



CamEO Catchment Partnership Action Plan



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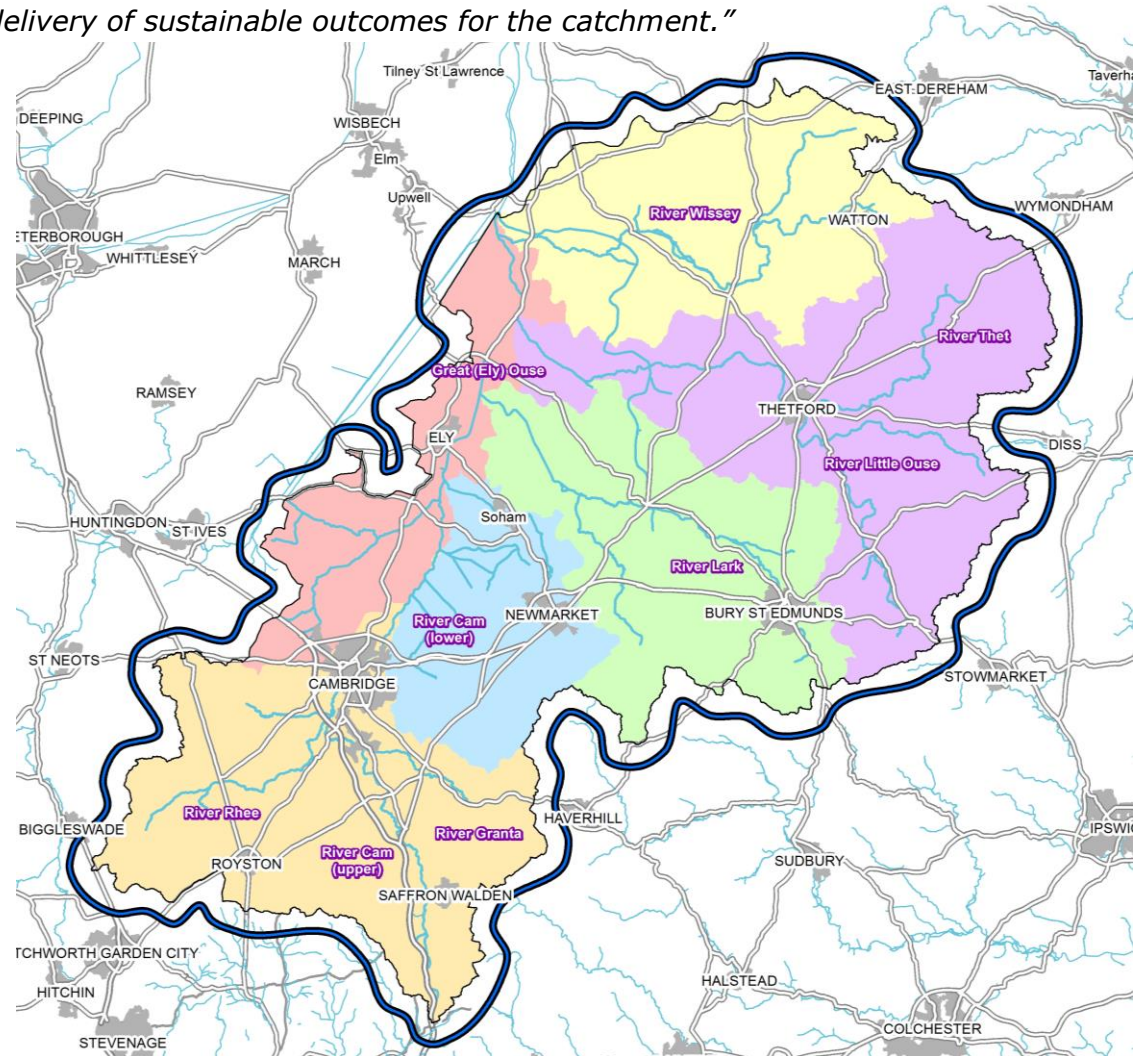


Vision and Terms of Reference

"The vision of the CamEO partnership is to improve the quality and resilience of the water environment in the Cam and Ely Ouse catchment and, in doing so, protect and enhance the benefits it provides to communities and businesses. We'll achieve this by fostering a shared understanding of the water environment that engages and empowers communities and stakeholders to deliver positive action in an integrated way. Central to the partnership is the development and support of an inclusive approach that operates at both the catchment and sub-catchment scales. By working collaboratively in this way we aim to align the interests and resources of public, private and third sector organisations to maximise the delivery of sustainable outcomes for the catchment."

The CamEO partnership is co-hosted by The Rivers Trust and Anglian Water. The hosting role includes a number of formal reporting and delivery responsibilities required to secure hosting funding received from the Environment Agency under Defra's Catchment Based approach. However, the primary role as hosts is a facilitative one, to enable the development of inclusive cross-sector partnerships operating at local scales to deliver the vision laid out above. To date the collective CamEO partnership includes sub-catchment partnerships, a business-led water stewardship board and a collaboration and engagement forum that enables communication, knowledge exchange and best practice. The partnership uses a variety of media channels to communicate and engage with a wider audience.

Additional information related to the structure of the CamEO partnership can be found in the CamEO ways of working and terms of reference documents.



Data and Evidence

Making use of GIS open data:

The CaBA Data & GIS packages 1, 2 & 3

These are available for all catchments in England and provide baseline data to facilitate planning and prioritisation. Data for the CamEO partnership has been downloaded and is held centrally by the catchment hosts. This is available for download and use at any time by partners, but does require a GIS package to view or manipulate (e.g. ARC GIS [at a cost] / QGIS [free]).

We commit to providing the CaBA GIS data package information in an available online resource for the CamEO partners to access and contribute to with local data and project information.

Please contact the catchment hosts on info@cameopartnership.org if you would like a copy of the data and user guides.

Other data sources are available to the partnership:

EA Priority Waterbodies

CamEO supports the EA in reviewing the priority water bodies for each of the sub-catchment areas to identify the drivers and priorities from a Water Framework Directive perspective. This supports decision-making in the sub-catchment partnerships. Once completed, these will be made available to all partners and can be used as part of an evidence base for gaining 3rd party funding and influencing the EA's Water Environment Improvement Fund (WEIF).

Derived Data

The CamEO hosts have undertaken an initial assessment of ecosystem services with the catchment.

Through CamEO's WaterLIFE project, data and information is being collated on farm practices, cropping and interventions for surface water run-off and capture. This will inform CamEO's water sensitive farming strategic planning.

Monitoring progress

This plan will be evaluated and reviewed every 12 months by CamEO hosts and sub-catchment partners at the CamEO collaboration and engagement forum.

We will develop a system for recording delivery across the catchment arising from these objectives.

Partnership Objectives

Working with sub-catchment partnerships and catchment-wide stakeholders, we have identified six inter-related objectives that represent the interests and activities of CamEO partners. Through a collaborative partnership approach we intend to add value to the current activities of organisations within the catchment. These are long-term objectives and the actions in the delivery plan set out what we will do for these objectives over the next 24 months. Not every objective requires action in that timescale and our plan may change in order to react to opportunities. The six objectives are as follows:

1. Community action

Objective - Encourage community-led management of river catchments by empowering decision making at a local level.

Specific Objectives:

- 1.1 *Increase community and stakeholder understanding of the pressures on the water environment and the way in which it is managed.*
- 1.2 *Increase community and stakeholder awareness and engagement with CamEO and sub-catchment partnerships.*
- 1.3 *Provide opportunities for appropriate community-led delivery within the catchment and support the alignment of relevant initiatives and interest groups.*
- 1.4 *Communicate the activity and benefits of community-led actions within the catchment.*

2. Farming and land use

Objective – Farming and Land use sectors contribute to, and benefit from, healthy ecosystems.

Specific Objectives:

- 2.1 *Reduce the impact of Diffuse Water pollution from Agriculture in vulnerable & protected areas of the catchment.*
 - 2.2 *Encourage and support sensitive management of watercourses and riparian habitat.*
 - 2.3 *Promote and encourage best practice for delivering natural flood management solutions.*
 - 2.4 *Promote and support the role that businesses can play to support sustainable supply chains.*
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3. Health of the river and groundwater system

Objective - Maintain and restore healthy-functioning, biodiverse and resilient ecosystems and increase the understanding of 'natural capital'.

Specific Objectives:

- 3.1 *Promote and encourage best practice techniques for river restoration and support the delivery of projects aimed at improving the habitat, morphology and connectivity of watercourses.*
- 3.2 *Reduce negative impacts on water quality from rural and urban sources.*
- 3.3 *Promote and encourage the implementation of best practice sustainable drainage schemes.*
- 3.4 *Enhance the biodiversity of river ecosystems.*

5. Maximising resources

Objective - Improve strategic co-operation at the catchment scale in order to maximise resources and facilitate more effective delivery.

Specific Objectives

- 5.1 *Increase alignment and availability of existing resources to support the objectives of the partnership.*
- 5.2 *Facilitate increased coordination of project planning and action across the catchment*
- 5.3 *Improve skills base and capacity across the partnership by facilitating training opportunities amongst partners.*
- 5.4 *Leverage further resources to support the objectives of the partnership.*

4. Invasive species

Objective - Mitigate the impact of invasive non-native species (INNS).

Specific Objectives

- 4.1 *Promote and encourage the adoption of best practice INNS biosecurity measures.*
- 4.2 *Promote and encourage the adoption of best practice for the mitigation/potential eradication of INNS within the catchment.*

6. Water resources

Objective - Ensure there is enough water of sufficient quality to support the needs of the environment and wider society.

Specific Objectives

- 6.1 *Encourage and promote the adoption of best practice for water resource management throughout society. Including water efficiency, capture and storage.*
- 6.2 *Provide mechanisms for CamEO partners to engage with and influence water resource management.*

Delivery Plan

1. Community action

#	CamEO Action	Who	Next Steps	Anticipated Delivery
1.1.1	Promotion of CamEO at community events within the catchment	All partners	<i>Attend a minimum of two community events identified in the CamEO events document</i>	
1.2.1	Create and maintain promotional/marketing material for CamEO suitable for use by sub-catchment partnerships	CamEO hosts	<i>Develop a system for centralised storage and access of equipment and marketing material for partners</i>	
1.3.1	Encourage collaboration and alignment with existing community engagement activities	CamEO hosts and sub-catchment hosts	<i>Create a programme of "CamEO River Champions" to support community activities throughout the catchment, including promotion of water saving activities</i>	
1.3.2	Facilitate training opportunities across the catchment to increase the opportunities for community led actions	CamEO hosts	<i>Facilitate two Riverfly workshops within the catchment; Facilitate MorPH training</i>	
1.4.1	Provide open access to catchment data and evidence to support community led project planning and delivery	CamEO hosts	<i>Develop the CamEO website forum for both INNS support and resourcing projects</i>	

2. Farming and land use

#	CamEO Action	Who	Next Steps	Anticipated Delivery
2.1.1	Support and expand the delivery of the CamEO Water Sensitive Farming (WSF) project	CamEO water sensitive farming partners	<i>Work with the Rivers Trust to raise the targeted £70,000 for CamEO and Broadlands water sensitive farming programme, to deliver diffuse pollution mitigation measures</i>	
2.1.2	Provide opportunities for knowledge exchange between farmers in the catchment	CamEO water sensitive farming partners	<i>Host demonstration farm events with the CamEO Water Stewardship Business Board</i>	
2.2.1	Facilitate the alignment of activities and knowledge exchange between agricultural advisors in the	Wissey water quality group	<i>Working with other farm advisors, create a joint information package of funding opportunities for</i>	

	catchment		<i>farmers in the Wissey catchment</i>	
2.3.1	Encourage healthy soils and promote sustainable soil management	CamEO water sensitive farming partners	<i>Support the delivery of water sensitive farming, including the promotion of rural SuDS, through the soil focus group of the CamEO Water Stewardship Business Board</i>	
2.4.1	Increase engagement with businesses within the CamEO partnership	CamEO hosts	<i>Enhance the delivery from the CamEO Water Stewardship Business Board through further development and delivery of the board's action plan</i>	

3. Health of the river and groundwater system

#	CamEO Action	Who	Next Steps	Anticipated Delivery
3.1.1	Provide access to best practice techniques to all CamEO partners	All partners	<i>Create a river restoration page on the CamEO website, uploading techniques and videos</i>	
3.1.2	Understand how smarter monitoring strategies may help improve collective understanding of ecosystem health and catchment challenges	All partners	<i>Host an event to explore the current river monitoring regime (including flow monitoring) with CamEO partners and develop a shared understanding of appropriate action</i>	
3.4.1	Investigate how the value of Natural Capital can further sustainable catchment management delivery	CamEO hosts	<i>Support the delivery of natural capital phase 2 pilot</i>	

4. Invasive non-native species (INNS)

#	CamEO Action	Who	Next Steps	Anticipated Delivery
4.2.1	Support partner collaboration on INNS projects	CamEO hosts	<i>Develop a system for centralised storage and access of equipment for partners</i>	
4.2.2	Facilitate knowledge exchange between CamEO partners	CamEO hosts	<i>Fund the development of a shared INNS strategy for CamEO partners</i>	
4.2.3	Facilitate knowledge exchange between CamEO partners	CamEO hosts	<i>Host a follow-up INNS day with a focus on coordinated action in the catchment</i>	

5. Securing Resources

#	CamEO Action	Who	Next Steps	Anticipated Delivery
5.1.1	Develop and initiate a strategy for aligning existing & securing further resources for partnership activities	CamEO hosts	<i>Hold strategic meetings with HLF project leads to ensure partnership needs are aligned</i>	
5.2.1	Explore collaborative opportunities for planned funding bids within the catchment	CamEO Hosts	<i>Support CamEO partners with Water Environment Grant applications through funded time from an external fund-raising consultant. Projects include:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water solids removal at Thompson Water SSSI 2. Structural fish passage through Thetford 3. River restoration (Little Ouse & Black Bourn) 4. BTO river restoration & habitat enhancement 5. Structural fish passage at Fuller's Mill 6. Bourne Brook pollution prevention & restoration 7. Structural fish passage through Cambridge 8. Bin Brook NFM and habitat enhancement 	
5.4.2	Ensure that all partners have access to data and information to support project development	CamEO hosts	<i>Promote the forum on the CamEO website to share information to support project funding</i>	

6. Water resources

#	CamEO Action	Who	Next Steps	Anticipated Delivery
6.1.1	Encourage longer-term water resource planning within CamEO Water Stewardship Business Board network	CamEO hosts	<i>Link sub-catchment ambitions with the water company consultation period for water resource management plans</i>	
6.1.2	Encourage longer-term water resource planning within CamEO Water Stewardship Business Board network	CamEO hosts	<i>Maintain engagement with the Water Resources East project and promote CamEO as a pilot area for catchment-scale efforts</i>	
6.2.1	Align the activities of the partnership with national water resource initiatives	CamEO hosts	<i>Maintain situational awareness of government plans for abstraction reform with two-way information exchange between the partnership and government</i>	