

ACTIVITY SHEET

KS3 Water Treatment

Spillage scenario

News flash... News flash... News flash...

Just after 6.00am this morning a fuel tanker with a full load of petrol lost control on Kennedy Way and plunged into the River Exe after leaving Morrisons Petrol Station.

Emergency services arrived quickly but early reports indicate that a slick is observable floating down the river.

South West Water have been notified by the Environment Agency who are on site overseeing the operation.

The River Exe provides the water supply for the whole of Exeter and parts of East Devon via the Pynes water treatment works.

Divide into groups and think about how you would deal with this problem.

1. What might be the consequences of this accident, in the short and long term?
2. How would you manage this environmental disaster? What animals and plants might be endangered? What environmental groups would you contact?
3. What tasks are to be done? How would you clean up the mess and ensure the water supply was safe? Would you need to warn local people?
4. How would you deal with the press? How would you deal with large numbers of customers and organisations calling South West Water for information?
5. How would South West Water meet supplies for drinking water? Where is extra water stored?