

# APPG for Wetlands - Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Monday, 13 November 2023 at 4pm

## Attendees

### MPs and Peers

Siobhan Baillie MP (Chair)  
Earl of Devon  
Lord Cameron  
Lord Lucas  
Earl of Caithness

### Stakeholders

Alex Poynter, Natural England  
Kezia Saunders, The Rivers Trust  
Simone Wilson, Environment Agency  
Bradley Tully, Environment Agency

### WWT

Emma Pollitt  
Kate Chandler  
Tom Fewins  
Dan Roberts

### Apologies for Absence

Lord Blencathra  
Baroness Bakewell  
Emma Hardy MP  
Baroness Parminter  
Sarah Olney MP  
Kerry McCarthy MP  
Sarah Champion MP  
Sally-Ann Hart MP  
Earl of Leicester

## Agenda

- **Opening remarks from the Chair, Siobhan Baillie**
- **Presentations from speakers: Dr Gabriela (Gaby) Dotro**, Chair, Constructed Wetlands Association and Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Water, Environment and Development Cranfield University; **Sarah Williams**, Principal Environmental Scientist, Wessex Water; **Bob Middleton**, CSF Delivery Manager, Greener Farming and Fisheries Operations Delivery, Natural England.
- **Panel questions** which focused on how treatment wetlands can be used to improve water quality and what barriers prevent scaling up their use.
- **Open discussion** between speakers and attendees. Topics included:
  - Impact of resourcing and expertise at a local level on the creation of wetlands
  - Benefits of wetland creations vs the cost of implementation
  - Availability of advice, support and evidence for industry and business
  - Creation of guidance for wetland creation and a nutrient offsetting code

## Actions

- Action for group to consider inviting Environment Agency to future meeting to discuss resourcing pressures and impact on wetland creation.