

# **Fowey Estuary Voluntary Marine Conservation Area**

**The VMCA hopes to achieve success in the following aims by working together with those with a direct interest in the estuary and its surroundings, such as fishermen, sailors, commercial users, landowners, nature lovers, students and representatives of various organisations, both statutory and non-statutory.**

## **Key aims / objectives:**

1. To encourage community involvement with the marine environment and to raise awareness of the value of marine and coastal life around the Fowey Estuary.
2. To conserve, protect and investigate the biodiversity of the marine and coastal areas of the Fowey Estuary within its many varied habitats.
3. To ensure the estuary and surrounding environs are managed in such a manner as to conserve and protect the general environment.

## **Targets:**

1. Engage the local community in VMCA work & events, through the Friends of the Fowey Estuary, the Estuary Project Officer and published or online documentation.
2. Initiate a literature search on the Fowey Estuary regarding its various habitats and associated flora and fauna.
3. Use the VMCA designation as a vehicle to secure funds to carry out high quality scientific studies to increase our understanding and awareness of the physical and biological nature of the estuary.
4. Compile new and existing knowledge and data in an accessible format, readily available to those who wish to use it.
5. Use existing and new knowledge and data to highlight the relationship between all aspects of the estuary, both physical and biological and to indicate the importance of a whole estuary, whole system approach.