

## **Member Motion: River Pollution**

**Full Council, 20 April 2022**

**Motion proposed by: Cllr Pavitt**

**Seconded by: Cllr Gregory**

### **MOTION: River Pollution**

Council notes that it is evident from national reports that rather than less frequently, raw or partially-treated sewage is entering waterways at ever greater frequency.

This is of particular concern as we enter summer and people, especially children, play in the rivers.

Uttlesford is the source of 4 important rivers, two of which are classified as rare chalk streams including the iconic river Cam.

Sample testing and visual reports indicate that these rivers are polluted beyond legal limits.

Local authorities need support to protect public health and river ecology.

Council calls on the Chief Executive to write to Environment Secretary George Eustice asking that he boosts funding for the Environment Agency (EA) in order to support more inspections of rivers, water recycling centres and the performance of water companies in Uttlesford.

It would be appropriate for the EA's budget to be restored to pre-2010 levels to enable more prosecutions of offenders and for the EA to fund councils to develop schemes to stop pollutants entering rivers.

Signed: Councillor R Pavitt, Councillor N Gregory and Councillor C Criscione.