

5 Year Strategy

2025–2030



Foreword

A vibrant, clean river, teeming with biodiversity and thriving wildlife, enriches our lives and rejuvenates our spirits. Rivers connect habitats, support migration routes for aquatic and terrestrial species, and foster community cohesion by uniting urban and rural populations in shared appreciation and well-being.

This is the vision we hold for every river. However, the reality is that many of our rivers are far from healthy and lack the resilience required to meet the combined challenges of the climate and biodiversity emergencies. Also, development is accelerating, building thousands of new homes in the region will increase pressure on our watercourses both during the construction phase and once occupied.

In response, Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART) has crafted a bold Five-Year Strategy. We are presenting an ambitious agenda to our partners, funders, and communities to address the critical issues facing our rivers and to implement practical solutions that yield tangible results.

While our focus remains on the rivers of the Bristol Avon catchment, we recognise the interconnectedness of river systems and communities across the region. Therefore, we are committed to expanding our efforts to collaborate with partners and stakeholders throughout the Bristol Avon catchment and beyond. By sharing experiences and learning from others, both locally and nationally through the Rivers Trust movement, we can strengthen our collective impact.

Practical action has always been the cornerstone of BART's work. From our early days, when concerns about pollution prompted community action, we have been driven by a commitment to hands-on solutions. Volunteer efforts, supported by strategic partnerships in the areas we have worked, have led to improvements in river cleanliness and better quality "blue" spaces.

However, our work has also revealed systemic challenges, including continuing pollution, habitat degradation, and a loss of ecological value in both urbanised and rural river landscapes. In response, BART's approach has evolved, to become much more strategic, drawing inspiration from the wider Rivers Trust movement, to guide our efforts towards creating healthy and sustainable river environments.

Today, we are a dynamic environmental organisation dedicated to improving rivers, with innovative programmes spanning the Bristol Avon catchment.

We have honed our technical expertise and fostered partnerships across public, private, and third sectors to tackle complex issues facing our waterways.

As we confront the climate and ecological emergencies, the need for urgent action is clear. We must unite our efforts to protect communities and our wildlife. BART is in a unique position to play a leading role in this collective call to action. Together, we can secure a clear future for our river.

This document sets out a clear and visionary five-year strategy to accelerate positive change in the way we manage our river catchments, through collaboration.



Simon Hunter
CEO Bristol Avon Rivers Trust

“Today, we are a dynamic environmental organisation dedicated to improving rivers, with innovative programmes spanning the Bristol Avon catchment.”

Contents

Who We Are	4	What we Need to Do over the Next Five Years	17
Three years of achievement: 2021–2024.....	5	Our Approach	18
The Next Five Years: Transforming the Bristol Avon River Catchment	6	Where we will work	18
Our Core Values	7	Revitalising Urban Rivers	18
BART’s Vision of a Healthy River	8	Enhancing Rural Rivers across the Bristol Avon.....	19
Key Priority Areas for Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART)	9	Expanding Our Influence Regionally	19
Priority Focus One: Developing Climate-Resilient Rivers and Communities.....	10	How We Will Work	20
Priority Focus Two: Addressing the Ecological Emergency by Restoring and Sustaining Healthy, Diverse Wildlife Populations across River Catchments.....	13	Developing Capacity	20
Priority Focus Three: Connecting People to Rivers – Improving the Health and Well-being of Individuals and Communities through the Restoration and Care of our Rivers	15	Building Organisational Resilience	20
		Securing Financial Support.....	21



Who We Are

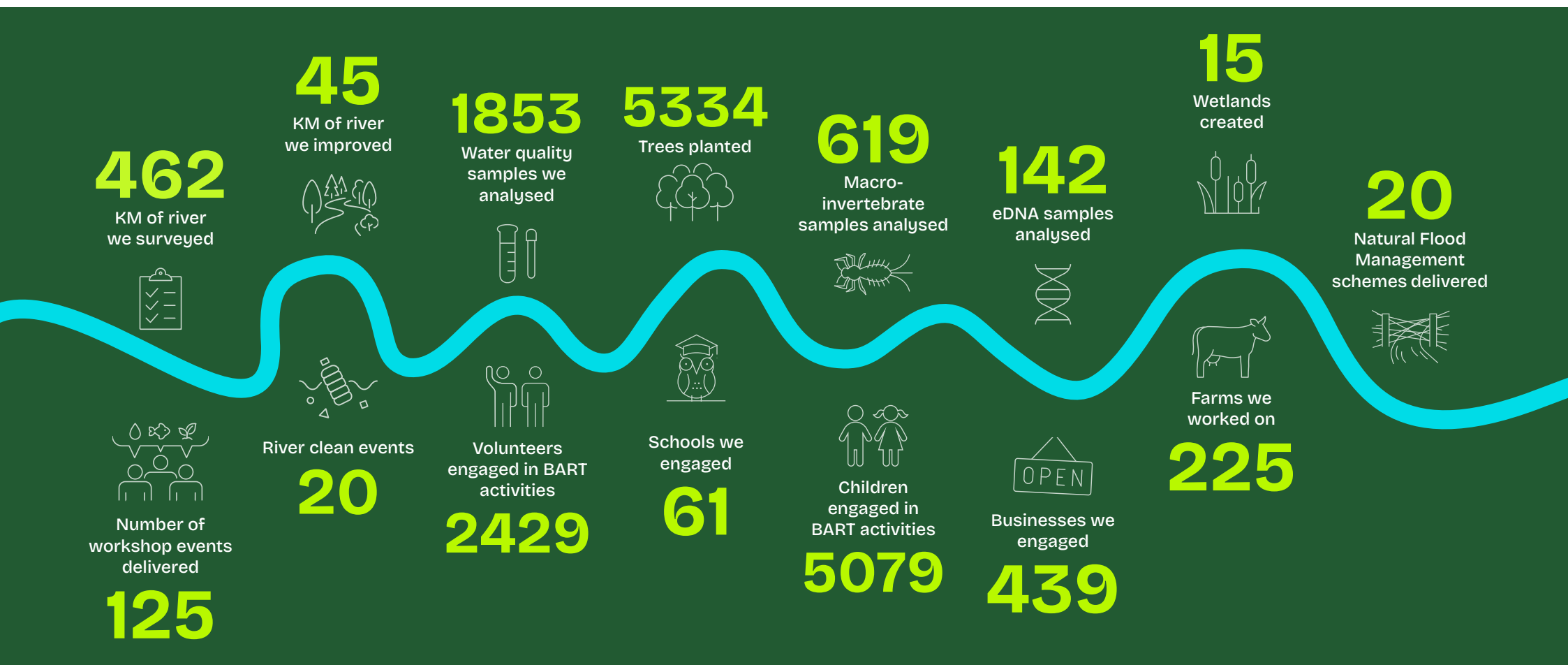
Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART) is an independent environmental charity (Registered Charity No. 1154348), proudly part of the Rivers Trust movement, and passionately committed to protecting and restoring the rivers and streams of the Bristol Avon catchment. The Trust was founded in March 2012 with a passionate mission: to create a clear, healthy, and thriving future for our rivers – restoring life, connecting communities, and protecting these vital blue arteries for generations to come.

Three years of achievement: 2021–2024

In the years following the pandemic, BART entered a phase of ambitious growth and delivery – expanding both the scale and depth of our work. Over this transformative three-year period, we delivered a powerful set of outcomes across the catchment, creating a strong foundation for even greater impact in the years ahead.

These achievements now serve as a springboard for the next five years – fuelled by momentum, partnerships, and a deepening commitment to nature recovery, climate resilience, and community engagement.

...we delivered a powerful set of outcomes across the catchment...





The Next Five Years: Transforming the Bristol Avon River Catchment

For over a decade, Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART) has been dedicated to enhancing the health and vitality of the Bristol Avon and its tributaries. Now, as we face the challenges posed by the twin ecological and climate emergencies, our work has never been more crucial. The urgency of addressing these emergencies necessitates a renewed and intensified focus on our river networks.

**“...our work has never
been more crucial.**

BART's work plays a key role in delivering the Government's public commitments to accelerate nature recovery. BART is poised to respond by scaling up our efforts over the next five years through a strategic approach. Our mission is to cultivate resilient and thriving rivers and landscapes that closely resemble their natural state, teeming with fish and wildlife. We aim to empower and collaborate with communities, stakeholders, other charities and businesses to bring multiple benefits to the environment and society.

Our Core Values

BART's Five Core Values below are the foundation of our culture and guide our interactions – with our river stakeholders, partners, communities and with each other.

“...strive to empower individuals and communities...”

1

Environmental Stewardship:

We are committed to being a responsible steward of the environment, working tirelessly to protect and enhance the health of the Bristol Avon catchment and its surrounding landscapes.



2

Community Engagement:

We value the active involvement and engagement of local communities in our work. We strive to empower individuals and communities to become advocates for river conservation and restoration and to take action themselves to improve the health of their local rivers.



3

Collaboration:

BART recognises that addressing complex environmental challenges requires collaboration and partnership across various sectors. We actively seek out partnerships with governmental agencies, non-profit organisations, businesses, and local communities to achieve shared goals.



4

Integrity:

We operate with honesty, transparency, and integrity and integrity in all aspects of our work. We are committed to upholding high ethical standards and being accountable to our stakeholders.



5

Innovation:

We embrace innovation and creative problem solving in our approach to river conservation and restoration. We continuously seek out new ideas, technologies, and approaches to improve our effectiveness and impact.



BART's Vision of a Healthy River

Our vision centres on the Bristol Avon and its tributaries, and on the communities that benefit from them. We envision a resilient, thriving river, which is a vital asset for communities and the environment alike and:

- Demonstrates **resilience** to the impacts of climate change and further domestic, commercial and infrastructure development at catchment, river, and community levels.
- Boasts **clean water, sustainable flows**, and **abundant wildlife**, including fish, birds, invertebrates and plants (particularly the Biodiversity Action Plan priority species).
- Is integrated into an **ecologically healthy** and **diverse** landscape.
- Is well understood and championed by the communities it serves, with **active engagement** in its protection and preservation.
- **Contributes positively to our economy** through the provision of ecosystem services and healthy/valuable natural capital.
- Enhances **community well-being** by offering high-quality spaces for people to enjoy.

“ Collaborative partnerships across all sectors are essential to achieving transformative change on the scale required...”

Collaborative partnerships across all sectors are essential to achieving transformative change on the scale required to realise this vision. To this end, we have identified three priority areas for the next five years:



Enhancing resilience:

Implementing measures to safeguard rivers and communities against the impacts of climate change, including high and low flows.



Restoring biodiversity:

Undertaking initiatives to improve water quality, enhance habitats, and promote biodiversity within the river catchment.



Community engagement:

Engaging and empowering communities to become stewards of their local rivers, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility.



KEY FACTS about the Bristol Avon

- **Length and Route:** When you include all its tributaries - such as the Rivers Frome, Marden, Somerset Frome, By Brook, Chew, Boyd, and others - the total length of the river network in the Bristol Avon catchment is estimated to be around 714 miles (1,150 km).
- **Ecological Importance:** The river supports a wide range of habitats and species, including otters, kingfishers and freshwater fish including migratory Atlantic salmon, European eel and sea/ brown trout.
- **Human Impact and Restoration:** Historically, the Bristol Avon has been heavily modified for navigation, industry, and agriculture, which has impacted upon water quality and connectivity. However, recent initiatives – led by organisations like BART – are working to restore its natural function and improve ecological health.





Key Priority Areas for Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART)

Our focus areas are deeply interconnected, working synergistically to realise our vision.



Priority Focus One: **Developing Climate-Resilient Rivers and Communities**

“Rivers serve as frontline indicators of climate change, with changing rainfall patterns vividly illustrating the urgency of the climate emergency.”

“More frequent droughts are depleting river flows and aquifers, affecting river health and water supply. Extended periods of intensified rainfall cause rapid runoff, worsening pollution and causing greater flood risks to local communities.”

Nick Zaman, Head of River Recovery, BART



Why is this a priority?

Climate change exacerbates the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, leaving communities across the Bristol Avon increasingly vulnerable. Rising water temperatures and sea levels in the Severn Estuary are stark evidence of these trends. More frequent droughts and altered rainfall patterns are depleting river flows and aquifer levels, compromising river health and potable water availability. Intensified rainfall poses a heightened risk of floods, threatening local communities.

A significant and growing proportion of urban land is now covered by impermeable surfaces, while much of our rural land is either compacted or lacks vegetative cover during critical periods. These factors have long contributed to extreme fluctuations in water flow – both high and low – even before the effects of climate change were fully felt. As our climate continues to change, these existing issues are expected to intensify, amplifying the challenges associated with water management and catchment resilience.

Building resilience to climate change requires a holistic, catchment-wide approach. BART is committed to addressing the climate emergency by working collaboratively with partners and communities to strengthen the resilience of our rivers, catchments, and the communities that depend on them.

Though the challenges facing the Bristol Avon may appear daunting, by fostering collaboration among statutory organisations, the third sector, businesses, and communities, we can collectively address the climate emergency and bolster the resilience of our catchments.



Objectives – Climate-Resilient Rivers

- Work with farming communities to promote sustainable land use
- Promote Nature-Based Solutions
- Enhance Natural River Processes: Help rivers flow more naturally by reconnecting them to their floodplains, removing obstacles that block fish movement, and adding variety to the river channel to support wildlife.
- Build Strategic Partnerships, working across sectors

How will we do this

To realise our goals, BART will adopt effective, innovative approaches and collaborate to:

- **Build the evidence base:** Gather evidence and deepen understanding of climate change impacts on rivers, informing resilience, mitigation, and adaptation strategies.
- **Use Nature-Based Solutions:** Implement nature-based solutions across urban and rural landscapes – such as wetlands, leaky dams, soil management practices and sustainable urban drainage – to slow, store, and filter water, reducing the impacts of floods and droughts.



■ Support Climate change adaptation:

- Advocate for flood risk programs that prioritise collaboration with landowners, and communities living on flood plains or next to rivers and deliver multiple benefits for rivers.
- Support plans which holistically address both flooding and water availability in the environment, ensuring a balanced focus and integration of both extremes.
- Respond to rising water demand by assisting communities, businesses and landowners to reduce water consumption and advocate for reduced abstraction to restore healthy river flows.

- **Climate change mitigation:** Integrate carbon sequestration initiatives into the Trust's work to help mitigate climate change and deliver additional benefits.
- **Collaborate with stakeholders** to share best practices and catalyse action to build resilient rivers and communities.

How will we measure success: KPIs



Build the Data & Evidence Base



Number of nature-based solutions implemented



Number of carbon storage measures (from wetlands and tree planting)



Number of landowners worked with to reduce flooding and improve water security



Collaborative projects to deliver climate-resilient rivers





Priority Focus Two: **Addressing the Ecological Emergency by Restoring and Sustaining Healthy, Diverse Wildlife Populations across River Catchments**

“Our reliance on the natural world is undeniable, yet our current actions are causing profound damage, pushing many of its essential systems to the brink of collapse”.

“Healthy, thriving river habitats are essential to resilient and biodiverse landscapes. They help prevent flooding, support consistent river flows, safeguard clean water supplies, promote rich biodiversity, store carbon, and contribute to the overall health and well-being of both people and nature”.

Melissa Hoskings, Head of Land Management & Environmental Monitoring

Why is this a priority?

We are facing a deepening nature crisis, both in the UK and globally. The UK has lost over half its biodiversity since the Industrial Revolution, making it one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world¹. Tackling this biodiversity loss is essential to addressing climate change, which is why the Nature Emergency is a key priority for us.

Rivers are vital to both wildlife and communities, yet freshwater ecosystems are declining faster than any other globally – freshwater species have dropped by 88% since 1970¹. The Bristol Avon and its tributaries have suffered from pollution, artificial barriers, and habitat degradation. Critically endangered species like the European eel, Atlantic salmon, sea trout, and sea lamprey face significant migration challenges due to these obstacles.

According to **WildFish**, the Bristol Avon catchment is among the most degraded in the UK based on invertebrate data. Pollution from sewage, agriculture, industry, and urban runoff, combined with habitat modification, invasive species, and water abstraction, are all contributing factors. However, with the right interventions, these rivers have enormous potential for recovery.



88%

Rivers are vital to both wildlife and communities, yet freshwater ecosystems are declining faster than any other globally - **freshwater species have dropped by 88% since 1970.**

¹ WWF. Living Planet Report 2022: Building a Nature-Positive Society. Edited by Mark Grooten and Robin Almond, WWF, 2022.
www.wwf.org.uk/our-reports/living-planet-report-2022

BART's work to improve river health also benefits marine ecosystems like the internationally important Severn Estuary, by reducing the flow of pollutants to the sea. While there have been successes, the overall condition of UK rivers continues to decline. BART delivers targeted, strategic interventions to reverse this trend, supporting resilient river systems and contributing to the **Bristol Avon Fish Recovery Strategy**.

Objectives – Healthy, Diverse River Ecosystems

BART is committed to restoring rivers and floodplains by:

- Enhance and restore river and floodplain habitats
- Strengthen Ecological Connectivity
- Reduce Pollution Inputs
- Promote Sustainable Land Management

How We Deliver:

- **Habitat Restoration:** Re-naturalise rivers by removing barriers (e.g. weirs, culverts), restoring channels, and supporting biodiversity net gain.
- **Connectivity:** Improve fish passage and species movement across catchments.
- **Community Engagement:** Empower local groups to lead and support river improvements.
- **Pollution Reduction:** Build cross-sector partnerships to reduce pollution from agriculture, wastewater, and urban runoff.
- **Invasive Species Control:** Collaborate with communities and other organisations to monitor and manage invasive non-native species.
- **Sustainable Land Management:** Support landowners to adopt nature-friendly farming practices that benefit rivers and wildlife.

How will we measure success: KPIs



Kilometres of river habitat restored or improved



Number of artificial barriers opened up to fish passage



Hectares of habitat enhanced



Number of invasive species sites managed



Number of projects directly benefiting UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority species (such as salmon, eels or water voles)



Number of farmers worked with to improve river and floodplain habitat



Number of river sites monitored for water quality and biodiversity



Number of businesses supporting BART to improve the health of local rivers





Priority Focus Three: **Connecting People and Rivers – Enhancing Health and Well-being Through the Restoration and Stewardship of rivers**

“Clean, vibrant rivers support diverse ecosystems, and offer recreational opportunities that help build stronger, more resilient communities.”

Amy Wade, Engagement & Education Lead, BART

Why is this a priority?

In today's fast-paced world, urban life has become increasingly stressful, leading to a sense of disconnection both from one another and from the natural world. As urbanisation has surged and societal structures have evolved, traditional support systems like extended families have diminished.

Amidst the hustle and bustle of crowded cities, access to nature, particularly healthy rivers in flourishing landscapes, plays a crucial role in fostering the well-being of individuals and communities. Research indicates that regular exposure to blue and green spaces reduces stress levels, promotes overall health and wellness, encourages recreational and physical activity, and enhances children's learning and development². Volunteering further combats

social isolation, fostering a sense of involvement, community and confidence among participants. The quality of the natural environment directly correlates with the positive impact it has on individuals' well-being.

BART not only unites communities to address the impacts of climate change but also strives to deliver social benefits to these communities. By challenging low levels of public access, appreciation, enjoyment, and stewardship of rivers, BART aims to create more resilient urban areas and healthier, interconnected communities.

Objectives – Connecting People to Rivers

- Increase Community Engagement & opportunities to volunteer
- Increase the number of School Education Programmes
- Improved well-being of communities through connecting people with our blue spaces



2 World Health Organization (2016). Urban green spaces and health – A review of evidence. Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe.



How we will do this – Projects

■ Community empowerment

- Increase public understanding of the vital role rivers play in supporting the natural environment and ensuring clean, reliable water for communities.
- Inspire and empower communities, landowners and stakeholders to become river ambassadors through education, citizen science, to support long-term stewardship and sustainable land and water management.
- Collect and use robust evidence on river health to inform and drive targeted, effective action.
- Champion the protection and enhancement of local rivers through advocacy and practical initiatives.
- Offer opportunities for active participation in river-related activities to enhance physical and mental health with communities.
- Engage communities in a targeted manner to ensure that project participants reflect the diversity of the surrounding area.

■ Build community capacity and capability

- Provide training and skills development to foster local stewardship of rivers.
- Offer formal and informal learning opportunities to increase awareness of the vital role rivers play in the natural environment and in providing clean and adequate water for communities

■ Informed advocacy

- Advocate for more sustainable lifestyles and emphasise the link between healthy rivers and environmental sustainability, water supply, biodiversity, climate resilience, and overall well-being.
- Collect evidence of social impact to inform best practices and encourage partners to target their efforts more effectively.

■ Incorporate nature-noticing approaches

- Foster emotional and sensory engagement with the natural world to work toward a future where people deeply understand the importance of biodiversity, actively engage with data on their local environment, and find joy in the simple, everyday wonders of nature.



How will we measure success: KPIs



Volunteer Hours
Contributed: Total hours donated by community members to river-based activities



Number of young people engaged in river related activities



Number of citizen science site monitoring visits



Number of people engaged during community outreach activities



Number of projects directly benefiting deprived communities in the Bristol Avon catchment (decile 1, most deprived 10% in the country)



Percentage of participants reporting improved well-being after participating in river-based activities

What we Need to Do over the Next Five Years

Over the forthcoming five-year period, BART is dedicated to implementing initiatives that yield tangible and measurable advancements towards realising our vision of healthy rivers and landscapes. We are committed to achieving the following objectives:

No.	KPI	Year					
		2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	TOTAL
1	Work with partners to Build the Data & Evidence Base	1 sub-catchment	1 sub-catchment	1 sub-catchment			3
2	Number of nature-based solutions implemented	10	25	45	70	100	100
3	Number of carbon storage measures (from wetlands and tree planting)	5	15	25	35	50	50
4	Number of landowners worked with to reduce flooding and improve water security	5	15	25	35	50	50
5	Collaborative projects contributing towards climate-resilient rivers	5	10	20	30	50	50
6	Kilometres of river habitat restored or improved	15	30	50	75	100	100
7	Number of artificial barriers opened up to fish passage	3	6	10	15	20	20
8	Hectares of habitat enhanced	2	5	10	15	20	20
9	Number of invasive species sites managed	2	6	11	18	25	25
10	Number of projects directly benefiting UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority species (such as salmon, eels or watervoles)	2	5	10	15	20	20
11	Number of farmers worked with to improve river and floodplain habitat	15	30	50	70	90	90
12	Number of river sites monitored for water quality and biodiversity	5	10	15	20	25	25
13	Number of businesses supporting BART to improve the health of local rivers	5	10	20	30	50	50
14	Volunteer Hours Contributed: Total hours donated by community members to river-based activities.	5,000	10,000	15,000	22,000	30,000	30,000
15	Number of young people engaged in river related activities	2,500	5,000	7,500	10,000	13,000	13,000
16	Number of citizen science site monitoring visits	500	1,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	4,000
17	Number of people engaged during community outreach activities	1,500	3,000	4,500	7,000	10,000	10,000
18	Number of projects directly benefiting deprived communities in the Bristol Avon catchment (decile 1, most deprived 10% in the country).	2	4	7	11	15	15
19	Percentage of participants reporting improved well-being after participating in river-based activities.	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%

Our Approach

BART is a collaborative charity dedicated to protecting and restoring rivers and landscapes for the benefit of both people and wildlife. We believe that meaningful progress requires action across sectors – from communities and government to businesses, the water industry, and land managers.

As co-host of the **Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership (BACP)** BART helped shape its shared Catchment Plan and continues to work with diverse partners to drive river improvements. We also sit on the Steering Group of the **West of England Nature Partnership (WENP)** co-developing the “Restoring Rivers” theme in the regional Nature Recovery Plan.

These partnerships are essential to delivering nature recovery at scale, ensuring all voices are included in shaping healthier catchments.

Over the next five years, BART will expand its work in both urban and rural areas, collaborating with farmers, landowners, stakeholders and communities to tackle pollution, restore ecosystems, and strengthen floodplain resilience. We will also enhance our advocacy and communications, championing river health and inspiring action through accessible, inclusive engagement.



Where we will work

Revitalising Urban Rivers

BART initially focused on community-led cleanups to address litter, fly-tipping, and plastic pollution. Over time, this work has evolved to include promoting ecologically resilient rivers and gathering data to better understand these systems. Moving forward, BART aims to investigate how urban rivers function, identify sources of impact, and develop integrated solutions.

Urban rivers and corridors bring nature into the heart of the city, directly benefiting communities – particularly those in areas of deprivation – who may face barriers to accessing the wider countryside. Restoring these urban streams supports government and council goals to improve well-being and access to nature for marginalised groups, putting rich, biodiverse spaces on their doorstep.

Restoring urban rivers can also reconnect habitats, support wildlife, mitigate flooding, and create vibrant green spaces for recreation and environmental education. By revitalising the Bristol Avon's urban rivers, BART seeks to build a sustainable and thriving urban environment for both people and nature. Over the next five years, this work will remain a top priority, focusing on collaboration, data collection, and delivering tangible improvements on the ground.



Enhancing Rural Rivers across the Bristol Avon

Restoring rural rivers and surrounding landscape delivers significant benefits for the environment and local communities by enhancing biodiversity, improving water quality, reducing flood risks, and supporting sustainable agriculture. These efforts also provide valuable recreational spaces, fostering well-being and stronger connections with nature, while building more resilient landscapes.

BART, strategically positioned across the Bristol Avon catchment, collaborates effectively with landowners and stakeholders to drive impactful restoration projects. With extensive expertise and experience, BART specialises in nutrient management, soil health, river and wetland restoration, and floodplain reconnection, offering advisory support and project delivery.

BART has a proven track record in implementing Natural Flood Management and Nature-Based Solutions that benefit both wildlife and communities. Additionally, BART excels in securing diverse funding and supporting farmers with grant applications. Looking ahead, we aim to expand our outreach through initiatives like farm clusters, working with landowners to tackle water quality and habitat challenges while reintroducing natural processes to enhance the resilience and sustainability of river catchments.

Expanding Our Influence Regionally

The environmental, climatic and growth challenges confronting the rivers within the Bristol Avon catchment resonate not only across “our patch” but more widely across the UK and wider still, globally.

BART values the importance of learning from others and sharing our own experiences. We are committed to strengthening our role as both a thought leader and a practical facilitator, empowering others to take action while constantly improving our own effectiveness. We are proud to be part of the Rivers Trust movement, where we exchange knowledge and learn from a network of circa 64 local Rivers Trusts, as well as the national Rivers Trust, which facilitates knowledge sharing and learning via a series of Community of Practice.

We are committed to developing, implementing, and showcasing innovative and pioneering initiatives focused on rivers and communities. In this context, BART is committed to advancing and sharing its data and evidence platform, RiverHub. This platform brings together cross-sector and citizen science datasets, supporting informed decision-making. Sharing insights and learning through RiverHub is a key part of BART’s leadership role within the sector. To achieve this, we will bolster our community presence and networks at local and regional levels. By strengthening these connections, we aim to elevate our impact and contribute to positive change within our operational area.

We are committed to developing, implementing, and showcasing innovative and pioneering initiatives focused on rivers and communities.



64

Local Rivers Trusts

We are proud to be part of the Rivers Trust movement, where we exchange knowledge and learn from a network of circa 64 local Rivers Trusts



How We Will Work

BART is committed to expanding its network of volunteers and advocates to champion the rivers of the Bristol Avon both locally and nationally. Our goal is to empower communities to build lasting connections with their rivers, landscapes, and BART itself.

Recognising the importance of diversity and representation, we aim to engage more deeply with all communities in our area, working with partners to share best practices and actively listening to identify barriers to participation. Insights from these efforts will guide the development of inclusive programs and opportunities within our work which may include training for the community to provide support for BART's work.

Our board and staff are collaboratively shaping a roadmap to ensure BART's future aligns with our commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Developing Capacity

BART intends to enhance and develop the core functions of the charity to sustain and bolster its capacity to achieve greater outcomes for rivers and communities. Additionally, BART aims to cultivate income streams that will facilitate this investment, across the three focus areas set out in its strategy.

“...empower communities to build lasting connections with their rivers, landscapes, and BART itself.

Building Organisational Resilience

To achieve its objectives, BART will enhance its organisational structure and prioritise the training and development of its staff to fulfil its role in delivering across the three focus areas of its strategy. The charity will reinforce its business resilience by optimising its customer relationships and cultivating sustainable and diverse sources of funding to finance its necessary work.

“Recognising the importance of diversity and representation, we aim to engage more deeply with all communities in our area...



Securing Financial Support

BART will capitalise on its fundraising capabilities and diversify its revenue streams by:

Leveraging statutory funding to align with government policies on rivers, the natural environment, and climate resilience.



Strengthening its capacity to engage with emerging green finance mechanisms and markets.



Establishing individual giving and legacies from supporters.

Consider innovative green financing models in collaboration with partners, linking funding for mandatory improvements in Biodiversity Net Gain on rivers with the delivery of key ecosystem services such as flood risk reduction, climate resilience, and health and well-being.

Building compelling cases for funding across its spectrum of work, encompassing climate resilience, water management, flood mitigation, biodiversity preservation, community engagement, health, well-being, and inclusivity.

Expanding its fundraising efforts to effectively execute its Five-Year Strategy.

Increasing private sector funding for its restorative initiatives, assisting corporations in meeting sustainability, water stewardship, and employee engagement goals.



Broadening funding from Trusts & Foundations and public sources.



Developing commercial and consultancy services.



Cultivating a philanthropic culture and soliciting major donations.

Maintaining a robust level of reserves to support the charity's sustainable growth.





Bristol Avon Rivers Trust

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