Identify heritage significance of peat lands and produce catchment wide action plans.	The Agency	County Archaeologist	£7,000					—	—		The Agency is currently identifying the resources to be utilised for this action.
		Recreation and rehabilitation of mossland where possible.	The Agency LCC EN JCAS		Not known								No work programme is scheduled for this current review period.
		Review abstraction licences within and adjacent to coastal SAC/SPA	The Agency		Staff time	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		There are a number of abstraction licences which are within or in proximity to SAC's & SPA's. Awaiting National guidance for priority sites. Groundwater, Ecology and rainfall data is being collated.

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION						PROGRESS	
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00	FUTURE		
16.	Embargo on new licences in the Fylde and Preston and Rufford Aquifers.	Water Resource Management Plan to be implemented pending results of the Fylde Aquifer/ Wyre Catchment Water Resources Study.	The Agency		Dependant on Staff Costs	—							Report complete.
17.	Under-utilisation of the Liverpool / Ormskirk Aquifer.	Prepare Regional Water Resource Strategy. Initiate discussions with water abstractors following results of study.	The Agency The Agency		Staff Costs	—	—	—	—	—	—		On-going.
18.	Lack of low flow data in the Alt catchment.	Install ultra- sonic flow measuring equipment within the Altmouth Pumping Station.	The Agency		£75,000						—		May result following the Crossens Modelling project - lessons learned through this could be extended into basing a model for the Alt, which may require abstraction flow data.

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION					PROGRESS		
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00		FUTURE	
19.	Limitations imposed upon the biodiversity and visual value by the artificial nature of many of the watercourses.	Undertake a baseline study of the conservation value of the pumped system.	The Agency		£5,000			—				Scheduled to commence Autumn 1998.	
		Agree modifications to Flood Defence maintenance regimes.	The Agency									Modifications for the Crossens catchment have been agreed in 1995. Modifications for the Alt catchment to be agreed by 1999.	
		a) Poor physical habitat.	Post project appraisal on agreements reached.	The Agency		£1,000			—				Scheduled to commence in 1998.
			Collaborative projects to improve habitat/visual value of the area.	The Agency Alt 2000 Landowners	Alt 2000 Landowners								
		b) Water voles	Undertake a review of water vole abundance in the Crossens area.	The Agency		£3,000				—			Baseline survey due to commence in 1998 and continuing into 1999.
		Investigate the impact of maintenance techniques on the water vole population and where necessary seek to minimise adverse effects.	The Agency		£3,000			—	—			Scheduled to commence in 1999.	
	c) Heritage significance of the artificial catchments	Identify heritage significance and produce a catchment wide plan to maintain and interpret interest.	The Agency		Unknown			—	—	—		On - going.	

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION						PROGRESS
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00	FUTURE	
20.	Sparse level of tree/hedge cover within the catchment.	Agency feasibility study to be undertaken to identify potential sites for tree/hedge planting within the Crossens and rural sections of the River Alt. Priority for Agency owned land.	The Agency	Alt 2000 Landowners County Councils Mersey Forest	£500			—				Some potential sites have been highlighted for 1998. These will possibly be Agency owned land e.g.pumping stations.
		Develop a five year strategy for improving bankside tree cover on urban sections of the Alt based on the feasibility study.	The Agency	Alt 2000 Groundwork Trust	£200	—	—	—	—	—		
21.	Artificial limitation of fish populations in the catchment.	Identify areas where fish stocks are currently low.	The Agency		£3,000		—	—				Hydroacoustic survey of Crossens undertaken.
		Agree modifications to flood defence maintenance regimes to maximise suitable fishery habitats.	The Agency		£5,000			—	—			Reed planting to improve coarse fish spawning.
22.	Lack of sustainable fish populations in the River Alt.	Develop a coarse fishery by means of:	The Agency		£3,000	—	—					Electric fishing survey undertaken.
		a) Assess present fish population b) See effluent disposal issues. c) Stock with coarse fish.	NWW		£80,000				.....	.....	.....	River Alt water quality still not sufficient to allow stocking.

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION						PROGRESS	
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00	FUTURE		
23	Need for better quality information - standards of Flood Protection.	Undertake survey priority locations (in order of priority) are as follows:	The Agency										
		1) Sefton and West Lancs Coast	The Agency		£22,000	.....	.....						On-going
		2) Main River Alt	The Agency		£52,000			.....	.....				Contract let March 1998
		3) Fazakerley Brook (including non-main Tue Brook)	The Agency		Included in above						.....		Included in above contract
		4) Knowsley Brook	The Agency		Included in Main River Alt			.....	.....				Included in above contract
		5) Whinney Brook	The Agency		As above			.....	.....				Included in above contract
		6) Whams Brook	The Agency		£24,000						.....		No work programme is scheduled for this current review period.
		7) Three Pools/Fine Janes Brook	The Agency		£34,000						.....		No work programme is scheduled for this current review period.
		Feasibility study for hydrodynamic model.	The Agency										
		Identify improvement location from model. Apply development control restrictions.	The Agency	LA									
		Collate and maintain flood records on a progressive geographical database.	The Agency		Unknown						.....		On going

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION						PROGRESS
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00	FUTURE.	
24.	Flood alleviation programme.	Improve defence to indicative standards. Object /restrict planning proposals that could further increase flood risk.	The Agency (if main) The Agency Statutory Consultee	LA (if non-main) Local planning authority	Staff costs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		Defences to standard - Crossens Embankment programmed for this year. Scheduled for completion in financial year 1998/99. On-going.
25.	Access to watercourses.	Publicise and implement change in working practice. Promote set-aside country stewardship "buffer strips" alongside watercourses. Encourage other organisations to make appropriate provision for public Rights of Way.	The Agency MAFF Riparian Owner FWAG Alt 2000 Sustrans Riparian Owners	Riparian Owner The Agency The Agency	£3,000 Unknown (Solution Dependant) Unknown (Solution Dependant)				—			Investigated possibility of circular walk round Crossens on Agency property. The Scarisbrick Act prevents this from being feasible. Programmed for financial year 1998/99. On-going. £5K contributed to reinstatement of Shawricks Bridge on the Alt.
26.	Increased surface water run-off from new development.	Complete hydraulic model of the River Alt. Implement development control measures in other areas of the catchment depending on the results of hydraulic survey.	The Agency The Agency	LA LA	£130,000 Staff Costs	.....						Work on hydraulic model commenced mid March 1998.
27.	Invasive weeds	Identify extent of invasive weed distribution from existing data. Draw up and implement an action plan.	The Agency The Agency		£4,000		—	—				Identification of areas with invasive weeds has been collated e.g. River Alt - Himalayan Balsam and Cheshire Lines - Japanese Knotweed. Information from existing data already inputted. The initiative / action provided opportunities for student work experience. On-going.

No.	ISSUE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY		ESTIMATED COST	DURATION OF ACTION						PROGRESS
			LEAD	OTHER		95 96	96 97	97 98	98 99	99 00	FUTURE.	
28.	Regeneration of watercourses.	Progress River Alt Rehabilitation Scheme at Stocksbridge Lane.	The Agency		£150,000	—						Alt rehabilitation scheme completed. Stocksbridge Lane completed early 1997. Design work due to commence May / June 1998.
		River Alt / Croxteth Park rehabilitation.			£40,000			—	—			
		Develop five year strategy for the regeneration of urban watercourses.	The Agency	Alt 2000			—	—	—		—	Blueprint Strategy for the whole Alt has been completed in partnership with Alt 2000. Upper Alt being examined in greater detail by external consultants. Expected completion date March 1998.
		Implement five year strategy.	The Agency	Alt 2000								
		Improve urban rivers in partnership with others.	The Agency	Alt 2000		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	On-going.

4. FUTURE REVIEWS

4.1 In accordance with the Agency's timetable for the CMP programme, the Second Annual review for the Alt / Crossens area should be published in June 1999.

4.2 The next Annual Review will:-

- Examine the need to update the CMP in the light of changes in the area.
- Compare actual progress with planned progress and explain the reasons for any changes to the content or timing of individual actions.
- Report on other matters, including any legislation and classification scheme changes, affecting the CMP and subsequent LEAP's.
- Roll forward the detailed activity plans.

4.3 Following this, the CMP will be superseded by a Local Environment Agency Plan (LEAP) Consultation Report for Alt / Crossens. The Consultation Report will be published in December 1999.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 - CATCHMENT DETAILS

General Quality Assessment (GQA) Rivers and Canals Classification (1996)

ALT CATCHMENT		
GQA CLASS	km	%
A - Good	-	-
B - Good	-	-
C - Fair	9.5	13
D - Fair	14.0	18
E - Poor	50.5	66
F - Bad	2.3	3
TOTAL	76.30	100

CROSSENS CATCHMENT		
GQA CLASS	km	%
A - Good	-	-
B - Good	-	-
C - Fair	-	-
D - Fair	13.50	29
E - Poor	33.50	71
F - Bad	-	-
TOTAL	47.00	100

APPENDIX 1 - CATCHMENT DETAILS (CONT)

1996 General Quality Assessment for the Liverpool Canal

LEEDS - LIVERPOOL CANAL		
GQA CLASS	km	%
A - Good	-	-
B - Good	-	-
C - Fair	-	-
D - Fair	8.5	32.1
E - Poor	18.0	67.9
F - Bad	-	-
TOTAL	26.5	100

National Water Council (NWC) Estuary and Tidal Water Classification (1996)

ALT AND CROSSENS		
GQA CLASS	km	%
A - Good	0.0	0.0
B - Good	0.0	0.0
C - Fair	3.1	67.4
D - Fair	1.5	32.6
TOTAL	4.6	100.00

APPENDIX 2: GLOSSARY

Abstraction Licence

Licence to abstract water from a surface or underground source. The maximum annual, daily and hourly abstraction rates are set by the licence.

AMP3 - Asset Management Plan

The third set of Asset Management Plans produced by Water Companies. The Plans cover the Water Companies' known investment of existing and other obligations (such as the operation and maintenance of existing water and wastewater systems) for the 10 year period 2005 to 2015. The Agency is involved in setting priorities for work necessary for environmental improvements within allowed expenditure limits. Prices are controlled by an independent regulator, the Director General of Water Services (OFWAT).

AONB

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, notified by the Countryside Commission.

BOD

Biochemical Oxygen Demand. A measure of the polluting potential.

Coarse Fish

See FRESHWATER FISH, CYPRINIDS, SALMONIDS

Consumptive Use

Water which is abstracted but not returned to the catchment, either because it evaporates (as in spray irrigation) or is exported for use in another catchment.

Cyprinids

Fish of the carp family. (See also COARSE FISH, FRESHWATER FISH, SALMONIDS).

Freshwater Fish

For the purposes of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975, fish other than salmon, brown trout, sea trout, rainbow trout and char (See also COARSE FISH, FRESHWATER FISH, SALMONIDS).

Hectare

Unit of Area 100m X 100m, equal to 2.471 acres.

SAC

Special Area of Conservation. A European legislation classification.

Salmonids

Fish classified by the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 as belonging to the salmon family - salmon, brown trout and char. (Summer-spawning salmonid species such as grayling are classified by the Act as Freshwater Fish). (See also COARSE FISH, FRESHWATER FISH, CYPRINIDS).

SAC

Special Protection Area. A European legislation classification.

SSSI

Site of Special Scientific Interest. A site designated by English Nature as being in need of protection to conserve its outstanding ecological or geological features. Land use and management operations within SSSIs are subject to control.

WwTW

Wastewater Treatment Works.