# <u>Changes to Environment Agency's</u> <u>abstraction charges to safeguard water</u> <u>supplies for people and wildlife</u>

Businesses, including water companies and farmers must hold a licence to abstract more than 20 cubic metres of water a day from a river, stream, canal or groundwater, and pay charges for this from 1 April 2022.

#### Natural England and Environment Agency launch joint legal action in response to River Lugg damage

Banks of the River Lugg were damaged in December 2020 causing suspected significant and long-term ecological harm.

### More than 7,000 shrubs planted to combat climate change in Essex

Over 2,000 metres of hedgerow has been planted in Seawick and Leewick near Clacton to help store carbon.

### Making Bishops Stortford a home for 'Ratty'

Work due to start 9 March to improve water vole habitat on the Stort Navigation in Bishops Stortford.

## Pro-Direct pays charity after 9 years of waste packaging errors

Sportswear and accessory retailer Pro-Direct Group Ltd has made a payment to Devon Wildlife Trust of nearly £20,000 for failing two crucial packaging regulations.