

## Natural England's Approach to PR09



### **We will take a long-term perspective**

We need a water industry that is responsive to the challenges and uncertainties of climate change by being more sustainable, meeting its needs in more innovative ways, and adopting less energy intensive solutions.

### **We will work in partnership with key stakeholders**

The case for the natural environment will be stronger if we combine our efforts with others, support the priorities of our partners, and find common ground for action.

### **We will work in the long-term interests of consumers and the environment**

We will work with our partners to undertake research to ensure that the interests of consumers and the natural environment are understood.

### **We will be joined-up in our own approach**

Our role in PR09 will complement our work in other key areas including catchment sensitive farming, environmental stewardship, wetland restoration and habitat creation.

### **We will ensure that our top wildlife areas are effectively protected**

Water companies must be able to take the required action to meet their statutory obligations to secure the essential water quality and water resource needs of designated sites including the Natura 2000 series of European sites (SPAs and SACs) and England's most important places for wildlife (SSSIs).

### **We will support water company action to help biodiversity**

Water companies have a statutory role to meet the needs of the most important habitats and species on their estate. We will support them in securing the necessary funding through PR09 to deliver such schemes.

### **We will champion the importance of integrated catchment-based measures**

A key challenge for PR09 is to foster a major shift towards upstream land management-based solutions in catchments to tackle raw water quality and water resource problems alongside other public benefits such as designated site condition, biodiversity improvements, improved carbon management, and better flood risk management. We will work with partners on the ground in the design and implementation of such schemes and with our fellow regulators to ensure they are funded appropriately.