

Press release: £2 million flood scheme for Much Wenlock

The scheme has seen the construction of 2 ponds which catch and store water that could otherwise flood properties, businesses and roads in the town. One pond is on the Sytche Brook to the north west of the town and the other is on the Shylte Brook to the south west.

The ponds, which will usually be empty, will fill during times of heavy rain. The collected water will then be released in a controlled manner so that flood risk downstream is reduced. The ponds, which are now fully operational, will drain down sufficiently quickly so that repeat rainfall events can be stored in a similar manner.

The scheme also includes the restoration of Westwood Quarry on Stretton Road.

The flood scheme was supported by the Environment Agency and funded through Flood Defence Grant in Aid by the Severn and Wye Regional Flood and Coastal Committee, local developer contributions and Shropshire Council. Work was carried out by the contractor Griffiths.

Dave Edwards, Senior Adviser at the Environment Agency, said:

The Much Wenlock flood alleviation scheme is a fantastic example of what can be achieved through partnership working. Much Wenlock has a long history of flooding so it's great to see the finished project protecting properties, businesses and roads in the town. We'll continue to work closely with both the council and the community in the future.

Steve Davenport, Shropshire Council's Cabinet member for highways and transport, said:

I'm delighted that work on this important scheme has now been completed, and that dozens of homes and businesses in Much Wenlock are now at far less risk from flooding than they have been in the past.

Between 2015 to 2021, Government is investing £2.5 billion in flood and coastal erosion risk management projects which will reduce the risk of flooding from rivers, the sea, groundwater and surface water for at least 300,000 homes.

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Notice: Y011 3BZ, Sulzer Electro Mechanical Services (UK) Limited: environmental permit issued

The Environment Agency publish surrenders that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the surrender letter, decision document and site condition report evaluation template for:

- Operator name: Sulzer Electro Mechanical Services (UK) Limited
- Installation name: Eastfield Facility
- Permit number: EPR/LP3336ZN/S003

News story: Joint Nature Conservation Committee Members reappointed

The Government has reappointed Professor Ian Bateman and Professor Colin Galbraith as Independent Members of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) for second terms. The reappointments will take effect from 1 November 2017 for four years.

All appointments to the JNCC are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. The appointment complies with the Governance Code on Public Appointments. There is a requirement for appointees' political activity (if significant) to be declared. Professor Bateman and Professor Galbraith have not declared any significant political activity during the past five years.

The JNCC was established in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) as a non-departmental public body. The JNCC advises the UK Government and Devolved Administrations of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales on UK-wide and international nature conservation.

Remuneration is £9,836 per annum based on a time commitment of 2½ days per month.

Professor Ian Bateman OBE

Professor Ian Bateman is a Professor of Environmental Economics and Director of the Land, Environment, Economics and Policy (LEEP) Institute at the University of Exeter. He is a member of the Natural Capital Committee, Member

of the Environment Agency Long-Term Investment Scenarios Development Group (LTIS-DG), Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), Member of British Standard Institute (BSI) Committee for establishing ISO standards for Evaluating Natural Capital and Determining environmental costs and benefits and Monetary valuation of environmental aspects and impacts, Member of the South West Water Legislative, Resilience and Environmental Investment Board, Chief Editor of the journal Environmental and Resource Economics and former member of the Defra Science Advisory Council. He is also Adjunct Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Western Australia, Perth and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Economics in both the University of Waikato Management School, New Zealand and at Lincoln University, New Zealand. He was Head of Economics for the UK National Ecosystem Assessment from 2009-2011.

Professor Colin Galbraith

Professor Colin Galbraith is Director of his environmental consultancy, dealing with a range of environmental issues in Scotland and at the global level. Colin was until early 2010 the Director of Policy and Advice in Scottish Natural Heritage. In this capacity he was the principal adviser on policy, scientific and technical matters for the organisation for over twelve years. Colin has been involved with the United Nations for a number of years and has made contributions through the Convention on Migratory Species and to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment in particular. This work area involves Colin in high profile nature conservation issues including the conservation of the African Elephant, developing new international agreements to assist the conservation of Albatross, and in reviewing the impact of climate change on the ecology of threatened species. Colin has been the Chairman and the Vice Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and is presently the Appointed Councillor on Climate Change issues for the Convention. He has been an Honorary Professor in Conservation Science at the University of Stirling since 2002.

Policy paper: Exmouth tidal defence scheme

Updated: 3D animations of proposed work added.

The Environment Agency is working in partnership with East Devon District Council to reduce flood risk in Exmouth, East Devon.