

SRRP External Briefing

February 2014

The Environment Agency is currently reviewing its corporate ambitions for the next five years. As part of this, we are looking at how we deliver the best environmental outcomes in the future.

We already deliver impressive outcomes for people and the environment. This is a credit to the dedication, expertise and professionalism of the people working in the Environment Agency.

Over recent years we have become an organisation that is easier to do business with, embodied by our 'yes if' approach. But there is more we can do, improving how we work with communities and individuals, and those we regulate, and by simplifying our internal processes and transactions.

We have to balance continuing priorities with the knowledge that we will have significantly reduced funding for many important areas of our work. We know that we need to be a smaller organisation in the future and be consistent in the services we provide, regardless of where people are or how they want to engage with us.

Therefore, as well as looking for efficiencies across the organisation, from 1 April 2014 we will provide all of our services at either a local or national level (removing the regional tier). We are seeking to minimise the impact on front line services and are confident in our continued ability to manage environmental incidents in our capacity as a Category 1 Responder. We will also ensure that the quality of the service we provide to our customers remains high as we implement the changes.

We know that our staff are our biggest asset and that a period of organisational change can be unsettling. Whilst we must reduce the number of staff we have working for us, it is our intention to minimise the number of compulsory redundancies and where possible remove uncertainty for staff as soon as possible. We are seeking to do this through a voluntary early release scheme.

Over the coming weeks and months we will develop the ways of working and structures we need to deliver our next corporate plan successfully. We will keep you updated on our thinking and involve customers and stakeholders where we can.

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