

Section 16 The Management Programme

Guiding Principle

Maintain a flexible effective management plan for the Fowey Estuary and update it regularly to reflect the constantly evolving needs of the environment and its users

Estuaries are dynamic systems and conditions are continually changing as a result of natural processes and human activities. Consequently, an effective management plan for an estuary must retain certain flexibility so that modifications can be made in relation to environmental change and changes in human activities. The plan is intended for onward management and will be dependent on the continual review and updating of the programme in light of new information. These reviews will take place to assess the effectiveness of actions being taken.

The management of the estuary needs to be considered as a rolling programme of liaison and action, rather than a one-off, all embracing management plan. It is inevitable that differences in opinion and emphasis will exist, but it must be ensured that the Fowey Estuary provides optimal benefits for our present needs and those of future generations.

16.1 Implementation

Management plans can take two forms. A prescriptive format would set out a means for resolving a particular issue. Alternatively, the Plan can provide a framework, which is geared towards providing a stimulus. Resolution of issues is achieved through collaboration. It is intended that this Plan will be a combination of both forms.

In the tables that follow, **PROPOSALS/OBJECTIVES** are put forward as a means of resolving issues identified in the consultation process. Each *proposal/objective* has a Guiding Principle that sets out the aims. Practical measures that could be undertaken in order to resolve issues are indicated under the heading **SUGGESTED IMPLEMENTATION**. **PRIORITY/STATUS** gives an indication of progress of various Proposals/Objectives whether they are high, medium or low priority. It is intended that high priority proposals will be carried out within 1-2 years, medium priority proposals within 2-5 years and low priority proposals within 5-10 years. It may be necessary at times to review the feasibility of these targets.

These proposals are not exhaustive and should be added to as the plan progresses and goals are achieved. With the input from topic groups and

other individuals the proposals could be expanded upon and added to. Many of the targets set in the management programme are being achieved already.

The **SUGGESTED ORGANISATIONAL INVOLVEMENT** highlights the organisations, both statutory and non-statutory, likely to be involved in carrying out the proposal. The group is not exclusive and indicates a lead body only to act as a focal point to aid information gathering and co-ordination of efforts.

It is anticipated that the plan will be carried forward through the continued co-operation of bodies involved in the management group. Many of the organisations involved in managing the Estuary and the surrounding land have their own objectives, priorities and timetables. Differences between the priorities and the programme set out in the plan and those of other interests have been identified and discussed through the consultation process. As and when new issues are highlighted and as issues currently highlighted are resolved, the necessary information will be incorporated into the Management Plan.

16.2 Funding

Some of the proposals within the plan will require some funding, for example, some survey work, publication of information, etc. Many of the proposals do not require vast amounts of money. To date, the Plan has been partly funded by English Nature and the Environment Agency with contributions from other Partnership Advisory Group members and mostly by the Fowey Harbour Commissioners. It is envisaged that many of the proposals may be met through joint funding from the relevant organisations.

16.3 Monitoring and Reviews

It is intended that there will be biennial reviews of the Management Plan and it is hoped that the majority of the proposals will be implemented within the next ten years.