

# Lower Otter Restoration Project

*We have an opportunity to act now to restore the valley to a more natural, sustainable state.*

By acting now we believe we can:

- **Improve the biodiversity value** of the lower Otter valley, restoring more natural habitats and attracting more species
- **Ensure long-term public access** to the area by protecting the South West Coast Path and South Farm Road
- Secure the future of the **Budleigh Salterton Cricket Club**
- Restore **natural processes** to the lower Otter valley, reconnecting the river and estuary to the historic floodplain, and minimise future maintenance costs
- Enable the lower Otter valley to **adapt naturally to climate change**
- Enable **sustainable management** of the lower Otter valley
- **Reduce the risk of contamination** from the old municipal tip
- Provide **more certainty for local people**.

## Project Partners

The major partners in the Lower Otter Restoration Project are:

- **Clinton Devon Estates**, which owns the majority of the land around the estuary
- the **Environment Agency**, the government body which has responsibilities for:
  - flood risk management
  - improving resilience to climate change
  - increasing biodiversity
  - improving water quality.

The Environment Agency is funding this phase of the project, commissioning consultants CH2M to investigate options that can help achieve its objectives.

## The Stakeholder Group

The project team has consulted with the public and a Stakeholder Group at key stages of this project. The Stakeholder Group includes: local councillors, residents' representatives, the Budleigh Salterton Cricket Club, the Otter Valley Association, South West Water, Natural England, Devon County Council, East Devon District Council, East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and East Devon Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust.