

Date: 5th January 2021

To whom it may concern

Letter of Support for United Utilities Green Recovery Proposals

As an organisation involved in the protection and enhancement of the environment and communities, and as the Host organisation for the Irwell Catchment Partnership, we are keen to engage with partners to develop new initiatives that help to further these objectives.

Having been involved in the development of the proposals that United Utilities would look to deliver we are pleased to note that these support the ambitions of the Irwell Catchment Plan and that a partnership approach has been taken in identifying what can be achieved and how best it can be delivered.

We are keen to work in partnership with United Utilities and others, to align delivery and maximise the results that can be achieved, and are particularly supportive of the proposals put forward to enhance the River Irwell catchment, which include:

- Tackling invasive species at a catchment level to improve access to the river, restore native biodiversity, reduce health and safety risk and prevent further spread
- Catchment phosphorus management to reduce rural and urban pollution in line with the requirements of the water framework directive as well as reducing other urban pollutants
- Sustainable drainage and natural flood management to reduce flooding associated with surface water and sewers

The complexities of the River Irwell Catchment require partners to collaborate in order to achieve real change within the catchment; partners appreciate that 'business as usual' approaches will not tackle the failures identified or achieve the standards required – we need to find ways of working that are effective, complementary, offer value for money and maximise the local context.

In summary, we are supportive of United Utilities' Green Recovery proposals and look forward to working with you in the future, to ensure delivery of these and wider benefits through development and delivery of complimentary activities for the environment and the communities of the North West.

Regards



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