



**Working with
communities.**

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Pymmes park wetlands.

In 2014, we started a new five-year community investment programme worth £6.5 million*. This money is being used to fund a series of projects which aim to engage communities through environmental enhancement and educational outreach between 2015 and 2020.

During 2017/18, we allocated funding to 14 exciting projects and two feasibility studies with a total value of more than £840,000, all of which were carried out by our community partners. Here are some of the projects we provided funding for during 2017/18:

Pymmes Park education facilities.

At Pymmes Park, a small established wetland in Enfield, we've been working on a project to provide new pathways, steps, fencing and an outdoor classroom. All this will help members of the public to reach the water and learn about the benefits of wetlands. It's due to be completed in June 2018.

Saving our vital nature.

Working with the Canal and Rivers Trust, we created marginal waterside habitat on the Kennet and Avon (K&A) Canal. The River Kennet SSSI is linked to the K&A Canal between Bedwyn and Woolhampton, and it was suffering from high levels of suspended solids and algae, which harm the ecology of the SSSI by smothering the plants and gravel beds needed by fish and invertebrates. This partnership project, completed during 2017/18, was one of the most effective ways to restore the deteriorating canal banks, both upstream of the SSSI and on stretches of the navigation that are also designated SSSI.



WILD Coln.

The Fairford and Healthy WILD Coln project, which runs until November 2020, will allow Fairford Town Council and Fairford Community Voice (a local Friends group) to fulfil their aspiration of benefiting local people by restoring access to the River Coln. It will also improve the environmental quality of the river and its tributaries through Fairford and nearby parishes.

The project will teach people how to identify and restore a healthy river, how to help reduce flood risk, and raise awareness of issues affecting the water environment and how to support sustainably produced food.

Saving Oxford's Wetland Wildlife.

The Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme is among the largest inland flood alleviation projects in the UK. The new flood channel will run through one of the UK's major freshwater wildlife hotspots, close to the centre of Oxford where 160,000 people live within 5km of the project area.

This project runs until December 2020, and aims to ensure that the full environmental and community benefit of the flood scheme can be realised - helping to create a major new wetland greenspace on the west side of Oxford for people and wildlife.

Kennet and Avon Canal.



- **Over £840,000 committed during 2017/18.**
- **14 projects received funding during 2017/18.**

**This fund was established by the company in 2014 in lieu of a fine for accidental misreporting of sewer flooding data to our regulator Ofwat.*

