

[Open consultation: Running free: consultation on preserving the free use of public parks](#)

The government is consulting on proposals to legislate to put it beyond doubt that local authorities, including parish councils, cannot charge parkrun or junior parkrun for the use of public parks.

[The Centre for Environmental Geochemistry secure £450,000 funding for research on the Red River Delta, Vietnam](#)

A new £450,000 research project investigating sustainable water management on the Red River Delta in Vietnam has recently been awarded UK and Vietnamese Collaborators under the Newton funding Scheme. The project will involve collaborators from the School of Geography at the University of Nottingham (in UK and Malaysia), British Geological Survey and the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST) in Hanoi.

[Consultation outcome: Oxford flood alleviation scheme: design consultation](#)

Updated: Updated September 2017.

The Environment Agency and their partners are working together to develop a flood alleviation scheme to reduce flood risk to properties, transport links and infrastructure in Oxford. In addition, the scheme aims to protect Oxford's reputation as a thriving commercial centre, and create and maintain recreational and environmental opportunities.

The scheme will involve lowering parts of the floodplain and widening some of the existing rivers and streams that run through it, to increase capacity for flood water and divert it away from developed areas of the floodplain. Following a public consultation in January 2015, the project team developed a route for the scheme, and are now working on the design.

They would like to hear your views on specific elements of the design, as well as general feedback on the scheme, to help inform the design and construction.

After this consultation, the Environment Agency will determine the final design for the scheme. They will take into account public opinion alongside the feedback from a consultation with the local planning authority. The final design will be submitted for planning permission in late 2017.

The Environment Agency will publish the outcomes from the public consultation in August 2017 and will share the final design of the scheme in late 2017.

[National Statistics: Monthly sea fisheries statistics January 2016](#)

The monthly landings statistics will be released at 9.30am on the 4th Friday of each month, or the next working day if this is a bank holiday.

[National Statistics: Monthly sea fisheries statistics February 2016](#)

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