

# Trafford's Biodiversity Action Plan



## Species Action Plan

### Water Vole (*Arvicola terrestris*)

#### Current Status.

The water vole was once common and widespread in lowland Britain but has suffered a significant decline in numbers and distribution in recent years. They favour backwater streams, ponds and canals.

#### National

The water vole has a UK Biodiversity Action Plan. A national biodiversity steering group has been set up.

#### Local

#### Planning Policy and Legislation

Water voles habitats are protected by law and were included on Schedule 5, Section 9 (4) a & b of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) in 1998.

#### Associated Species Action Plans

#### Character sites in Trafford

#### Notable Habitat

#### Associated Habitat Action Plans

River Bollin  
Broad Ees Dole  
Bridgewater Canal

#### Current factors causing loss or decline in Trafford.

- Habitat loss (river engineering, lack of suitable management and heavy grazing)
- Predation by American mink
- Pollution
- Development pressure
- Drying out and flooding of ditches.

**Links to other BAPs for further information**

Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan

Cheshire Countdown

UK BAP

**Objectives**

- Confirm current status in Trafford. Maintain and enhance current population

**Local Target**

- Consolidation of vole populations on established sites and the spread of voles into suitable habitats.

**Current Action**

- River restoration projects of Sinderland Brook in conjunction with the Stamford Brook Development
- River restoration and reed bed creation scheme of the Kentmere Road development.

**Future Action**

- Monitor the success of habitat improvement initiatives

**LBAP Implementers**

Environment Agency  
National Trust  
Trafford MBC  
Cheshire Wildlife Trust  
FWAG  
Local Conservation Groups  
Friends Groups and members of the public  
Landowners and managers  
ReCORd

**Key Contact**

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