

## Deben Climate Centre (DCC), 4 Rivers Recovery Project (4RRP)

### River Ore Water Quality (ROWQ) Team Report August – September 2026

**Weather:** In August 2026, Framlingham experienced very warm to hot conditions, highlighted by a mid-month peak where temperatures reached up to 33.7°C (on August 14th), alongside cooler dips down to 8.9°C on August 24th. In September, highs averaged around 19°C with lows around 11°C. The weather was a mix of sunny intervals, gentle breezes and periodic light rain showers, consistent with regional seasonal averages, as recorded by the Met Office and BBC Weather.

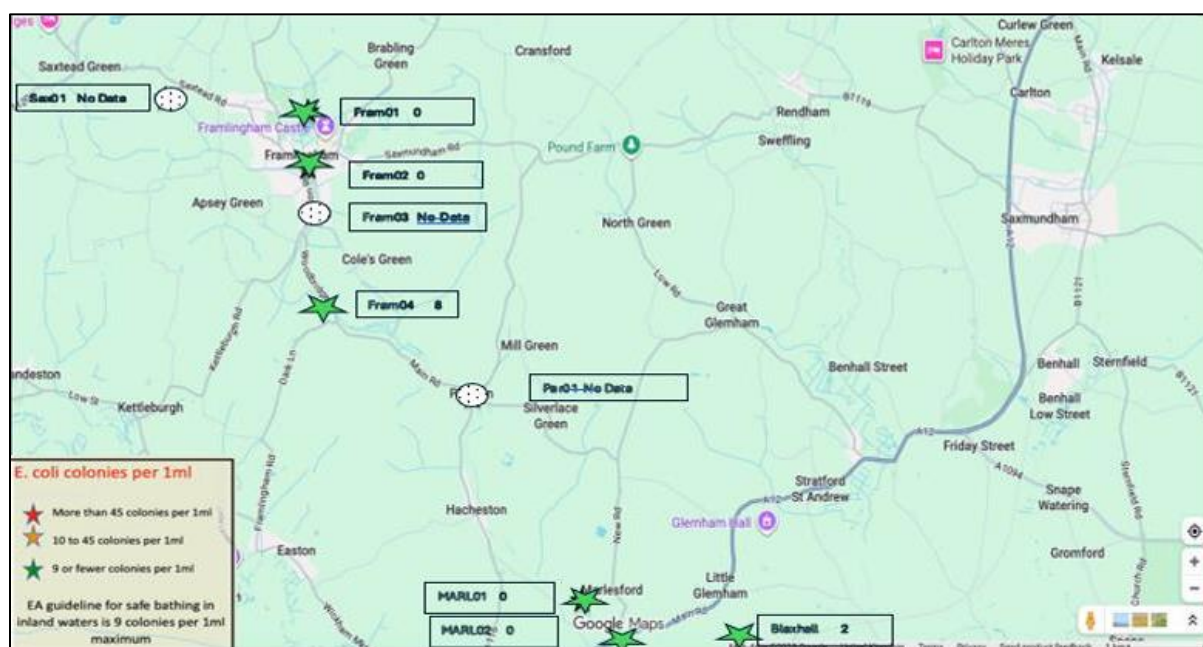
**Sample locations:** Saxtead, Framlingham, Marlesford and Blaxhall. This report is based on the data sets collected in August and September 2026. Please note that many stretches of the Rive Ore have run dry, so we have been unable to collect water samples at these sites.

#### E. coli

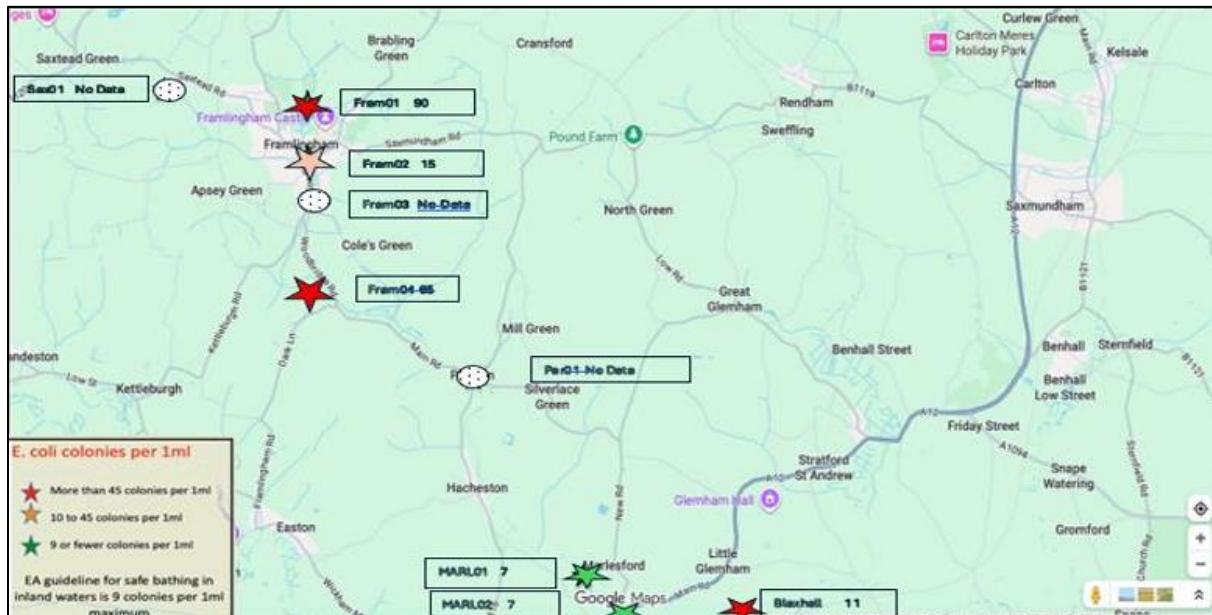
Sax01 had no water to test. In late August, Fram01 and 04 showed high E. coli contamination levels and Fram 02 on Fairfield Road was also elevated. These high E. coli counts may have been due to rainfall (19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> August), Anglian Water automatic discharges (see table at the end of the report) and / or increased effluent discharge from the sewage plant on Kettleburgh Road. All other E. coli results were within safe bathing limits apart from the Blaxhall site on August 26<sup>th</sup> which had 11 colonies per ml.

In September, Fram02 (Fairfield Road) and Fram04 (below the sewage works) showed raised levels of contamination. Otherwise, there was a low level of contamination at all other sites (see below).

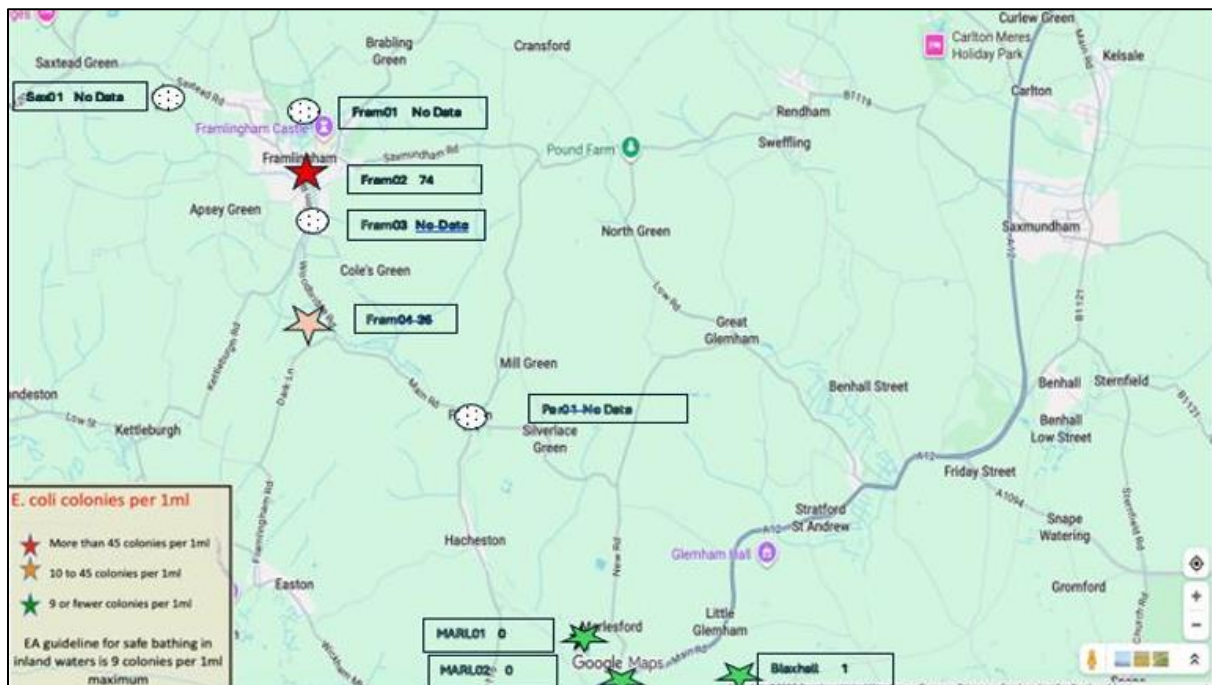
#### E. coli testing - River Ore, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2026 Framlingham, Marlesford, Blaxhall



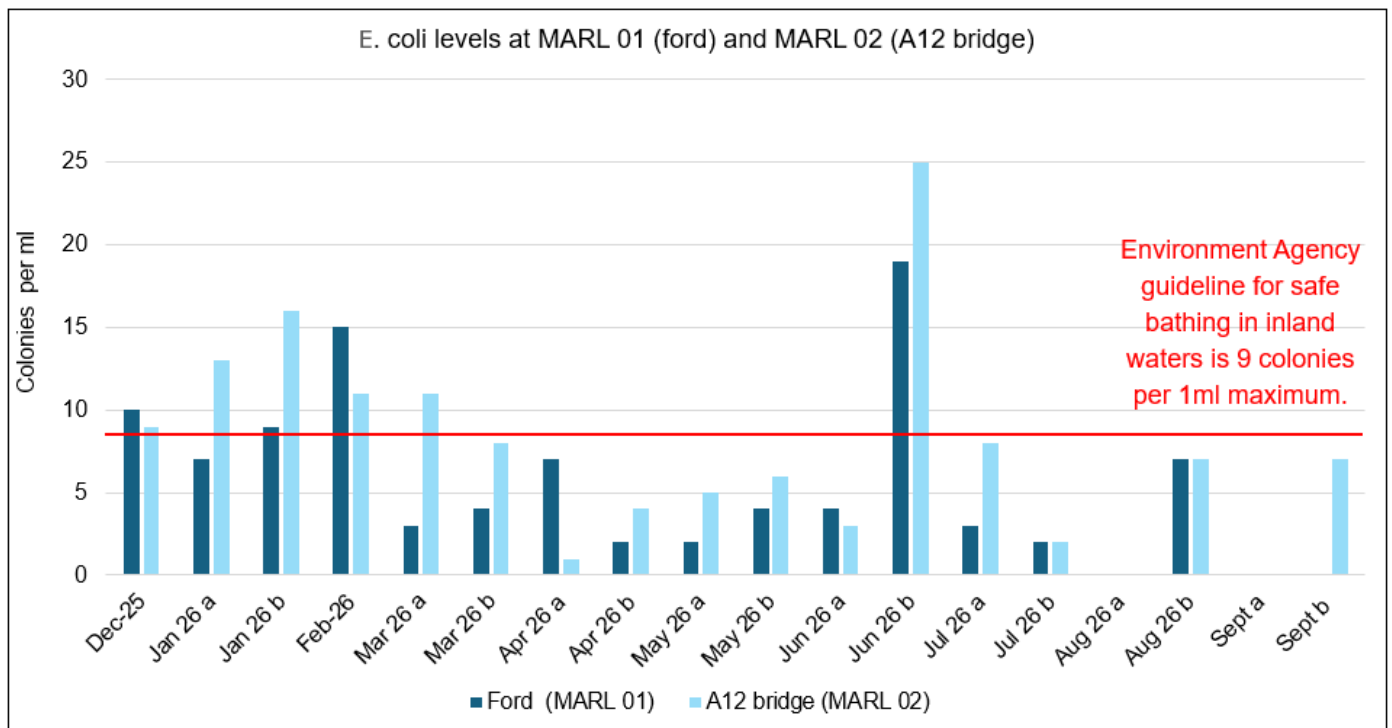
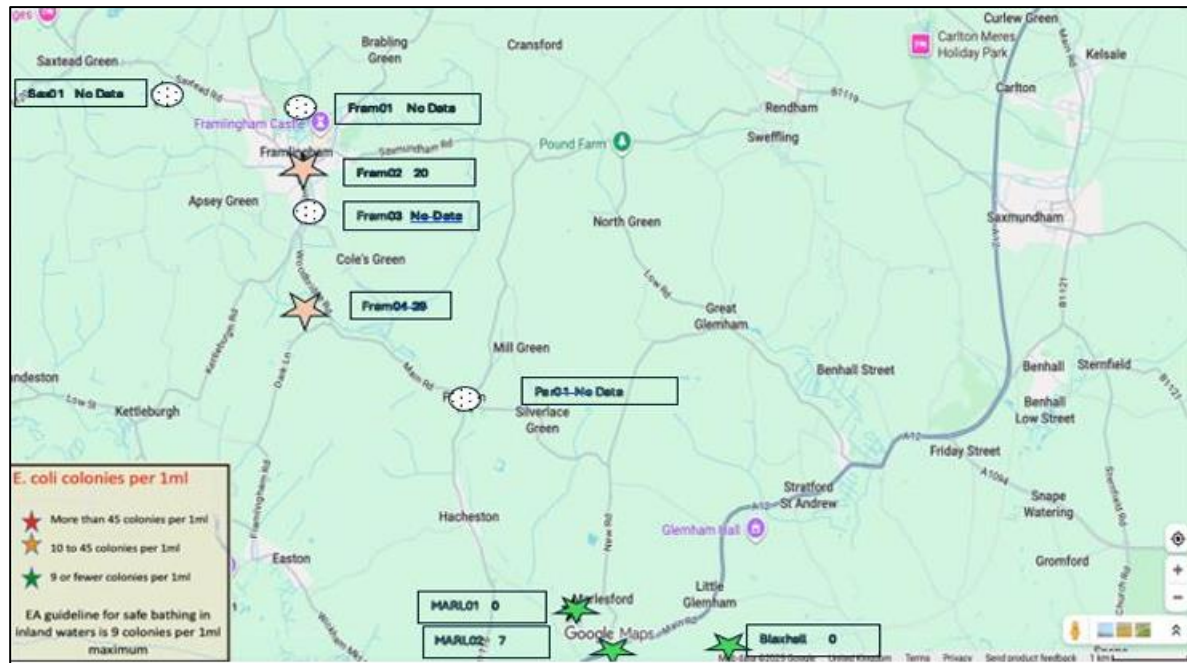
## E. coli testing - River Ore, 26th August 2026 Framlingham, Marlesford, Blaxhall



## E. coli testing - River Ore, 10<sup>th</sup> - 11th September 2026 Framlingham, Marlesford, Blaxhall



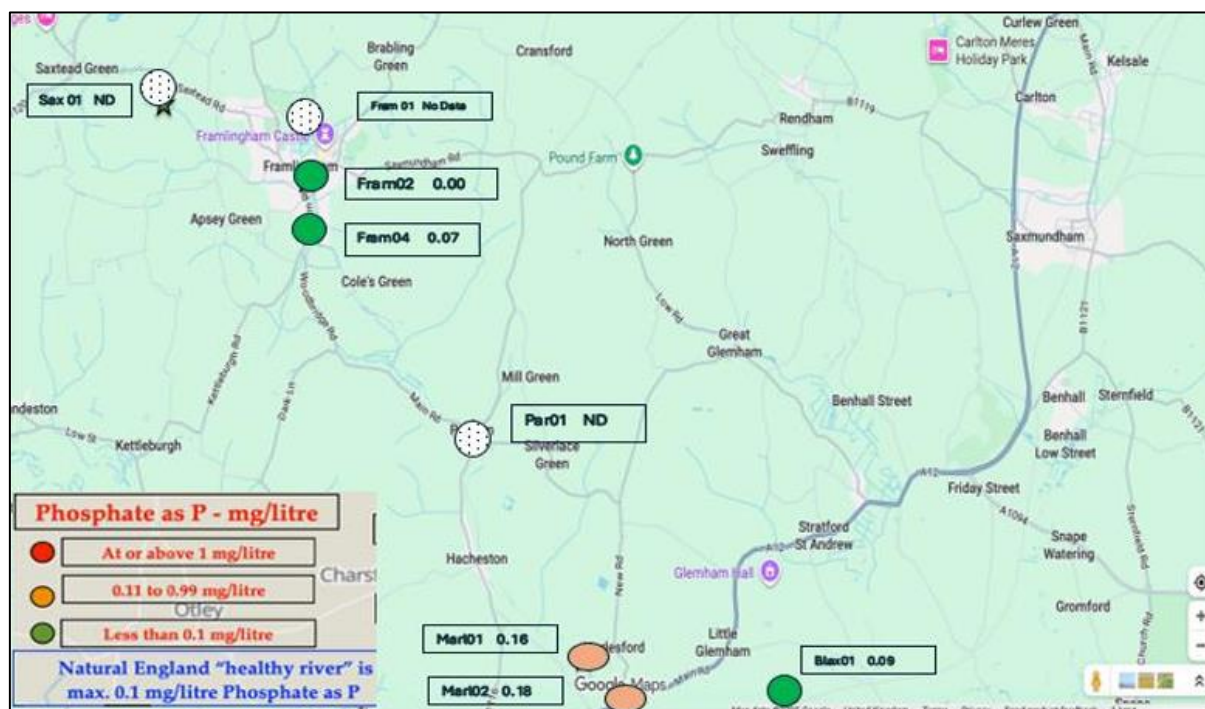
# E. coli testing - River Ore, 24th September 2026 Framlingham, Marlesford, Blaxhall



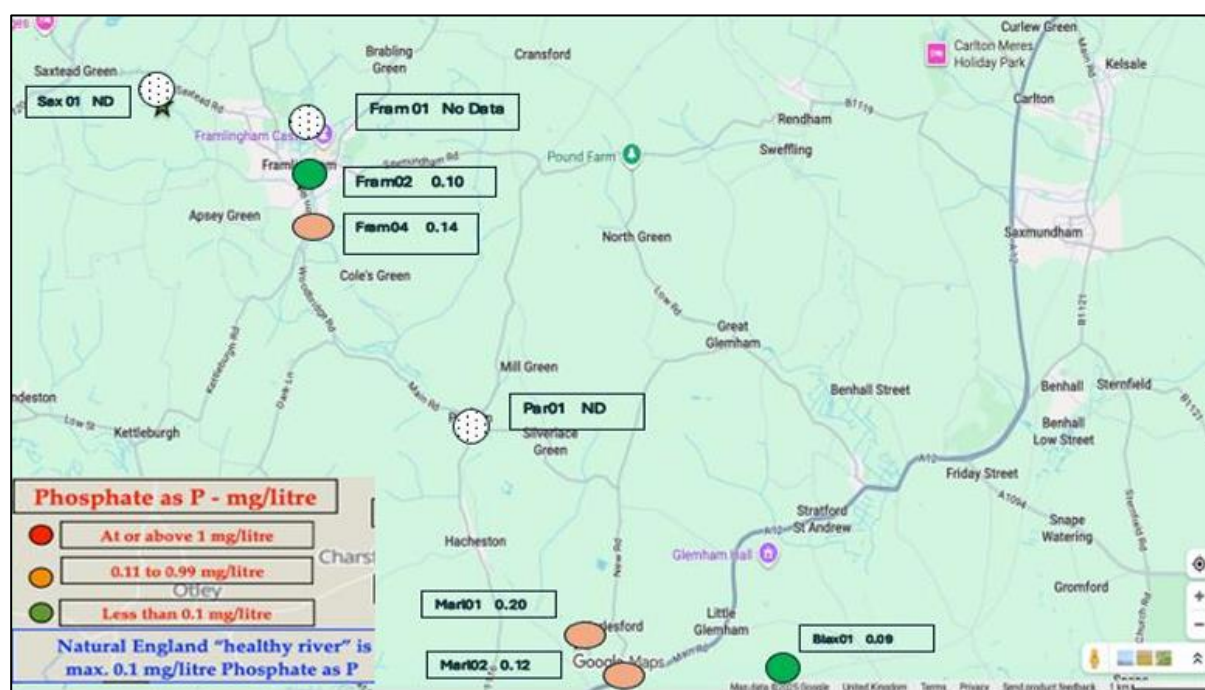
## Phosphates

Natural England defines a healthy river as 0.1mg / litre of phosphate or less. As can be seen by the test results below, some levels were often close to or above 'healthy' along the River Ore.

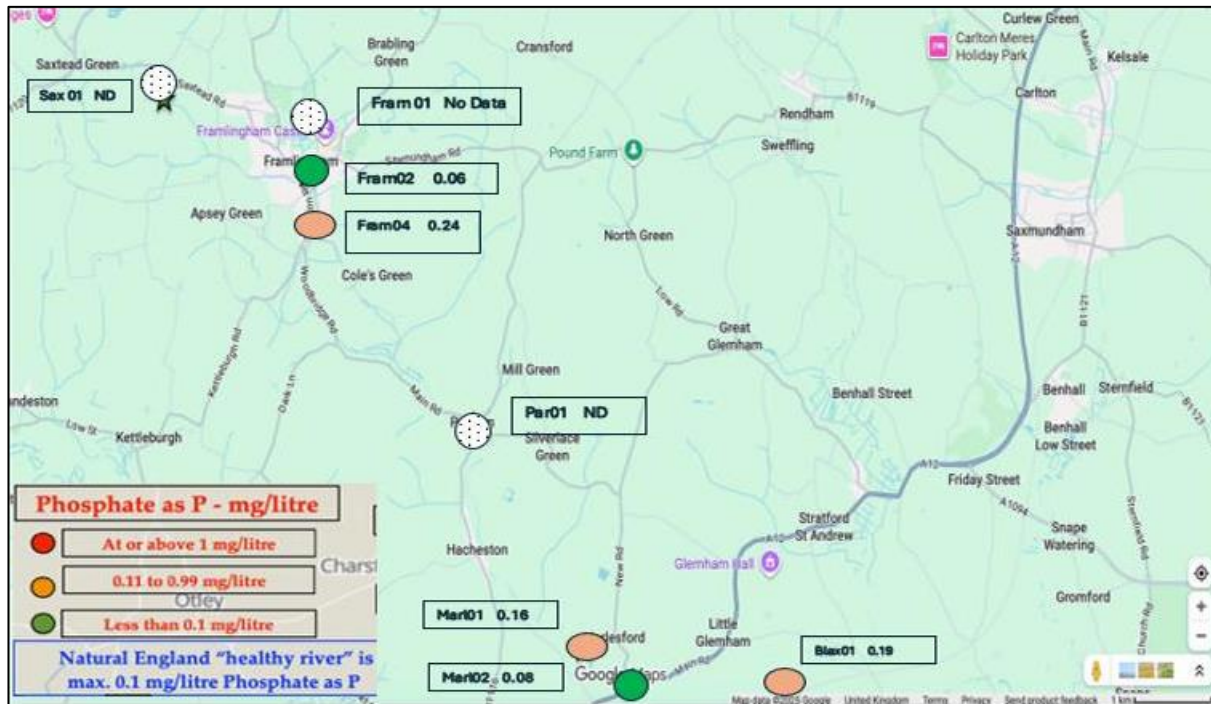
Phosphate testing - River Ore, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2026 Framlingham, Marlesford, Blaxhall



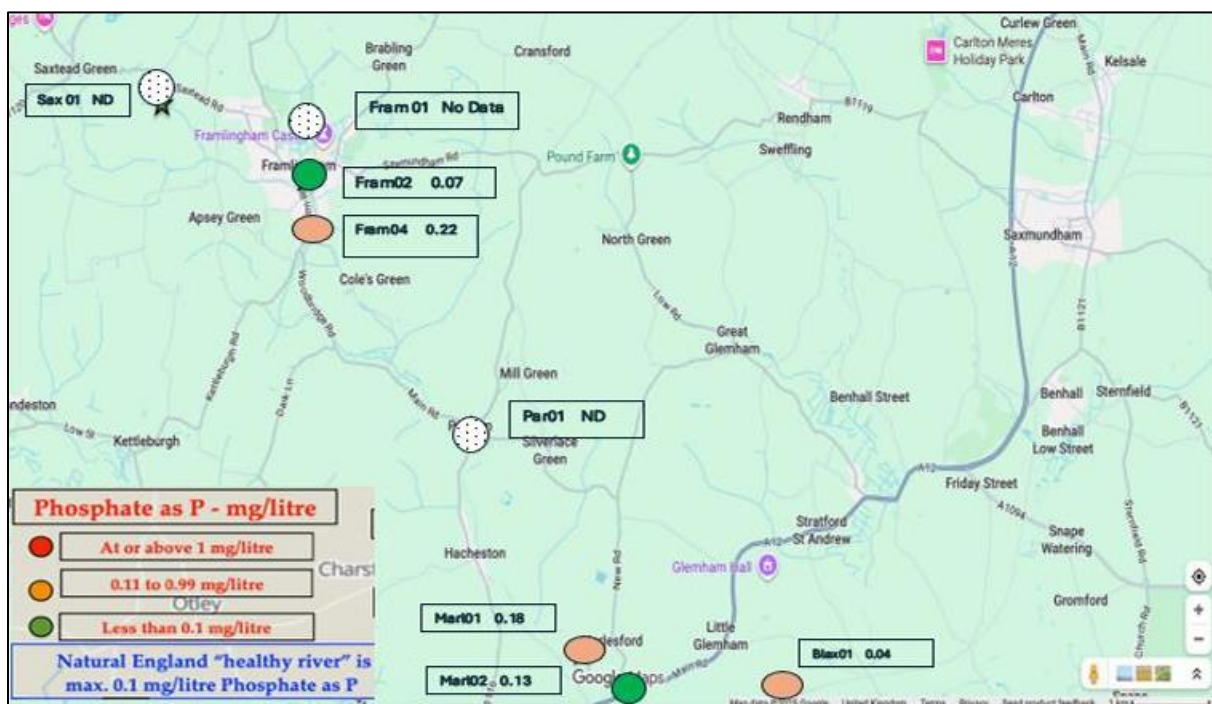
Phosphate testing - River Ore, 26<sup>th</sup> August 2026 Framlingham, Marlesford, Blaxhall



## Phosphate testing - River Ore, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> September 2026 Framlingham, Marlesford, Blaxhall



## Phosphate testing - River Ore, 24th September 2026 Framlingham, Marlesford, Blaxhall





## **Riverfly training**

Two of our volunteers have recently attended some [River Fly training](#). Riverflies are invertebrates that live in water. Numbers of riverflies are a good indicator of the health of a water course. They are likened to the 'canaries of rivers'. Monitoring riverfly populations will allow us to quickly identify pollution events.

We have identified our first sampling site on the River Ore in Marlesford. This must be reviewed and approved by the regional River Fly team. We hope to share the results of the first survey in the October report, providing an alternative way to assess the overall health of the River Ore.

## **Volunteers**

We need volunteers to join our group (especially Parham, Hacheston and Blaxhall). If you are interested in helping, please contact us by email on: [framoreriver26@gmail.com](mailto:framoreriver26@gmail.com). It would be great if someone could also assist with monthly reports, preferably somebody with technical report writing experience. This would require two to three hours per month maximum and could be done remotely.