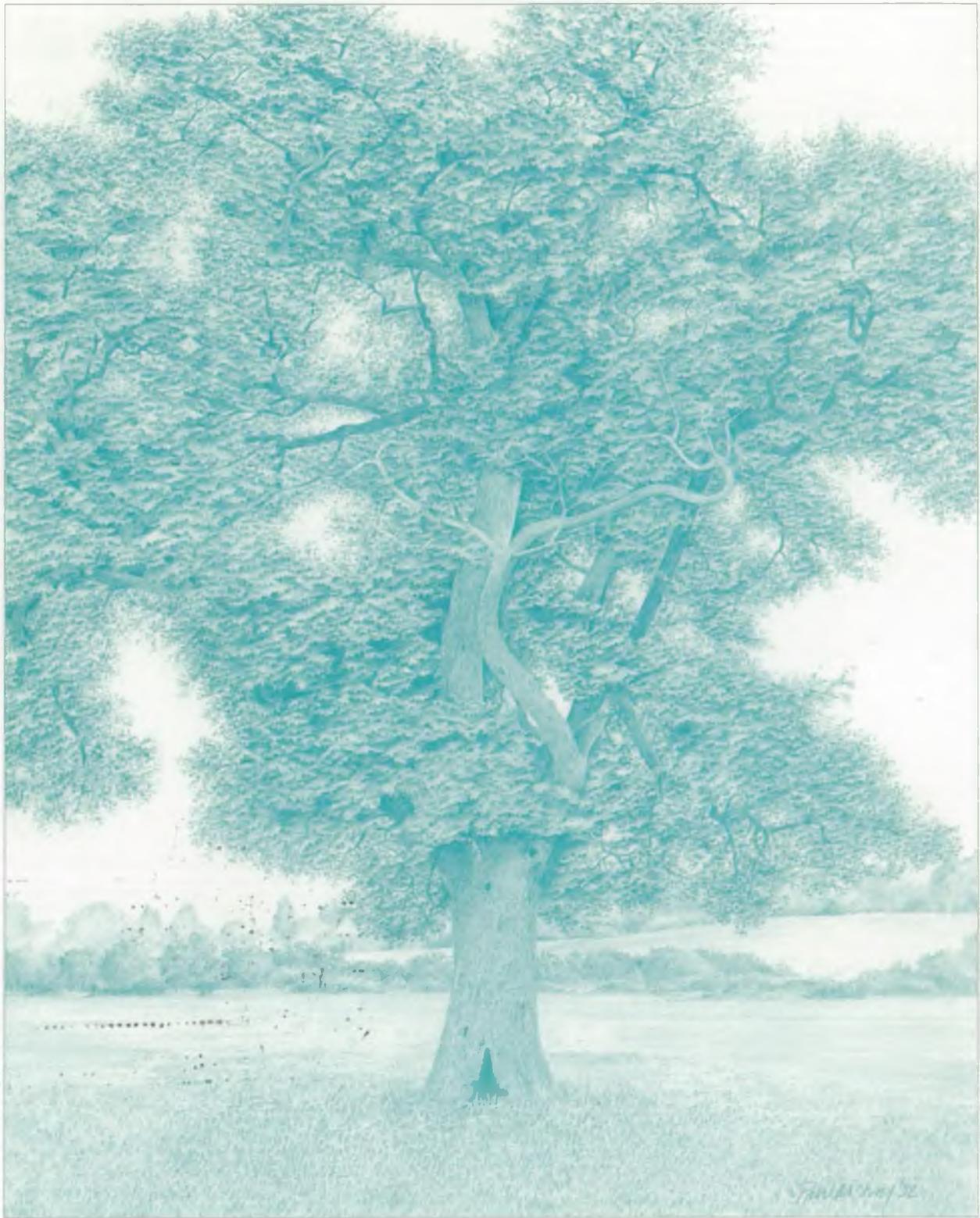




ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



YOUR GUIDE TO THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

Thames Region - South East Area

INTRODUCTION

The new Environment Agency for England and Wales is one of the most powerful environmental regulators in the world.

It provides a more comprehensive approach to the protection and management of the environment by combining the regulation of land, air and water. Its creation is a major and positive step, merging the expertise of the National Rivers Authority, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Pollution, the Waste Regulation Authorities and several smaller units from the Department of the Environment.

The Agency's overall aim is to protect and enhance the environment as a whole. Its wide ranging responsibilities include:-

- The regulation of industrial and chemical processes, for example at chemical plants, incinerators and power stations;
- Preserving and improving water quality in rivers, canals and other watercourses;
- Ensuring proper use of water resources - monitoring river flows and rainfall;
- Waste regulation - issuing licences and monitoring waste sites such as landfill sites, car breakers and scrap yards;
- Undertaking flood defence works and warning people who are at risk from flooding;
- Issuing fishing licences and monitoring stocks of fish in local rivers;
- Conserving the water environment and promoting its use for recreation;
- Liaison with local planning authorities to ensure developments take account of the environment.

The Environment Agency will NOT be dealing with:

- Waste collection - responsibility remains with local authorities;
- Noise pollution - responsibility remains with local authorities environmental health departments;
- Drinking water quality - responsibility remains with private water companies;
- Public health;
- Those aspects of the control of air pollution which remain with local authorities.

SOUTH EAST AREA

The main office for the South East Area will be at Sunbury on Thames, with staff also based across the Area in Crossness, and the Thames Barrier in the east, offices in central London, Carshalton, Ewell, Guildford and Fleet in the west of the Area.

Issues currently involving the South East Area are:-

- Flooding problems on the river Quaggy, the Nuffield Stream and the Hale Bourne;
- Development pressures and encroachment by buildings onto the foreshore and beaches of the tidal Thames through London;
- Major development proposals in the Mole valley;
- Accidental (and sometimes illegal) pollutions of the Area's rivers;
- Diminishing landfill sites for waste disposal.



The Area Manager, responsible for the day to day running of the new organisation is **Adrian Birtles**.

He said:

“ In the South East Area, staff will come together from the National Rivers Authority, London and Surrey Waste Regulation Authorities and staff working for Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Pollution currently based at Fleet, Hampshire. They are all 'on the ground' experts in their own fields who have, in many cases, worked alongside one another on environmental matters for many years. ”



Flood Defence Manager - Colin Candish

Responsible for providing an efficient and effective flood defence service in the area. Managing watercourse maintenance programmes and the implementation of flood alleviation schemes and other major Environment Agency projects.

Fisheries & Conservation Manager - Alan Butterworth

Responsible for the fisheries and conservation interests in the Area. Maintains, improves and develops fisheries, enforces fishery legislation and promotes and implements conservation activity.

Navigation & Recreation Manager - Robin Newlands

Responsible for river use and traffic controls, lock and weir operations, river level control and navigation enforcement. Also responsible for developing and promoting the recreational use of water and associated land and for liaison with River User groups.

Planning & Liaison Manager - Doug Mills

Responsible for the preparation, implementation and monitoring of Environment Agency Local Management Plans, liaison with local planning authorities on development plans, responding to General Development Procedure Orders (GDPO) planning referrals and issuing consents for riverside development. A primary focus for the work of planning liaison is the concept of Sustainable Development: to be achieved through the above activities as well as direct involvement in Local Agenda 21.

Business Services Manager - Trevor Goodhew

Responsible for providing cost effective business support to the operational functions. This includes customer services, strategic business development, business planning, personnel, management accounting, site services and co-ordination of administration.

Water Quality & Water Resources Manager - Peter Lloyd

Responsible for protecting and improving water quality and water resources. Ensures environmental protection by monitoring water quality and resources, undertaking enforcement action, promoting pollution prevention action and responding to pollution incidents.

Waste Regulation Manager - Doug Greeves

Responsible for regulating the collection, storage, treatment and disposal of controlled waste. The main objectives are to prevent pollution of the environment and harm to human health through licensing and monitoring of waste management facilities and through taking enforcement action where necessary.

Integrated Pollution Control Manager - Paul Hudson

Responsible for regulating complex industrial processes so as to control the release of pollutants from the process. Also, responsible for regulating the usage, storage and disposal of radioactive materials as well as regulating the disposal of special categories of process effluent to sewers.

Contractor Manager - Barry Morrison

Responsible for the operational workforce, carrying out river maintenance and engineering works, providing an emergency response to flooding events and assisting other departments in their response to emergencies, for example pollution incidents. Ensures delivery of a service that maintains the Environment Agency's demanding environmental considerations and quality of workmanship, at the market rate - value for money.

Tidal Defence Manager - David Wilkes

Responsible for providing efficient and effective Tidal Defences for London, including operations of the Environment Agency's largest asset 'The Thames Barrier,' the Barking Barriers and associated flood gates. The tideway flood warning services provide protection for millions of people and some prestigious properties in the capital. The Thames Barrier Visitors Centre provides an interesting and important educational feature for those wishing to learn more of the work of the Environment Agency and an interesting day out for those with leisure in mind.



OUR OBJECTIVES

The Agency works towards Sustainable Development through seven objectives, set by Ministers:

- An integrated approach to environmental protection and enhancement, taking into consideration the impact of all activities and natural resources;
- Delivery of environmental goals without imposing disproportionate costs on industry or society as a whole;
- Clear and effective procedures for serving its customers, including the development of single points of contact with the Agency;
- High professional standards, using the best possible information and analytical methods;
- Organisation of its own activities to reflect good environmental and management practice, and provision of value for money for those who pay its charges, as well as for taxpayers as a whole;
- Provision of clear and readily available advice and information on its work;
- Development of a close and responsive relationship with the public, including Local Authorities, other representatives of local communities and regulated organisations.



Environment Agency
Information Centre
Head Office

Class ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
Acc: 127229



ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY OFFICE
SOUTH EAST AREA, RIVERSIDE WORKS, FORDBRIDGE ROAD, SUNBURY ON THAMES, MIDDLESEX TW16 6AP
TELEPHONE: 01932 789833. FAX: 01932 786463

Telephone the emergency hotline **0800 80 70 60** to report all environmental incidents