

**Briefing Note for Infrastructure, Safety and Growth
Scrutiny Committee**

18th February 2025

Improving Water Quality within Rivers in Tamworth

Exempt Information

None

Purpose of note

To provide the Committee with the background to the agenda item.

Recommendations

The infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee are recommended to:

1. Identify any recommendations for Cabinet following Scrutiny of this item.

Background

The below motion was submitted to Full Council on the 28th February 2023 as below –

According to a map produced by The Rivers Trust using the latest available public data, there has been hundreds of hours of raw sewage discharge in Tamworth during 2021.

These discharges are across multiple sites in the borough, and we are sure that residents will be shocked to find raw sewage is being dumped in local rivers in the 21st century. Residents should have access to clean rivers and open water and we very much support the steps the government is taking towards a 'polluter pays' principle when it comes to tackling river pollution.

A referral was made to the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee following to:

ask scrutiny to look into this matter and engage with local partners, environmental bodies and utility providers to develop a broader approach to improving water quality in rivers in Tamworth;

The Current Chair of the Committee proposed an item be added to the agenda (see Appendix 2) on the 21st March 2024 which was agreed.

As a result this meeting has been arranged to bring key partners together to discuss the issue. Representatives from Severn Trent, The Environment Agency, Staffordshire County Council and Trent Rivers Trust have agreed to attend.

Implications

This note is for information only and there are no implications at this stage however if any recommendations were made to Cabinet around projects to improve the water quality these would need to be considered.

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Appendix

- 1. Matters referred to Scrutiny**
- 2. Scrutiny Work Planning Proposal Form**