

River Thames  
Scheme



# Second Consultation Summary Report

June 2023

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Table of Contents

#### Contents

Table of Contents .....	
List of tables .....	2
List of figures .....	2
Executive Summary .....	4
Consultation Approach and promotion.....	4
Responses to the Consultation .....	4
Feedback received .....	5
1. Introduction .....	8
1.1. The River Thames Scheme .....	8
1.2. Development of the scheme.....	9
1.3. Topics for Consultation .....	12
1.4. Diversity and equality .....	12
1.5. Consultation materials.....	13
1.6. Public events.....	14
1.7. Virtual events .....	17
1.8. Promotion of the consultation.....	18
1.9. Methods of providing feedback .....	22
1.10. Enquiries.....	22
1.11. Data protection, confidentiality and anonymity.....	23
1.12. Collecting responses.....	23
2. Data analysis and interpretation of data.....	24
2.1. Quantitative analysis (closed questions) .....	24
2.2. Qualitative analysis and insights (open questions).....	24
3. Respondents and responses .....	26
3.1. Respondent heat map.....	26
3.2. Feedback form demographics.....	27
3.3. Views on Desborough Cut Riverbed Lowering.....	32
3.4. Provision and access to green, open spaces.....	39

## Summary of findings from second consultation

3.5. Access to green open spaces, sustainable travel network and connection to wildlife.....	53
3.6. High quality habitats and increased biodiversity or more new green open space.....	60
3.7. Additional comments on Scheme design.....	67
3.8. Approach to construction.....	73
3.9. Additional considerations.....	78
3.10. Consultation.....	83
3.11. Key findings from feedback form responses.....	83
4. Other Responses Received.....	86
4.1. Statutory responses and community groups.....	86
4.2. Public Responses.....	88
4.3. Matters raised.....	91
5. Next steps.....	91
6. Appendices.....	92
Appendix A- Consultation brochure.....	92
Appendix B- Consultation feedback form.....	93
Appendix C- Exhibition boards.....	94
Appendix D- Virtual events presentation.....	102
Appendix E- Consultation webpage.....	110
Appendix F- Additional virtual events promotion.....	113
Appendix G- Consultation letter distribution area.....	114
Appendix H- Consultation letter proofs.....	115
Appendix I- Landowner letters.....	118
Appendix J- Statutory stakeholder list and email.....	124
Appendix K- Public information points.....	129
Appendix L- Media advertisements.....	130
Appendix M- Partner promotion.....	134
Appendix N- Desborough Cut bed lowering theme library.....	139
Appendix O- Access to new green open spaces theme library.....	142
Appendix P- Connection with wildlife theme library.....	148

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Appendix Q- Sustainable travel network theme library .....	153
Appendix R- Balance of green spaces, wildlife connections and sustainable travel network theme library .....	157
Appendix S- High quality habitats and increased biodiversity or more new green open space theme library .....	160
Appendix T- Additional comments on scheme design theme library.....	163
Appendix U- Approach to construction theme library .....	170
Appendix V- Additional consideration theme library .....	174



## Summary of findings from second consultation

### List of tables

Table 1. Table showing public information events schedule	15
Table 2. Table showing virtual events schedule	17
Table 3. Table showing additional virtual events schedule	18
Table 4: Table showing geographic breakdown of the degree to which respondent's agree with Desborough Cut bed lowering	34
Table 5. Table showing respondent preference for high quality habitats, increased biodiversity or more new green open space according to geographic location	61
Table 6 Breakdown of preference according to geographic location	61
Table 7. Table showing breakdown of responses received from statutory stakeholders and community groups	88
Table 8. Table showing summary of public emails	91

### List of figures

Figure 1. Geographic map overview of the scheme	4
Figure 2. Images of Sunbury-on-Thames public information events	16
Figure 3. Image of pop-up events	21
Figure 4 Heatmap showing location of completed response forms	26
Figure 5 Bar chart showing respondent type	27
Figure 6 Bar chart showing the gender of respondents	28
Figure 7. Bar chart showing the age groups of respondents	28
Figure 8. Bar chart showing breakdown respondents with disabilities or long-term health conditions	29
Figure 9 Bar chart showing how connected respondents are to the area	30
Figure 10 Bar chart showing how frequently respondents visit the area	30

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Figure 11 Bar chart showing how respondents get around the area	31
Figure 12 Bar chart showing how respondents agree with Desborough Cut bed lowering	33
Figure 13. Bar chart showing themes in further comments on Desborough Cut riverbed lowering	35
Figure 14 Chart showing themes related to provision and access to new green open spaces	39
Figure 15. Chart showing breakdown of themes linked to connection to wildlife	45
Figure 16. Chart showing breakdown of themes associated with sustainable travel network	50
Figure 17. Bar chart showing respondent breakdown of balancing factors	53
Figure 18. Bar chart showing breakdown of weighted average	54
Figure 19. Bar chart showing breakdown of themes associated with preference of balance of new green open spaces, wildlife connections and sustainable travel network	55
Figure 20. Bar chart showing respondent preference for high quality habitats, increased biodiversity or more new green open space	61
Figure 21. Bar chart showing breakdown of themes linked with habitats and biodiversity	62
Figure 22. Bar chart showing breakdown of themes linked to additional comments on scheme design	67
Figure 23. Bar chart showing breakdown of themes linked to approach to construction	74
Figure 24. Bar chart showing breakdown of themes linked to additional considerations	78

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Executive Summary

This document outlines the opinions and responses we received to the second public consultation into the River Thames Scheme undertaken for 6 weeks from **8 November 2022 to 20 December 2022**.

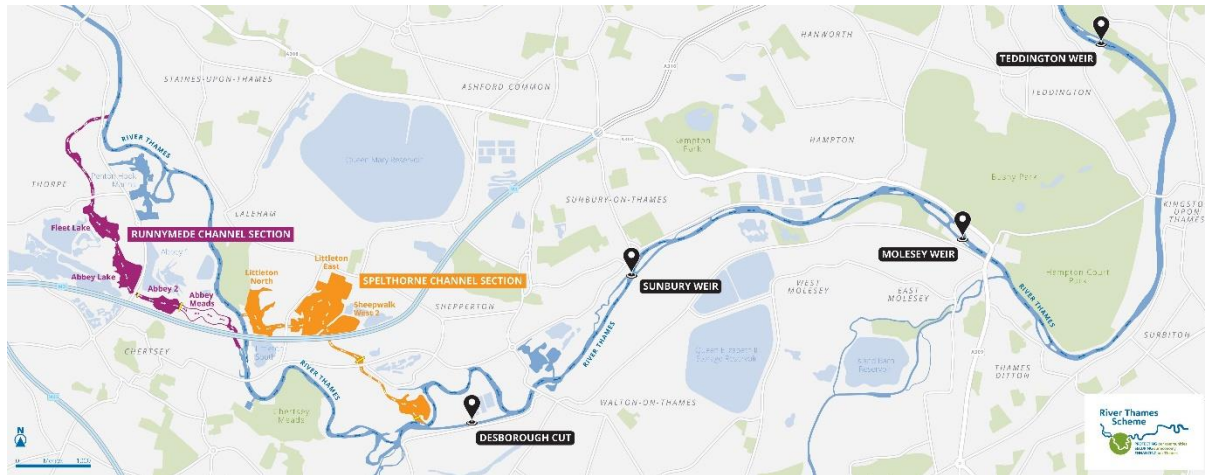


Figure 1. Geographic map overview of the scheme

### Consultation Approach and promotion

We produced a consultation brochure and feedback form. These were available online and as printed documents for the duration of the consultation period. Consultation materials were also available for stakeholders to collect at pick-up points across the scheme area, at each of the public information events and on request by email.

Ten public information events were held at locations along the route of the scheme. An additional seven virtual events were held for those who could not attend the public information events; including a specific virtual event for the island communities.

We also held a series of pop-up events in public spaces along the river, informing the community of where we would be and when we would be there.

We publicised the consultation via the scheme's official social media channels, newspaper adverts and via the supporting local authorities and other delivery partners across the region.

### Responses to the Consultation

The consultation received 487 consultation responses, 447 responses on the feedback form and a further 40 responses received by email or letter.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

167 responses were received from respondents in Spelthorne, 83 from respondents in Runnymede (accounting for 37% and 19% of responses respectively). 65 responses were received from respondents in Elmbridge and 36 from respondents in Kingston-upon-Thames (23% of responses).

A wide range of stakeholders responded, including Borough councils, regional governance bodies, Local government bodies, statutory bodies, residents' associations, utility providers, political representatives, local residents and the community.

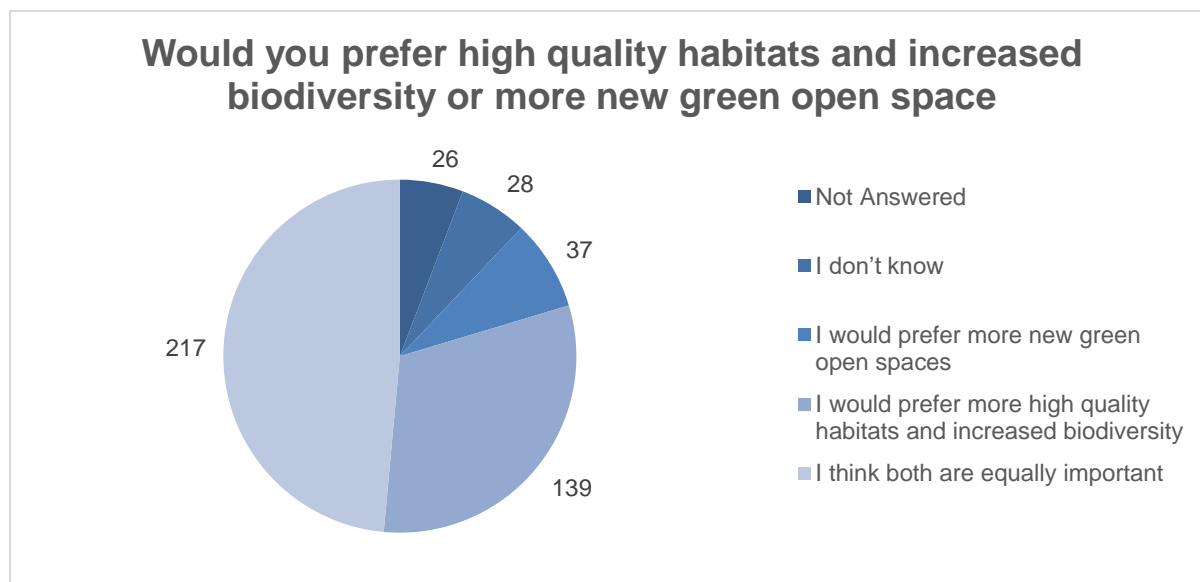
### Feedback received

447 responses were received via the feedback form.

In responding to the closed questions:

- When asked about the proposed lowering of the riverbed at Desborough Cut, 141 respondents strongly agreed, whilst an additional 106 respondents agreed with the approach presented in the consultation materials. A further 91 respondents indicated that they neither agreed nor disagreed with the proposals presented, while 20 respondents either disagreed or strongly disagreed. 79 respondents had no opinion. 10 respondents did not provide an answer to this question.
- Respondents were asked to rank their preference in respect of the factors that could impact on the on-going design of the landscape and green infrastructure proposed as part of the River Thames Scheme in order of importance for access to green spaces, connection to wildlife and a more sustainable travel network. Access to new green open spaces was identified by respondents as the most valued factor. Connection with wildlife was the second most valued factor and more sustainable travel networks the least valued.
- When asked to identify which they preferred, new green open spaces or high-quality habitats, 217 respondents felt that the provision of high-quality habitats and increased biodiversity were equally as important as providing more new green open space. 139 respondents indicated their preference for more high-quality habitats and increased biodiversity, whilst 37 respondents indicated their preference for additional new green open spaces. 28 respondents indicated that they didn't know. 26 respondents did not answer the question.

## Summary of findings from second consultation



We asked a number of open-ended questions around proposals for Desborough Cut, access, connecting with wildlife and sustainable travel network within the scheme area; as well as how we balance these factors and our approach to construction. The responses to these questions were reviewed and key issues/ topics identified and grouped into themes. Similar themes were observed across each open question and all the views gathered have been summarised into the top five themes below.

- The most frequently mentioned theme was **access**, mentioned by 372 respondents. Respondents focused on: the provision of additional and improved walking and cycling routes to promote access to both the river and accompanying new green open spaces and access for water users, especially for those who wish to access the river for recreational purposes (as mentioned by 116 respondents).
- **Design** was the second most identified theme, mentioned by 261 respondents. Responses received included suggestions for wildlife watching facilities such as bird hides and duplicating the works done on similar schemes, including the Jubilee River and Medway Canoe Trail.
- Two hundred and fifty-six (256) respondents mentioned **technical aspects** within their responses, with a particular focus on the reduction of flood risk. Other matters such as the potential of the scheme to improve flood flow and control and dredging larger areas of the Thames were raised within this theme.
- **Green spaces** were identified as a priority by 192 respondents, with access to green spaces being commonly raised. Of the 194 respondents who



## Summary of findings from second consultation

provided comments in relation to green spaces, 65 respondents suggested that the existing green spaces across the scheme area are sufficient.

- One hundred and seventy seven (177) respondents commented on the provision of **habitats**. Respondents indicated the importance of wildlife and habitats, emphasising the importance of preserving habitats for the environment.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### 1. Introduction

The River Thames Scheme is designed to unlock the economic, health and environmental benefits of the river between Egham and Teddington.

It represents a new landscape-based approach to creating healthier, more resilient, and more sustainable communities.

This scheme is being delivered through a partnership approach by the Environment Agency and Surrey County Council, alongside other local authorities and interested parties.

#### 1.1. The River Thames Scheme

The River Thames Scheme will be an integrated scheme which responds to the challenges of flooding; creating more access to green open spaces and sustainable travel routes, in addition to encouraging inclusive economic growth, increasing biodiversity and responding to the dual challenges of climate change and nature recovery.

Each element of the River Thames Scheme seeks to work together to deliver benefits for communities to help them live more sustainably. A new flood channel will reduce the risk of flooding to homes, businesses, and infrastructure, while also providing a habitat for wildlife and a new feature in the landscape. The channel will be surrounded by new areas of public green open space, for health and recreational activities.

It is the first flood and climate mitigation project to be considered nationally significant, reflecting the scope and ambition of the scheme.

The scheme is made up of national and local government funding and investment provided through partners.

#### Scheme Vision

*“The River Thames Scheme will reduce flood risk to people living and working near the Thames, enhance the resilience of nationally important infrastructure, contribute to a vibrant local economy and maximise the social and environmental value of the river.”*

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Scheme Goals

A landscape-based approach to creating a healthier, more sustainable, and more resilient community. We will:

- Reduce the risk of flooding for dwellings, businesses and infrastructure.
- Improve access to quality green open spaces, connection with wildlife and more sustainable travel network.
- Create a network of high quality habitat and achieve biodiversity gain.
- Facilitate sustainable and inclusive economic growth.
- Enable delivery and design that contribute to EA, SCC and Partner climate goals relating to carbon use.

### 1.2. Development of the scheme

In 2009 the Environment Agency developed and held a consultation on the Lower Thames Flood Risk Management Strategy. The Strategy was agreed in 2011 and included a recommendation for the River Thames Scheme.

Planning and design work on the River Thames Scheme has been ongoing since 2014 and the first public consultation on the scheme proposals was held in 2016.

As part of the ongoing development of the scheme, we have engaged and consulted with stakeholders at the following stages:

#### Stage 1 - First consultation (2016)

Our first consultation focused on the proposed routes of (at that time) three river channel sections and improvements to allow more water to flow along the Thames.

Discussion groups were held to get feedback on suggested designs and public meetings were held. Over 300 meetings and briefings were held for key stakeholders, including local authorities, landowners, and community groups.

We used the feedback to help us develop the design of the River Thames Scheme.

One of the changes to the River Thames Scheme since the 2016 consultation is the evolution of the scheme design, from three channel sections to two. Originally, the scheme was considering a channel between Datchet and Hythe End, which is no longer being taken forward due to lack of funding. Another change in the scheme since 2016 is that we are no longer widening the Desborough Cut.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

In addition to changes to our proposal for the river channel, the wider scheme itself has also evolved. It is now bringing the opportunity of developing flood reduction solutions into a wider focus. It will create better access to the river for exercise and recreation, preserve and encourage natural habitats and support local business growth.

In December 2020, the government directed that due to its large scale, the River Thames Scheme should be treated as a project of national significance. These projects require a type of consent known as a 'Development Consent Order' (DCO) as set out in the Planning Act 2008. The DCO process removes the need to obtain many separate consents, including planning permission, and is designed to be a quicker process than applying for these separately by providing a single consenting route. The River Thames Scheme is currently in the pre-application stage for a Development Consent Order (DCO). The consultation held in November 2022 is part of this pre-application process.

To successfully develop the scheme for our DCO application we must talk to lots of different people and organisations including the public, local residents and landowners, local councils, and regulatory bodies. We must seek and respond to their views through consultation and ongoing engagement.

There are extensive legal requirements about how consultation should be carried out and reported on. This is so we can show how we have responded to any concerns people have and make changes to the design where appropriate before the DCO application is made.

When the scheme is finalised it will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. They will consider our application and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs who has the final decision on whether a DCO should be granted.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Engagement about the River Thames Scheme since 2016

Prior to launching the second consultation, we wanted to introduce the changes to the scheme scope to our stakeholders since the first consultation. We did this by:

- Briefing affected MPs and councillors from Spelthorne, Runnymede, Elmbridge, and Richmond and Kingston in the summer of 2022 and also immediately before the launch of the 2<sup>nd</sup> consultation. We also invited all councillors to attend the public events in their wards to talk with residents about the scheme.
- Having regular contact with the Local Planning Authorities to understand their views and to help develop the scheme
- Holding a panel discussion with senior representatives of the project about the scheme at the Sustainable Local Communities Event (22 October to 13 November 2022)
- Working with a number of different community forums, groups and organisations (for example Thames 21, Thames Catchment Partnership) who are active in the scheme area
- Meeting with resident and community groups, including Thorpe Residents Association and the Chertsey Society, and took part in community events (the Chertsey Agricultural Show, Walton Bridge Water Safety Day and Egham Eco Church) to show them the new scheme and explain the consultation
- Holding informal pop-up events in busy local places to raise general awareness of the scheme and the consultation

The aim of our engagement was to increase awareness and understanding of the scheme. It also allowed residents to ask questions on topics such as funding, scheme timeline, flood risk and water flow, property impacts, water sports and cycling facilities. Reception to the scheme throughout this engagement process has been positive.

Additionally, we engaged with our technical stakeholders including the Planning Inspectorate and our statutory consultees regarding the scoping report that would be used to inform our Environmental Impact Assessment.



## Summary of findings from second consultation

Stage 2 - Second consultation (2022)

We undertook a second public consultation for six weeks between Tuesday **8 November 2022** and Tuesday **20 December 2022**. This report is a summary of that consultation and the feedback received.

The consultation was aimed at named stakeholders, local authorities, people with an interest in land, the community and anyone else with an interest in the scheme.

The objectives of the consultation were to:

- Reintroduce the River Thames Scheme to all stakeholders;
- Highlight any changes to the scheme design since the previous consultation;
- Explain the change in planning consent process to one requiring a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008 - and the stages that it requires; and
- Gather feedback on the scheme to inform its development through evidence-based decision-making.

### 1.3. Topics for Consultation

The consultation asked questions about the following topics which form part of, or relate to, the scheme's design and construction approach.

- Desborough Cut bed lowering;
- access to new green open spaces;
- connection with wildlife;
- delivery of a more sustainable travel network;
- creation of high quality habitats and increasing biodiversity; and
- construction.

### 1.4. Diversity and equality

The River Thames Scheme is committed to making its communications, engagement and consultation inclusive.

We recognise that the residents, business owners and visitors to the area come from diverse backgrounds and so the consultation was designed to ensure that the consultation and engagement was accessible to all and facilitated involvement from the widest audience.

In developing our consultation, we ensured that:

## Summary of findings from second consultation

- our consultation documents were written in plain English;
- information on our website was (and is) accessible by screen-readers and to those who are digitally challenged or limited;
- venues used for events were fully accessible; and
- our publicity was designed to reach as wide an audience as possible.

### 1.5. Consultation materials

To maximise engagement and increase accessibility, the consultation material for the Scheme was provided in various formats. This included:

- **Consultation brochure** – The consultation brochure described the background to the scheme, the proposals being consulted upon, the need for the scheme, environmental considerations, the Development Consent Order process, project timeline and information about local information events.

A copy of the consultation brochure can be found in **Appendix A**

- **Consultation feedback form**- The consultation feedback form was available to complete during the consultation period. The form was hosted online and hard copies of the form were available throughout the consultation for pick-up at public information points, information events and upon request.

A copy of the feedback form can be found in **Appendix B**

- **Exhibition boards**- A series of exhibition boards were developed to support the public information events. These boards described the background to the scheme, the proposals under consultation, the need for the scheme, environmental considerations, the Development Consent Order process, and project timeline.

A copy of the exhibition boards can be found in **Appendix C**

- **Virtual events presentation**- A series of slides were developed to present the scheme at virtual events. These mirrored the content presented at the public information events. The slides detailed the provided a scheme overview, the need for the scheme and Development Consent Order process. There were also opportunities for participants to ask the project team questions.

A copy of the virtual event presentation can be found in **Appendix D**

## Summary of findings from second consultation

- **Flood maps and graphs-** Flood maps and graphs showcasing the scheme area and flood scenarios at the time of consultation were available at the public information events to support discussions with members of the technical team. These documents were for reference only.
- **Website** – All consultation information was available through the scheme’s website <https://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk/>. This included consultation documents, which described the background to the scheme, the proposals under consultation, the need for the scheme, environmental considerations, the Development Consent Order process, project timeline and information about local events and information points. The website also provided information on how to respond to the consultation, including a link to the online feedback form.

An image of the website during the consultation period can be found in **Appendix E**.

### 1.6. Public events

Ten public events were held during the consultation period to allow stakeholders to view our proposals and discuss these with different technical leads from the project team. Approximately 1,100 people attended these events.

The events were held in communities along the route of the proposed scheme, in the following locations:

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Event	Location	Date	Time
Staines	Staines, Hythe Centre, 36 Thorpe Rd, Staines-upon-Thames, Egham TW18 3HD	Tue 8th Nov	13:00 - 19:00
Sunbury-on-Thames	Sunbury on Thames, Hazelwood Centre, Hazelwood Drive, Sunbury-on-Thames TW16 6QU	Wed 16th Nov	13:00 - 19:00
East Molesey	East Molesey, The Molesey Centre for the Community, 2 Bishop Fox Way, Molesey, West Molesey KT8 2AS	Sat 19th Nov	12:00 - 18:00
Egham	Egham, The Easter Centre, Manor Farm Lane, Egham, Surrey TW20 9HR	Tue 22nd Nov	13:00 - 19:00
Walton-on-Thames	Walton on Thames, St Johns Parish Church, The Furrows, Walton-on-Thames KT12 3JQ	Wed 23rd Nov	13:00 - 19:00
Wraysbury	Wraysbury, Wraysbury Village Hall, The Green, Wraysbury, Staines TW19 5NA	Fri 25th Nov	13:00 - 19:00
Kingston upon Thames	Kingston upon Thames, Richard Mayo Centre, Eden St, Kingston upon Thames KT1 1HZ	Sat 26th Nov	10:00 - 16:00
Teddington	Teddington, Peter and Paul Centre (Church), By Church End, Teddington TW11 8PS	Tue 29th Nov	13:00 - 19:00
Shepperton	Shepperton, Shepperton Village Hall, 58A High St, Shepperton TW17 9AU	Sat 3rd Dec	10:00 - 16:00
Chertsey	Chertsey, St. Peter's Church, Windsor Street, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8AT	Wed 7th Dec	13:00 - 19:00

Table 1. Table showing public information events schedule

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Copies of the consultation brochure and feedback forms were available for visitors / stakeholders to take away. Attendees could also sign up to receive project newsletters and/or participate in future workshops to help develop the scheme.

Members of the project team staffed the events, allowing attendees to discuss the proposals and ask any questions they had.

Representatives from Surrey County Council were also in attendance to allow residents to record flood events currently experienced in the area and to promote an ongoing dialogue with the community.

Additionally, representatives from other bodies attended specific events to address questions from attendees relating to proposals neighbouring the River Thames Scheme. These events were public information events as part of the River Thames Scheme consultation. The following sections outline the categories of representatives in attendance and events attended.

- **Teddington event** - The Environment Agency, West London community and TEAM2100 representatives were available to allow people to discuss matters related to the Thames Barrier and other work being done in the area along the river including the River Thames Scheme project specific proposals for Teddington Lock.
- **Wraysbury event** - Representatives from the Datchet to Hythe End Flood Improvement Measures project were in attendance (supported by project specific information banners) to answer questions regarding this separate scheme.



Figure 2. Images of Sunbury-on-Thames public information events



## Summary of findings from second consultation

### 1.7. Virtual events

Alongside the in-person events, seven online virtual events were provided to maximise the opportunities for stakeholders to learn more about the scheme. These events were held on Microsoft Teams. Attendees had to register in advance to attend and could submit questions in advance or during the event. To support effective engagement, events had a maximum capacity of 25 attendees and were facilitated.

The events ran for 1.5 hours, and included:

- Initial introductions from the project team, including project roles.
- A short presentation on the scheme to brief all attendees.
- A question-and-answer (Q&A) session in which attendees could speak directly to the project team or submit questions in writing through the chat function.

The virtual events attracted approximately 80 attendees, including residents from areas local to the scheme and other stakeholders including:

- Weybridge Bowling Club
- Stantec
- Thames 2100
- British Horse Society

A range of dates and times were selected to accommodate the varying schedules of stakeholders and the wider public:

Date	Time
Thu 10th November	18:00 – 19:30
Sat 12th November	10:00 - 11:30
Thu 24th November	18:00 - 19:30
Mon 28th November	13:00 - 14:30

Table 2. Table showing virtual events schedule

#### Island community event

A separate virtual event was held on Friday 18 November for the communities living on the islands within the Scheme area. This reflected their specific concerns about the Scheme's potential impacts and ensured that discussion of these concerns was not diluted within the more general and wide-ranging discussions within other events.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Additional Virtual Events

Due to the popularity of the virtual events and indicated by them being over-subscribed, the following additional online events were provided to allow everyone who signed up to attend an event:

Date	Time
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	18:00 – 19:30
Monday 5th December 2022	14:00 – 15:30

Table 3. Table showing additional virtual events schedule

These events were promoted via social media and an updated press release (found in **Appendix F**) to encourage further engagement from those unable to attend the physical events.

### 1.8. Promotion of the consultation

To support the consultation, the following methods were used to promote the events and encourage participation.

- **Letters to the public** – At the launch of the consultation, a letter was sent to approximately 29,000 residential and business addresses to publicise the consultation. The distribution area was chosen to ensure that those living or working near the scheme elements were aware of the public consultation. A map of the distribution area can be found in **Appendix G**.

Five letters were produced, reflecting the different information needs across the geographic areas based on the recipients:

- Closeness / proximity to remote proposed habitat creation areas (HCAs) – these residents were less likely to be aware of the scheme and that they might be impacted. The text reflected that they were impacted more by the HCAs than the main scheme
- Closeness / proximity to weir improvements – the impact of the scheme is different in these areas, specifically the scale of work in the areas. The text reflected this lesser impact
- Location within an Island community – the text mentioned the specific virtual event set up to allow the focus on their concerns
- Location within Wraysbury, Datchet, Horton and Old Windsor – the text reflected the impact on them of the change in scheme scope
- General – this letter set out the details of the consultation and was sent to the majority of addresses within the consultation zone.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

All letters gave an overview of the scheme and explained how recipients could find out more about the proposals and provide feedback. An example of each letter can be found in **Appendix H**.

- **Landowner letters**

On the 26th October 2022, letters were issued to those with land interests. Three different letters were used, depending on the land interest:

- those who were previously within the scheme boundary but are no longer so following design changes;
- those who continued to fall within the scheme boundary during the period of consultation; and
- those who possess multiple pieces of land some of which fell within each of the categories above.

These letters thanked the land interests for their continuing cooperation in access to their lands for environment and ecological surveys as well as an invitation to take part in the consultation. The letters provided information on the dates, times, and locations of the public consultation events as well as the dates for online webinars including the appropriate contact details to sign-up for these events.

A copy of the letters can be found in **Appendix I**.

- **Email to stakeholders** – At the launch of the consultation an email was sent to a list of identified statutory stakeholders.

A list of these stakeholders and copy of the email can be found in **Appendix J**.

- **Information available in public spaces (Libraries / Community Centres / Town Hall)** – Copies of the consultation brochure were deposited at local information points, enabling those unable to access the website the opportunity to access information.

A list of these public information points can be found in **Appendix K**.

- **Media coverage-** During the consultation period, the scheme received coverage in both print press, web press, radio, and television (including BBC London 6pm News, BBC Radio Surrey, BBC Radio Sussex, That's TV South

## Summary of findings from second consultation

East and Radio Jackie 107.8), increasing awareness of the scheme and the consultation to a significantly wider audience.

Twenty-two (22) pieces of press were recorded during the six-week consultation period.

- **Media Advertisement-** Printed advertisements were published in the following newspapers across the scheme area:
  - Surrey Comet
  - Slough & Windsor Express
  - Woking News.

Digital advertisements were also published in the following outlets:

- Surrey Live
- Surrey Comet

These adverts can be viewed in **Appendix L**.

**Social Media Promotion-** Existing and newly created River Thames Scheme social media profiles were used leading up to, and during the consultation to reintroduce the Scheme and promote the consultation process and supporting events; as well as highlighting details surrounding the pop-up events.

Social media provided access to a wider audience within the community and allowed regular notices and updates on the scheme and the consultation events to be shared. Social media was also used to support the promotion of other engagement such as the pop-up events held in public spaces along the river.

Several platforms were used:

- Facebook- <https://www.facebook.com/RiverThamesScheme>
- Twitter- <https://twitter.com/ThamesScheme>
- LinkedIn- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/riverthamesscheme/>
- Instagram- <https://www.instagram.com/riverthamesscheme.uk/>
- NextDoor (shared account with Surrey County Council)

### **Pop up support events**

To raise awareness of the River Thames Scheme's second consultation, pop-up engagement events were held between 19 October and 17 November 2022 along the route of the scheme where there was expected to be local footfall. We visited:

## Summary of findings from second consultation

- Penton Hook Lock
- Shepperton Lock
- Runnymede Pleasure Grounds
- Shepperton Village Hall
- Staines Market
- Teddington Traders' Market
- Molesey Lock
- Tesco Extra Brooklands in Weybridge
- The Heart Shopping Centre in Walton-on-Thames

The team provided promotional postcards and leaflets, covering a summary of the scheme, the website, and social media platforms. Visitors were also shown the calendar of public information events and encouraged to take part in the consultation. The team met with almost 600 visitors (by headcount).

These pop-ups aimed to boost understanding of the scheme for people who were already aware of the scheme and/or enhance visibility to those with no or very limited knowledge. These were also opportunities for local community groups to find out more about the scheme and start conversations with us.

Visitors were broadly positive about the scheme. Some raised specific questions such as funding, project timeline, flood risk, water flow, impact to the nearby properties, water sports, cycle tracks and facilities. The pop-up events directed visitors to attend the public information events or scheme webpage for further information.



Figure 3. Image of pop-up events



## Summary of findings from second consultation

- **Partner promotion**

The River Thames Scheme is being delivered through a partnership approach between the Environment Agency, Surrey County Council and other local authorities. All partners helped to raise awareness of the consultation with their respective elected members, residents and stakeholder networks.

Partners of the River Thames Scheme also promoted the consultation on their respective websites. This included:

- A dedicated landing page for the scheme on the Government's public sector information website (GOV.UK):  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/river-thames-scheme/river-thames-scheme>.
- Surrey County Council
- Environment Agency
- Spelthorne Borough Council
- Runnymede Borough Council
- Elmbridge Borough Council
- The Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames
- London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames
- Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (TRFCC)
- Thames Water

Copies of the partner promotions can be found in **Appendix M**.

### 1.9. Methods of providing feedback

The consultation had three official response channels:

1. **Online feedback form:** hosted on Citizen Space with a direct link included in the project website.
2. **FREEPOST address:** Detailed in the brochure and on the website for anyone to send in paper copies of the response form located at the back of the brochure or their own letters without charge.
3. **Email address:** Detailed in the brochure and on the website for returning feedback forms or sending their own emails.

### 1.10. Enquiries

The consultation had the following three official channels which stakeholder could use to ask the project team questions:

1. **Email address:** Detailed in the brochure and on the website.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

2. **Phone:** by contacting the Environment Agency National Customer Contact Centre.
3. **Event enquiries:** Engaging representatives from the project team at the physical and virtual consultation events .

Over 100 enquiries were received during the consultation. Enquiries mainly focused on flood risk information, location, project timescales and requests for more detail. These enquiries were assessed to determine whether they were a formal response to the consultation or request for information. Where identified as requests for information, these were addressed. Where enquiries were identified as responses to the consultation, these were considered alongside other responses to the consultation.

### 1.11. Data protection, confidentiality and anonymity

The scheme website and Citizen Space platform which hosted the feedback form included a privacy notice explaining how we use personal information gathered and how we protect respondents' privacy. The privacy notice can be found here: <https://www.riverthamescheme.org.uk/privacy>.

### 1.12. Collecting responses

The feedback form included a statement on data protection, explaining how data will be used and for what purpose. Personal and demographic information in this report is anonymised.

To ensure that personal information and responses were kept secure access to the data was limited to the engagement team. Online responses were logged on an access-controlled site, any responses via email were directed to an access-controlled inbox, and any responses to the FREEPOST address were sent directly to the same team.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### 2. Data analysis and interpretation of data

This section explains the analysis approaches we have used to understand the data collected during the second consultation.

The questionnaire for this consultation contained two types of question:

- Quantitative or closed questions – Respondents were invited to indicate their response by selecting from a number of options (for example ‘strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree, no view’).
- Qualitative or open questions – allowing respondents to use a text box to share their views in their own words about an aspect of the scheme.

All the data gathered from responses will be considered by the project team develop the design of the scheme.

#### 2.1. Quantitative analysis (closed questions)

Numerical analysis was applied to these questions. This provided data in the form of absolute numbers or percentages to indicate the level of response to a particular response option.

Responses to these questions are presented in this report as numbers or percentages and shown as charts or tables with accompanying text explaining the findings of the consultation analysis. Where percentages are used, these have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

#### 2.2. Qualitative analysis and insights (open questions)

Responses to qualitative (open) questions were analysed using thematic analysis process.

For each open question, a list of themed codes were developed by reviewing initial responses received to identify the topics raised, this ensured that the codes drew on responses rather than a pre-conceived set of themes.

These codes were then grouped together under themes, for example ‘technical aspects’ or ‘access’ and sub-themes to provide greater nuance and detail, for example: ‘access to river’ or ‘flood risk’.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Theme	Sub-theme
Access	Access to river'
Technical aspects	Flood risk

The list of themed codes was reviewed regularly during the process and new themes and codes added where new topics emerged. Several different codes were assigned where the respondent mentions multiple issues in their comment to ensure that all issues raised are identified.

A dedicated response analysis platform was used to code responses. Following coding in this platform, a manual process of quality assurance was used to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the coding process.

The codes were used to group comments on themes, guide reporting and to assess comparative regularity and frequency of themes and issues being raised. The nature of qualitative analysis means that it is not intended or appropriate to use the data for comparative statistical analysis.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### 3. Respondents and responses

In total, 447 responses were received using the online feedback form, the analysis of these responses is set out below.

An additional 40 responses were received, from both organisations and community groups, and public by email and in hardcopy. The analysis of these responses is discussed in Section 7.

#### 3.1. Respondent heat map

Respondents were asked to provide their postcode in their responses. This allowed the geographical distribution of responses to be analysed. 414 responses provided postcode information.

During analysis, area postcodes were grouped using the first half (sub-district code) of the postcode. These responses were then categorised under the local boroughs linked to the postcodes received. Responses were received from 22 local borough areas.

**Figure 4** below shows the respondent heatmap of the areas from which responses were received.

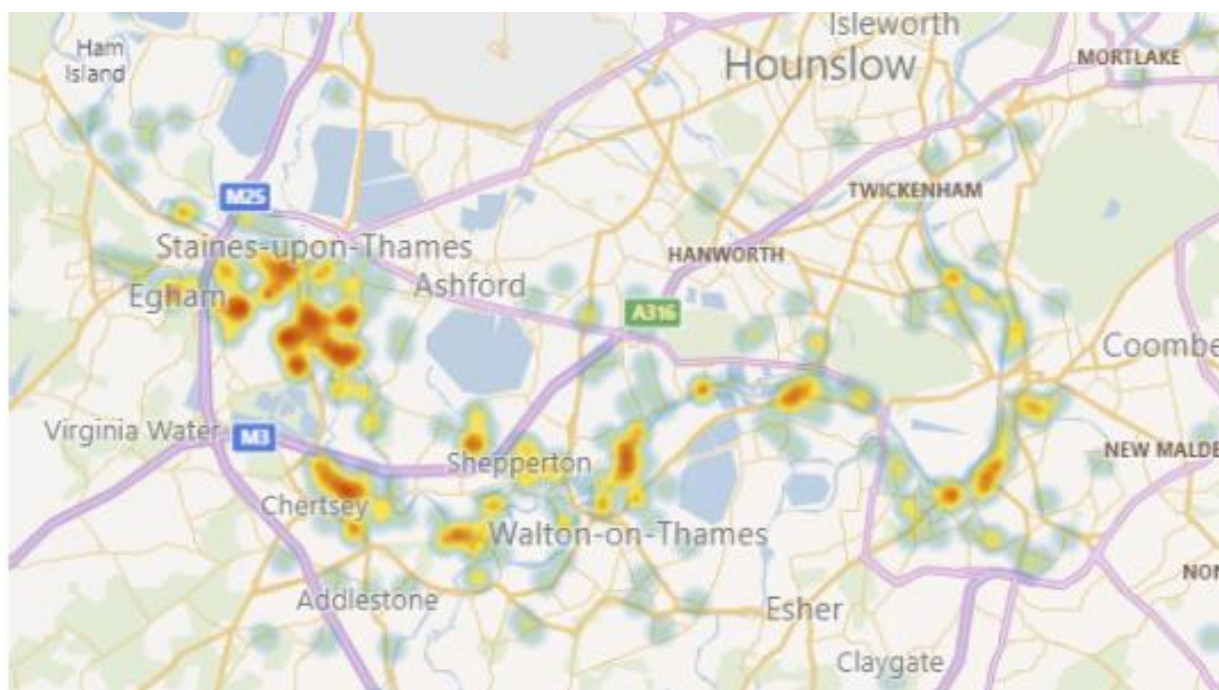


Figure 4 Heatmap showing location of completed response forms

## Summary of findings from second consultation

The greatest number of responses came from postcodes within the borough of Spelthorne (167 responses) and Runnymede (83 responses), accounting for 40% and 20% responses respectively, where postcodes were provided.

65 responses were received from Elmbridge postcodes and 36 from Kingston-upon-Thames postcodes, representing 24% of responses received where postcodes were provided.

A further 33 responses came from postcodes within the borough of Richmond-upon-Thames, accounting for an additional 8% of responses received where postcodes were provided.

30 responses were also received from other postcode areas, representing 7% of responses received where postcodes were provided.

### 3.2. Feedback form demographics

The following questions were included in the feedback form to understand the demographic breakdown of respondents.

#### Question: Respondent Type

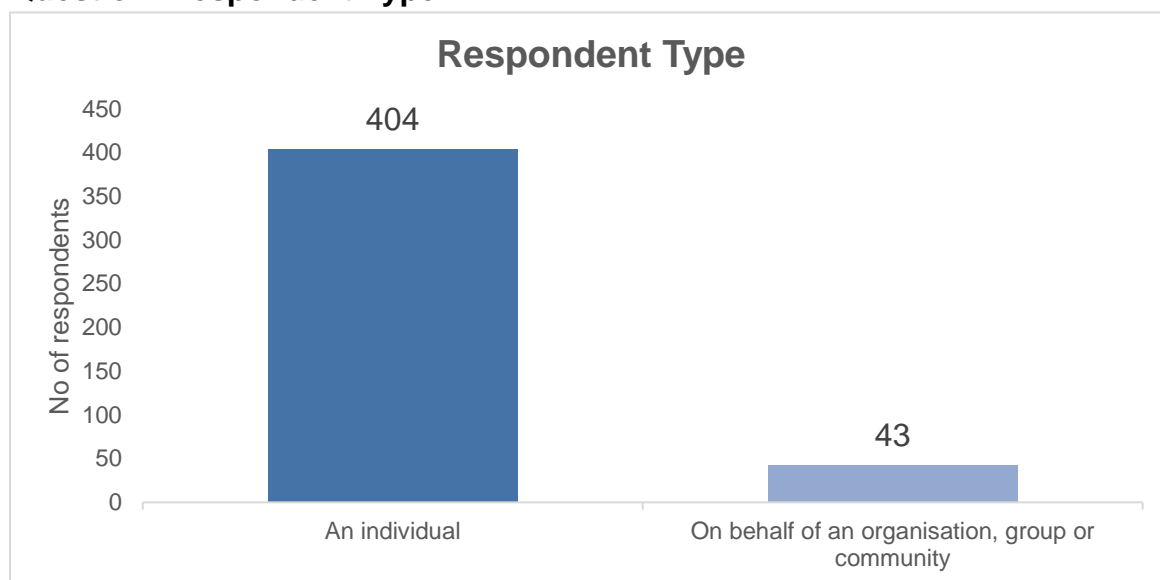


Figure 5 Bar chart showing respondent type

Of the 447 responses received, 404 of respondents completed the questionnaire in an individual capacity, with a further 43 responses provided on behalf of an organisation, group, or community.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Question: What is your sex?

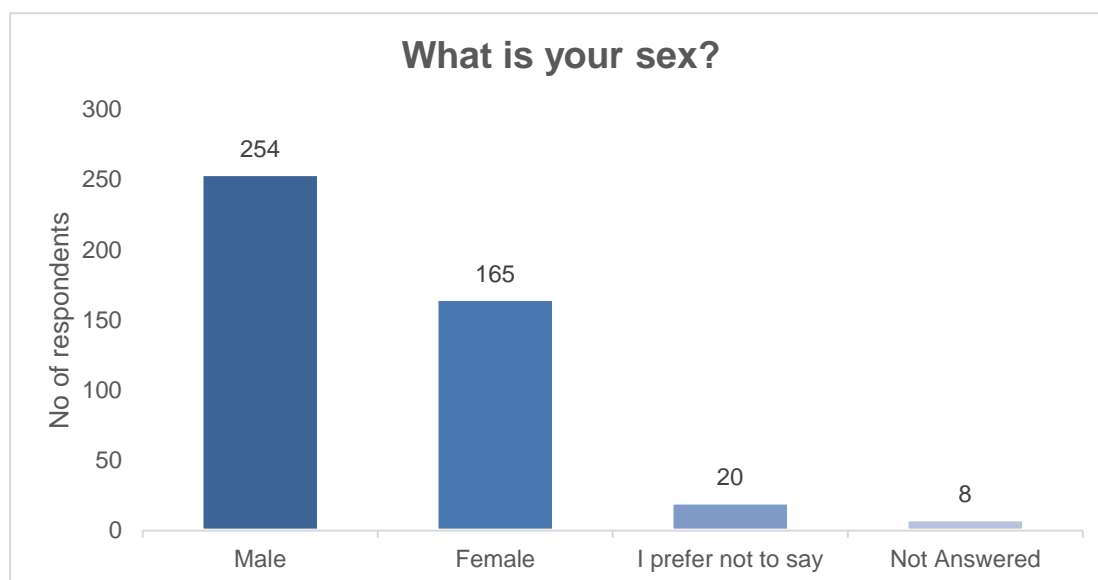


Figure 6 Bar chart showing the gender of respondents

Of the 447 responses received, 254 (56%) of respondents identified their sex as male, 165 (37%) identified as female, 20 (5%) preferred not to say and the remaining 8 (2%) chose not to answer the question.

### Question: How old are you?

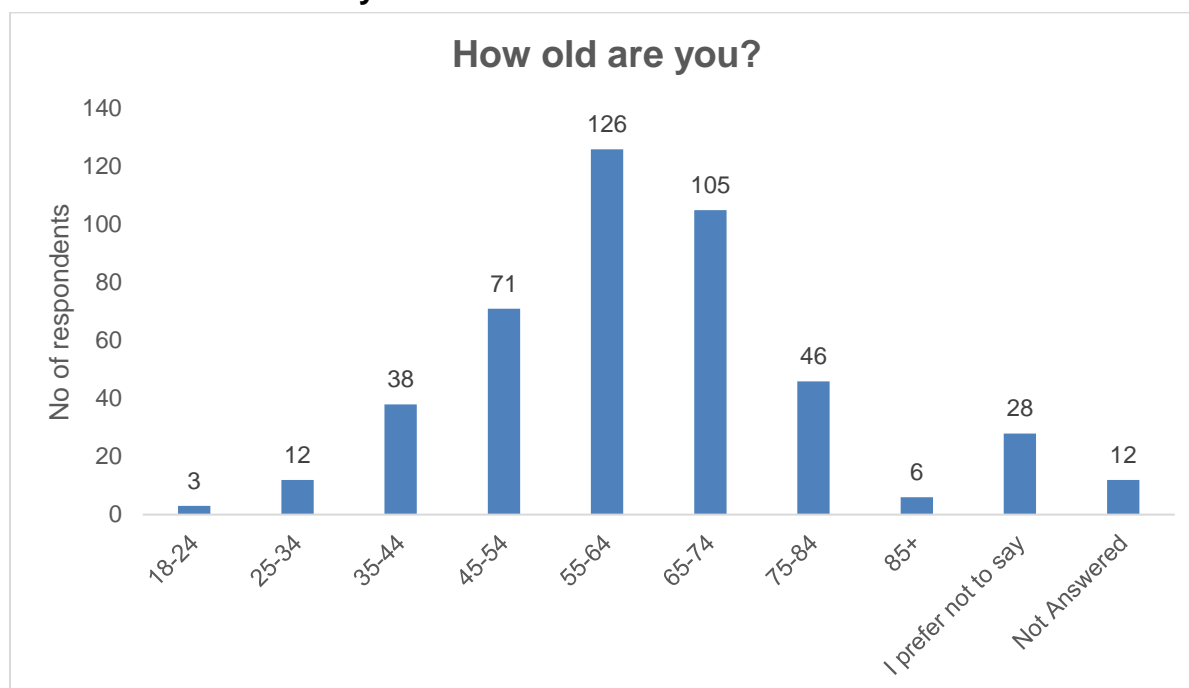


Figure 7. Bar chart showing the age groups of respondents

Of the 447 responses received, 126 (28%) respondents were between the ages of 55-64, 105 (23%) were aged 65-74, 71 (16%) respondents were age 45-54. Of the



## Summary of findings from second consultation

remaining responses received 52 (12%) respondents were 75+ and a further 38 (8%) respondents were age 35-44, 12 (3%) respondents were between the ages of 25-34, 3 (1%) respondents identified as being between the ages of 18-24. 28 (6%) respondents preferred not to disclose this information, an additional 12 (3%) respondents provided no answer.

**Question: Do you have a long-standing illness or disability (physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities)?**

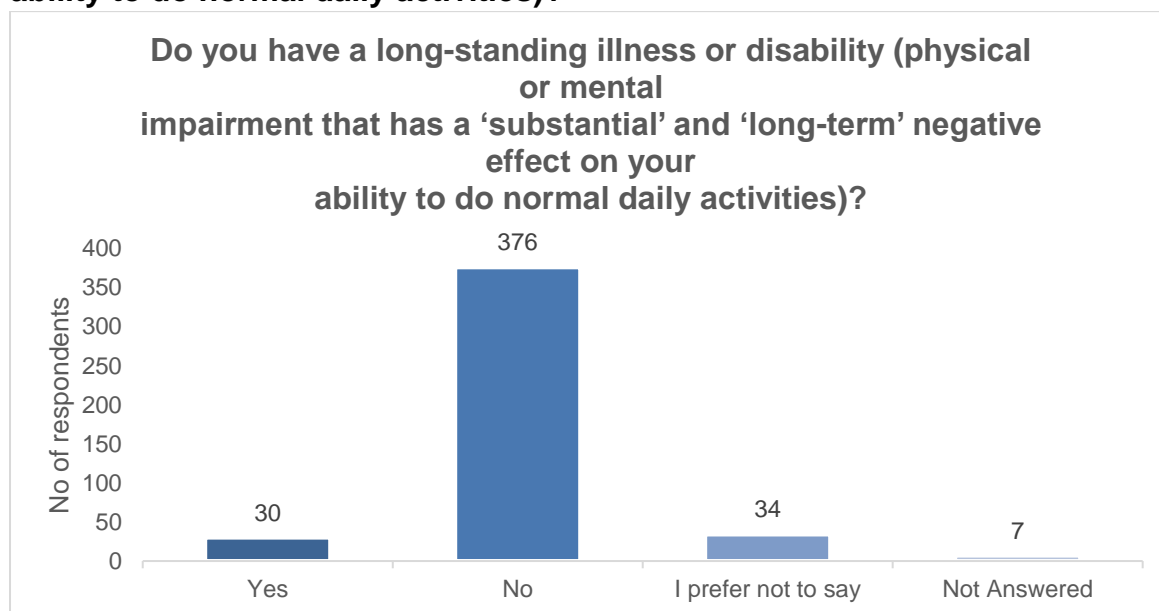


Figure 8. Bar chart showing breakdown respondents with disabilities or long-term health conditions

Of the 447 responses received via the feedback form, 376 (84%) respondents did not consider themselves to have a disability, 30 (7%) respondents selected 'Yes', while 34 (8%) respondents preferred not to say and the remaining 7 (2%) respondents choosing to leave the question unanswered.

### How respondents use the area

The consultation questionnaire included three questions relating to respondents' travel and use of the area identified within the consultation. These questions were included to understand how the area is used by respondents, including their usual mode of transport, their frequency of travel and the purpose of their journeys.

*Question: Which of the following apply to you?*

Respondents were asked to indicate their connection to the area and were able to select as many answer options as applied to them. As a result the total number of responses to this question is higher than the total number of respondents. 444 responses were received to this question.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

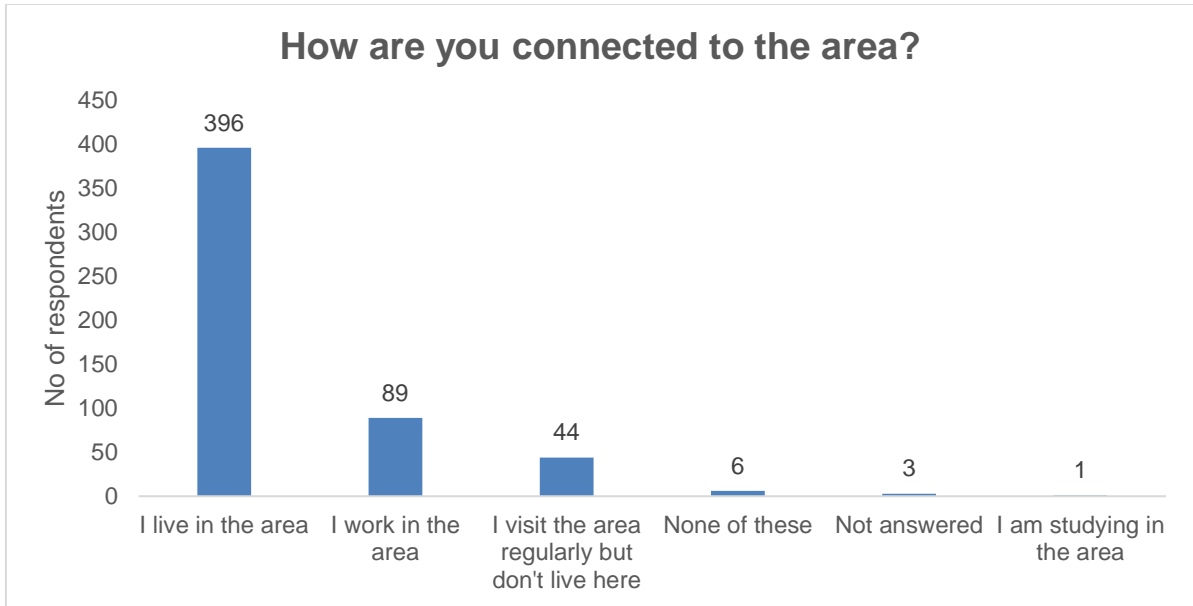


Figure 9 Bar chart showing how connected respondents are to the area

396 respondents stated that they live in the area, with 89 respondents working in the area. 44 respondents indicated that whilst they don't live in the area, they visit the area regularly. Six respondents claimed they don't interact with the area for any of these purposes. A single respondent indicated they study in the area and three respondents chose not to provide an answer.

*Question: How frequently do you visit the area?*

Respondents were invited to indicate how often they visited the area. 439 responses were received to this question.

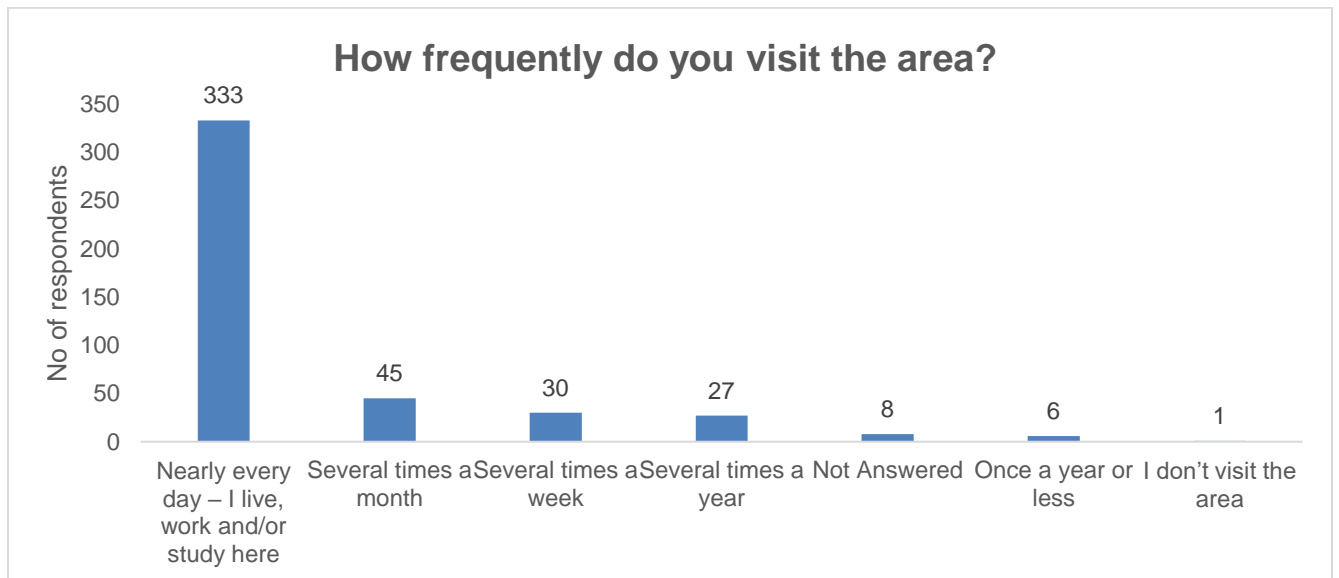


Figure 10 Bar chart showing how frequently respondents visit the area

## Summary of findings from second consultation

333 (76%) respondents stated that they visit the area almost daily as they either live, work and/or study in the area. 45 (10%) respondents indicated they visit the area several times a month, 30 (7%) respondents specified they visit the area several times a week and 27 (6%) respondents visiting several times a year. Six (1%) respondents specified they visit once a year or less and a single respondent stated they don't visit the area.

*Question: How do you get around in the area?*

As part of developing the green infrastructure proposals, respondents were asked to indicate how they travelled in the area and were able to select as many answer options as applied to them. As such the total number of responses to this question is higher than the total number of respondents. 442 responses were received to this question.

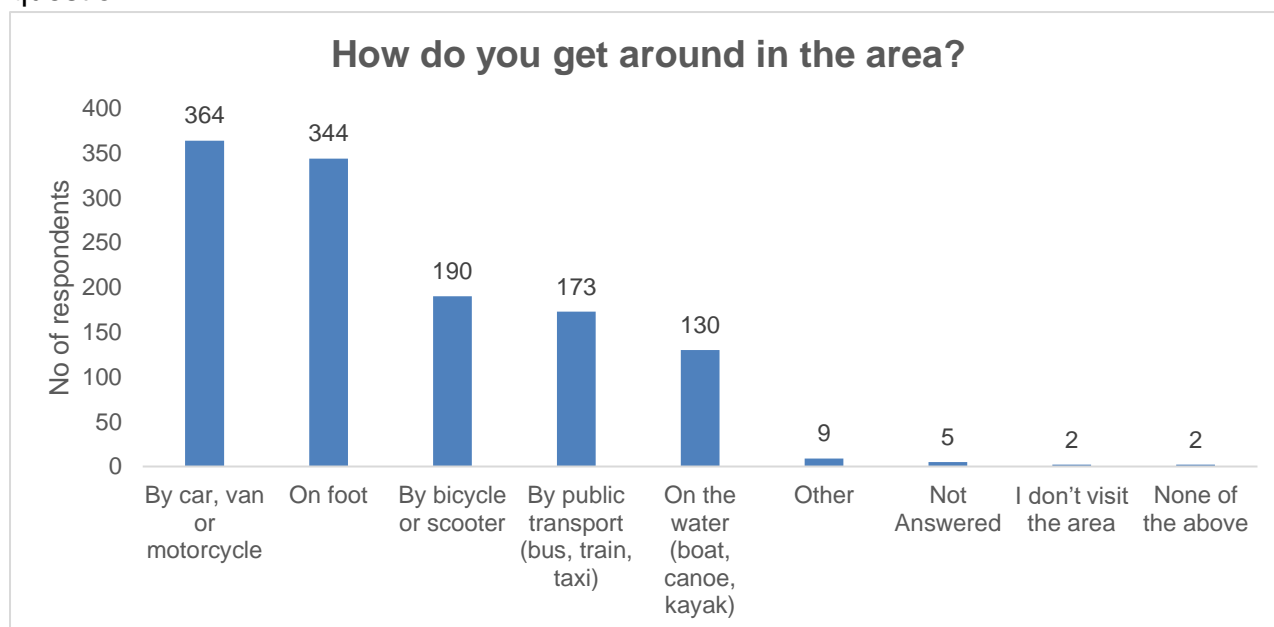


Figure 11 Bar chart showing how respondents get around the area

364 respondents said that they travel by car, van or motorcycle, 344 respondents indicated they travel by foot within the area. 190 respondents indicated they use bicycle or scooter as a mode of transport. 173 respondents used public transport, which includes either bus, train or taxi. 130 respondents stated they travel in the area on the water (boat, canoe, kayak). Nine respondents indicated that they travel in the area via other modes of transport.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Analysis of responses to feedback questions

The following sections of this report detail the feedback received via the consultation feedback form, ordered in the same way as how the sections and questions were presented to the public.

1. Scheme design
2. Construction approach
3. Final thoughts

For the purpose of this report, feedback received via the online feedback forms and the paper feedback forms have been combined and analysed together.

Closed question responses (for example, multiple-choice 'tick box' format) have been totalled and presented as bar charts. Open question responses (which contained free text comments) have been analysed to identify the themes within each and reported below. A full breakdown of the themes can be found in **Appendix N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V**

This report presents the information we received in the responses to the consultation, we will publish our responses to the feedback received as part of our next consultation.

### Use of 'river' and 'scheme' in this report

In responding to the consultation, respondents did not always clarify where their comments referred to the river Thames or to the proposed River Thames Scheme, or to both. As such it has not been possible in all cases to set out whether a particular issue relates to the proposed scheme or to the wider River Thames. Where a clear reference has been made, we have identified this in our reporting. We have used 'river' where a comment refers to the River Thames and 'scheme' a comment refers to the proposed river Thames Scheme, as set out in the consultation materials for this consultation.

### 3.3. Views on Desborough Cut Riverbed Lowering

#### **Question 3a: Just downstream from Desborough Cut we are proposing lowering the riverbed. How much to you agree or disagree with this approach?**

Respondents were asked to indicate to what extent they agreed with the proposals to lower the riverbed downstream from Desborough Cut set out in the consultation materials. Of the 447 responses received via the feedback form, over half of respondents indicated they strongly agree or agree with the proposals to lower the

## Summary of findings from second consultation

riverbed. Results showed that 247 respondents strongly agreed or agreed with the proposed plan, while 20 respondents either disagreed or strongly disagreed. 91 respondents indicated that they neither agreed nor disagreed with the proposals. 79 respondents said that they did not know and 10 did not respond to this question.

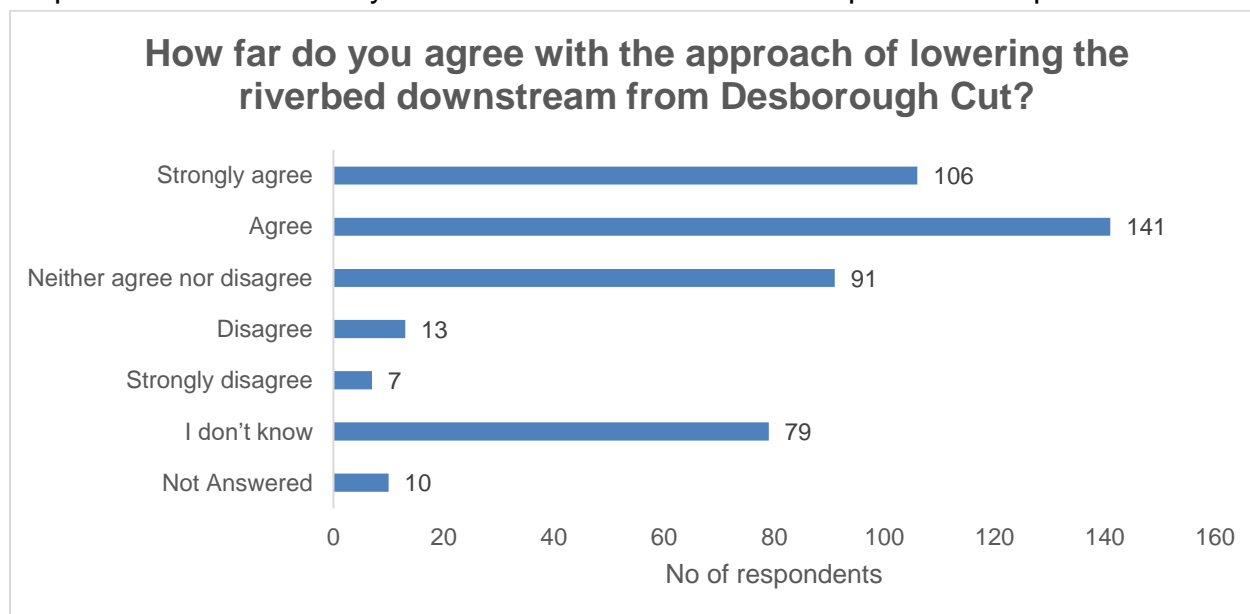


Figure 12 Bar chart showing how respondents agree with Desborough Cut bed lowering

The table below shows the geographic breakdown of responses to this question by borough.

Geographic area	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	I don't know	Not answered	Total
Spelthorne	39	65	27	5	5	23	3	167
Runnymede	29	22	14	1	0	16	1	83
Elmbridge	20	17	13	5	0	10	0	65
Kingston upon Thames	3	5	14	0	0	13	1	36
Richmond upon Thames	6	12	7	0	0	6	2	33

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Other postcode areas	9	20	16	2	2	11	3	63
Total	106	141	91	13	7	79	10	447

*Table 4: Table showing geographic breakdown of the degree to which respondent's agree with Desborough Cut bed lowering*

Of the 167 respondents who provided responses with postcodes in Spelthorne borough, 104 respondents indicated that they agreed or strongly agreed with proposals to lower the riverbed downstream from Desborough Cut. 10 respondents indicated they disagreed or strongly disagreed with the proposals.

83 respondents provided a response to the question from postcodes within the borough of Runnymede, of which 51 respondents noted that they agreed or strongly agreed with the proposals. A single respondent with a postcode Runnymede indicated that they disagreed with the proposals.

65 respondents provided responses from Elmbridge-associated postcodes. 37 indicated that they strongly agreed or agreed with the proposals to lower the riverbed. Five respondents indicated that they disagreed with the proposals.

Of the 132 responses from other postcode areas (including Kingston upon Thames and Richmond upon Thames), 55 respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the proposals and 4 disagreed or strongly disagreed.

**Question 3b: It will help us to consider any necessary changes in the scheme if we understand why people agree or disagree with this proposal. For example, there may be information which you feel we have missed out. Please tell us why you agreed or disagreed with the question above?**

Of the 447 feedback form responses received to the consultation, 253 respondents provided a comment when queried on why they agreed or disagreed with proposals to lower the riverbed downstream from Desborough Cut. **Figure 13** provides a breakdown of the core topic areas raised by respondents. A full breakdown of the theme library for this question can be found in **Appendix N**.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

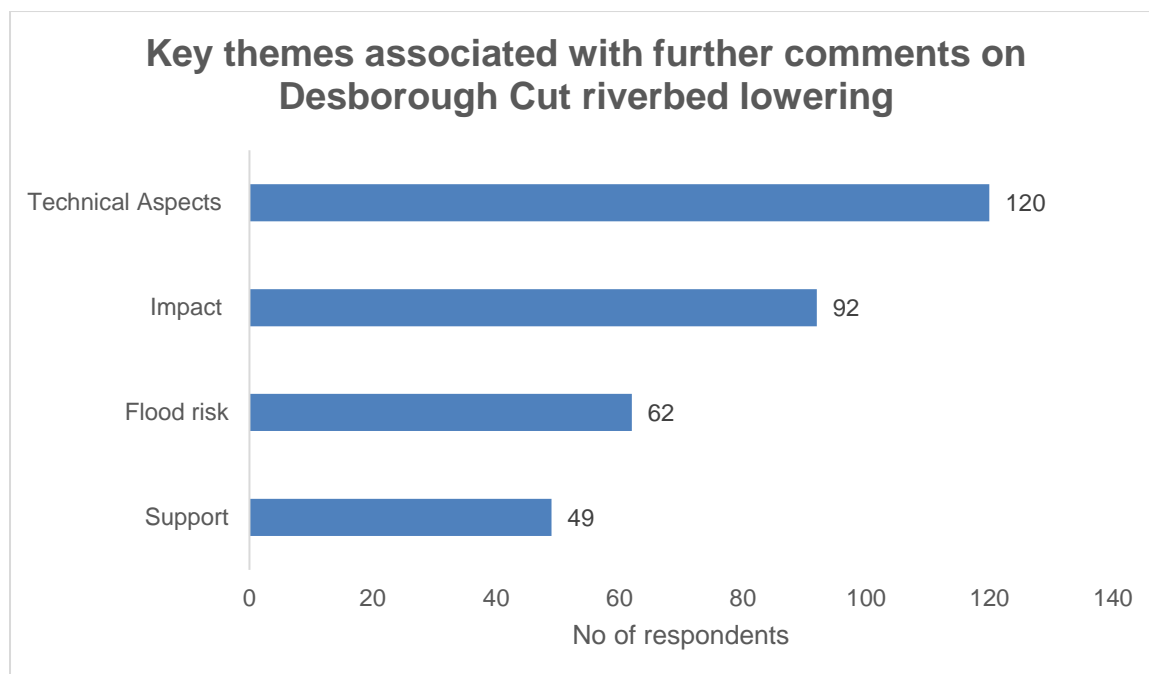


Figure 13. Bar chart showing themes in further comments on Desborough Cut riverbed lowering

### Technical aspects

The majority of responses received in relation to this question commented on the technical aspects of the proposed lowering of the riverbed downstream from Desborough Cut. Comments mentioned included flood risk, dredging, flow capacity and issues concerning the river.

#### *Flow and flood*

This theme was mentioned by 76 respondents. Respondents mentioned that they thought the proposed bed lowering would improve flow capacity (40 respondents), both through and downstream from Desborough Cut; thus, improving flood control in the area (31 respondents).

*“The idea to allow more water to pass through that cut, thereby alleviating possible flooding elsewhere, seems sound.”* RTS\_426

#### *Dredging*

Respondents also mentioned the need for dredging as a proposed solution. In some cases respondents highlighted the need for dredging the whole length of the river Thames.

*“We do need channel to be deepened although dredging will be needed in future years”* RTS\_389



## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“The whole Thames should be dredged”*

RTS\_35

### *Flood risk*

Some respondents raised their concerns in relation to the perceived flood risk associated with lowering the riverbed (64 respondents).

*“In fact, the lowering of the riverbed level will do nothing to alleviate this additional risk.”*

RTS\_382

Whilst some respondents identified that decreasing flood risk was important (45 respondents).

*“Anything that will decrease the chances of local properties flooding is very important.”*

RTS\_16

Other comments outlined the belief that the proposed bed lowering will make no difference to the issues faced (14 respondents), as well as increasing flood risk (4 respondents) and queried its effectiveness as an intervention.

*I don't know how this would help my risk of flooding”*

RTS\_177

*“If this lowering of the bed is required to compensate in part for the increased flow of flood water into this area around Walton Bridge, then over time the effect of this work will diminish and therefore the flood risk will increase further.”*

RTS\_319

## **Impact**

The second most mentioned theme in relation to the proposed bed lowering downstream at Desborough Cut related to respondents' views on the impact of the proposals (92 respondents).

The comments received in relation to this proposed riverbed lowering mentioned the impact of the proposals upstream (9 respondents) and downstream (21 respondents) from Desborough Cut. Respondents raised concerns around risk of further flooding incidents downstream, especially in locations previously prone to flooding.

*“I'm concerned that the extra water flow will cause flooding downstream, especially Thames Ditton which has always been prone to flooding.”*

RTS\_205

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“The amount of water arriving at a faster rate will overwhelm the river in the sections between the end of the dredged Desborough cut section and Sunbury / Hampton / Teddington.”* RTS\_208

*“My concerns with any lowering or dredging is that this will be a temporary solution. The project makes no reference to upstream soil run off.”* RTS\_346

Further comments were received in relation to the impact of the proposals on the recreational use of the river (9 respondents).

Others highlighted impacts associated with river flow and a faster stream.

*“However, it will also lead to a faster stream below the area to be dredged, i.e. from Walton Bridge down to Sunbury lock. This could result in more dangerous river conditions for the many rowers and canoeists on this stretch of river.”* RTS\_97

*“Lowering the river bed will slow the river and it will simply silt up unless flow is also increased.”* RTS\_284

*“What happens to the section of river downstream of the deeper channel to Sunbury weir? The section is short but will suffer from increased flow rate and hence bank erosion.”* RTS\_226

Further comments received related to impacts on homes and communities close to the river. Most respondents who commented on this emphasised that the proposals presented will make a positive difference in reducing the impact of floods on their properties.

### *Impact on wildlife and environment*

Other comments received in relation to this theme focused on the potential impact on wildlife (13 respondents) and the environment (12 respondents). Respondents were keen that the proposals should not have any additional impact on wildlife in the area and raised concerns around the potential disruption on the ecological life of the river. Further survey work was suggested to better understand the ecological and environmental landscape to meaningfully consider the mitigation measures to be put into place.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“The resultant silt in suspension will flow downstream, making the river more opaque, thus harming fish habitats and feeding patterns.”* RTS\_60

*“Clearly, there will inevitably be ecological repercussions for the river course & priority aquatic biodiversity as a result of this.”* RTS\_283

*“We do not object in principle provided that there are adequate environmental safeguards in place and habitat restoration/replacement.”* RTS\_125

### *Support of the proposal*

Even though respondents raised several concerns in relation to proposed bed lowering downstream at Desborough Cut, some respondents indicated their agreement (49 respondents) in the responses received.

These respondents welcomed proposed improvements and stated their belief that the proposals presented a cost-effective and proportionate approach (37 respondents).

*“We agree to this proposal as it alleviates the need to alter the Desborough Cut itself”* RTS\_200

*“I strongly agreed as I want the scheme to be as ambitious as possible given the EA projections for potential future flooding.”* RTS\_157

*“Seems a do able solution rather than more complex/expensive schemes”* RTS\_257

*“This seems the more cost-effective solution and likely to have the least overall impact.”* RTS\_77

### *Other themes*

Other themes identified included maintenance related issues (6 respondents) and the requirement for proper maintenance to be conducted at this location, as well as considerations for the construction of the scheme. Limited commentary was received in relation to further scheme suggestions (5 respondents). Respondents requested for consideration to be given to addressing issues surrounding the river Thames as a whole project rather than in sections.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### 3.4. Provision and access to green, open spaces

#### Question 4: How do you think we should provide better access to new green open spaces?

Figure 14 below provides a breakdown of the key priority areas for respondents and a full breakdown of the theme library associated with this question can be found in Appendix O.

Of the 447 online feedback form responses received in relation to this consultation, 327 respondents provided suggestions on this topic.

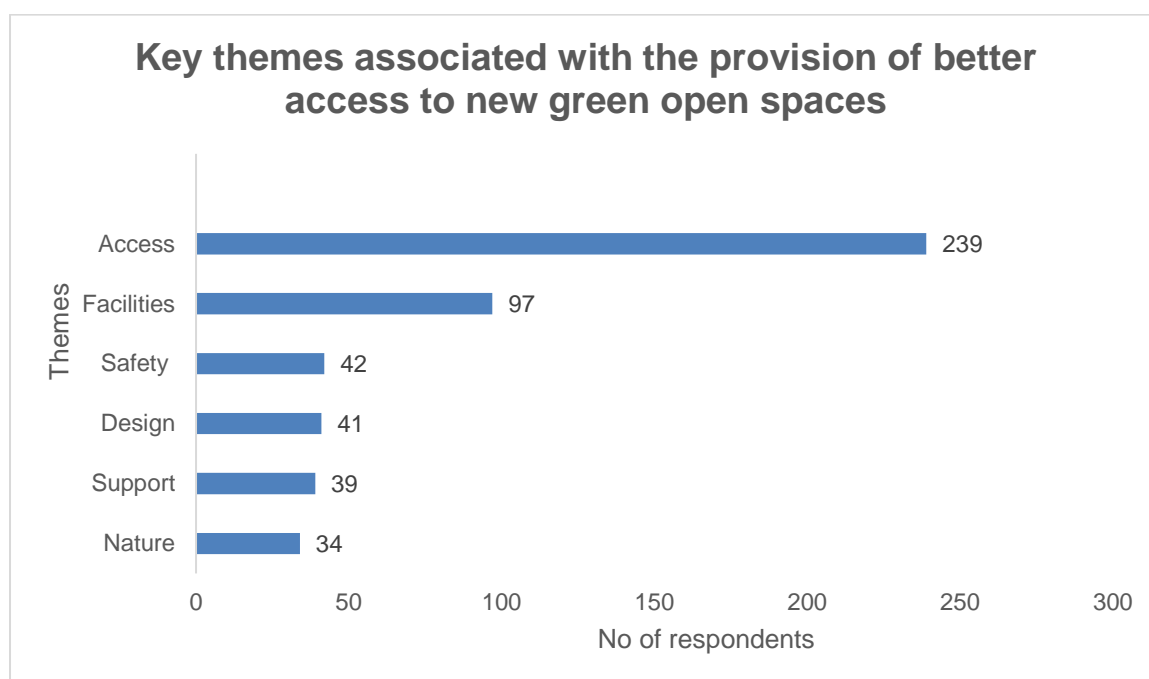


Figure 14 Chart showing themes related to provision and access to new green open spaces

#### Access

Comments related to access received the most amount of mentions from respondents (239 respondents). Respondents emphasised the need for improvements to access for non-motorised users, including enhanced walking and cycling routes, improved access for horse riders, and improved connections via public transport. Some responses mentioned the need to focus on the improvement of access for river users, especially for those who require access for recreational purposes.

#### Walking routes

Many respondents who mentioned access-related matters within their response focused on the need for walking routes to be incorporated into the scheme design and improvements to be made to existing pedestrian access.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Of the 239 respondents who made comments related to access, 114 respondents made comments in relation to walking routes. There were 61 respondents who made statements of support relating to pedestrian gates. Pedestrian gates were seen as a requirement for access to the new green spaces and walking routes along the river. It was also suggested that these gates will help keep walkers and cyclists safe along the route of the scheme.

*“New green spaces would need to be accessed by pedestrian gates.”*

*RTS\_441*

Respondents also mentioned their desire for additional walking paths along the route, with this request mentioned by 27 respondents, prioritisation of active travel routes, and provision for pedestrian and cycle bridges. Respondents highlighted their preference for the provision of separate walking and cycling paths, where possible, and for new routes to be linked to the existing network.

### *Access for water users*

Access for water users was mentioned by 105 respondents. Respondents primarily focused on the need to provide safe access for water activities for recreational purposes (91 respondents) such as kayaking and canoeing.

*“Consideration towards anglers and water borne activities should ideally be implemented.”*

*RTS\_441*

The need to provide access for fishing was mentioned by 27 respondents. Respondents were keen for specially designated areas where they will be able to access the river and channel for fishing.

*“Places to launch canoes and for fishing is a great idea”*

*RTS\_261*

On the other hand, 10 respondents stated their opposition for fishing and in some instances urged for this activity to be discouraged in the area.

*“We are against fishing on environmental grounds.”*

*RTS\_281*

*“Designated areas for canoeing but not fishing”*

*RTS\_375*

### *Parking*

Opportunities for car parking was mentioned by 82 respondents. Thirty-six (36) respondents raised the need for car parks to provide better access to new green open spaces, with these car parks being made free to use (6 respondents) and facilitate electric charging (4 respondents) for users.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“Provide car parking spaces so that people can travel to enjoy these spaces.”*

*RTS\_316*

*“Free parking so that the recreational areas are truly available to everyone.”*

*RTS\_221*

Although the need for parking for cars was raised by some, there were 24 respondents who stated the need to limit parking opportunities for cars and, where possible, prioritise blue badge holders. These respondents were keen for restrictions to be in place for parking, to minimise impact on spaces that could be used for biodiversity or have a negative impact on local communities.

*“Whilst local residents should have various access points, these should not encourage any increase in non-resident parking demand, which is already problematic.”*

*RTS\_222*

*“Any parking would need not to impact on space that could be used for biodiversity.”*

*RTS\_115*

*“I would support parking being kept to a minimum (majority blue badge) and the green spaces should be (as much as possible) natural materials.”*

*RTS\_204*

### Facilities

Facilities for users were mentioned 97 times by respondents. Several different types of facilities were mentioned, including bike storage (12 respondents) to help improve safety of equipment, infrastructure associated to support water sports including canoe chutes (6 respondents) and safe swimming areas (3 respondents). The provision of sufficient bins was mentioned by 12 respondents. Twelve respondents also mentioned the provision of recreational facilities, with facilities such as picnic areas and playgrounds requested.

### Safety

Respondents emphasised the need for safety to be considered when providing better access to new green open spaces. There were 42 respondents who raised safety-related concerns and/or asked for consideration to be given when developing these spaces. Safety related concerns raised by respondents included consideration of users of the area both in open spaces and users of the river. Vandalism and the challenges relating to antisocial behaviour were perceived as a potential safety concern within the responses provided. Respondents also requested better life-saving equipment and help points to be incorporated into the scheme design.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### *Safety for users*

There were 36 respondents who made comments associated with safety for users, with 24 respondents stressing the need to separate walkers and cyclists where possible. Respondents noted the separation of these groups could reduce the risk of accidents and improve safety for both cyclists and pedestrians.

*“I think cycle paths and pedestrian paths should be clearly separated or demarked so that users of both can do so without risk of accidents.” RTS\_157*

*“The river is used heavily by both pedestrian and cycling traffic and more clear separation would ensure there is less contention between these.” RTS\_183*

Other responses mentioned safety for water users (11 respondents) when improving access to new green open spaces, with adequate care and regard given to those who will be utilising the river for leisure purposes. In some instances, respondents noted the need for the scheme to further consider how to include notices to deter the public from swimming in undesignated areas.

### *Vandalism and antisocial behaviour*

Concerns were also raised regarding potential vandalism (5 respondents) and disregard for the rules set out in these areas. There were 5 respondents who raised concern over visitors ignoring the rules, with examples provided detailing current consequences of users not following rules and areas closed off to the public due to antisocial behaviour. In other instances, vandalism is perceived to be a problem (2 respondents), with reference made to environmental vandalism witnessed in the area and the effects of antisocial behaviour.

*“Access to open spaces needs consideration on how they are used. For instance, at Teddington the Lock Island is currently shut of from public access due to anti-social behaviour.” RTS\_338*

*“I have witnessed first-hand during two summers where folk could not go abroad to see the amount of environmental vandalism wreaked on our river fronts.” RTS\_258*

## **Design**

Forty-one (41) respondents provided design-related suggestions were raised in relation to better access to new green open spaces. These suggestions covered the designs of open spaces specifically (9 respondents), general scheme suggestions (9 respondents), surfaces (9 respondents), cycling routes (5 respondents), wildlife



## Summary of findings from second consultation

watching (4 respondents), natural based elements (3 respondents) and the need to work collaboratively with local groups to design these spaces (4 respondents).

### *Incorporating open space*

Responses which mentioned this theme specifically focused on respondents' desire to have open spaces/ areas incorporated into the scheme design (9 respondents). Some respondents highlighted features of these open spaces, with requests for these to be areas of relaxation, well connected and not isolated.

*"It would be helpful to create new areas of green space through the construction of the River Thames Scheme including new green spaces and habitat along the route and country parks in appropriate locations." RTS\_125*

*"It would be good if it was just the green space for people to explore on their own and be lost in their own thoughts." RTS\_414*

### *General scheme suggestions*

Comments mentioning general scheme suggestions (9 respondents) covered areas including replicating works that have been done on other projects, such as the Jubilee River, the need for improved travel networks and habitat creation.

*"This would be a great opportunity which meets the objective of the overall scheme of habitat creation." RTS\_367*

*"Concentrate on travel networks" RTS\_362*

*"Same as jubilee river." RTS\_312*

### *Surfaces*

The need for improved surfaces as part of the development of these new green open spaces was mentioned by 9 respondents. Improving surfaces for both walkers and cyclists were requested, with others going further to suggest natural surfaces should be included within the design.

*"I walk along the Thames Path every day in Laleham and although I don't want to see a concrete pavement there is improvements that could be made." RTS\_325*

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“The surface of paths/cycle routes is important - it MUST be in keeping with natural spaces, AND suitable for cycles and wheelchairs (not tarmac, but minimising tree-route obstacles)”* RTS\_216

### Support

Some respondents shared their support for the proposals presented. There were 39 respondents who outlined their support, with some statements accompanied by suggestions for the scheme.

*New green open spaces would be a good thing.* RTS\_341

*“We are hugely supportive of this and would feel positive and excited about accessing these spaces either by foot or cycle..”* RTS\_299

**Nature** There were 34 respondents who raised comments associated with nature. Comments included restricting human access to areas in order to protect wildlife (15 respondents), maintaining native habitats (10 respondents) and keeping the wild character of the area (11 respondents).

#### *Restricting human access*

Respondents were keen for elements of the design to limit access to the new green open spaces in order to protect wildlife (15 respondents).

*“However, there must be some space set aside for wildlife alone, without easy access for the public.”* RTS\_111

*“Better access to green open spaces is important but also important is that this open access doesn't disturb wildlife that makes its home in this space (so should be controlled with gates / fencing for protection of more environmentally sensitive areas).”* RTS\_121

#### *Wild character*

Respondents emphasised that the access to these new green open spaces shouldn't come at the detriment of the local environment and for the area to maintain its existing character and be kept as wild as possible (6 respondents).

*“Ensuring that the area isn't over developed and is shared equally with wildlife would be key.”* RTS\_309

*“But keep the banks and river side natural, do not turn it into a PARK.”* RTS\_299

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Other themes

A number of further themes were mentioned by respondents, including the technical aspects of the proposals (19 respondents), flood risk associated with the scheme and the need to have decreased flood risk as a priority (15 respondents) and maintenance of these new areas (9 respondents).

### Question 5: How do you think we could allow users of the new green open spaces to connect with wildlife?

Figure 15 illustrates the most popular themes noted within participants responses. Further breakdowns of the full theme library can be found in **Appendix P**. There were 385 responses received to this question.

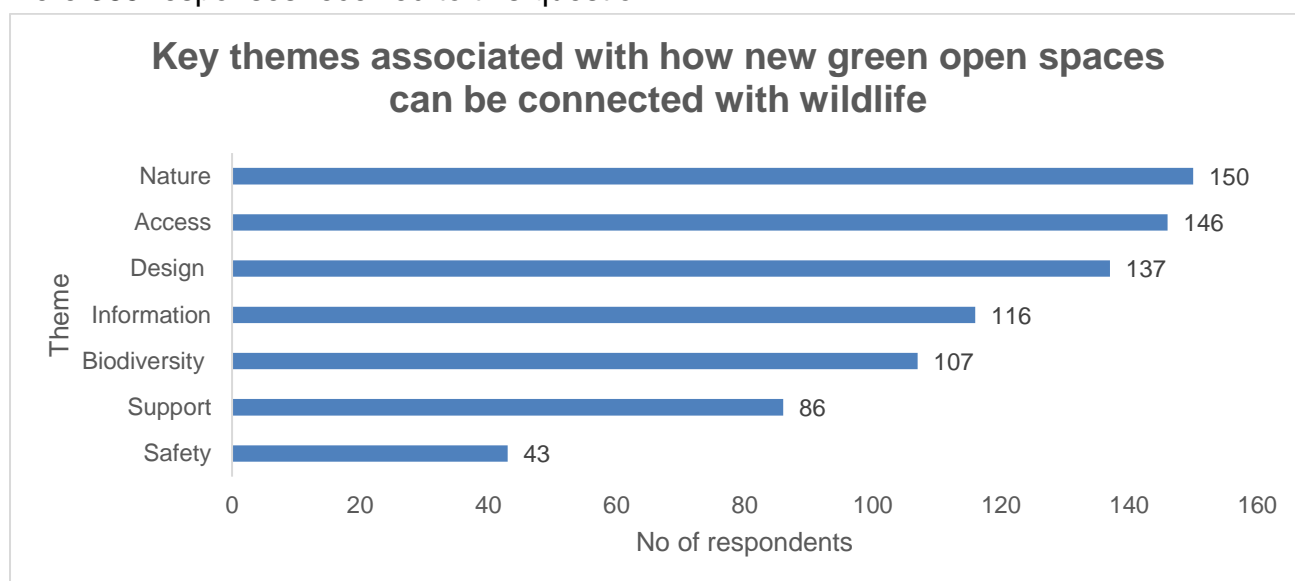


Figure 15. Chart showing breakdown of themes linked to connection to wildlife

### Nature

The majority of comments received in response to this question related to nature (150 respondents). Respondents commented that the designs of the scheme should restrict human access to certain areas to protect the wildlife (60 respondents). It was also suggested where possible to maintain the wild character of the area (42 respondents). Respondents also stressed how the creation of habitats forms a key element of the scheme and stated their desire to keep native habitats (24 respondents) and provide wildlife corridors (24 respondents).

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“Public access should be defined and limited so as not to prejudice wildlife whilst ensuring that the public only use specific ingress and egress points to maximise wildlife protection”* RTS\_260

*“Any "management" should ultimately be invisible if properly integrated and sympathetic to the landscape typical of this area's water courses.”* RTS\_245

*“ Provision of green corridors and bridges to allow wildlife to cross the channel at multiple sites is needed.”* RTS\_330

*“Green open spaces should be populated with native trees and plants that will encourage wildlife”* RTS\_11

### Access

Access, commonly raised across responses on all elements of the proposals, was also a frequent topic when commenting on green open spaces and user connections to wildlife (146 respondents). Access was discussed by respondents when considering walking routes, water users and access for all.

#### *Walking routes*

There were 118 respondents who discussed walking routes within their responses. Stakeholders requested the provision of boardwalks on the wetlands (93 respondents), although some respondents opposed these boardwalks (24 respondents). Requests were made for additional walking paths (21 respondents) and pedestrian only access (2 respondents).

*“Boardwalks to be provided to access wetlands.”* RTS\_145

*“No board walks - they ruin an areas natural beauty”* RTS\_273

*“The main point should be to make the area accessible for people by building natural paths throughout the green spaces.”* RTS\_03

#### *Water users*

Whilst the question focused on how users of the new green open spaces could be allowed to connect with wildlife, some respondents chose to address access for water users, including safe access points to the water and fishing (18 respondents).

*“I like the idea of wildlife centres, walks, access for cyclists and an ability to kayak, paddleboard or boat through the waterways.”* RTS\_08

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“Also launch and exit points for safe water access.”*

RTS\_361

### Design

In considering how the scheme can allow users of green open spaces to connect with wildlife, design-related suggestions were put forward by 137 respondents. Suggestions covered areas such as wildlife-watching, examples of elements in other schemes which could be considered, open spaces and engagement with local groups were mentioned.

#### *Wildlife-watching*

Comments related to wildlife watching was raised by 78 respondents, with respondents suggesting the provision of bird hides for bird watching (70 respondents).

*“Bird hides or screens with interpretation boards will help visitors engage and appreciate more of what is or may be present.”*

RTS\_263

*“Bird hides are a must. Great way to connect people to looking at nature.”*

RTS\_290

#### *Work with local groups*

To improve the ability of the users of green open spaces to connect with wildlife, respondents identified how engagement is required with local wildlife groups (33 respondents). It is believed that engagement with local wildlife and conservation groups could help refine proposals on how best to improve connections between green open spaces and wildlife.

#### *Examples from other schemes*

Some suggestions of good examples of design in other schemes were presented by stakeholders (20 respondents), including Barnes Wetland, Chertsey Meadows Wheatley’s Eyot, Basingstoke Canals and Abbey Meads.

*“Barnes Wetlands are a good example of best practice. Board walks to view wildlife and birds were introduced on to the "wild " areas of Chertsey Meads a few years ago.”*

RTS\_224

*“We have great access to wildlife on Wheatleys Eyot. Please take a more detailed look about how to preserve this haven for wildlife.”*

RTS\_418

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“The area Abbey Meads looks as if that would be marshy that would need special management as Snipe and Woodcock are regular in that area.”*

*RTS\_115*

### Information

To encourage the connection of users between green open spaces and wildlife, 116 respondents suggested the provision of information to users was important.

#### *On-site notices*

The provision of on-site notices at green open spaces and the habitat creation areas were requested by 104 respondents to provide more information about wildlife and habitats. Improved signage and information about designated routes (15 respondents) were also requested.

*“Board walks would be good and signage about plants/trees/animals”* *RTS\_01*

*“A nature walk with things to spot and boards with further information would make the area interactive.”* *RTS\_126*

A limited number of responses mentioned their opposition to information notices (15 respondents).

*“I am not a great fan of notices as they tend to spoil the landscape and unless regularly maintained can spoil the landscape.”* *RTS\_111*

*“A more natural environment is desirable. No notice boards/hides/boardwalks required”* *RTS\_421*

### Biodiversity

One hundred and seven respondents also commented on biodiversity-related matters (107 respondents). In particular, 103 respondents say there should be planting of more trees. Four respondents requested for more bee-friendly plants, and proposals to support biodiversity such as providing a range of habitats.

*“Tree planting and wild areas are both essential”* *RTS\_121*

*“Plant trees and bee friendly plants would be great.”* *RTS\_14*

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Support

Statements of support for the proposals and for new open and green spaces in general were included within responses received from 86 respondents.

*“I feel your suggestions are correct”* RTS\_215

*“I think all of the above ideas are good”* RTS\_165

### Safety

Concern was raised regarding safety by 43 respondents, most commonly vandalism, safety for users and lighting.

#### Vandalism

Respondents raised concerns over potential vandalism and antisocial behaviour (36 respondents), inappropriate use of bird-watching hides (29 respondents), problems associated with vandalism (9 respondents) and disregard for the rules currently in place (2 respondents).

*“I am not sure if bird hides would be a good idea outside of a designated wetlands like Barnes WWT as I feel that in a more residential area it leads to risk of vandalism and anti-social behaviour.”* RTS\_22

#### Safety of users

A few respondents were unsure about how the scheme would ensure the safety of users (7 respondents). Risks were identified regarding safety for lone walkers (2 respondents), children (1 respondents) and safety for water users (1 respondent).

*“Parts of the river feel unsafe due to undesirable squatting on boats and a threatening presence... I wouldn't walk there alone.”* RTS\_23

*“Board walks would also be good in a wetland area- my only concern with them would be safety for children, if there is easy access for everyone.”*  
RTS\_31

### Other themes

Additional topics covered within responses received included: maintenance (24 respondents) and facilities (22 respondents), habitats (13 respondents) and cost (8 respondents).

### Question 6: How do you think we could create a more sustainable travel network in Surrey?



## Summary of findings from second consultation

**Figure 16** provides the breakdown of the key themes identified. A full breakdown of respondents can be found in **Appendix Q**. Responses were received from 369 respondents to this question.

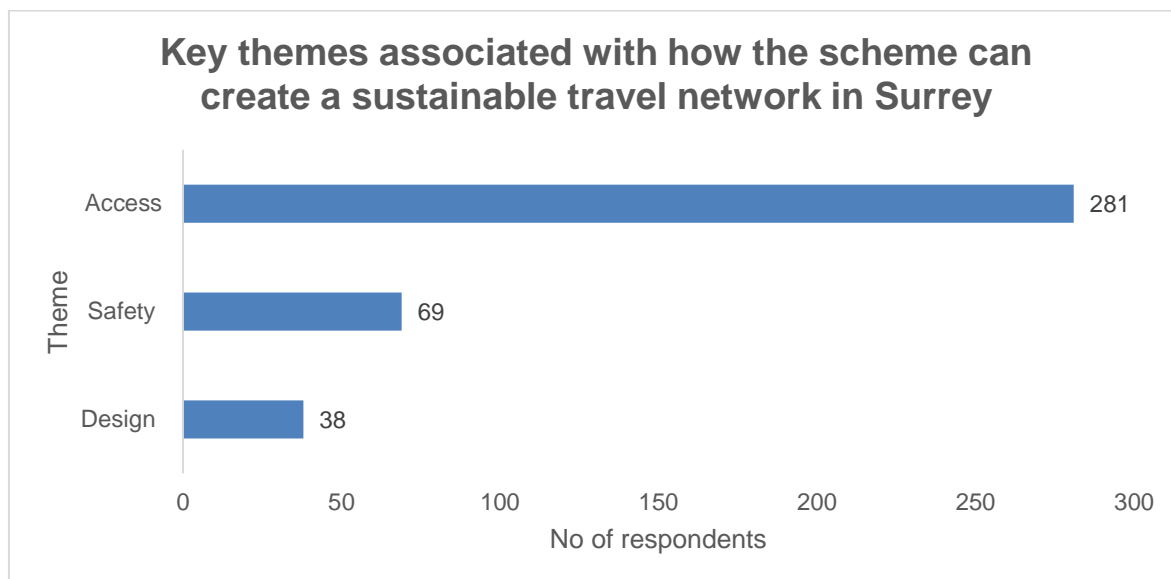


Figure 16. Chart showing breakdown of themes associated with sustainable travel network

### Access

The most common theme identified within responses related to access (281 respondents), covering a broad range of factors including walking and cycling routes, links to footpaths, transport, connections to schools / towns and shopping facilities, and links to public transport.

#### *Walking paths and routes*

Most responses in relation to access mentioned walking paths (153 respondents). Requests were made to provide more walking paths (110 respondents), off road walking paths (32 respondents) and circular walking routes (22 respondents). Respondents also wanted to ensure these paths were kept separate from cycleways.

*“More walking paths or signposted walking paths, create a Slow Ways network map to link up existing options”* RTS\_203

*“Plan for circular routes along new 'rivers' in the new scheme”* RTS\_216

*“Keep footpaths and cycle paths separate, children, elderly and dogwalkers could then walk more relaxed.”* RTS\_105

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### *Cycle routes and links to cycleways*

Respondents requested more cycle paths (88 respondents), and 28 respondents wanted links to existing cycle paths to be considered. Respondents also called for off-road paths for cyclists (57 respondents) and the inclusion of circular cycling routes (42 respondents).

*“Footpaths and bike paths to link up to existing ones. Would love there to be a road free way of cycling from Staines to Sunbury that school children could use”* RTS\_01

*“Cycling lanes connecting to the local network would be great.”* RTS\_28

### *Public transport*

Respondents commented that improvements were needed to public transport services to provide a more sustainable transport network. Transport was mentioned by 53 respondents. Respondents went further by discussing the need for better public transport (34 respondents), particularly improved bus services (22 respondents).

*“In other parts of Surrey I have noticed that public transport is really lacking. While trains are ok and join up the main points in the county, for buses there seem to be very few direct routes between towns”* RTS\_04

*“Provide stable, well publicised public transport network in area.”* RTS\_209

*“A more integrated transport system that connects public transport, cycling and walking paths to all the relevant areas.”* RTS\_306

### *Connections to key amenities*

28 respondents mentioned the need to create a more sustainable travel network by improving connections to key amenities such as schools, shopping area and towns (28 respondents), including better direct connections to these amenities via public transport (22 respondents) and improved connections are required to schools (6 respondents).

*“Connecting where possible to work / school / transport hubs will help this scheme to be useful as well as environmentally important.”* RTS\_121

*“Better connections in general for sustainable forms of travelling between the towns of Runnymede/Spelthorne/Elmbridge to reduce the reliance on cars that blights these areas.”* RTS\_02

*“Add the bus service in and a joined up transport network. Should be in place in advance not after.”* RTS\_152

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Safety

Sixty- nine respondents made requests a more sustainable travel network that considers the safety of users.

#### *Safety for users*

Safety on the travel network was mentioned by 26 respondents. Respondents also encouraged the separation of walkers and cyclists (33 respondents) to ensure the safety of these non-motorised users. Additionally, respondents stressed concern over safety for lone walkers, particularly women.

*“Yes, but a lot of routes across to get to schools are not safe and discourages people to cycle / walk (unlit, isolated areas).”* RTS\_252

*“ SAFER paths. As a woman I will only walk along the path on my own in broad daylight in the busier parts.”* RTS\_323

#### *Lighting*

Respondents suggested that to encourage use of walking and cycling routes, better lighting than the current provision is required (13 respondents). Currently, respondents noted that existing walking and cycling routes feel dangerous and remote; therefore, discouraging use.

### Design

Feedback was received in relation to elements of the scheme design (38 respondents). Respondents mentioned surfaces and cycling routes as some of the areas that require further consideration to create a more sustainable travel network.

#### *Cycling routes*

Respondents emphasised the need for proper design of cycling routes (17 respondents) as one of the factors in creating a more sustainable travel network. Some respondents felt that cycling and walking routes are to be kept separate.

#### *Surfaces*

Better surfaces were requested as part of the elements in the creation of a more sustainable travel network (17 respondents). Better surfaces were requested for cycling routes (15 respondents) and walking paths (4 respondents).

*“Cycling paths that are wide and paved for bicyclists, walkers and scooters would be ideal alongside the river connecting the towns better.”* RTS\_12

*“Some existing paths are poorly maintained. Good paths for both pedestrians and cyclists would be welcome within the scheme.”* RTS\_182

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“Provide paths with a variety of surfaces for different users. Eg asphalt, gravel, grass, boardwalk.”*  
RTS\_29

### 3.5. Access to green open spaces, sustainable travel network and connection to wildlife

**Question 7a: We will need to balance these factors in the design we develop. We would like to know which of these you value most. Please rank the factors, with 1 the most important to you and 3 the least important.**

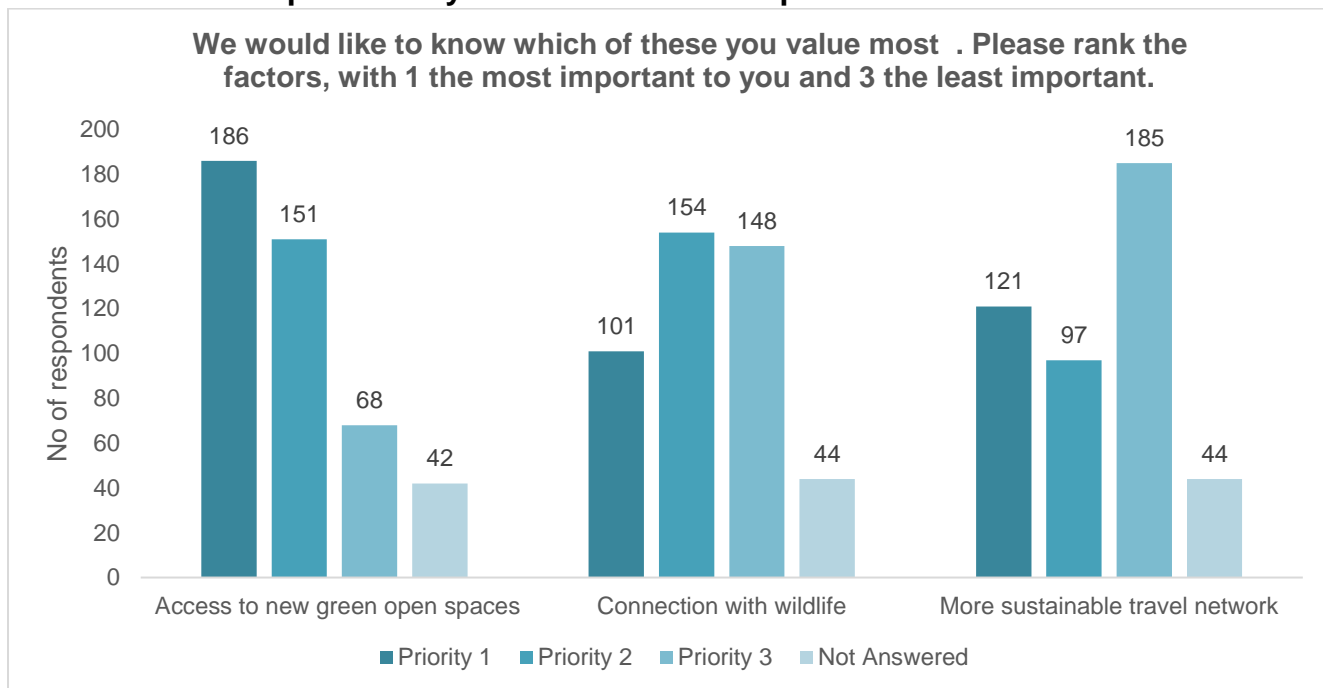


Figure 17. Bar chart showing respondent breakdown of balancing factors

Respondents were asked to rank the factors most valued to for further consideration within the development design process. The results in **Figure 17** have been segmented according to each priority presented.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

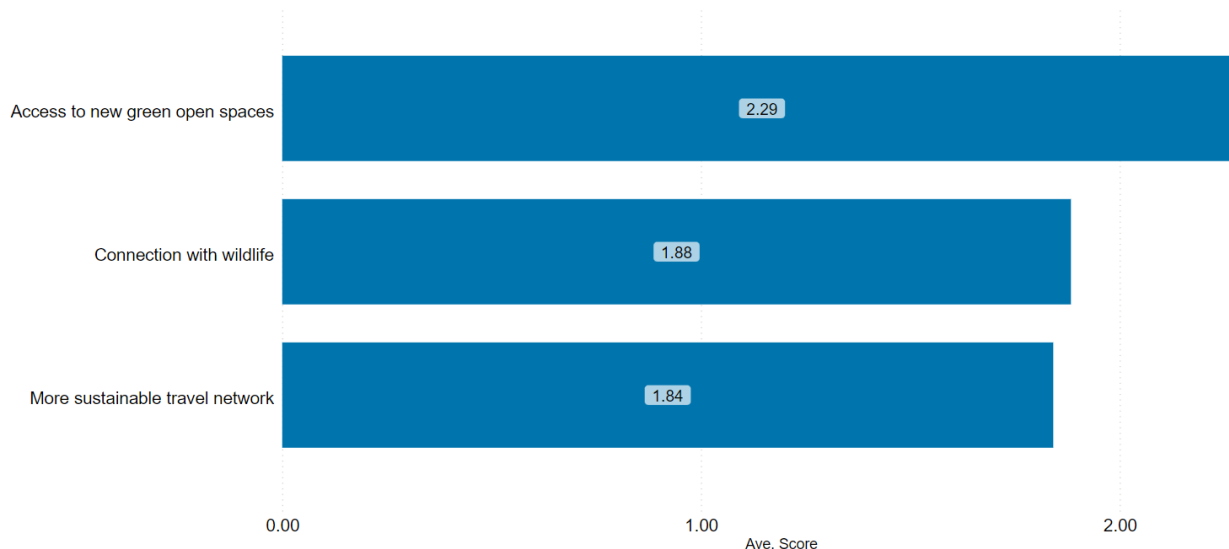


Figure 18. Bar chart showing breakdown of weighted average

**Figure 18** summarises the weighted averages of most valued factors based on the rank given to each priority. Averages were calculated based on the points assigned to each rank: 3 points assigned first ranked priorities, 2 points for second ranked 2 and a single point for rank 3. Access to new green open spaces received the highest average score at 2.29. Connection with wildlife received an average score of 1.88 and sustainable travel networks received an average score of 1.84.

### *Access to new green open spaces*

For this factor, 405 responses were received with 42 respondents choosing not to provide a response. This factor was ranked as most valued by 186 respondents, second most valued by 151 respondents and least valued by 68 respondents.

### *Connection with wildlife*

This factor was ranked by 403 respondents, with 44 respondents not providing a response. The majority of respondents (154) who gave a response ranked this as second most valued. 101 respondents ranked this as most valued and 148 respondents as least valued.

### *More sustainable travel network*

This factor received responses from 403 respondents, with 44 respondents not providing a response when asked to rank priorities. 121 respondents ranked this factor as most important to them, with 97 choosing this factor as the second most valued and 185 as the least valued factor.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Comments on the ranking

**Figure 19** provides a breakdown of the key themes identified by respondents within their responses, with a further breakdown found in **Appendix R**.

Three hundred and forty two (342) respondents provided further rationale to support their ranking.

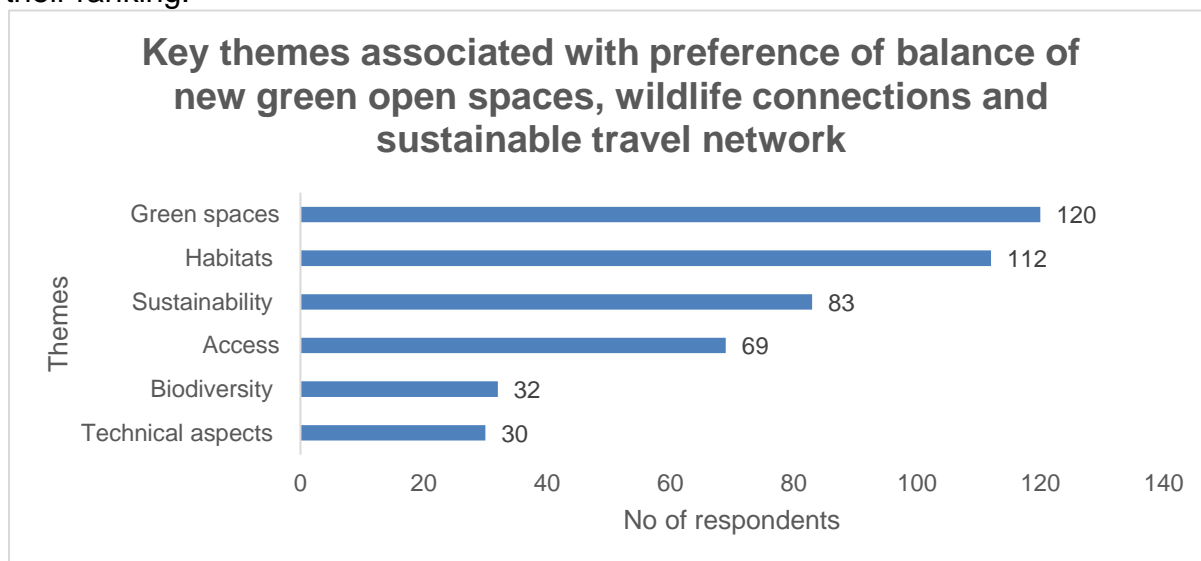


Figure 19. Bar chart showing breakdown of themes associated with preference of balance of new green open spaces, wildlife connections and sustainable travel network

### Green spaces

Green spaces received the most amount of mentions from respondents, with this theme mentioned by 120 respondents. Respondents highlighted various topics within this theme including access to green spaces (mentioned by 65 respondents). Comments were provided on the health benefits associated with access to the green spaces (32 respondents), the need for more green spaces (27 respondents) and the role access to green spaces play in relation to other factors (29 respondents).

#### *Prioritising and improving access to green spaces*

Most respondents focused on the belief that access to green spaces will boost the local area (38 respondents), with a further 34 respondents emphasising the improvement of access to the green spaces to be seen as a priority (34 respondents). The importance of green spaces in urban environments was mentioned as a benefit of this priority, as well as the ability to access and utilise these types of natural environments.

*“Green areas help break up the urbanisation, need to be able to travel to them.”* RTS\_132

*“With councils being forced to release ever more land for building, it's important to create as much new green space as possible.”* RTS\_141

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“It is good for people to have access to wildlife and green spaces especially in relatively urbanised environments.”* RTS\_116

### Health

The provision of access to green spaces was also linked to an improvement in mental health by those who interact with these environments (32 respondents) and that improving access to these green spaces could result in improvement to general health and wellness.

*“Access to green spaces is important for mental health”* RTS\_125

*“Encouraging access to green spaces is beneficial for mental wellness and linked to reduced stress, illness, depression and improved health”.* RTS\_289

### Additional benefits from green spaces

Improving access to green spaces was perceived as contributing to other factors (29 respondents). From improved health and wellbeing to improving access to wildlife and the natural environment, respondents suggested these factors are all interlinked to provide additional benefit for users of these spaces.

*“Access will lead to connection with wildlife.”* RTS\_212

*“I think the access to green space is the driver that the other factors can build on, and its possible use as part of a sustainable travel network in the area will ensure that people use it to its fullest.”* RTS\_02

### Need for more green spaces

Respondents also emphasised the shortage of green spaces in the area (19 respondents) and the need for more green spaces (12 respondents) as an important factor to be considered in design development.

Green spaces are perceived to be in short supply as areas become increasingly urbanised and population numbers increase. Respondents felt that existing green spaces are currently well utilised and additional spaces would be beneficial to the existing population. Additionally, with the shift in working behaviours, individuals were keen to have easy access to these green spaces.

*“The green spaces we have currently are well used, so additional green space would be great.”* RTS\_31

*“There is shortage of open green spaces. With more people working from home often in cramped conditions they need spaces to take short breaks which are easily reachable from their homes.”* RTS\_43

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“With councils being forced to release ever more land for building, it's important to create as much new green space as possible.” RTS\_141*

### *Additional green space is not needed*

Whilst some respondents highlighted the shortage of green spaces and the need for additional spaces, other respondents highlighted that existing spaces are underused and so additional spaces are not needed (20 respondents). These respondents commented that these green spaces aren't utilised as locals are unaware of its existence or don't have a reason to interact with these spaces.

*“We are fortunate to be surrounded by green open spaces, BUT they are isolated pockets that need to be joined up” RTS\_40*

*“There are ample green spaces in the vicinity already.” RTS\_330*

*“There is already a lot of green space in the area that goes unused because people don't know it's there or they don't have any reason to go there (e.g. it forms fill in space that joins nowhere to nowhere).” RTS\_02*

## **Habitats**

The topic of wildlife and habitats was also an element identified as important in the development of the design by respondents (112 respondents). Within this theme, 95 respondents expressed the need to protect wildlife. Those who mentioned habitats highlighted how the preservation of habitats is important for the environment.

### *Importance of wildlife*

Those who made comments relating to wildlife emphasised its importance (88 respondents) and the importance of improved connections to wildlife.

*“Connection with wildlife is also important” RTS\_118*

*“I believe it is essential to restore wildlife first and foremost.” RTS\_258*

*“Wildlife is the most important factor.” RTS\_56*

### *Protecting wildlife*

Respondents expressed their enthusiasm for wildlife to be protected as part of the development of the design of the River Thames Scheme, with responses received from 14 respondents. Respondents perceived the protection of wildlife as a duty, with areas specially created for them away from human interference.

*“Our duty to protect the wildlife” RTS\_184*

*“It would be better to create a safe place for the animals, away from people encroaching in their space for them to flourish.” RTS\_12*



## Summary of findings from second consultation

### *Preserving habitats*

Habitat-related issues and solutions were mentioned by 49 respondents, raising issues such as the importance of preserving habitats for the environment (24 respondents). Maintenance of these surroundings was seen to be a priority by these respondents, with a need for it to be encouraged amongst users.

*“We need to look after our natural habitat first and foremost” RTS\_434*

*“Wildlife habitat is disappearing and needs all the help it can get.” RTS\_370*

### *Endangered habitats*

Respondents raised concern over the endangerment of habitats (9 mentions), highlighting views that habitats are under increased risk and being destroyed.

*“As a result of this, wildlife habitat is getting fragmented, and good habitat is being lost and replaced with buildings, driveways and plastic grass” RTS\_04*

## **Sustainability**

The consideration of sustainability in the development of the design of the River Thames Scheme was mentioned by 83 respondents, with the most common topics being sustainable travel opportunities, alternative car use and future proposals mentioned by respondents.

### *Sustainable travel*

Comments relating to sustainable travel received the most mentions by respondents who provided answers related to this theme (57 respondents). Respondents stated that sustainable travel is a priority to them, based on potential benefits for growth, health and the environment.

*“Growth will come from sustainable travel and that's what we need most”  
RTS\_170*

*“Sustainable travel to access the areas is important for mental health and well being and the environment.”  
RTS\_281*

### *Alternatives to car use*

Some respondents mentioned the need for sustainable alternatives to car use (27 respondents). It was suggested that providing alternatives could encourage reductions in car usage in favour of these sustainable alternatives.

*“Creating more sustainable and eco friendly alternatives to driving should be a very high priority for all governing bodies for the foreseeable future.” RTS\_12*

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“Providing better and improved non-car traffic routes would encourage not only the occasional users but also reduce [sic] the hardcore road cyclists to use them.”*

RTS\_183

*“If you want people to not use the car you need to make it easy to ride and walk.”*

RTS\_227

### *Future sustainability*

Whilst some respondents asked for current sustainability related matters to be a considered as part of the developed design, others stressed the need to consider a sustainable future for next generations (5 respondents) in their responses.

*“For there to be a sustainable future for us humans there MUST be a sustainable travel network.”*

RTS\_48

*“Encourage conservation in the younger generation.”*

RTS\_397

### **Access**

Access-related matters were a key priority for respondents when considering factors to balance in the development of the design of the River Thames Scheme.

Comments related to access were mentioned by 69 respondents, with consideration particularly given towards access to the river.

### *Transport*

Responses linked to transport-related access received the most mentions by respondents to this theme (40 respondents). Respondents who ranked a sustainable transport network as their most important factor further elaborated on their responses by highlighting their support for public transport / the transport network (24 respondents). Some respondents further indicated the importance of a good travel network and its importance in achieving the aims of the other factors presented. However, some respondents mentioned their uncertainty surrounding the travel network (10 respondents).

*“If the travel network isn't there, fewer people will be able to access the areas in the first place, therefore this is the top priority.”*

RTS\_247

*“Sustainable transport systems might be a nice idea but does not significantly impact on the lives of ordinary people.”*

RTS\_316

### *Access to the river*

For some respondents access to the river (14 respondents) was a key priority.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“Access to the river itself should take precedence over access to green open spaces.”*  
RTS\_217

### Other themes

Other themes emerging in responses to this question included biodiversity, technical aspects, urbanisation and balancing of all factors presented.

Biodiversity mentioned by 32 respondents, with comments focusing on the prioritisation of biodiversity and the need to provide further education around biodiversity and its importance.

Where respondents mentioned technical aspects (30 respondents), alleviation of flood risk was the most prevalent issue (17 respondents).

Some respondents discussed balancing the factors (22 respondents) and the equal weighting (21 respondents) to be given to all the factors presented when developing the scheme design.

Urbanisation-related concerns was raised by 17 respondents, with concerns surrounding further development of land, particularly around green spaces and increased pressure from developers.

### 3.6. High quality habitats and increased biodiversity or more new green open space

**Question 8a: While we are committed to providing green open spaces, creating habitats, and increasing biodiversity, there may be areas where we need to balance these. We would like to know which of these you value most.**

Respondents were presented with three statements and asked to choose a statement that best expressed their preference.

Responses were received from 421 respondents to this question. Over half of respondents (217) who provided an answer to this question stated that both high quality habitats and increased biodiversity and more new green open space are equally important when determining their preference for the scheme design. A third of respondents (139) specified that they would prefer high quality habitats and increased biodiversity over more new green open space. 37 respondents stated their preference for more new green open space. Whilst 28 respondents selected the 'I don't know' option and 26 respondents chose not to provide a response. **Figure 20** provides a breakdown of responses and indicates the breakdown of respondent preferences.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

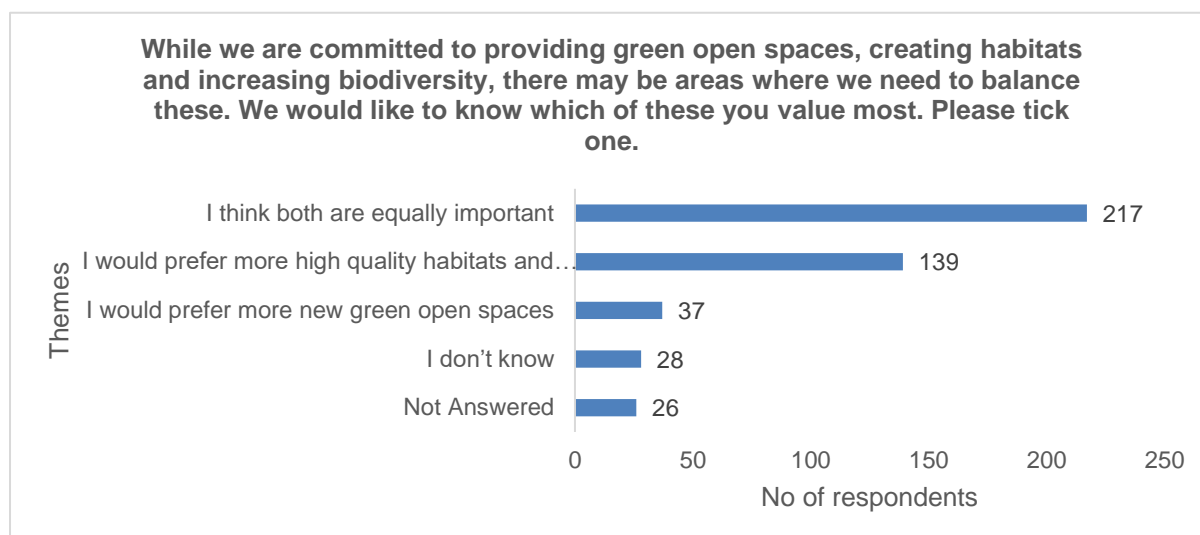


Figure 20. Bar chart showing respondent preference for high quality habitats, increased biodiversity or more new green open space

Geographic area	New green open spaces	high quality habitats and increased biodiversity	Equally important	Don't know	Not Answered	Total
Spelthorne	14	37	92	18	6	167
Runnymede	12	27	38	3	3	83
Elmbridge	7	30	24	1	3	65
Kingston upon Thames	1	17	17	0	1	36
Richmond upon Thames	0	10	19	1	3	33
Other postcodes	3	18	27	5	10	63
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>447</b>

Table 6. Table showing respondent preference for high quality habitats, increased biodiversity or more new green open space according to geographic location

Of the respondents who provided a response to the question with postcodes within Spelthorne borough, 92 respondents highlighted that both suggestions are equally important to them. Thirty-seven (37) respondents stated their preference for more high quality habitats and increased biodiversity. Fourteen (14) respondents in this area stated their preference for more new green open spaces. Eighteen (18)

## Summary of findings from second consultation

respondents indicated that they didn't know their preference. Six respondents did not provide a response.

Respondents in Runnymede accounted for 83 responses received in relation to this question. Of those, 38 respondents noted the equal level of importance to be given to both proposals. Twenty seven (27) respondents indicated their preference for an high quality habitats and increased biodiversity and 12 indicated a preference for new green open spaces. Three (3) respondents didn't know their preference and 3 did not respond.

Sixty-five responses were received from postcodes within Elmbridge borough. Of these, 30 respondents expressed a preference for high quality habitats and increased biodiversity, 7 for new green open spaces and 24 that they felt these were equally important. One respondent indicated that they didn't know their preference and 3 did not respond.

One hundred and thirty-two responses were received from postcodes in other areas (including Kingston upon Thames and Richmond upon Thames). 4 respondents indicated that they preferred new green open spaces, 45 that they preferred more high quality habitats and increased biodiversity and 63 indicated that they considered these equally important. 6 respondents didn't know their preference, and 14 did not respond.

### Question 8b: Why do you say that?

**Figure 21** provides the breakdown of the key themes identified when respondents were asked to elaborate on their responses. A full breakdown of responses can be found in **Appendix S**. Responses were received from 280 respondents to this question.

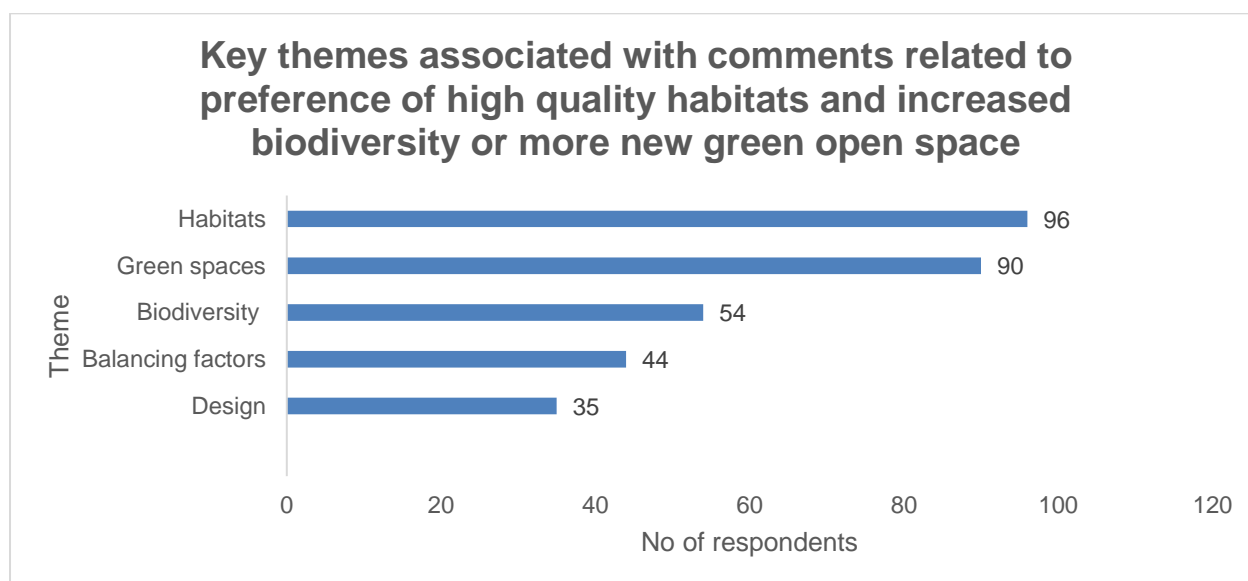


Figure 21. Bar chart showing breakdown of themes linked with habitats and biodiversity

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Habitats

The most popular theme associated with this response was related to habitats (96 respondents). Within this theme, respondents raised matters including the importance of the preservation of habitats for the environment (39 respondents), the importance of nature (15 respondents) and endangered habitats (11 respondents). Other responses mentioned the importance of wildlife (51 respondents), as well as the need to protect wildlife (7 respondents).

#### *Preservation of habitats is important*

Whilst the schemes proposals outline aspirations to create more habitats, some respondents stressed the need to preserve existing habitats as an important consideration for the environment (45 respondents). In some instances, respondents felt that the current habitats are sufficient, and the focus should be on improving the quality of these habitats.

*“All habitats are important, however these places also need to be maintained and looked after, habitats are important whether that be birds, bees or even human.”*  
RTS\_37

*“I think the priority is to use the spaces we have and to improve the quality of these habitats.”*  
RTS\_277

#### *Importance of nature*

Some respondents considered nature to be more important than suggestions to provide increased new green open spaces (15 respondents). Responses made reference to nature often being overlooked in favour of open spaces. Improvements to habitats and nature was seen as a catalyst for improvement of green open spaces.

*“We have a reasonable amount of green spaces as it is, more nature based habitats would improve the quality of green spaces.”*  
RTS\_316

*“Nature is quite often overlooked in favor of open spaces where ballgames etc can take place.”*  
RTS\_370

#### *Endangered habitats*

In common with responses to other questions, respondents reiterated their concern on the endangerment of habitats (11 respondents). Commenting that the destruction of these habitats limits opportunities for wildlife to thrive.

*“We need to protect our wildlife, too many habitats have been destroyed.”*  
RTS\_380

*“Increased biodiversity and high quality habitats is essential for wildlife who are ever losing more nature due to human construction/development”* RTS\_203

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### *Importance and Protection of wildlife*

The importance of wildlife was emphasised within the responses (58 respondents). Respondents were eager for wildlife to be meaningfully considered and protected as proposals are developed.

*“Supporting nature and wildlife is vital for our environment.”* RTS\_349

*“Wildlife should be the top priority - green spaces for us is a bonus.”* RTS\_423

*“Encouragement of wildlife is more of a priority.”* RTS\_217

### **Green spaces**

Ninety respondents explained their preference for new green spaces, including access to green spaces (38 respondents). However, 29 respondents stated their belief that there is enough existing green space. Twenty-one respondents stated the need for more green spaces. In some instances, the management of existing green spaces was criticised by respondents (11 respondents).

### *Access to green spaces*

Respondents identified that access to green spaces is considered important (17 respondents) and therefore is their preference. Respondents also suggested that access to green spaces might support in improving the wellbeing of the local community and encourage recreational use (24 respondents).

*“Children and pets need open spaces for games and exercise whilst improved habitats will increase the natural beauty of the area and encourage more outdoor activities.”* RTS\_82

*“It is important that there is public access to the green open spaces”* RTS\_15

*“Many people having many more green places to access means people are less stressed and it makes for a better society and environment for all of us.”* RTS\_376

### *Need for more green spaces*

Respondents commented on the need for additional green spaces (21 respondents). Whilst some argued that in providing these spaces the scheme facilitates opportunities for wildlife and habitats.

*“We need to provide increased green spaces and increased biodiversity, as well as access for us humans to interact.”* RTS\_36

*“There are not enough open green spaces and there has been a deterioration of the biodiversity.”* RTS\_374

*“If good open spaces are created then this can reduce pressure on new spaces for biodiversity”* RTS\_256



## Summary of findings from second consultation

Alternatively, whilst some respondents were advocating improved access to green spaces and the need for more green spaces, others felt that the proposed scheme area already has enough green spaces (29 respondents). In some instances, respondents suggested that green space was being created to the detriment of local wildlife and habitats.

*“I don't think we are short of green open space.”* RTS\_79

### *Green spaces contribute to wider scheme design*

For 12 respondents the provision of access to green spaces contributes to other factors being considered as part of the scheme design. They comment that improvement of access to green spaces enables communities to interact with their natural environment. Additionally, access to green open spaces can be seen to allow wildlife and habitats to flourish.

*“I think it's important to provide green spaces for people to enjoy, but to also provide habitats to encourage wildlife to live and flourish.”* RTS\_22

*“Improved green spaces together with biodiversity in turn creates habitat also. So they are all linked and dependent on each other”* RTS\_148

*“Both are equally important when creating green spaces or there isn't much point doing it. prioritising one over the other just won't work as well”* RTS\_19

### *Management of green spaces*

Those who currently interact with the natural environment along the proposed scheme route suggested a perceived lack of biodiversity management of the existing natural environment (11 respondents). They comment that the green spaces currently along the route have not been managed effectively with biodiversity at the forefront of action, resulting in lack of maintenance of the local biodiversity.

*“The green spaces we do have are not managed to sustain or increase biodiversity.”* RTS\_10

*“Many of the green open spaces along the river have not been managed sympathetically with biodiversity in mind; one or two or three species of tree/hedge is dominant.”* RTS\_277

### *Health*

Ten respondents identified health benefits associated with access to green spaces within the responses provided, including those related to mental health alongside wider wellbeing benefits.

*“Green spaces enable people to get outdoors and exercise and socialise which I feel is important for health and wellbeing.”* RTS\_157



## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“Many people having many more green places to access means people are less stressed and it makes for a better society and environment for all of us.”*

RTS\_376

### **Biodiversity**

Biodiversity was commonly raised in responses to this question (54 respondents), including the need to prioritise biodiversity (43 respondents). Sixteen responses outlined their concerns about biodiversity in the area, suggesting it's in a crisis. As a result, further education around biodiversity and its importance was suggested by 13 respondents.

*Biodiversity as a priority.*

Where respondents noted the need to prioritise biodiversity, they emphasised their desire to have this considered as part of the development of the scheme.

*“Increasing biodiversity should be a priority if needed”* RTS\_03

*“I think it is important that we encourage biodiversity”* RTS\_11

*“Biodiversity is under threat and anything that can be done, should be”*RTS\_199

### **Balancing factors**

Balancing the provision of green open spaces, the creation of habitats and increased biodiversity was mentioned by 44 respondents. Respondents highlighted that these factors were to be treated equally (34 respondents) and in some cases linked to one together (12 respondents).

*All factors are equal*

Respondents stated all the factors presented are equal (34 respondents) and balancing these factors is the best option when considering the scheme design (18 respondents) and the factors to be equally prioritised (18 respondents).

*“it's a good balance with more open spaces then we can expect more natural and introduced habitat”* RTS\_213

*“I have outlined above why I think green spaces are so important, but it is also crucial to increase our biodiversity, so I value them equally.”* RTS\_31

*All factors are linked together*

Some respondents suggested that all the factors presented are connected with each other ( 12 respondents).

*“There is a strong symbiosis between the 2 items - if you design the habitats well, there will be increased biodiversity over time and these can be used as open spaces as it were.”* RTS\_07

*“One compliments the other and widens the attraction on offer”* RTS\_152

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Design

Some respondents provided suggestions for factors to consider in relation to the scheme design (35 respondents).

*“It would be great to have a children’s play area by Cowey sale. Near the anglers and swan pubs there should be better cycle storage.”*      RTS\_159

*“Wetlands can mitigate the worst effects of flooding, so this is a ‘no-brainer’ for this scheme. Hedgerows have also suffered devastating decline so again, creating more hedgerow habitat is an obvious win.”*      RTS\_290

### 3.7. Additional comments on Scheme design

#### Question 9: Is there anything else we should take into account in our scheme design?

Figure 22 provides the summary of the top themes identified within the responses received to this question.

Three hundred and five (305) respondents provided additional suggestions when invited to identify anything else we should take into when developing the design of the scheme.

Appendix T provides the full breakdown of all themes discovered.

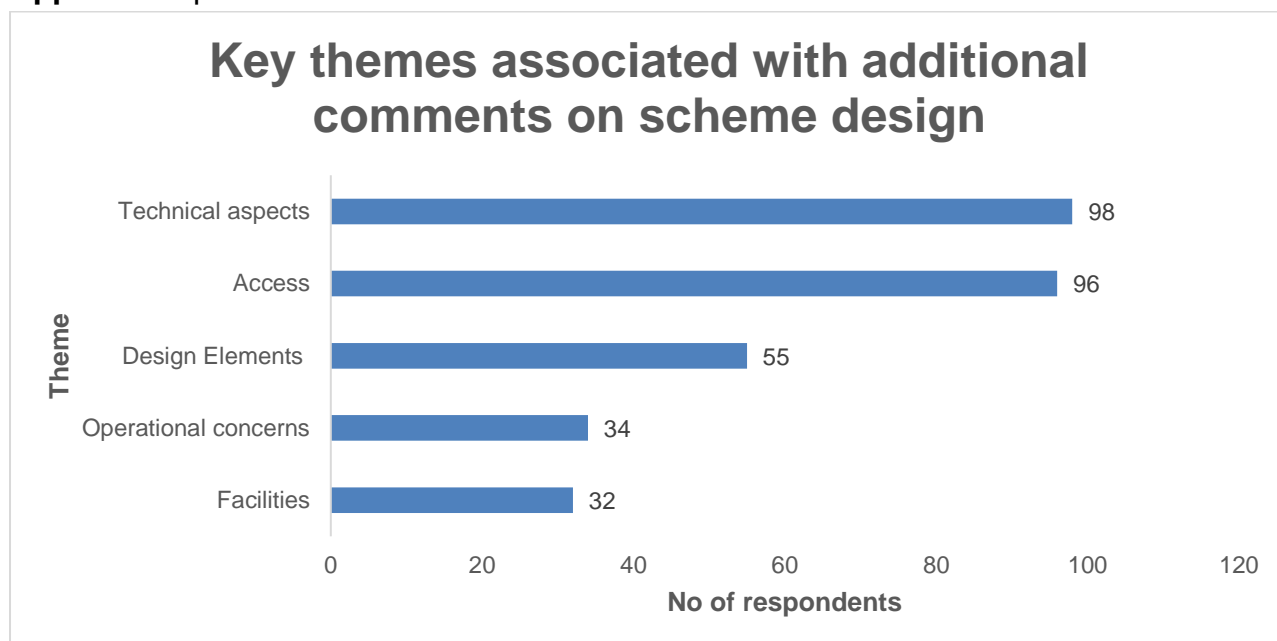


Figure 22. Bar chart showing breakdown of themes linked to additional comments on scheme design

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Technical aspects

Most responses received in relation to this question mentioned the technical aspects that respondents think should be considered further within the scheme design.

Comments included flood risk, flow and flood control, technical concerns about the scheme and dredging.

#### *Flood risk*

Some respondents mentioned matters related to flood risk (80 respondents). Whilst some identified that decreasing flood risk was important (40 respondents), others expressed concern over their perceived increase of a flood risk in other parts of the river (32 respondents). Respondents want the reduction of flood risk to remain a priority (32 respondents).

*“The primary aim of the scheme should be to reduce flooding”*      RTS\_16

*“When the Thames Barrier is no longer deployed to help prevent flooding in the upper tidal Thames in 2035, what effect will the current proposals have on flooding in this area?”*      RTS\_127

*“The proposed TFS looks good, but I do not know if it will help to reduce the flood risk to the residents of Stanwell Moor Village.”*      RTS\_67

#### *Flow and flood control*

This issue was mentioned by 18 respondents, with comments relating to an improvement of flood control (11 respondents) making up over half of the responses received.

Respondents mentioned that they would prefer for riverbanks to be raised along the scheme (4 respondents), with the hope that improvements will improve flow capacity (3 respondents)

*“The flow will be increased when it reaches the Thames.”*      RTS\_128

*“This is probably the most beneficial design inclusion that would create a 24/7 positive from the scheme. Flood alleviation should be very infrequent.”*  
RTS\_335

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### *Technical concerns about the scheme*

Some respondents raised concerns about the scheme (32 respondents), including challenges surrounding existing open spaces, uncertainty over its effectiveness and the length of time it has taken to progress proposals.

*“Some of the agreed public open space and rights of way still have not been registered nor is open to the public”* RTS\_108

*“Also concerned about landfill sites and poisonous gasses from any digging”* RTS\_173

*“The concern is that in times of severe flooding (which is when we need the River Thames scheme most), that this is when the measures taken to assist with discharge of the flood water by the addition of new sluices will be least effective.”* RTS\_226

### **Access**

The second most popular theme related to additional comments regarding the scheme design concerned access (96 respondents), including increased accessibility and access during construction.

#### *Access for water users*

Access for water users was mentioned by 36 respondents. Responses suggested that respondents want to ensure that the scheme provides access for water-based activities (30 respondents) such as canoeing, boating and kayaking. Others requested that the scheme facilitates access for fishing (9 respondents) and some highlighted a need to keep the lakes within the scheme accessible for swimming (4 respondents).

*“If one of the ponds could be used for people to use for open water swimming, I think it would improve diversity of the plan”* RTS\_351

*“Safe access points to the water for recreation would be nice too.”* RTS\_116

*“Provisions for fishing would be of further benefit.”* RTS\_200

*“Access points to the river for water sports.”* RTS\_64

*“Access to recreational users on the water - canoes, kayaks and paddle boards - needs to be thought about up front.”* RTS\_84

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### *Access during construction*

The need to maintain access during construction was raised (by 13 respondents). Of these, 10 respondents wanted to ensure that access to the river was maintained during the construction phase of the scheme and 3 respondents expressed access was also extended to pedestrians and cyclists during this phase.

*“I would like to re-emphasise the need for careful and sympathetic design of the construction process to minimise disturbance to the footbridge and its associated feeder network of riverside paths and access to the green spaces across the river.”*

*RTS\_294*

*“The impact of the roads and transport will need to be considered carefully during construction.”*

*RTS\_337*

### **Design Elements**

Comments related to design elements were identified within 55 of the responses received. Various scheme suggestions were offered, as well as a request for the project team to collaborate with experts in designing the scheme. Once again, comments were raised regarding the provision of open spaces.

### *Scheme suggestions*

Thirty-nine respondents provided scheme-wide suggestions. In some instances, respondents wanted learning from other flood relief schemes to inform the thinking of the River Thames Scheme. Some provided design-related suggestions such as an additional channel, additional green spaces and wetlands and improvement works to additional reservoirs.

*“I’d like progress on the former reservoir in west Molesey”*

*RTS\_228*

*“I think the Jubilee River is an excellent example of such a scheme and should inform thinking for the proposed river channels in Runnymede and Spelthorne.”*

*RTS\_02*

*“Purchase seething wells to create wetlands and more green space for the community.”*

*RTS\_350*

*“possible deepening of the river around the backwaters of islands down stream of Sunbury weir to increase flow in the low lying valley section”*

*RTS\_419*

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“perhaps an additional channel parallel to the Thames on the south side might work?”* RTS\_334

### *Working with experts*

Six respondents were keen for the project team to cooperate with experts on the design of the scheme, suggesting that, where possible, both subject matter experts and key stakeholders should be consulted as part of the design process.

*“Other than that, the most important thing would be to consult with relevant professionals including ecologists, arboriculturists, engineers etc.”* RTS\_04

*“The Greater London Authority and Transport for London should be consulted as the design of the scheme is developed.”* RTS\_402

*“In addition to bio-diversity experts, consult historians and archaeologists in the design and construction”* RTS\_216

### *Open spaces*

Five respondents expressed the need for the provision of open spaces containing a variety of features and landscapes.

*“Open spaces should be designed to include variety of landscapes such as the wooded, wilded and lush.”* RTS\_420

*“Maybe areas for coffee shop or cafes, well maintained toilets, seating areas”* RTS\_148

*“Ensure wet areas too, not just grass field or woods. Areas for exploring Indoor and outdoor education”* RTS\_391

## **Operational concerns**

Thirty-four respondents mentioned operational concerns. Concerns raised related to river management and flood risk.

### *River management*

Respondents highlighted the need to manage the assets related to the river properly, prioritising flood control and river management (27 respondents), regular monitoring and maintenance of the river and supporting assets. However, respondents are aware that responsibility for the river was shared between several bodies.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“The primary aim of the scheme should be to reduce flooding and improve river management. Local weirs are often choked with debris and plant growth -this should be cleared on an annual basis, preferably late summer early autumn before river levels and water flow increases.”* RTS\_16

*“The design must include careful thought about how the scheme will be operated and by whom.”* RTS\_359

### Flood risk

Ten respondents made comments related to flood risk, with focus on ensuring the scheme provides effective flood management.

*“Just focus on providing an effective flood relief solution.”* RTS\_194

### Facilities

The provision of facilities was mentioned by 32 participants, with respondents highlighting the need for facilities to support water infrastructure, recreation and rubbish disposal.

### Water infrastructure

Thirteen respondents requested the inclusion of canoe chutes (9 respondents) and safe swimming areas (4 respondents) when considering additional elements of the scheme design.

*“The scheme should not negatively impact the use of Shepperton Open Water Swim facility. It is a unique facility in the area and well attended.”* RTS\_440

*“Our club would like to see access to canoeing even if it means portage at certain places. Our club beneficiaries will also benefit for accessible jetties located at the lakes”* RTS\_374

*“Combined fish and canoe passes over or around any weirs or control sluices. See the river Medway canoe trail to show how well these can work.”* RTS\_55

### Recreation

Respondents are keen for recreation-related facilities to be explored further as part of the scheme design. Where possible, the provision of picnic areas (5 respondents),

## Summary of findings from second consultation

beaches (2 respondents) and playgrounds (1 respondent) were recommended to be incorporated in the design.

*“Include the Molesey Reservoirs into the scheme, and create beach areas along Hurst Park”* RTS\_314

*“Areas for children to explore and have fun, something which is currently lacking in parts of the area currently (Egham to Chertsey)”* RTS\_126

*“Provide bathrooms at recreation/picnic areas, benches along the main paths”* RTS\_28

### *Maintaining a clean environment*

The provision of suitable management of rubbish to maintain a clean environment was mentioned by 7 respondents. Respondents are keen to ensure there are sufficient rubbish (5 respondents) and recycling bins (3 respondents), as well as bins specially designated for dog waste (2 respondents).

*“Provide adequate public bins especially dog poo bins and empty bins on a regular basis.”* RTS\_440

*“Sufficient litter bins along any paths used by walkers and cyclists, as well as signs encouraging people to take their litter home with them.”* RTS\_118

### **Other themes**

Participants also identified additional suggestions in relation to the scheme design, including comments surrounding green spaces (22 respondents), habitats (22 respondents), sustainability (12 respondents) and costs associated with the scheme.

### **3.8. Approach to construction**

#### **Question 10: Is there anything we should take into account in our approach to construction?**

Three hundred and thirty four (334) respondents chose to provide comments on the schemes approach to construction when invited to do so.

**Figure 23** provides the breakdown of the key themes raised in relation to the approach to construction. A full breakdown of themes can be found in **Appendix U**



## Summary of findings from second consultation

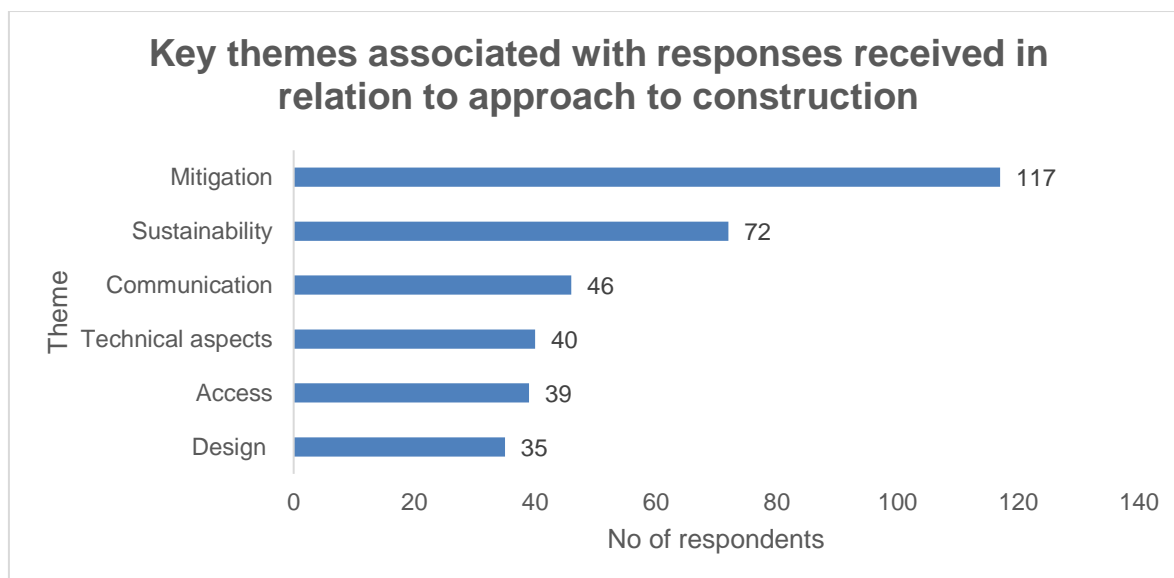


Figure 23. Bar chart showing breakdown of themes linked to approach to construction

### Mitigation

Mitigation was the most popular issue in relation to the approach to construction. One hundred and seventeen (117) respondents raised matters such as the minimisation of traffic disruption, environmental impacts and mitigation measures.

#### *Minimising traffic disruption*

The minimisation of traffic disruption from construction traffic to local communities during the construction phase was mentioned by 40 respondents. Some recommended redirecting construction-related traffic to the river to alleviate pressure on the road network.

*“Use the river as much as possible to reduce road traffic”* RTS\_110

*“It is inevitable that construction will create major disruption to the local area, but please minimise closure of existing roads and footpaths.”* RTS\_136

*“Management of construction traffic to minimise local impact.”* RTS\_227

#### *Environmental impacts*

The impact of construction related activities on the environment was mentioned by 39 respondents. Respondents want to ensure that the impact on both wildlife and the environment are well considered.

*“Only to make sure that areas under construction take into account the local habitat and wildlife”* RTS\_336

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“Be aware of potential secondary environmental impacts (e.g. carbon footprint of material and emissions from machinery) and use as many nature-based interventions as possible.”* RTS\_344

### Mitigation measures

Suggestions for the mitigation of potential impacts during construction were made by 36 respondents. These included minimising disruption to road users (20 respondents), minimising community impact (10 respondents) and the provision of information about planned mitigation measures (2 respondents).

*“Keeping the public informed about progress and precautions.”* RTS\_279

*“Please honour the construction principles you have outlined in the consultation documentation”* RTS\_118

*“Stagger the construction to avoid as little disruption as possible.”* RTS\_412

### Sustainability

Seventy-two (72) respondents raised the role of sustainability in the schemes approach to construction. They feel/ felt that the scheme should use sustainably sourced and repurposed materials in construction and, where possible, the river should be used to transport materials to reduce the use of lorries.

#### Use of sustainable materials

Twenty-six (26) respondents urged the scheme to embrace the use of sustainable materials during the construction process of the scheme. Thirteen (13) suggested that materials used were to be repurposed where applicable and the use of recycled and renewable materials encouraged.

*“Using green/recycled building materials where possible”* RTS\_102

*“Use of sustainable materials where possible.”* RTS\_164

*“This includes maximising the recycling/re-use of excavated materials and demolition arisings.”* RTS\_283

#### Transporting construction materials

Fourteen (14) respondents suggested the use of the river to transport materials and 12 the reduction in the use of lorries during the construction period.

*“Use the river for materials transport where possible.”* RTS\_106

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“Construction inevitably involves numerous lorry movements, but is there scope for transport of materials to and from the site by water?”*      *RTS\_369*

*“Use of the river as far as possible for delivery of materials - minimise lorry movements”*      *RTS\_58*

### Communication

Forty-six (46) respondents commented that communication should be maintained during the construction process

*Engaging with the community.*

Fifteen (15) said communities should be kept informed about potential disruption in advance of proposed works and want the project team to engage with the community as well during this period and during the project lifecycle.

*“Full information on works including timings should be accessible to neighbours”*      *RTS\_281*

*“Keep people informed of developments”*      *RTS\_129*

The importance of engagement during the construction process was highlighted by 11 respondents, including 7 respondents who said they want regular communication with residents and 2 who said that the project team should engage with neighbouring project teams.

*“With the huge amount of construction in the Shepperton area from The Studios and Esso Pipeline a continuous flow of information, consultation and how/why work is being done and when is vital. I'm sure that will become apparent to you if not already!!”*      *RTS\_121*

*“Communicate, communicate, communicate... progress, river restrictions, etc. via Gov.uk as well as more directly via the River Users Group (Thames RUG8).”*      *RTS\_77*

### Technical aspects

Technical aspects of the scheme were also mentioned in relation to considerations for the construction approach by 46 respondents, including flood risk related concerns.

*Flood risk*

Flood risk during the construction phase was raised as a concern by 37 respondents, including the mitigation of flood risk by 31 and concern over increased flood risk in other parts of the river by 8 respondents.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“Before construction flooding is priority, proper sewage etc are vital, that is why I am suffering this floods, I have been directly affected and was not aware of these problems when I bought my house”* RTS\_410

*“Not making things worse for the communities in Datchet, Wraysbury and Old Windsor”* RTS\_166

### Access

Access related matters were mentioned by 39 respondents in response to this question. Access during construction, access for water users and general access-related matters were raised.

#### *Access during construction*

Eighteen (18) respondents asked for access to the river to be maintained during the construction phases of the scheme. Additionally, 11 respondents indicated the need for the provision of access for pedestrians and cyclists during this phase.

*“Be considerate and cause minimum of disruption to river traffic. River and locks to remain open, especially during the boating season”* RTS\_441

*“Ensure that existing footpaths and bridleways remain open during works.”* RTS\_185

#### *General comments in relation to access*

Four respondents made general comments regarding access. Maintaining (non-motorised) accessibility was made by 3 and connecting both sides of the river by 1.

*“Ensure that existing footpaths and bridleways remain open during works.”* RTS\_287

*“Yes .... plan more river crossings for pedestrians and cyclist traffic”* RTS\_183

### Design

Thirty-five (35) respondents raised comments on the proposed scheme design as a factor that will influence how construction is carried out.

*“This includes maximising the recycling/re-use of excavated materials and demolition arisings. Opportunities taken to remediate polluted aquatic and terrestrial assets.”* RTS\_283

*“Bridges being constructed over the channels need to have a suitable air draft for canoes/kayaks to pass underneath in both augmented flow and flood flow. Where this isn't possible then there should be landings either side and suitable portage routes constructed to enable easy passage.”* RTS\_447

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“It would seem essential that any spoil from the RTS construction process should and must be removed from the area affected and disposed of outside of the River Thames Flood Zone 3 area not subject to flooding or inundation.”*  
RTS\_362

### Other themes

Other comments received in relation to construction approached suggested consideration to be given to implementing hydropower generation opportunities the scheme presents (3 respondents). Additionally, matters in relation to safety during the construction process was raised by 8 respondents.

### 3.9. Additional considerations

**Question: Finally, is there anything else you think we should consider as we develop our proposals for the River Thames Scheme further**

The most common themes identified within responses are shown in **Figure 24**. Three hundred and twenty-three (323) respondents provided responses to this question. A full breakdown of the theme library for this question can be found in **Appendix V**.

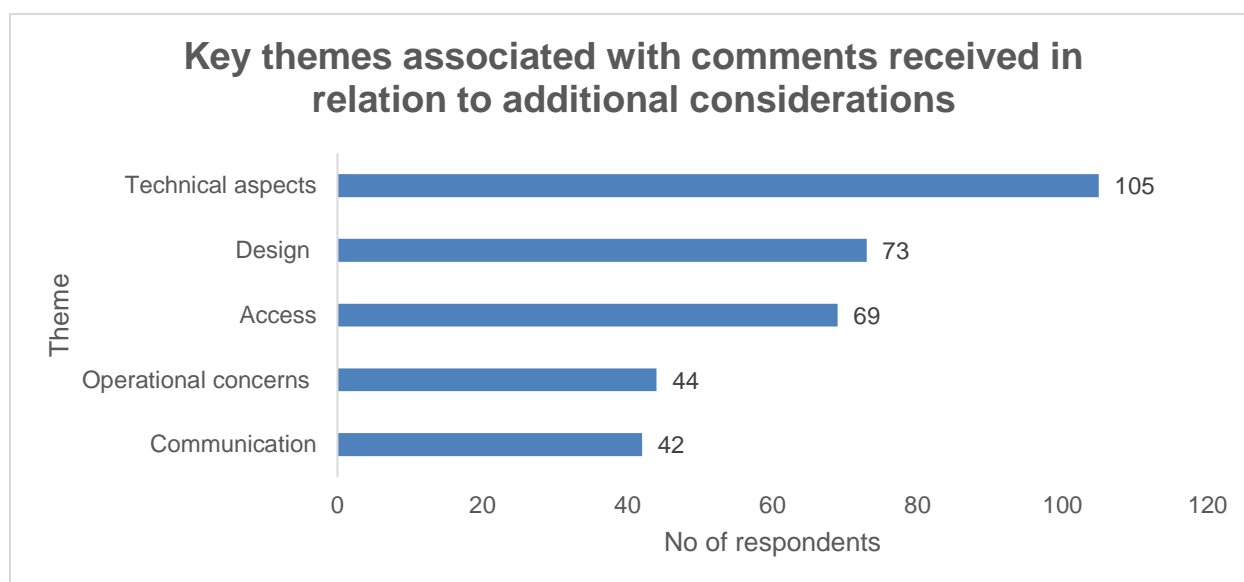


Figure 24. Bar chart showing breakdown of themes linked to additional considerations

### Technical aspects

Technical aspects were the most common theme within 105 respondent responses(s), including comments about flood risk, dredging, and flow and flood control.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### *Flood risk*

Where participants mentioned flood risk (98 respondents), topics such as the importance of decreasing flood risk (45 respondents), concern over increased flood risk in other parts (43 respondents), giving priority to decreasing flood risk (37 respondents) and flood alleviation (27 respondents) were raised.

*“Impact down river in Sunbury, Twickenham and Richmond”* RTS\_106

*“We need to be able to stop flooding in all circumstances.”* RTS\_303

*“It should not be unduly delayed; flood protection is a major consideration”*  
RTS\_18

*“Flood risk should be given higher priority in the Wheatley’s Eyot area.”*  
RTS\_418

### *Dredging*

Dredging as a potential solution to current challenges experienced along the river was mentioned with responses received from 9 times in respondents.

*“Dredge the river”* RTS\_130

*“I am worried about the Datchet and Wraysbury being dropped and think you should dredge the River Thames as you would have done years ago.”* RTS\_389

*“Dredging technology has improved that allows for the upper layers of the riverbed to be maintained and returned. Nor are we bound by EU policy.”*  
RTS\_427

## **Design**

Design-related topics were the second most popular theme in responses to this question (73 respondents), including scheme-based suggestions (67 respondents) and the need to work with local groups as part of the development of proposals (4 respondents).

### *Scheme-based suggestions*

Sixty seven respondents provided scheme-based suggestions included increasing capacity of additional weirs, the addition of Seething Wells as a wildlife area and improvements to existing riverbanks.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

*“The Molesey riverbank would be much improved if the concrete block banks were removed and beaches were allowed to form naturally.”* RTS\_327

*“Buy seething wells and bring a whole new green area to the Surbiton community”* RTS\_350

*“As mentioned earlier, consider a purpose built channel in the fields to the south of Walton Road (instead of lowering the river bed).”* RTS\_440

*“Given that Chertsey Weir already causes the river to backup above it, because it is smaller than the weirs up and down stream of it, and with the introduction of floodwaters via the Burway & Abbey River, I would have expected the Weir to have been made larger to increase its capacity.”*  
RTS\_396

### Access

Access was mentioned with responses received from 69 respondents. Access to the river and access for water users were amongst the most common responses received in relation to this theme, as well as access during construction.

#### *Access for water users*

Water users are keen for access to the river to be maintained (26 respondents) as the scheme advances. Respondents want to ensure access is maintained for water-based activities (19 respondents); water users (3 respondents) and other activities such as fishing (3 respondents); and that lakes remain available for swimming (2 respondents).

*“If water activity groups are to genuinely use the water course for recreation the ability to navigate the from the main river Thames, through the new navigation and back onto the Thames is essential.”* RTS\_361

*“Please allow access to the new bodies of water to unpowered boat craft (Canoes & Kayaks).”* RTS\_90

*“Plan for watersports that could also benefit from these new waterways... Rowing clubs /outdoor swimming etc should all be built into the plans....”*  
RTS\_328

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### *Access during construction*

Respondents encouraged the maintenance of access to the river during the construction phase (9 respondents). Where works might affect river users, they want to ensure that the current level of access is maintained.

*“Keeping the river open to boaters during constructions works.” RTS\_341*

*“Please take the keep the river open and navigable during construction.”  
RTS\_417*

### **Operational concerns**

Forty-four (44) comments relating to operational concerns predominantly focused on river management, flood risk and land take. These respondents see flood control and river management as a priority and want to ensure the scheme provides effective flood management. Some respondents discussed the issues surrounding land take and compulsory purchases.

### *River management and flood control*

Some respondents identified flood control and river management as a priority to be considered as the scheme design develops (30 respondents).

*“Firstly, to stop flooding and secondly to use that opportunity for further good.”  
RTS\_08*

*“Keep the rivers clean.” RTS\_347*

*“There is an urgent need for the management of the predicted higher levels of flooding.” RTS\_55*

### *Flood risk*

Twenty (20) respondents discussed matters related to flood risk within responses. Respondents state that they want the scheme to provide effective flood management. Some respondents noted the operation of the final scheme must be considered at this formative stage, to ensure that the scheme can effectively cope with any potential flooding event or system component failure. Additionally, respondents identified the urgent need for flood management, especially due to the predicted risk of higher levels of flooding. Comments were made regarding the provision of an integrated scheme monitoring and control room to support in the provision of effective flood management.



## Summary of findings from second consultation

### *Land take and compulsory purchase*

Reference was made to proposed land take and compulsory purchase negotiations currently taking place (4 respondents).

### **Communication**

In common with previous questions, respondents asked for regular communications about works taking place and scheme progress (42 respondents), in addition to regular engagement with local communities and subject matter experts.

### *Engaging with local communities*

Respondents emphasised ensuring local communities are informed about the scheme and proposed impact of works, including potential disruption (25 respondents).

*“Ensure that communication of progress is consistent and timely.”* RTS\_161

*“Sometimes good old-fashioned brochures are very useful - if you going to ‘disrupt’ roads/routes etc.”* RTS\_197

*“Information on timetables and work camp locations and material storage need be provided sooner rather than later any plans to remove land fill need to be identified up front final proposals on locations / types of green space need to be provided and a local impact consultation should take place”* RTS\_230

Respondents are also eager to be engaged throughout this process (11 respondents) not only through communication with individual residents (6 respondents), but with through their wider communities (5 respondents).

*“Keep the residents involved”* RTS\_186

*“I trust you will continue to consult & involve the local communities, especially in the areas where the new flood channels will bring major change.”* RTS\_209

*“Invite local people to view it as its being constructed to keep them engaged.”* RTS\_216

### *Working with experts*

Eight (8) respondents highlighted the need to engage with experts and local groups as part of the scheme development process. Requests were made for the project team to engage with experts from Sustrans, British Canoeing, local fishing and

## Summary of findings from second consultation

kayaking clubs, mental health organisations and charities for those who experience disabilities in order to build a fit for purpose scheme.

### Other themes

Comments were made regarding the impact of the scheme by 20 respondents, particularly around flow impact, impact on homes and communities and impact on the recreational use of the river. Safety related concerns were identified within the responses by 19 respondents. Water safety, flood risk and safety for river users were a cause for concern for respondents.

### 3.10. Consultation

One hundred (100) respondents discussed matters related to the consultation process and information provided within their responses. Thirty-one respondents suggested more information was needed relating to the consultation proposals presented. Additional information was requested outlining the channel design and flood modelling scenarios. Requests were made for data to be updated to reflect the scheme changes at subsequent consultations. Further technical details were requested regarding flow rates and cost benefit of the scheme presented.

*“I attended your meeting and was surprised by the lack of clarity and information you could provide on the day”* RTS\_280

*“Not really any information given on what impacts this may have”* RTS\_53

*“I don’t fully understand the details of the proposed scheme”* RTS\_197

### 3.11. Key findings from feedback form responses

The following section summarises the key findings from the responses received to all questions via the feedback form.

#### Desborough Cut riverbed lowering

Of the 447 responses received, 247 respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the proposed approach to lower the riverbed downstream from Desborough Cut, with some respondents going on to suggest that the lowering of the riverbed at this location could result in improvement in flow capacity and flood control in the area.

Twenty (20) respondents indicated their disagreement with the approach presented. Other respondents stressed the need to consider dredging as a solution to the challenges faced in the area. Decreasing flood risk remained a priority; however, a lack of certainty in the effectiveness of this proposal was expressed. The potential for

## Summary of findings from second consultation

both upstream and downstream impact was identified, with concerns that the improved flow capacity in this location will have detrimental effects downstream and does nothing to address challenges experienced upstream. Despite concerns raised, the majority of respondents expressed support for this proposal and its role in alleviating flood risk at Desborough Cut.

### **Balancing access to new green open spaces, connection with wildlife and more sustainable travel network**

When asked to indicate which factors is most valued, respondents identified access to new green open spaces as the factor valued most and to be prioritised as part of the design process. Connection to wildlife was the second most valued factor closely followed by a more sustainable travel network.

Benefits related to the provision of access to these new green open spaces were identified by respondents, with opportunities to boost the local area and the health benefits associated with accessibility to these spaces. Improved access to these new green open spaces was viewed to be a foundation for the promotion of other factors such as access to wildlife and habitats, as well as health and wellbeing related benefits.

Reducing flood risk remained a priority for respondents. Respondents outlined their desire to ensure that flooding incidents are less frequent and flood alleviation remains a priority, regardless of the other elements of the scheme. Concern extended beyond the scheme area, with comments raised over the potential for increased flood risk in other areas, both because of impacts of proposed improvements and likelihood of increased flooding events.

### **Balancing more new green open space, high quality habitats and increased biodiversity**

Two hundred and seventeen (217) respondents thought the provision of high-quality habitats and increased biodiversity was equally as important as providing more new green open space. However, 139 respondents indicated their sole preference for more high-quality habitats and increased biodiversity. And 37 respondents indicated their preference for new green open spaces. When asked to explain the reasons behind their preferred factor, respondents highlighted the need to preserve habitats and protect wildlife whilst also providing new green open space. Those who identified their preference for the provision of high-quality habitats and increased biodiversity felt habitats were often overlooked in favour of green open spaces. Improvements to habitats and biodiversity was seen as a catalyst for improvement of green open spaces.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Construction approach

Through open- text comments, respondents discussed their desired approaches to construction and the need to consider appropriate mitigation measures.

Respondents requested measures to be put in place to minimise disruption during the construction process. Where possible, road related traffic should experience minimum disruptions because of construction related traffic. Respondents encouraged the scheme to consider the use of the river to facilitate the movement of materials. Respondents also mentioned their desires to be kept well informed and engaged through relevant communication channels during construction.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### 4. Other Responses Received

The tables below present the summaries of the written feedback received by letter or email. In total 40 responses were received in these formats, from both organisations and community groups, and public.

#### 4.1. Statutory responses and community groups

15 organisations and community groups provided their feedback via written response. The table below summarises these responses.

Organisation/Group Name	Summary of response
Local authorities (combined response from: Surrey County Council, Runnymede Borough Council, Spelthorne Borough Council, Elmbridge Borough Council)	<p>The stakeholder requested more detailed information to provide informed feedback especially on environmental impacts, sensitivity of design, impact of the scheme, alternative route options and their assessment methods. They also requested sharing the documents from the heritage investigations that were made during the previous consultation process and suggested that climate change issue should be included in the EIA.</p> <p>The stakeholder stated that the RTS scheme should be aligned with the local documents and policies such as the Minerals and Waste Local Plans, Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans, Local Plans, Spelthorne Borough Council Core Strategy and Policies Development Plan Document, Surrey County Council Local Transport Plan 4.</p> <p>The stakeholder expressed support for the new public facilities, sustainable transport routes, habitat creation and tree planting with consideration of the local context.</p> <p>The stakeholder expressed several concerns over different elements of the scheme including lorry movements, road traffic impact, access to the river during construction, and possible large landforms added as a part of habitat creation as they would destroy the natural flat landscape.</p> <p>The stakeholder also suggested further consideration of several issues such as impacts of lowering the riverbed in terms of fish passage and sediment movement, impact on South West London Waterbodies SPA, habitats and species, provision of free animal movements via green bridges or similar solutions, non-flood water levels in context of potential stagnation of water and health and</p>

## Summary of findings from second consultation

	<p>wellbeing of people in the context of habitat and new green spaces creation.</p> <p>The stakeholder welcomes further engagement and technical workshops with the team.</p>
Quay West Management Company	<p>The stakeholder expressed support for the general scope of the scheme for flood alleviation and also for the other goals of the RTS, such as improved access to green open spaces; creating habitat/enhancing biodiversity; facilitating sustainable economic growth; and contributing to climate goals/carbon use. In addition, the stakeholder expressed concern over gates at Teddington Weir due to visual impact and impact on the marina pontoon/jetty and suggested considering re-siting the gates. Other mentioned issues included the functionality of Teddington Weir and possible impact on Richmond Lock and the suggestion to keep Teddington Lock Island inaccessible to the general public to protect the fauna and flora there.</p>
Natural England	<p>The stakeholder requested some additional considerations of impacts on Thorpe Haye Meadow SSSI and South West London Waterbodies SPA, including indirect and construction impacts. Additional, consideration of functionally linked land (FLL) impacts in relation to the lakes outside the South West London Waterbodies SPA and Ramsar was suggested.</p>
Thames Water	<p>The stakeholder provided comments on wider impacts of the scheme focusing mostly on drought risk and further cooperation with the RTS team on flood risk mitigation.</p>
Kingston Society	<p>The stakeholder suggested including the Seething Wells Filter Beds in the scheme as an area of habitat enhancement.</p>
Purley Canoe Club	<p>The stakeholder expressed general support for the scheme objectives. The main concern for the stakeholder is potential extinguishing of the public right of navigation, which they opposed. The stakeholder requested also providing the suitable infrastructure for launching and landing of paddlesport craft.</p>
Canoe Camping Club	<p>The stakeholder expressed objection towards extinguishing of public rights of navigation.</p>
Affinity Water	<p>The stakeholder provided comments and recommendations on groundwater impact and requested additional modelling and investigations to be done before submission of the Environmental Statement.</p>

## Summary of findings from second consultation

The Creek & Wheatleys Eyot Residents Association	The stakeholder mentioned experiencing previous flooding and expressed concern that the scheme will increase the flood risk in their area. The stakeholder also expressed concerns over the scheme design, mentioned lack of detail information in the consultation materials and stated they were not informed about the consultation.
Spelthorne Natural History Society	The stakeholder provided comments and questions on several topics within the scheme including hydraulic modelling, flood alleviation, access, ecology and leisure activities. The stakeholder also expressed general support for the scheme.
Transition Town Kingston – Energy Group	The stakeholder suggested implementing hydropower solutions within the scheme.
Laleham Residents Association	The stakeholder expressed general support for the scheme and requested further communication and engagement in the future. The stakeholder also expressed concern over traffic impact and access during construction and suggested providing a point of contact for complaints during construction.
Staines Boat Club	The stakeholder expressed concern over the scheme's impact on their clubhouse located in Staines and requested more detailed information about the scheme.
Sunbury Court Island Residents Association	The stakeholder mentioned previous flooding experience and expressed concern over impact of the scheme on Sunbury Court Island.
MP Runnymede and Weybridge	The respondent expressed general support for the scheme and its objectives and requested timely delivering of the scheme.

Table 6. Table showing breakdown of responses received from statutory stakeholders and community groups

### 4.2. Public Responses

25 responses were received via email from members of the public. Summary of each response is included in the table below. No letters were received from members of the public.

Response ID	Summary of response
RTSN1004	The respondent recognised the lack of ongoing dredging and keeping waterways clear along with the building on floodplains as the main reasons for flooding. The respondent expressed concern over flood levels in the channels and the possibility of the channels overflowing.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

RTSNNSC1005	The respondent expressed concern over possible back flow up Meadlake Ditch and suggested provision of a shallow ditch into Abbey Meads to allow a complete full loop for unpowered craft. Concern over possible flooding at the Thorpe Lakes system and Bourne River was also mentioned, as well as Egham Hythe area. The respondent stated also that consultation materials should include more detailed maps.
RTSNNSC1009	The respondent objected to any solutions that will reduce the current access to waterways for the public and mentioned the problem with invasive species. The respondent suggested engagement with the local water sports clubs.
RTSNNSC1014	The respondent expressed concern over increased flooding risk in the Chertsey and Shepperton area and requested providing a practical proposal for the stretch between the Spelthorne Channel outfall and the start of riverbed lowering.
RTSNNSC1016	The respondent suggested including the Seething Wells Filter Beds in the scheme as an area of habitat enhancement.
RTSNNSC1017	The respondent mentioned previous flooding experience and expressed concern over building on floodplains, and impact of the scheme on increasing risk flood downstream. The respondent suggested the possibility of implementing hydropower solutions into the scheme.
RTSNNSC1018	The respondent provided comments on the flood channels' capacity to store water, lowering the riverbed and differences in the scheme compared to previous consultation. The respondent expressed concern over increased flooding in Sunbury and stated lack of detailed information to provide feedback.
RTSNNSC1020	The respondent mentioned experiencing the flood previously and expressed concern that the proposed solutions do not seem realistic. The respondent suggested dredging the river and clearing it from overgrown vegetation.
RTSNNSC1022	The respondent stated that consultation end date is missing on the website.
RTSNNSC1023	The respondent provided comments on the complex river risk management strategy, modelling data, drainage system and related new developments - both residential & non-residential.
RTSNNSC1024	The respondent stated that some information on the maps are missing or are unclear and asked questions on Abbey Meads and Abbey Lakes design elements.



## Summary of findings from second consultation

RTSNASC1026	The respondent expressed concern over risk flood to Stanwell Moor residents.
RTSNASC1027	The respondent expressed general support for the scheme and flood alleviation. The respondent provided some detailed information about preferred access, design (signage, litter bins) and maintenance. The respondent stated that flood map in consultation materials is unreadable.
RTSNASC1028	The respondent requested information whether the River Bourne is within the RTS scope.
RTSNASC1029	The respondent asked about consultation report publishing and if it will be possible to receive the report by email.
RTSNASC1030	The respondent requested additional information about flood risk downstream of Desborough Cut, maintenance of a tributary river at Tumbling Bay Weir, verification of modelling data.
RTSNASC1031	The respondent mentioned they received the consultation letter informing them about the scheme and the consultation meetings too late to attend one. The respondent stated that they have experienced the flooding in the past, and therefore asked about expected timeline for delivering the scheme, as they are worried it may not be in the near future.
RTSNASC1032	The respondent raised the problem of flooding from the Creek on Wheatley's Eyot and suggested to take this into consideration and possibly include in the scope or in joined works.
RTSNASC1033	The respondent requested more information about design for Teddington Weir and its possible impact on the Teddington Riverside Development.
RTSNASC1034	The respondent requested more detailed information about what the scheme includes and its impacts.
RTSNASC1035	The respondent requested more detailed information what about the scheme includes and what are the impacts. The respondent also stated there are differences between consultation letter received and information on the website.
RTSNASC1036	The respondent mentioned they received the consultation letter informing them about the scheme and the consultation meetings too late to attend one, and therefore asked if another meeting in Staines will be organised. The respondent asked also about possibility of implementing hydropower solutions into the scheme.
RTSNASC1037	The respondent expressed concern over potential new development on floodplains near Laleham Lake and requested information whether such developments are planned.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

RTSN1038	The respondent asked about possibility of implementing hydropower solutions within the scheme and asked about current works undertaken on the land north of Renfrey Way.
RTSN1040	The respondent requested information about link between Thorpe Park Lake and St Annas Lake and navigation along the new channel. The respondent requested also further explanations of previously received response as it was not clearly understandable for them and was different from the response received on the consultation event.

Table 7. Table showing summary of public emails

### 4.3. Matters raised

All of these matters will be considered by the project team as part of the development of the scheme.

Responses to matters raised will be set out in a future report once full consideration has been undertaken.

## 5. Next steps

Following the analysis of feedback received during the second public consultation for the River Thames Scheme, engagement will continue with stakeholders to assist in the design process. A further consultation will be held in late 2023.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### 6. Appendices

#### Appendix A- Consultation brochure



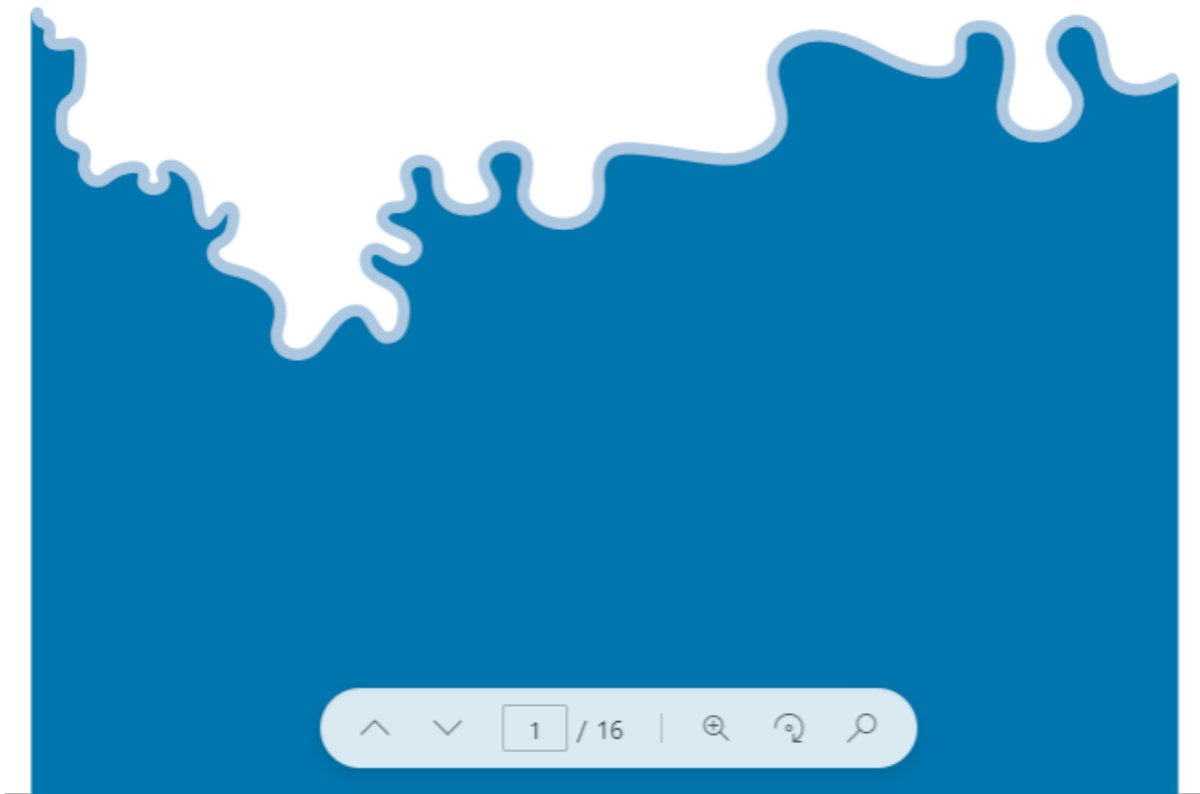
## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix B- Consultation feedback form



# Feedback Form

**River Thames Scheme Consultation**  
**8 November – 20 December 2022**



# Summary of findings from second consultation

## Appendix C- Exhibition boards



**Public Consultation**  
8 November – 20 December 2022



### Welcome

**Welcome to the River Thames Scheme consultation.**

We have been developing ideas for the River Thames Scheme since 2009. Our ideas build on information and feedback that we have gathered through consultations in 2009 and 2016, technical studies and ongoing engagement with stakeholders.

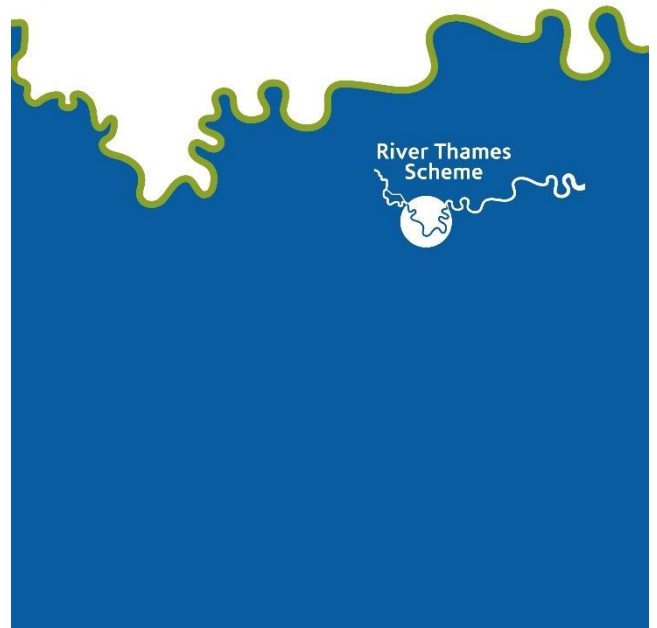
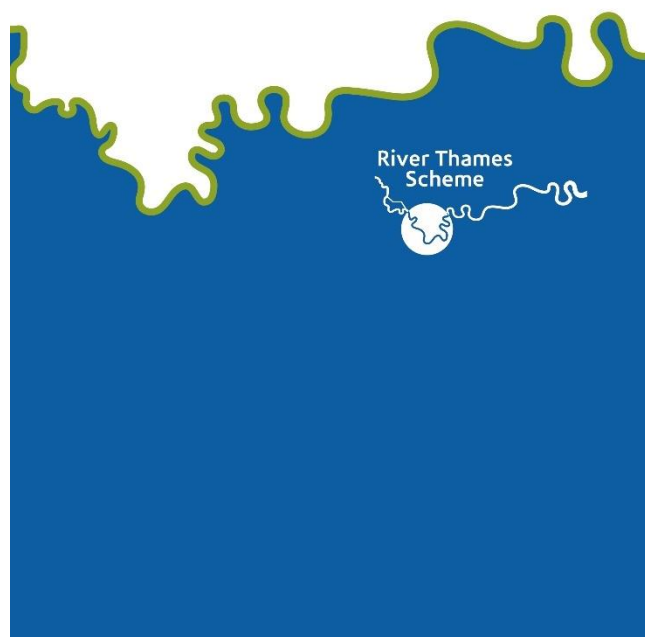
We are now starting to think about how the Scheme will look and we want to hear your views again.



**Tell us what you think about –**

- green open spaces
- wildlife and their habitats in the area
- how to get involved as we develop our plans

**Have a look round our event and ask our team any questions you may have. Then take part in our consultation questionnaire to help make the River Thames Scheme as good as it can be.**





## OUR VISION

“The River Thames Scheme will reduce flood risk to people living and working near the Thames, enhance the resilience of nationally important infrastructure, contribute to a vibrant local economy and maximise the social and environmental value of the river”

### OUR GOALS

A landscape-based approach to creating a healthier, more sustainable, and more resilient community.  
We will:



Reduce the risk of flooding for dwellings, businesses and infrastructure.



Improve access to quality green open spaces, connection with wildlife and more sustainable travel network.



Create a network of high quality habitat and achieve biodiversity gain.



Facilitate sustainable and inclusive economic growth.



Enable delivery and design that contribute to EA, SCC and Partner climate goals relating to carbon use.

## What is the River Thames Scheme?

The River Thames Scheme is a fully funded, integrated scheme made up of three parts.



### Flood alleviation

- We will create a new river channel that will provide flow routes for excess water when water levels in the River Thames rise too high.
- We will lower the riverbed downstream of the Desborough Cut.
- We will make improvements to the Sunbury, Molesey and Teddington weirs.



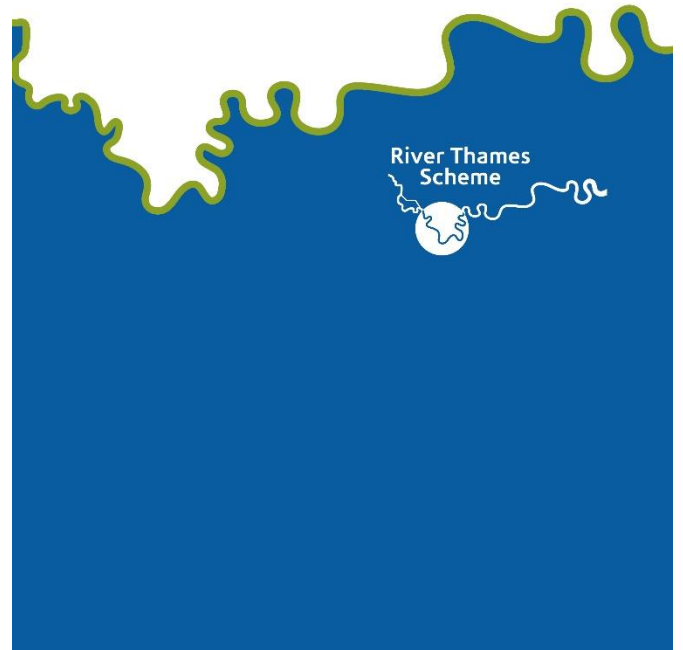
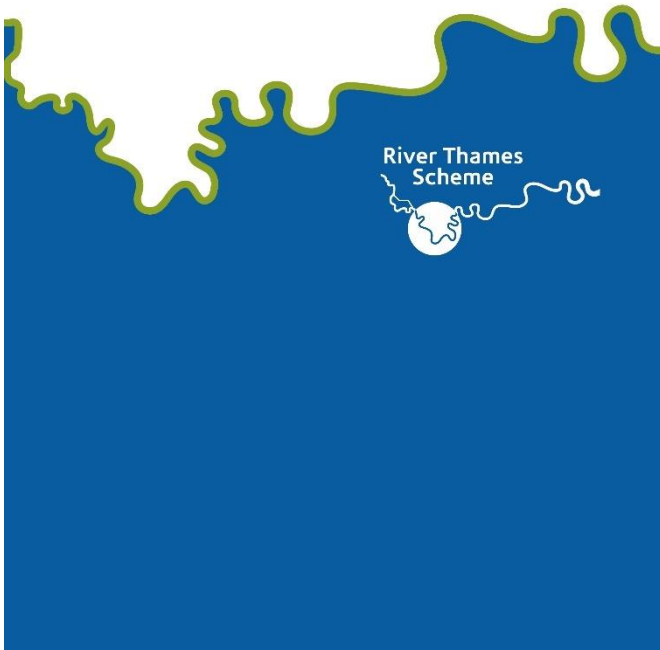
### Community spaces

- We will find opportunities to create recreational spaces along the channel.



### Habitat creation

- We will improve and create high-quality natural habitats.



## Need for the scheme

The stretch of river and the floodplain between Egham and Teddington offers miles of open-space opportunity. But it is currently constrained by flood risk, lack of access and poor-quality natural habitats.



In 2014, over 900 homes flooded, with major impacts on families, roads and supply of services.



Finding more ways for people to enjoy the great outdoors and get around sustainably is becoming increasingly important.



The river and its surrounding area have rich and diverse natural habitats which are essential for biodiversity.

## Considered so far

In a scheme of this size there will naturally be different ideas to deliver the end result. We looked at many options to manage flood risk between Egham and Teddington. These included a third channel section from Datchet to Hythe End, dredging, managing water flow and volume in the Desborough Cut, and local flood defences.

### Datchet to Hythe End channel section

The Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead were unable to raise the funding required to deliver the channel section and as such this cannot be taken forward by the River Thames Scheme.

Removing this section of channel does not change the existing flood risk in this area. The Environment Agency continues to work with the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead to look at flood management solutions in the area.

More details can be found at [www.gov.uk/government/publications/datchet-to-hythe-end-flood-improvement-measures](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/datchet-to-hythe-end-flood-improvement-measures).

### Dredging

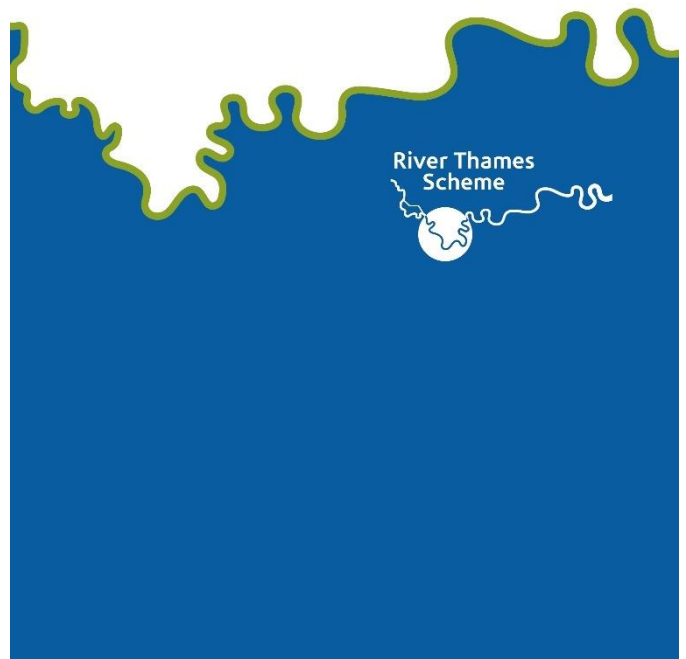
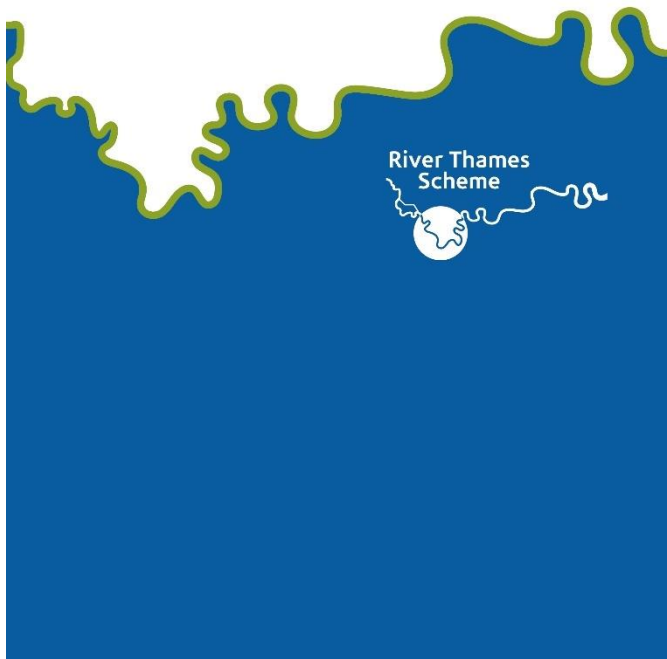
Dredging along the entire length of the River Thames Scheme area would not reduce flood risk as the river is too wide and too deep for this to be effective. It would also be costly, disruptive and environmentally damaging and would require frequent re-dredging.

### Desborough Cut

Following comments to the 2016 consultation, we have now re-evaluated our proposal for changes to the Desborough Cut which included widening and lowering the riverbed. See Page 17 of the brochure for more information.

### Local flood defences

The widespread use of local flood defences in the River Thames Scheme area was considered but was discounted. They would not prevent flooding from occurring, would only provide protection to a limited number of homes and businesses and can be very costly.



## Flood alleviation

The River Thames Scheme channel is split into two sections which are new flow routes running close to the main river.

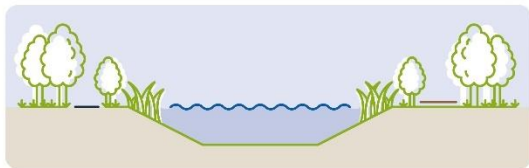
The Runnymede channel section is nearly 3 miles (4.8 km) long and will run from Egham Hythe to Chertsey.

The Spelthorne channel section is almost 2 miles (3.2 km) long and runs from Laleham to Weybridge.

As water levels in the River Thames rise, the new flood channel sections will operate by gradually carrying the additional flow, so the water in the River Thames stays within its banks.

The risk of flooding from the River Thames will be greatly reduced.

The channel sections will always have some water in them. They will fit into the landscape so that they look like a normal river that has been there for years.



## Bed lowering and works at the weirs

Work at the weirs and downstream from Desborough Cut will enable us to manage flood risk and allow more water to pass downstream.

### Sunbury, Molesey and Teddington weirs

At Sunbury weir there will be three extra gates built on the lock island.

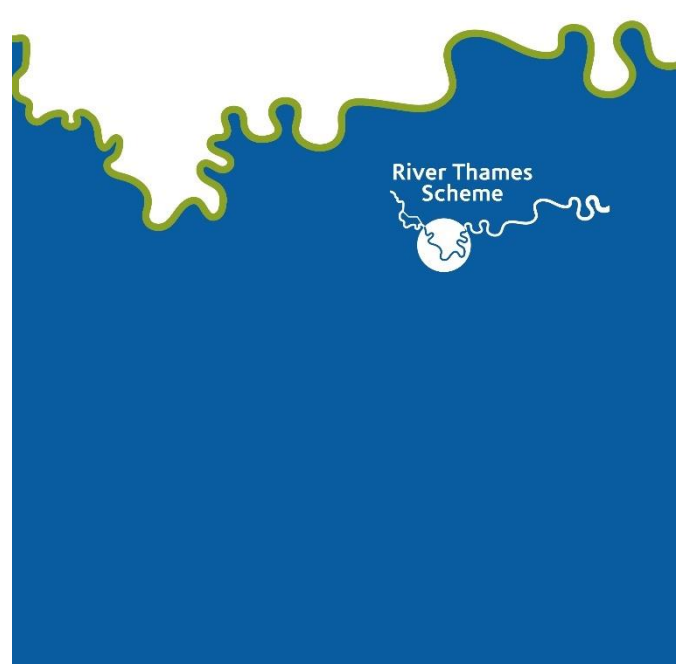
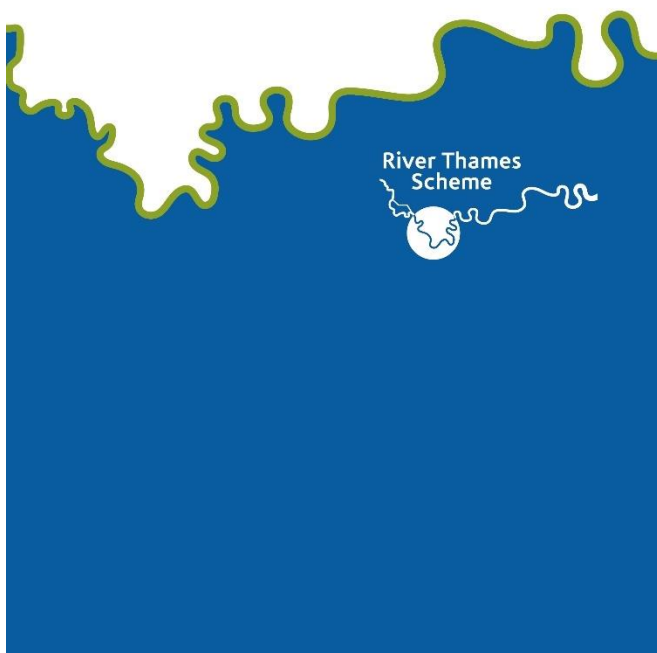
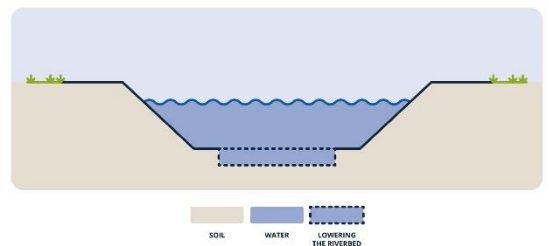
At Molesey weir there will be two extra gates replacing the current fixed weir between Ash Island and Hampton Court Road.

At Teddington weir there will be five new gates built on the lock island.

The new gates will only be used during high water flows when the channel sections are operating.

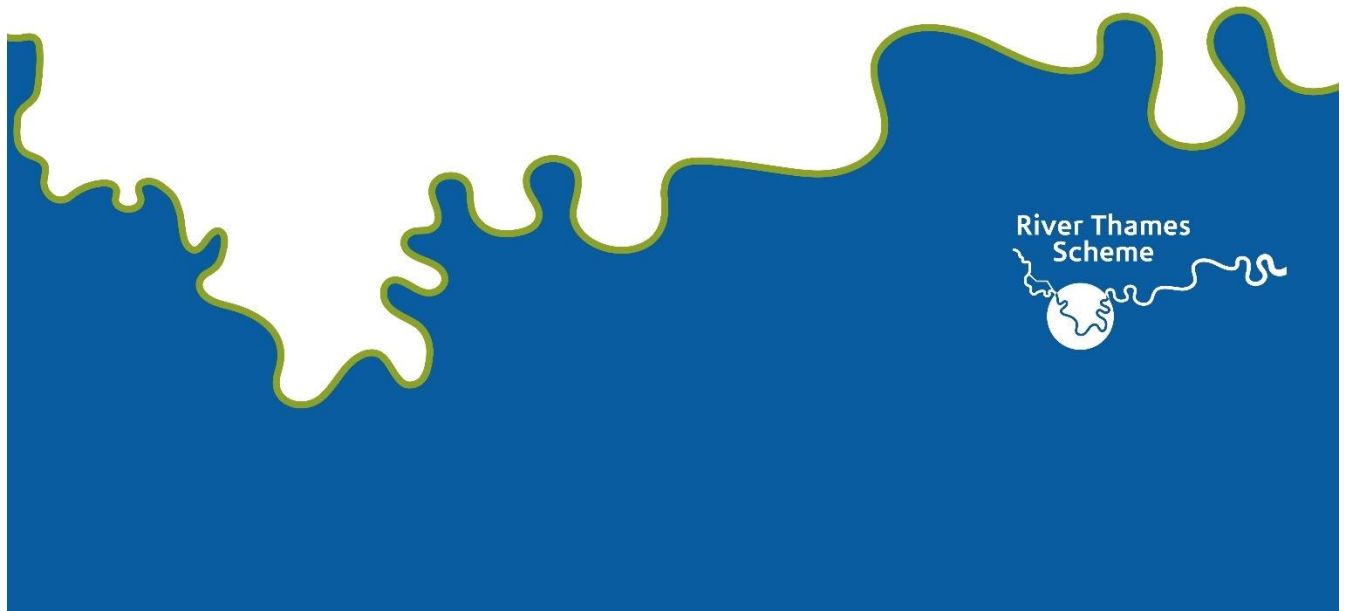
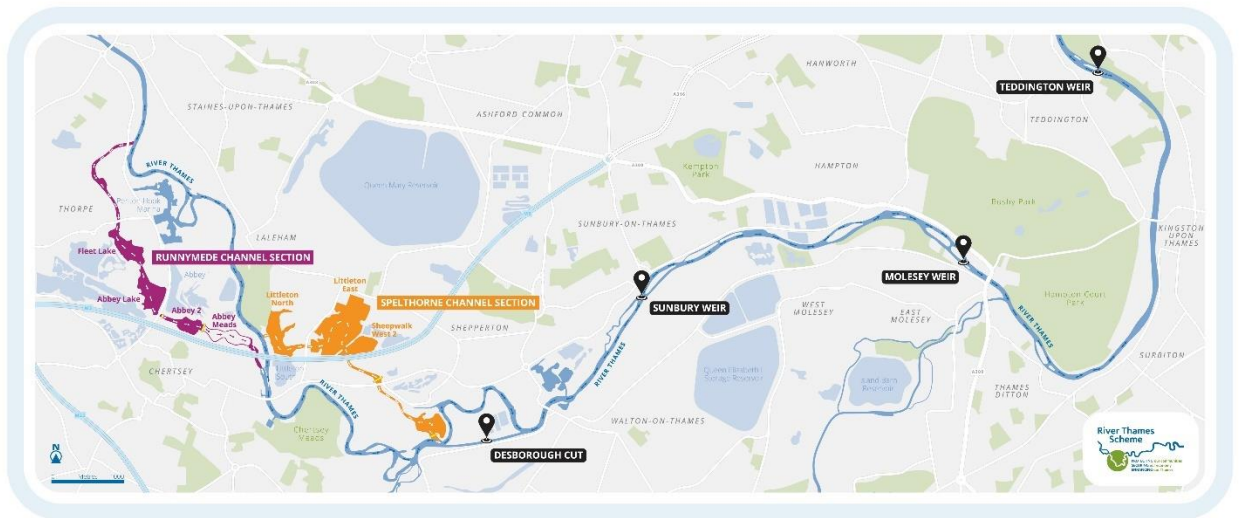
### Lowering the riverbed downstream from Desborough Cut

We plan to deepen the middle of the riverbed from Desborough Island waterworks to just past Walton Marina by an average of 0.7m.





## Where is the new channel?



## Community spaces

With your feedback we have an opportunity to create a new and exciting landscape. Here are some questions you might want to consider.



- More green space along the river?
- New visitor facilities to welcome a diverse range of people of all ages?
- Cycle and walking routes along the channel?
- New wetlands along the river or the new channel?
- Improvements to grassland and vegetation?
- Tree planting and woodland improvement?



We want to hear your views on what you would like to see and how you would use the new areas of green open space.

## Habitat creation

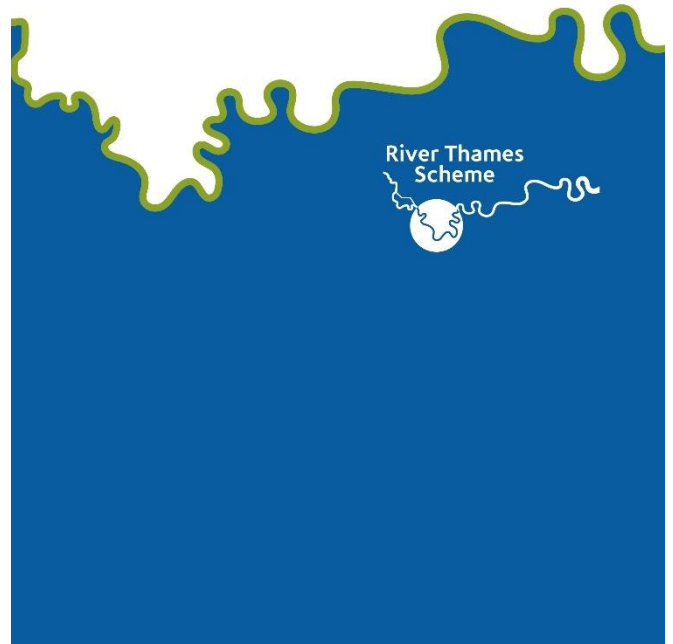
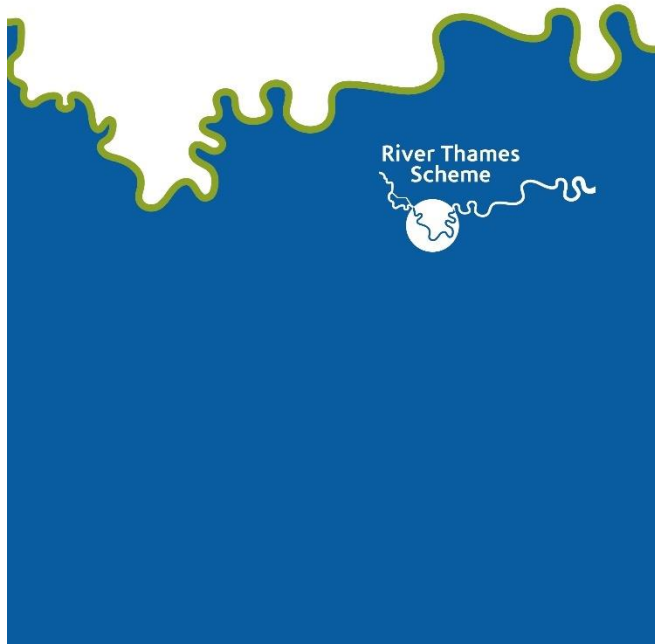
With your feedback and our close work with local wildlife and environmental groups we will protect and improve the local environment.



- We will provide new high-quality habitats.
- We will replace habitats where they are unavoidably lost or changed when the scheme is built.
- We will also improve and enhance existing areas.



We want to hear your views on our plans to create and maintain habitats.



## Permission to build the scheme

The River Thames Scheme originally needed permission through the Town and Country Planning process. We are now following a process set out in the Planning Act 2008 for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

### THE DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER APPLICATION PROCESS



## What happens next?

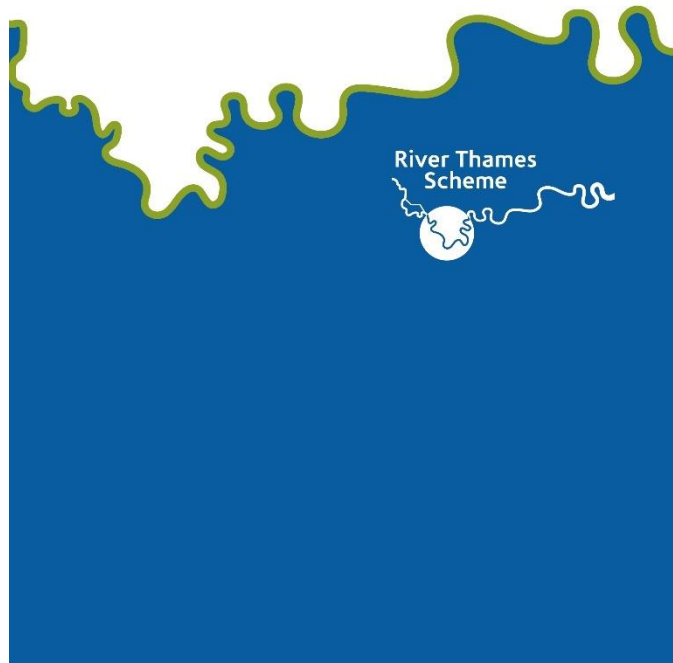
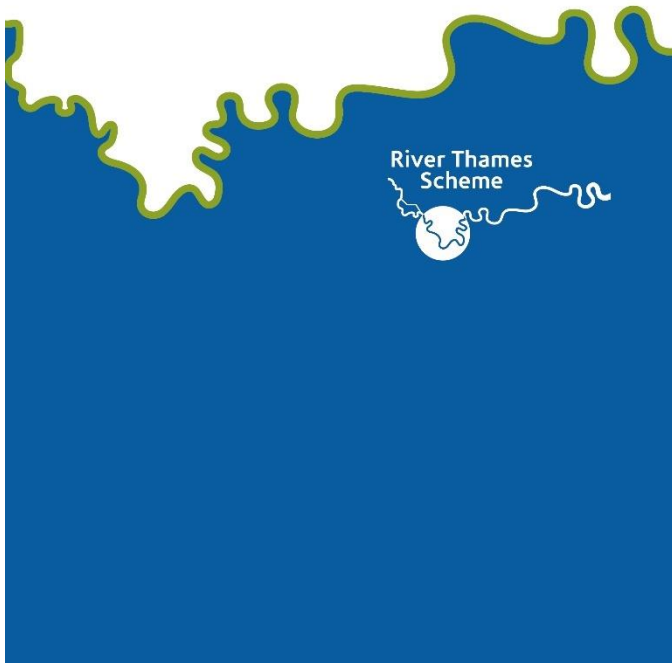
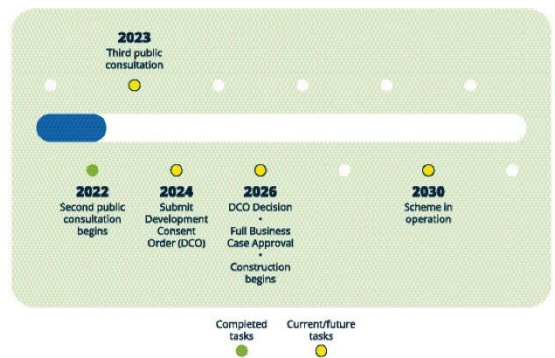
All comments and suggestions will be logged, analysed and summarised in a consultation report.

This report will be made available to the public in early 2023.

Your feedback will help prepare the next set plans for the scheme.

We will share these plans in our next consultation, planned for Autumn/Winter 2023.

### River Thames Scheme FUTURE TIMELINE





### Get involved

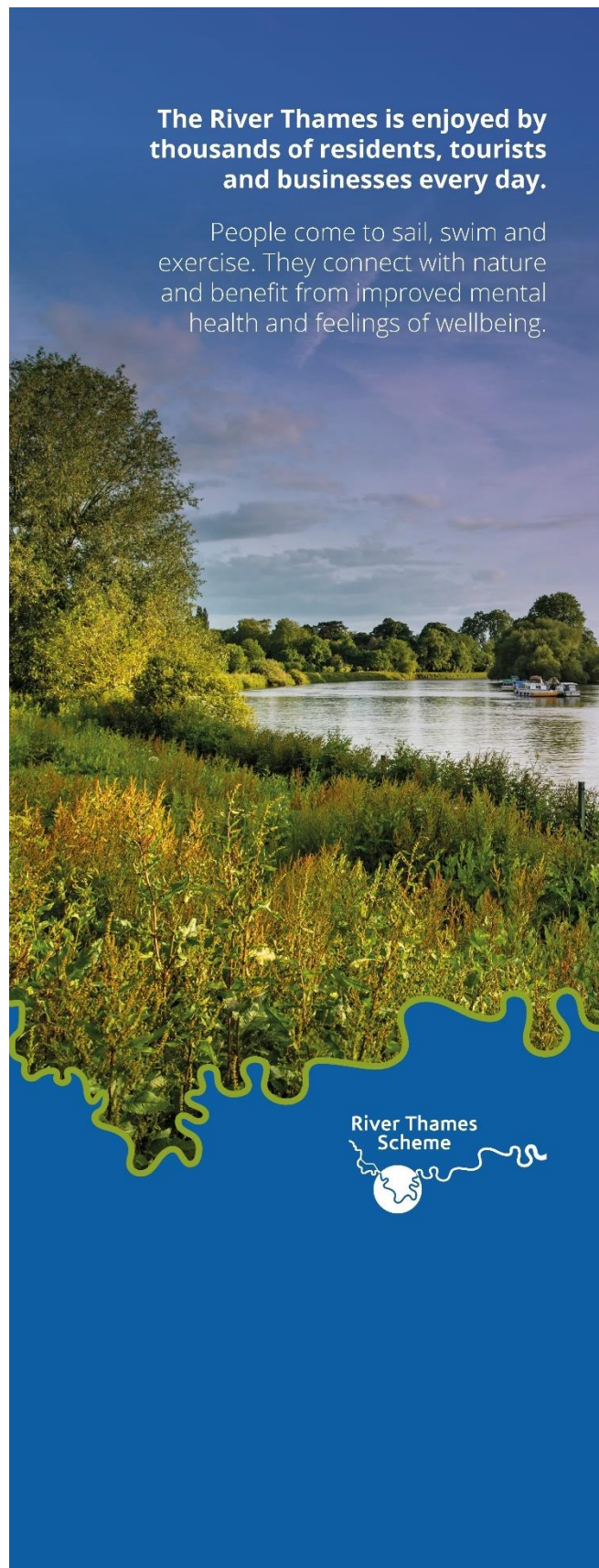
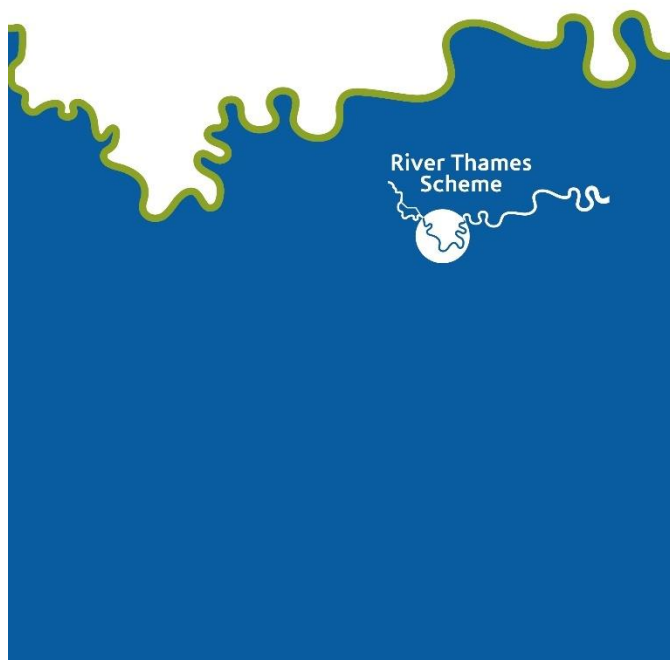
Thank you for visiting our consultation event

Please get involved and share your feedback about our proposals for the River Thames Scheme.

Our consultation is running until 23:59 on Tuesday 20 December 2022.

It is a critical step in the River Thames Scheme. All of your feedback is important and will be carefully considered to help shape our proposals going forward.

- Complete our questionnaire online by visiting [www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk/questionnaire](http://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk/questionnaire)
- Complete the paper version of the questionnaire and post it back to us at: **FREEPOST RTUK – RBLV – XUBT, RIVER THAMES SCHEME**
- Email your feedback to: [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk)



## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix D- Virtual events presentation

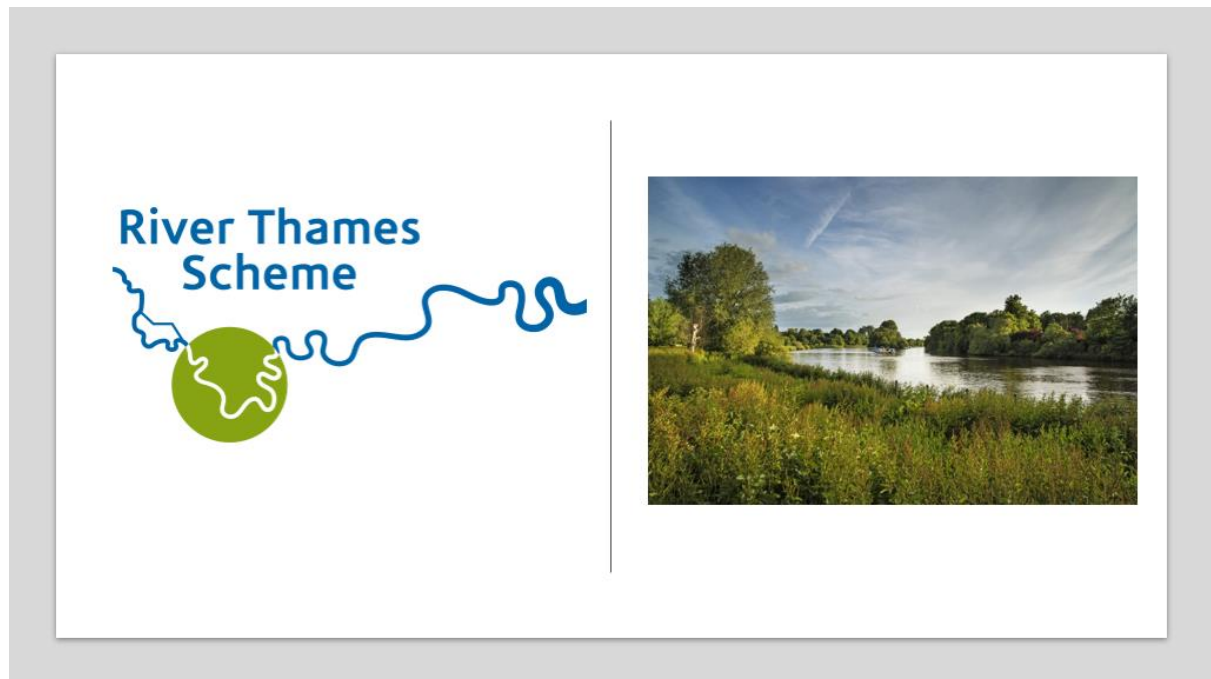


### Welcome



- This event will run for **1 hour 30 mins** and will include a presentation of the scheme, followed by a question-and-answer session.
- You can turn your camera off if you wish to.
- Please keep your microphone muted while the presenters are speaking.
- During the presentation, you can submit any questions through the chat function, and they will be addressed at the end.
- Once the presentation has finished, you can ask questions live by raising your hand.
- Please treat everyone on the call with respect. Any rude or offensive behaviour will result in attendees being removed from the call.

## Summary of findings from second consultation



### Agenda



- Our Vision
- The need for the River Thames Scheme
- What is the River Thames Scheme?
- Where is the River Thames Scheme?
- The River Thames Scheme Channel
- Community Spaces
- Habitat Creation
- The Development Consent Order Process
- What's happens next?
- Q&A session

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Our Vision



The River Thames Scheme will:

- Reduce flood risk to people living and working near the Thames
- Enhance the resilience of nationally important infrastructure
- Contribute to a vibrant local economy
- Maximise the social and environmental value of the river.

### OUR GOALS

A landscape-based approach to creating a healthier, more sustainable, and more resilient community. We will:



Reduce the risk of flooding for dwellings, businesses and infrastructure.



Improve access to quality green open spaces, connection with wildlife and more sustainable travel network.



Create a network of high quality habitat and achieve biodiversity gain.



Facilitate sustainable and inclusive economic growth.



Enable delivery and design that contribute to EA, SCC and Partner climate goals relating to carbon use.

### Need for the Scheme



The stretch of river and the floodplain between Egham and Teddington offers miles of open-space opportunity. But it is currently constrained by flood risk, lack of access and poor-quality natural habitats.



In 2014, over 900 homes flooded, with major impacts on families, roads and supply of services



Finding more ways for people to enjoy the great outdoors and get around sustainably is becoming increasingly important



The river and its surrounding area have rich and diverse natural habitats which are essential for biodiversity

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### What is the River Thames Scheme?



The River Thames Scheme is a fully funded, integrated scheme made up of three parts:



#### Flood Alleviation

- We will create a new river channel that will provide flow routes for excess water when water levels in the River Thames rise too high.
- We will lower the riverbed downstream of the Desborough Cut.
- We will make improvements to the Sunbury, Molesey and Teddington weirs.



#### Community Spaces

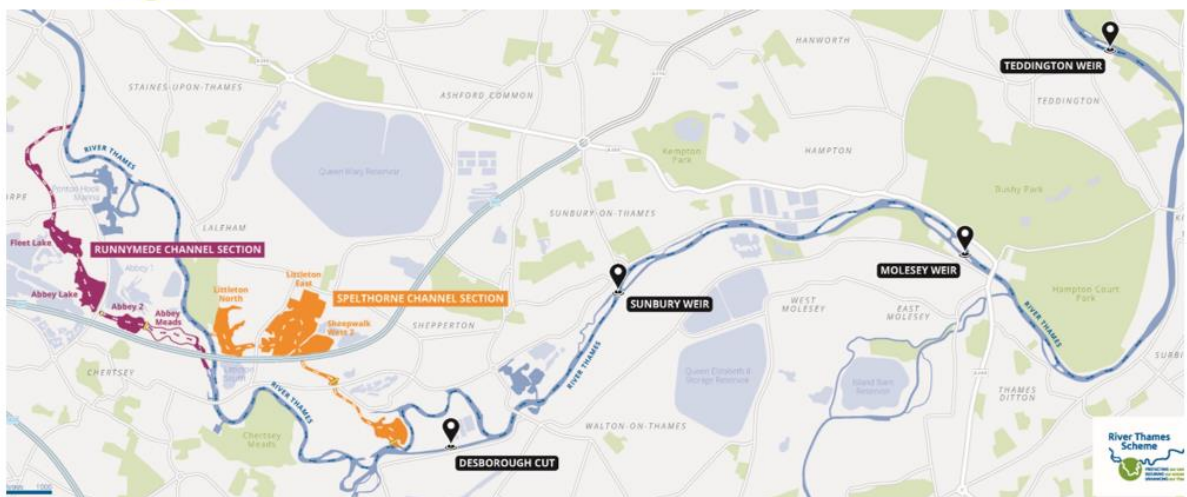
- We will find opportunities to create recreational spaces along the channel.



#### Habitat Creation

- We will improve and create high-quality natural habitats.

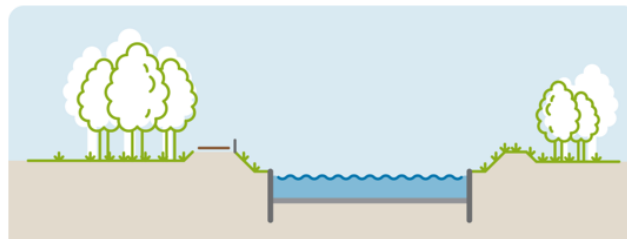
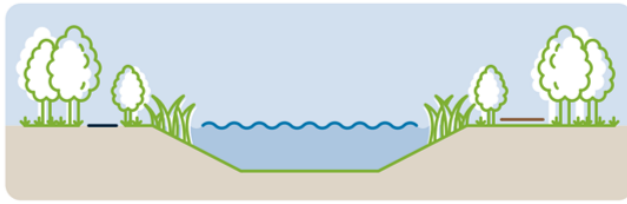
### Where is the River Thames Scheme?



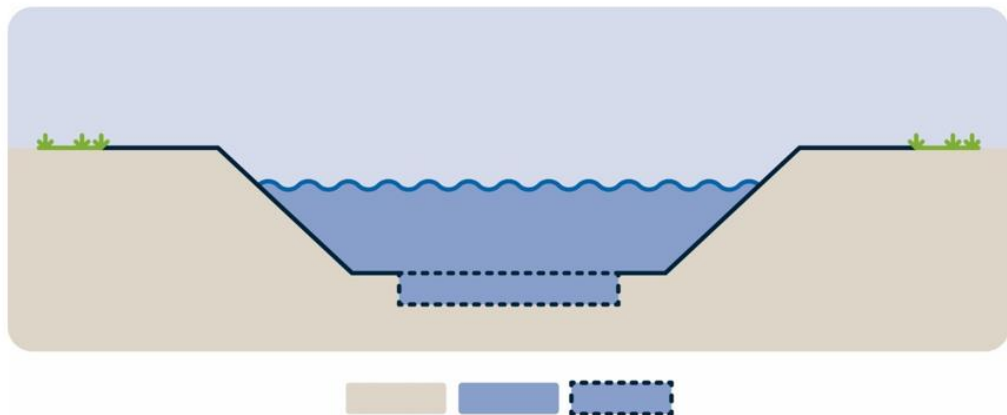


## Summary of findings from second consultation

### The River Thames Scheme Channel



### Riverbed Lowering & Weir Enhancements



This is another channel flood scheme at Dorney wetlands – Jubilee River which was completed around 20 years ago



## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Community Spaces



### Habitat Creation



- We will provide new high-quality habitats.
- We will replace habitats where they are unavoidably lost or changed when the scheme is built.
- We will also improve and enhance existing areas.

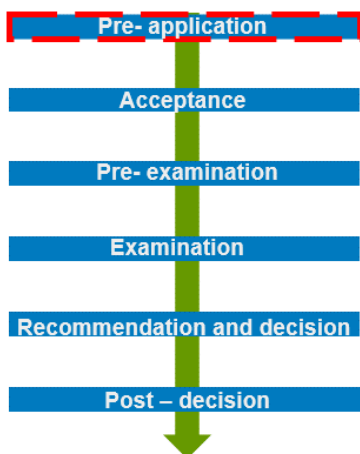


## Summary of findings from second consultation

### The Development Consent Order Process



The Development Consent Order process has six stages to go through. The stages are:



- Currently in the **Pre-application stage**
- Includes Consultation.
- Parties with an interest in the scheme will also be able to give their views to the Planning Inspectorate.
- The Planning Inspectorate will then make a recommendation to the Secretary of State who will decide whether the DCO should be granted.

### What happens next?



## Summary of findings from second consultation



### Tell us what you think about –

- green open spaces
- wildlife and their habitats in the area
- how to get involved as we develop our plans

Visit the consultation website to find out more and complete our feedback questionnaire at: <https://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk/>

Please email any enquires at: [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk)

[riverthamesscheme.org.uk](https://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk)

#### In Person Events

<b>Staines</b>	Tuesday 8 November	The Hythe Centre, 36 Thorpe Road, Staines-upon-Thames, Egham, TW18 3HD	1pm to 7pm
<b>Sunbury-on-Thames</b>	Wednesday 16 November	Hazel Wood Centre, Hazelwood Drive, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 6QU	1pm to 7pm
<b>Molesey</b>	Saturday 19 November	The Molesey Centre for the Community, 2 Bishop Fox Way, Molesey, West Molesey, KT8 2AS	12pm to 6pm
<b>Egham</b>	Tuesday 22 November	The Easter Centre, Manor Farm Lane, Egham, TW20 9HL	1pm to 7pm
<b>Walton-on-Thames</b>	Wednesday 23 November	St Johns Parish Church, The Furrows, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 3JQ	1pm to 7pm
<b>Wraysbury</b>	Friday 25 November	Wraysbury Village Hall, The Green, Wraysbury, Staines, TW19 5NA	1pm to 7pm
<b>Kingston upon Thames</b>	Saturday 26 November	Richard Mayo Centre, Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1HZ	10am to 4pm
<b>Teddington</b>	Tuesday 29 November	Peter and Paul Centre, 4 Church Road, Teddington, TW11 8PB	1pm to 7pm
<b>Shepperton</b>	Saturday 3 December	Shepperton Village Hall, 58A High Street, Shepperton, TW17 9AU	10am to 4pm
<b>Chertsey</b>	Wednesday 7 December	St Peters Church, Windsor Street, Chertsey, KT16 8AT	1pm to 7pm

#### Online Webinars

Thursday 10 November	6pm to 7:30pm
Saturday 12 November	10am to 11:30am
Friday 18 November*	6pm to 7:30pm
Thursday 24 November	6pm to 7:30pm
Monday 28 November	1pm to 2:30pm

\* This event will focus on what the Scheme means to the Island Communities.

**If you would like to attend an online event only, please let us know which dates suit you by emailing us at: [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk).**

Places will be limited to ensure everyone attending can ask any questions they may have. Places will be issued on a first come, first served basis.





## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix E- Consultation webpage



# River Thames Scheme public consultation is now live!

The public consultation is running from 8 November until 20 December at 11.59pm.

We want to hear from you: **Give feedback, Consultation information, come to a Consultation event, and contact us.**

#### Consultation information →

The River Thames between Egham and Teddington is one of the largest areas of undefended, developed floodplain in England.

In the past, the area has suffered serious floods. With climate change, the risk of flooding is only going to grow.

We need a long term, sustainable plan to deal with this risk.

That plan is the River Thames Scheme.

**The River Thames Scheme will be shaped by the feedback you give today**

## Summary of findings from second consultation

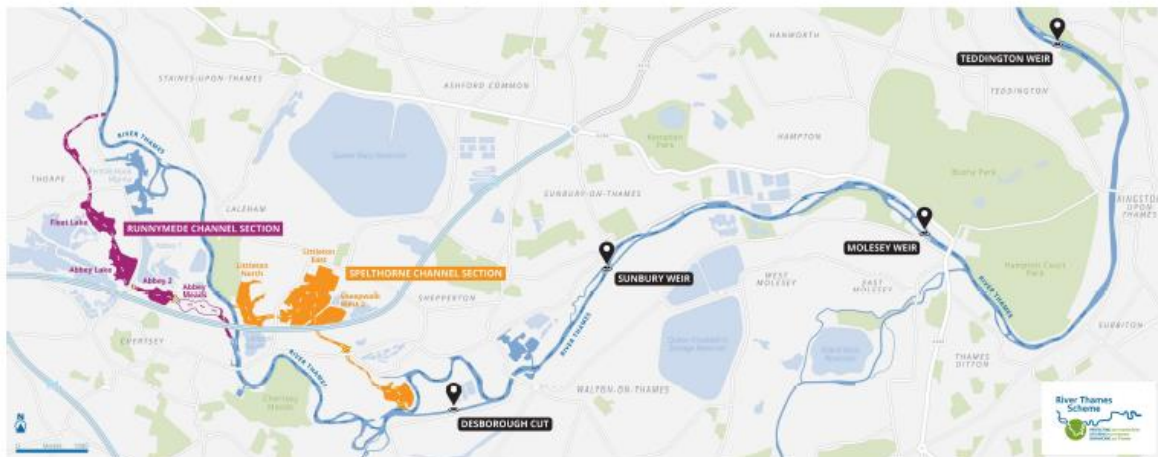
The team have talked to hundreds of people both in person and online about the River Thames Scheme, now is your chance to leave feedback on how the Scheme develops and what benefits it delivers for the community.

[Make sure that you have your say by 20 December](#)

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### The new flood channel

The River Thames Scheme will consist of a new flood channel in two sections, through the boroughs of Runnymede and Spelthorne in Surrey. In addition, there will be increases in capacity at three weirs and the Desborough Cut.



Map overview of the scheme

[View full-size image \(PDF\)](#)

### Overview

- A new river channel built in two sections – at Runnymede and at Spelthorne
- Improvements to existing river structures
- New recreation areas for communities and habitat for wildlife

## Summary of findings from second consultation

These measures will better protect thousands of homes and businesses, enhance the natural environment around the river, and boost the local economy.

### Progress so far

#### Project of national significance status confirmed

The large scale of the project means the government directed that it be treated as a project of national significance in December 2020. Other examples of projects of national significance might be a wind farm, airport expansion or new rail line.

Projects of national significance require a type of consent known as 'development consent order' (DCO). A DCO removes the need to obtain many separate consents, including planning permission and is designed to be a quicker process than applying for these separately.

The DCO must be granted before full funding is approved and construction can begin.

### Design development

We're currently in the pre-application stage, meaning we're doing all the work ready to make the application. The final scope and design of the project, which we will ultimately prepare a development consent application for, is yet to be fully determined. It will be shaped by technical, environmental and economic factors alongside consultation feedback.

### Benefits of the scheme



#### Protecting communities

11,000 homes and 1,600 businesses better protected from flooding



#### Enhancing our Thames

New opportunities for recreation, tourism, and wildlife



#### Securing our economy

Supporting sustainable economic growth



The River Thames Scheme represents a new landscape-based approach to creating healthier, more resilient, and more sustainable communities by reducing the risk of flooding and creating high quality natural environments.

© River Thames Scheme 2022

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix F- Additional virtual events promotion



River Thames Scheme  
@ThamesScheme

...

Due to popular demand, we've released an additional date on 30th November for our Virtual Consultation Events! To enquire, email the RTS inbox: [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk) [#haveyoursay](#) [#riverthames](#) [#floodprevention](#) [#riverthamesscheme](#) [#activetravel](#) [#openspaces](#) [#educationmatters](#)

**VIRTUAL CONSULTATION EVENT**

**30 NOVEMBER** VIRTUAL EVENT 18:00 - 19:30 **NEW DATE**

RSVP (ONLINE EVENTS ONLY)  
If you would like to attend an online event which dates suit you, please let us know by emailing us at: [rts@env](mailto:rts@env)

**NOVEMBER**

10	ONLINE WEBINAR 18:00 - 19:30	24	ONLINE WEBINAR 18:00 - 19:30
12	ONLINE WEBINAR 10:00 - 11:00	28	ONLINE WEBINAR 13:00 - 14:30
18	ONLINE WEBINAR* 18:00 - 19:30	30	ONLINE WEBINAR 18:00 - 19:30

\*This event will focus on what the Scheme means to the Island Communities.

RSVP (ONLINE EVENTS ONLY)  
If you would like to attend an online event only, please let us know which dates suit you by emailing us at:

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
<https://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk/about/your-obj-on-the-river-thames-scheme>

**f** /RIVERTHAMESSHEME **t** /THAMESSCHEME



River Thames Scheme  
@ThamesScheme

...

Due to popular demand, we've released an additional date on 5th December for our Virtual Consultation Events! To enquire about this event, email [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk) [#haveyoursay](#) [#riverthames](#) [#floodprevention](#) [#riverthamesscheme](#) [#activetravel](#) [#openspaces](#) [#educationmatters](#)

**VIRTUAL CONSULTATION EVENT**

**05 DECEMBER** VIRTUAL EVENT 14:00 - 15:30 **NEW DATE**

RSVP (ONLINE EVENTS ONLY)  
If you would like to attend an online event only, please let us know which dates suit you by emailing us at: [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk)

**CONTACT US TO FIND OUT MORE**

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
<https://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk/about/your-obj-on-the-river-thames-scheme>

**f** /RIVERTHAMESSHEME **t** /THAMESSCHEME

**@** /RIVERTHAMESSHEME.UK **in** /RIVERTHAMESSHEME

**e** [RTS@ENVIRONMENT-AGENCY.GOV.UK](mailto:RTS@ENVIRONMENT-AGENCY.GOV.UK)

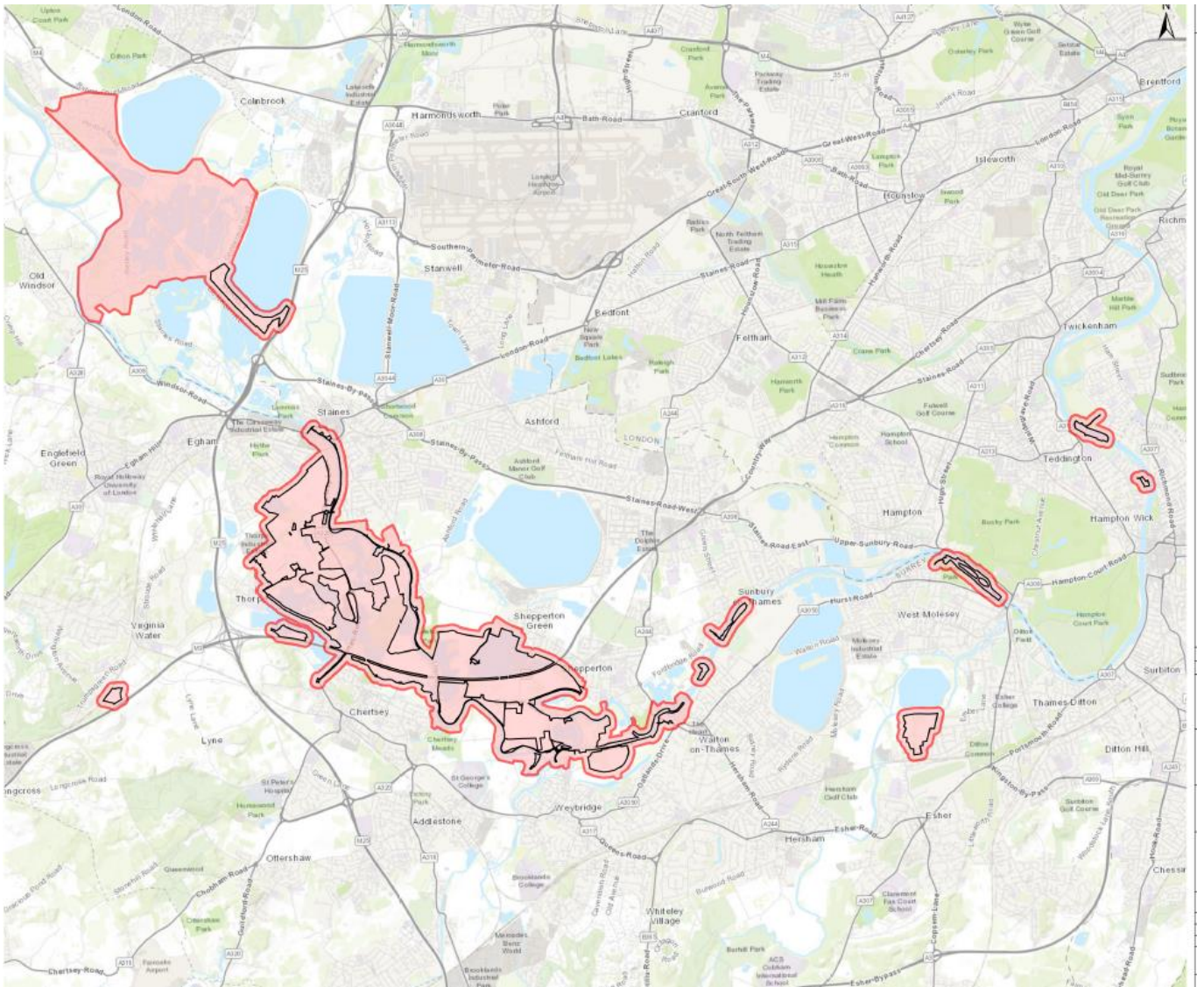
**www** [WWW.RIVERTHAMESSHEME.ORG.UK](http://WWW.RIVERTHAMESSHEME.ORG.UK)

River Thames Scheme



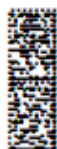
# Summary of findings from second consultation

## Appendix G- Consultation letter distribution area



## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix H- Consultation letter proofs



Your ref:  
Our ref:  
Name:  
Phone:  
E-Mail:

31 October 2022

Dear Resident,

#### River Thames Scheme | Public Consultation

We are writing to let you know that a public consultation for the River Thames Scheme will start on **Tuesday 8 November 2022**. The consultation will provide updated details of the planned work and timelines, including some important changes to the design. Your feedback is important in helping to shape and develop our plans.

#### What is the River Thames Scheme?

The River Thames Scheme will be an integrated scheme which responds to the challenges of flooding, creating more access to green open spaces and sustainable travel routes, in addition to encouraging inclusive economic growth, increasing biodiversity and responding to the dual challenges of climate change and nature recovery.

The project aims to deliver many benefits for local communities, and a new flood channel will reduce the risk of flooding to homes, businesses, and infrastructure, while also providing habitat for wildlife and a new feature in the landscape for recreation. Some of the benefits of the scheme include:

- a new river channel built in two sections – one section through Runnymede (between Egham Hythe and Chertsey) and one through Spelthorne (between Littleton North lake and the Desborough Cut)
- capacity increases around the Desborough Cut and the weirs at Sunbury, Molesey and Teddington
- improved access to quality green open space and connections with wildlife, in addition to supporting a more sustainable travel network
- a network of high-quality habitat to achieve a biodiversity net gain



The River Thames Scheme represents a new landscape-based approach to creating healthier, more resilient, and more sustainable communities by reducing the risk of flooding and creating high quality natural environments

1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Why am I being consulted?

Our plans for the scheme have been built on information and feedback that we have gathered through consultations in 2009 and 2016, which have been supported by technical studies, and ongoing engagement with stakeholders.

We are continuing to consult with a diverse range of people about our plans. These include the general public, landowners, local authorities, community groups and environmental and regulatory organisations.

We are now starting to think about how the scheme will look and we want to hear your views.

### How can I have my say?

We are holding a public consultation on the plans to help gather feedback on what the community would like to see delivered within the scheme. From 8 November, you can find out more about the River Thames Scheme and provide your feedback by:

- Visiting the consultation website to find out more and complete our feedback questionnaire at: <https://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk/>
- Emailing the team with any enquires at: [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk)

### Events

There will be events running throughout the consultation period. This is your opportunity to ask our project team any questions you have about the scheme.

#### Drop-in events 2022

Location	Date	Time
Staines, Hythe Centre, 36 Thorpe Rd, Staines-upon-Thames, Egham, TW18 3HD	Tuesday 8 November 2022	1-7pm
Sunbury on Thames, Hazelwood Centre, Hazelwood Dr, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 6QU	Wednesday 16 November 2022	1-7pm
East Molesey, The Molesey Centre for the Community, 2 Bishop Fox Way, Molesey, West Molesey, KT8 2AS	Saturday 19 November 2022	12-6pm
Egham, The Easter Centre, Manor Farm Lane, Egham, Surrey, TW20 9HR	Tuesday 22 November 2022	1-7pm
Walton on Thames, St Johns Parish Church, The Furrows, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 3JQ	Wednesday 23 November 2022	1-7pm
Wraysbury, Wraysbury Village Hall, The Green, Wraysbury, Staines, TW19 5NA	Friday 25 November 2022	1-7pm
Kingston upon Thames, Richard Mayo Centre, Eden St, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1HZ	Saturday 26 November 2022	10am-4pm
Teddington, Peter and Paul Centre (Church), By Church End, Teddington, TW11 8PS	Tuesday 29 November 2022	1-7pm
Shepperton, Shepperton Village Hall, 58A High St, Shepperton, TW17 9AU	Saturday 3 December 2022	10am-4pm
Chertsey, St. Peter's Church, Windsor Street, Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 8AT	Wednesday 7 December 2022	1-7pm

#### Virtual events 2022

Date	Time
Thursday 10 November 2022	6-7:30pm



## Summary of findings from second consultation

Saturday 12 November 2022	10-11:30am
Thursday 24 November 2022	6-7:30pm
Monday 28 November 2022	1-2:30pm

Further information and registration for these can be found on our project website:  
<https://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk/>

### Contact

Please get in touch with us if you have any questions about the River Thames Scheme or the consultation process by:

- Calling the Environment Agency National Customer Contact Centre: 03708 506 506
- Emailing: [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk)

### What happens next?

This consultation will run from 8 November until 23.59 on Tuesday 20 December 2022.

All the feedback we receive will be carefully considered by the River Thames Scheme project team.

Your feedback will be crucial in shaping and developing the scheme, which will then be shared in our next consultation, planned for 2023.

Yours sincerely,



Jeanne Capey  
Project Director



The River Thames Scheme represents a new landscape-based approach to creating healthier, more resilient, and more sustainable communities by reducing the risk of flooding and creating high quality natural environments.

# Summary of findings from second consultation

## Appendix I- Landowner letters



Our Ref: 150585\_XXXXX



XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

1 Staplehurst Farm  
Weston on the Green  
Bicester  
Oxfordshire  
OX25 3QU

M 07787 015131  
E [rts@dalcourmaclaren.com](mailto:rts@dalcourmaclaren.com)

26<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear XXXXXX

### Environment Agency and Surrey County Council River Thames Scheme – Non-Statutory Consultation

Further to our previous contact in relation to the River Thames Scheme, we would like to inform you that we will no longer be asking for access to certain areas of your property. This is because we have narrowed the Scheme boundary and these areas no longer falls within it. We would like to thank you for your support if we have accessed your property to undertake environmental and ecological surveys upon these areas. The attached land plan displays the section of your land which has been removed from the Scheme and any land which remains within the Scheme boundary.

As shown on the attached plan, part of your land shown in blue is still within the Scheme boundary and therefore moving forward, we will keep in contact with you regarding this piece of land.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of a period of public consultation on the River Thames Scheme which will run between Tuesday 8 November 2022 to Tuesday 20 December 2022.

The consultation will include a series of in person consultation events, as well as online webinars. These will provide you with an opportunity to ask the project team any questions you have about the River Thames Scheme and to provide feedback. The dates and locations are provided below. For the most current dates and locations please see our website [www.rivertahmesscheme.org.uk](http://www.rivertahmesscheme.org.uk).

In person consultation events Staines upon Thames	Friday 8 November	The Hythe Centre, 36 Thorpe Road, Staines-upon-Thames, Egham, TW18 3HD	1pm to 7pm
Sunbury-on-Thames	Wednesday 16 November	Hazelwood Centre, Hazelwood Drive, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 6QU	1pm to 7pm
Molesey	Saturday 19 November	The Molesey Centre for the Community, 2 Bishop Fox Way, Molesey, West Molesey, KT8 2AS	12pm to 6pm
Egham	Tuesday 22 November	The Easter Centre, Manor Farm Lane, Egham, TW20 9HL	1pm to 7pm
Walton-on-Thames	Wednesday 23 November	St Johns Parish Church, The Furrows, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 3JQ	1pm to 7pm

HEAD OFFICE  
1 Staplehurst Farm  
Weston on the Green  
Oxfordshire OX25 3QU

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## Summary of findings from second consultation



Wraysbury	Friday 25 November	Wraysbury Village Hall, The Green, Wraysbury, Staines, TW19 5NA	1pm to 7pm
Kingston upon Thames	Saturday 26 November	Richard Mayo Centre, Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1HZ	10am to 4pm
Teddington	Tuesday 29 November	Peter and Paul Centre, 4 Church Road, Teddington, TW11 8PB	1pm to 7pm
Shepperton	Saturday 3 December	Shepperton Village Hall, 58A High Street, Shepperton, TW17 9AU	10am to 4pm
Chertsey	Wednesday 7 December	St Peters Church, Windsor Street, Chertsey, KT16 8AT	1pm to 7pm

<b>Online webinars</b>	
Thursday 10 November	6pm to 7:30pm
Saturday 12 November	10am to 11:30am
Friday 18 November*	6pm to 7:30pm
Thursday 24 November	6pm to 7:30pm
Monday 28 November	1pm to 2:30pm
*This event will focus on what the Scheme means to the Island Communities	

If you would like to attend an online event, please let us know which date you would like to attend by emailing us at [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk) only. If you have any questions or queries about the River Thames Scheme, please continue to contact [rts@dalcourmaclaren.com](mailto:rts@dalcourmaclaren.com).

The River Thames Scheme website ([www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk)) includes an information section for landowners as well as further information about the consultation events and once the consultation launches, you will be able to respond to the consultation online.

We look forward to hearing your views.

Yours

Yours sincerely

Alfie Coward

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## Summary of findings from second consultation



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M 07787 015131  
E [rts@dalcourmaclaren.com](mailto:rts@dalcourmaclaren.com)

26<sup>th</sup> October 2022

### Environment Agency and Surrey County Council River Thames Scheme – Consultation

Further to our previous contact in relation to the River Thames Scheme, we would like to inform you that we will no longer be asking for access to your property. This is because we have narrowed the Scheme boundary and your property no longer falls within it. We would like to thank you for your support if we have accessed your property to undertake environmental and ecological surveys.

Although your property is no longer within the Scheme boundary, I would like to draw your attention to a period of public consultation on the River Thames Scheme which will run between Tuesday 8 November 2022 to Tuesday 20 December 2022.

The consultation will include a series of in person consultation events, as well as online webinars. These will provide you with an opportunity to ask the project team any questions you have about the River Thames Scheme and to provide feedback. The dates and locations are provided below. For the most current dates and locations please see our website [www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk).

In person consultation events			
Staines upon Thames	Tuesday 8 November	The Hythe Centre, 36 Thorpe Road, Staines-upon-Thames, Egham, TW18 3HD	1pm to 7pm
Sunbury-on-Thames	Wednesday 16 November	Hazelwood Centre, Hazelwood Drive, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 6QU	1pm to 7pm
Molesey	Saturday 19 November	The Molesey Centre for the Community, 2 Bishop Fox Way, Molesey, West Molesey, KT8 2AS	12pm to 6pm
Egham	Tuesday 22 November	The Easter Centre, Manor Farm Lane, Egham, TW20 9HL	1pm to 7pm
Walton-on-Thames	Wednesday 23 November	St Johns Parish Church, The Furrows, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 3JQ	1pm to 7pm
Wraysbury	Friday 25 November	Wraysbury Village Hall, The Green, Wraysbury, Staines, TW19 5NA	1pm to 7pm

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## Summary of findings from second consultation



Kingston upon Thames	Saturday 26 November	Richard Mayo Centre, Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1HZ	10am to 4pm
Teddington	Tuesday 29 November	Peter and Paul Centre, 4 Church Road, Teddington, TW11 8PB	1pm to 7pm
Shepperton	Saturday 3 December	Shepperton Village Hall, 58A High Street, Shepperton, TW17 9AU	10am to 4pm
Chertsey	Wednesday 7 December	St Peters Church, Windsor Street, Chertsey, KT16 8AT	1pm to 7pm

Online webinars	
Thursday 10 November	6pm to 7:30pm
Saturday 12 November	10am to 11:30am
Friday 18 November*	6pm to 7:30pm
Thursday 24 November	6pm to 7:30pm
Monday 28 November	1pm to 2:30pm

\*This event will focus on what the Scheme means to the Island Communities

If you would like to attend an online event, please let us know which date you would like to attend by emailing us at [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk) only. If you have any questions related to your position as a landowner please continue to contact [rts@dalcourmaclaren.com](mailto:rts@dalcourmaclaren.com).

The River Thames Scheme website ([www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk)) includes an information section for landowners as well as further information about the consultation events and once the consultation launches, you will be able to respond to the consultation online.

We look forward to hearing your views.

Kind Regards

Dalcour Maclaren

On behalf of the River Thames Scheme

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Oxfordshire OX25 3QU

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F586268 EH5522807 CH5562402 IS679367



# Summary of findings from second consultation



Our Ref: 150585\_XXXX



XXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXX

1 Staplehurst Farm  
Weston on the Green  
Bicester  
Oxfordshire  
OX25 3QU

M 07787 015131  
E [rts@dalcourmaclaren.com](mailto:rts@dalcourmaclaren.com)

26<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear XXXXX

**Environment Agency and Surrey County Council  
River Thames Scheme – Consultation**

Further to our previous correspondence in August 2022 with regards to the River Thames Scheme, we are writing to thank you for your support if we have requested access to your property to undertake environmental or ecological surveys.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of a period of public consultation on the River Thames Scheme which will run between Tuesday 8 November 2022 to Tuesday 20 December 2022.

The consultation will include a series of in person consultation events, as well as online webinars. These will provide you with an opportunity to ask the project team any questions you have about the River Thames Scheme and to provide feedback. The dates and locations are provided below. For the most current dates and locations please see our website [www.riverthamescheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamescheme.org.uk).

In person consultation events	on 8-20 November	at	times
Staines upon Thames	Tuesday 8 November	The Hythe Centre, 36 Thorpe Road, Staines-upon-Thames, Egham, TW18 3HD	1pm to 7pm
Sunbury-on-Thames	Wednesday 16 November	Hazelwood Centre, Hazelwood Drive, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 6QU	1pm to 7pm
Molesey	Saturday 19 November	The Molesey Centre for the Community, 2 Bishop Fox Way, Molesey, West Molesey, KT8 2AS	12pm to 6pm
Egham	Tuesday 22 November	The Easter Centre, Manor Farm Lane, Egham, TW20 9HL	1pm to 7pm
Walton-on-Thames	Wednesday 23 November	St Johns Parish Church, The Furrows, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 3JQ	1pm to 7pm
Wraysbury	Friday 25 November	Wraysbury Village Hall, The Green, Wraysbury, Staines, TW19 5NA	1pm to 7pm
Kingston upon Thames	Saturday 26 November	Richard Mayo Centre, Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1HZ	10am to 4pm

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F 566268 EHS522807 OHS550402 ISO79367

## Summary of findings from second consultation



Teddington	Tuesday 29 November	Peter and Paul Centre, 4 Church Road, Teddington, TW11 8PB	1pm to 7pm
Shepperton	Saturday 3 December	Shepperton Village Hall, 58A High Street, Shepperton, TW17 9AU	10am to 4pm
Chertsey	Wednesday 7 December	St Peters Church, Windsor Street, Chertsey, KT16 8AT	1pm to 7pm

<b>Online webinars</b>	
Thursday 10 November	6pm to 7:30pm
Saturday 12 November	10am to 11:30am
Friday 18 November*	6pm to 7:30pm
Thursday 24 November	6pm to 7:30pm
Monday 28 November	1pm to 2:30pm
*This event will focus on what the Scheme means to the Island Communities	

If you would like to attend an online event, please let us know which date you would like to attend by emailing us at [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk) only. If you have any questions related to your position as a landowner please continue to contact [rts@dalcourmaclaren.com](mailto:rts@dalcourmaclaren.com).

The River Thames Scheme website ([www.riverthamescheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamescheme.org.uk)) includes an information section for landowners as well as further information about the consultation events and once the consultation launches, you will be able to respond to the consultation online.

We look forward to hearing your views.

Yours sincerely

Alfie Coward

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## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix J- Statutory stakeholder list and email

Title: River Thames Scheme consultation – 8 November to 20 December 2022

Dear stakeholder

We are emailing to let you know that a public consultation for the River Thames Scheme will start on **Tuesday 8 November 2022**. As part of this, we want to hear your feedback on the scheme, which includes updated flood alleviation measures, community spaces and wildlife habitats. Your feedback is important in helping to shape and develop our plans.

#### **What is the River Thames Scheme?**

The River Thames Scheme will be an integrated scheme which responds to the challenges of flooding, creating more access to green open spaces and sustainable travel routes, in addition to encouraging inclusive economic growth, increasing biodiversity and responding to the dual challenges of climate change and nature recovery.

The project aims to deliver many benefits for local communities, and a new flood channel will reduce the risk of flooding to homes, businesses, and infrastructure, while also providing habitat for wildlife and a new feature in the landscape for recreation.

Some of the benefits of the scheme include:

- a new river channel built in two sections – one section through Runnymede (between Egham Hythe and Chertsey) and one through Spelthorne (between Littleton North lake and the Desborough Cut)
- capacity increases around the Desborough Cut and the weirs at Sunbury, Molesey and Teddington
- improved access to quality green open space and connections with wildlife, in addition to supporting a more sustainable travel network
- a network of high-quality habitat to achieve a biodiversity net gain

#### **Why am I being consulted?**

As a stakeholder to our proposed scheme with specialist knowledge and expertise, your feedback matters. Our plans for the scheme have been built on information and feedback that we have gathered through consultations in 2009 and 2016, which have been supported by technical studies, and ongoing engagement with stakeholders.

We are continuing to consult with a diverse range of people about our plans. These include the general public, landowners, local authorities, community groups and environmental and regulatory organisations.

## Summary of findings from second consultation

We are now starting to think about how the scheme will look and we want to hear your views.

### How can I have my say?

We are holding a public consultation on the plans to help gather feedback on what the community would like to see delivered. From 8 November, you can find out more about the River Thames Scheme and provide your feedback by:

- Visiting the consultation website to find out more and complete our feedback questionnaire at: <https://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk/>
- Emailing the team with any enquires at: [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk)

### Events

There will be drop-in and virtual events running throughout the consultation period. You can find more information about these on our website:

<https://www.riverthamesscheme.org.uk/>

### Contact

Please get in touch with us if you have any questions about the River Thames Scheme or the consultation process by:

- Calling the Environment Agency National Customer Contact Centre: 03708 506 506
- Emailing: [rts@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:rts@environment-agency.gov.uk)

### What happens next?

**This consultation will run from 8 November until 23.59 on Tuesday 20 December 2022.**

All the feedback we receive will be carefully considered by the River Thames Scheme project team.

Your feedback will be crucial in shaping and developing the scheme, which will then be shared in our next consultation, planned for 2023.

Yours sincerely,

Jeanne Capey  
Project Director

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Stakeholder Name
Affinity Water Limited
Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust
British Trust for Ornithology (BTO)
British Waterways Board
BT Openreach
Canal & River Trust Head Office
Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)
Chertsey Flood forum
Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)
Coal Authority
Colt Technology
Crown Estates
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
Department for Transport (DfT)
Design Council
Dialogue Matters
East Berkshire Clinical Commissionng Group
Elmbridge Borough Council
Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership
Environment Agency
Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
Equality and Human Rights Commission
Esso
Esso (Fischer German)
Gas and Electricity Markets Authority
Health and Safety Executive
Historic England
HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC)
Homes England
Instalcom

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Kingston Local Enterprise Partnership
Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames
Land Management Services (LMS)
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
London Fire Brigade
London Police & Crime Commissioner
London Wildlife Trust
Marine Management Organisation
Merlin Attractions Operations Limited
Ministry of Defence
Mole Valley District Council
National Grid Gas PLC
National Highways
National Institute for Health Protection (NIHP)
Natural England
Network Rail
NG National Grid Gas
North Surrey Primary Care NHS Trust
North West Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group
Office for Nuclear Regulation
Office of Rail and Road
OFWAT
Police - Surrey
Police - Thames Valley
Port of London Authority (PLA)
Public Health England
Reigate and Banstead Borough Council
Richmond Local Enterprise Partnership
Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue
Runnymede Borough Council
Runnymede Partnership Team

## Summary of findings from second consultation

SGN
Sky UK
Spelthorne Borough Council
Sport England
SSE
SSE Services PLC
Step Properties
Surrey County Council
Surrey Fire and Rescue
Surrey Heath Borough Council
Surrey Primary Care Trust
Surrey Wildlife Trust
Taggs Boatyard
Taggs Island
Tandridge District Council
Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee
Thames Valley Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership
Thames Water
Thames Water Utilities Limited
Transport Focus
Trinity House
UK Power Networks
UK Power Networks Services (South East) Limited
Virgin Media
Vodafone
Waverley Borough Council
West Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Woking Borough Council
Zayo Telecoms



## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix K- Public information points

<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>Addlestone Library</b>	Runnymede Civic Centre, Station Road, Addlestone KT15 2AF
<b>Ascot Durning Library</b>	High St, Ascot SL5 7JF
<b>Avenue Halls</b>	St Lukes, The Avenue, Kew TW9 2AJ
<b>Chertsey Library</b>	Guildford Street, Chertsey KT16 9BE
<b>Datchet Library</b>	Montagu House, 8 Horton Rd, Datchet, Slough SL3 9ER
<b>Egham Library</b>	High Street, Egham TW20 9EA
<b>Elmbridge Borough Council Civic Centre</b>	1 High Street, Esher KT10 9SD
<b>Hazelwood Centre</b>	Hazelwood Drive, Sunbury-on-Thames TW16 6QU
<b>Kingston Library</b>	Fairfield Road, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2PS
<b>Maidenhead Library</b>	St Ives Road, Maidenhead SL6 1QU
<b>Old Malden Library</b>	Church Road, Worcester Park KT4 7RD
<b>Old Windsor Library</b>	1A Straight Road, Old Windsor, Windsor SL4 2RN
<b>Richard Mayo Centre</b>	Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames KT1 1HZ
<b>Richmond Library</b>	Little Green, Richmond TW9 1QL
<b>Richmond-upon-Thames Civic Centre</b>	Civic Centre, 44 York Street, Twickenham TW1 3BZ
<b>River Bourne Leisure Centre</b>	Heriot Road, Chertsey KT16 9DR
<b>Shepperton Library</b>	High Street, Shepperton TW17 9AU
<b>Spelthorne Leisure Centre</b>	Knowle Green, Staines TW18 1AJ
<b>St Marys Church, Thorpe</b>	37 Church Approach, Thorpe, Egham TW20 8TQ
<b>Staines Library</b>	Friends Walk, Staines TW18 4P
<b>Stanwell Library</b>	5 Vibia Close, Stanwell, Staines TW19 7HR
<b>Sunbury Library</b>	41-43, The Parade, Sunbury-on-Thames TW16 7AB
<b>Surbiton library</b>	Ewell Road, Surbiton KT6 6AG
<b>The Greeno Centre</b>	14 Meadow View, Glebeland Gardens, Shepperton TW17 9DH
<b>Tudor Drive Library</b>	192 Tudor Dr, Kingston upon Thames KT2 5QH
<b>Virginia Water Library</b>	6 Station Parade, Virginia Water GU25 4AB
<b>Walton Community Centre</b>	Manor Road, Walton-on-Thames KT12 2PB
<b>Walton Library</b>	The Heart Centre, 54 Hepworth Way, Walton-on-Thames KT12 1GH
<b>Weybridge Library</b>	Church Street, Weybridge KT13 8DE
<b>Windsor Library</b>	Royal Free Court, 9 Bachelors Acre, Windsor SL4 1ER
<b>Wraysbury Library</b>	33 The Green, Wraysbury, Staines TW19 5NA

# Summary of findings from second consultation

## Appendix L- Media advertisements

The screenshot shows a browser window displaying the Windsor Express website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the URL [www.riverthamescheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamescheme.org.uk) and the text "Have your say on the River Thames Scheme". Below this, a large advertisement is displayed. The ad features a speech bubble on the left that says "We want to hear your views". The main content of the ad is a grid of four images showing a man wearing different styles of puffer jackets. Below the grid, there is a small text box that says "Always Up To 75% Off RRP". At the bottom of the ad, there is a navigation bar with links for "JOBS", "DIGITAL EDITION & ARCHIVES", "MARKET PLACE", and "BOOK AN ADVERT". The Windsor Express logo is prominently displayed in the center, with the tagline "Free Weekly Newspaper of the Year 2018". Below the logo, there is a navigation bar with links for "HOME", "NEWS", "SPORT", "WHAT'S ON", "LIFESTYLE", "BUY SELL TELL", "REMEMBER WHEN", "EDITOR'S PICKS", and "PHOTOS". On the right side of the page, there is a vertical sidebar with the text "We are holding a six week consultation on the River Thames Scheme plans which will run from Tuesday 8 November until Tuesday 20 December 2022". At the bottom of the sidebar, there are logos for "SURREY Environment Agency", "Runnymede Borough Council", and "Elmbridge Borough Council".

We are holding a six week consultation on the **River Thames Scheme** plans which will run from **Tuesday 8 November until Tuesday 20 December 2022**. The plans which will be going on display include:

- A new river channel built in two sections – one section through Runnymede (between Egham Hythe and Chertsey) and one through Spelthorne (between Littleton North lake and the Desborough Cut)
- Capacity increases around the Desborough Cut and the weirs at Sunbury, Molesey and Teddington
- Improved access to quality green open space and connections with wildlife, in addition to supporting a more sustainable travel network
- A network of high-quality habitat to achieve a biodiversity net gain

✉ [RTS@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:RTS@environment-agency.gov.uk)  
☎ 03708 506 506

Full details of the consultation events and how to get involved are available online now at [www.riverthamescheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamescheme.org.uk)

River Thames Scheme



The River Thames Scheme represents a new landscape-based approach to creating healthier, more resilient, and more sustainable communities by reducing the risk of flooding and creating high quality natural environments.



# Summary of findings from second consultation

What's On > Food & Drink > Guildford town centre

## The Guildford bar hidden down an alley that customers need a secret code to enter

Tudor Antiques has been around since 2014 and serves its cocktails in an unusual vessel

WHAT'S ON By Steven White  
06:03, 8 NOV 2022 UPDATED 14:44, 8 NOV 2022

Bookmark     Comments: 3

Find things to do



The inside of Tudor Antiques is like stepping back in time (Image: Tudor Antiques)

Tucked away in Guildford town centre is a small bar that you may well miss if you didn't know what you were looking for. Tudor Antiques is an old-school cocktail joint that appears so intimate its

**ADVERTISEMENT**

The art gallery is a rich mix of traditional and modern. The gallery is open until 5pm on Tuesday 8 November 2022.

**We want to hear your views**

Full details of the consultation events and how to get involved are available online now at [www.riverthamescheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamescheme.org.uk)



RECOMMENDED

 Surrey town named Ladder



What's On > Food & Drink > Guildford town centre

## The Guildford bar hidden down an alley that customers need a secret code to enter

Tudor Antiques has been around since 2014 and serves its cocktails in an unusual vessel

WHAT'S ON By Steven White  
06:03, 8 NOV 2022 UPDATED 14:44, 8 NOV 2022

Bookmark     Comments: 3

Find things to do



The inside of Tudor Antiques is like stepping back in time (Image: Tudor Antiques)

Tucked away in Guildford town centre is a small bar that you may well miss if you didn't know what you were looking for. Tudor Antiques is an old-school cocktail joint that appears so intimate its customers need a door code to enter it.

**ADVERTISEMENT**

We are holding a six week consultation on the River Thames Scheme. Dates which will run from Tuesday 8 November until Tuesday 20 December 2022.

Full details of the consultation events and how to get involved are available online now at [www.riverthamescheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamescheme.org.uk)



**We want to hear your views**

RECOMMENDED

 Surrey town named worst place in UK to get on property ladder





# Summary of findings from second consultation

**SIMILAR ARTICLES TO THIS**

- Man buys Surrey pub in Guildford village after 'love at first sight'
- Dorking Wanderers boss: We want to bring Meadowbank Stadium closer to the Mole Valley... community

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- The 'hidden' Guildford town bar that offers a unique twist
- Guildford North Street regeneration homes won't be as tall
- Surrey pub launches build your own burger menu featuring steak for under £10
- New coffee shop opens in Guildford and people have given their first impressions
- 15 Surrey pubs added to Good Beer Guide 2023 to be named among best in the county



**The Guildford bar hidden down an alley that customers need a secret code to enter**

Tudor Antiques has been around since 2014 and serves its cocktails in an unusual vessel

By Steven White  
06:03 8 NOV 2022 | UPDATED 14:44 9 NOV 2022

Find things to do



News

01753 825111

# South Bucks: Funds go to hospice for looking after Yvonne

## Almost £20k raised by family for charity

By Jade Kidd  
j.kidd@mybmedia.co.uk  
@jaded\_kidd

A family from South Bucks have raised more than £19,400 for Thames Hospice after it cared for a loved one who recently passed away.

Beloved wife, mum and nan Yvonne Ive was cared for at the hospice in Bray and passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loved ones, at the beginning of September.

Both Yvonne and her daughter Simone Markham have always had a passion for fashion with careers in the industry.

In August, together with her nearest and dearest, Simone, who owns MyBoutique, a Farnham Common based independent ladies' clothing store, which is also online at my-boutique.online, organised a huge in-store and online sales

Speed read...

Simone Markham, the owner of MyBoutique organised a huge in-store and online sales event of her summer clothing stock to raise money for Thames Hospice. The hospice cared for her mum Yvonne Ive before she passed away recently.

The event sold the company's summer stock, with all proceeds going to support the work of Thames Hospice.

Simone also secured a large number of prizes to be won in a raffle, including a flight to the Isle of Wight with a lunch, two cases of Prosecco and champagne flutes, and gift vouchers from hair and beauty salons in the area.

Simone is on track to smash her £20,000 fundraising target

before the end of the year, which is enough money to fund a month's care for a patient at Thames Hospice.

While at the hospice, Yvonne and Simone got to meet Princess Anne at the official opening event in July, as well as the charity's ambassador Anita Dobson.

Simone said: "Thank you to all my wonderful customers, friends and family who supported us by purchasing something or buying a raffle ticket."

"We are so proud of the amount we have raised for this wonderful charity, which has cared for my much-loved mum and the entire family so beautifully over the past months."

"It meant so much that mum was still with us at the time of our fundraising event and I know how deeply proud and humbled she was by the out-



Yvonne Ive's granddaughters Sophia and Amelia Markham, Simone Markham, and Yvonne's husband Brian Ive.

pouring of love.

"Mum adored the hospice; she felt safe there, often describing it as a 'magical place', with 'angels supporting her every need'."

She added: "In what was a very difficult time for our family, we still continued to have hope, joy and laughter every day at the hospice and will be forever grateful to their wonderful team."

Amy Chambers, director of fundraising and marketing at

Thames Hospice, said: "Words can't express how grateful we are to Simone and her family for raising this extraordinary amount for us."

"I'm also so delighted to announce that Simone has committed to support us by agreeing to become a Hospice Ambassador."

"She has made, and will continue to make, a huge difference to Thames Hospice, for which we are so incredibly thankful."



We are holding a six week consultation on the River Thames Scheme plans which will run from **Tuesday 8 November until Tuesday 20 December 2022**. The plans which will be going on display include:

- A new river channel built in two sections – one section through Runnymede (between Egham Hythe and Chertsey) and one through Spelthorne (between Littleton North lake and the Desborough Cut)
- Capacity increases around the Desborough Cut and the weirs at Sunbury, Molesey and Teddington.
- Improved access to quality green open space and connections with wildlife, in addition to supporting a more sustainable travel network
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✉ [RTS@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:RTS@environment-agency.gov.uk)  
☎ 03708 506 506

Full details of the consultation events and how to get involved are available online now at [www.riverthamescheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamescheme.org.uk)

We want to hear your views

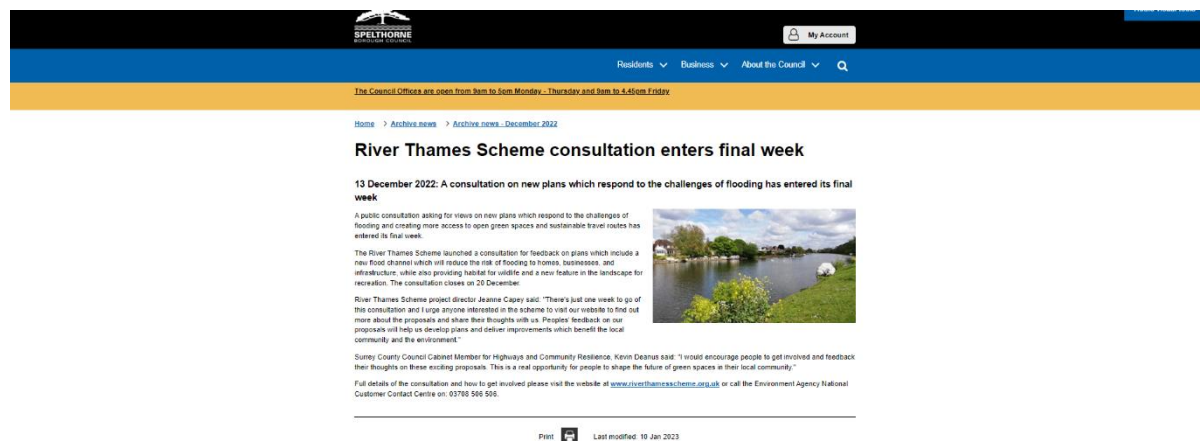
River Thames Scheme

The River Thames Scheme represents a new landscape-based approach to creating healthier, more resilient, and more sustainable



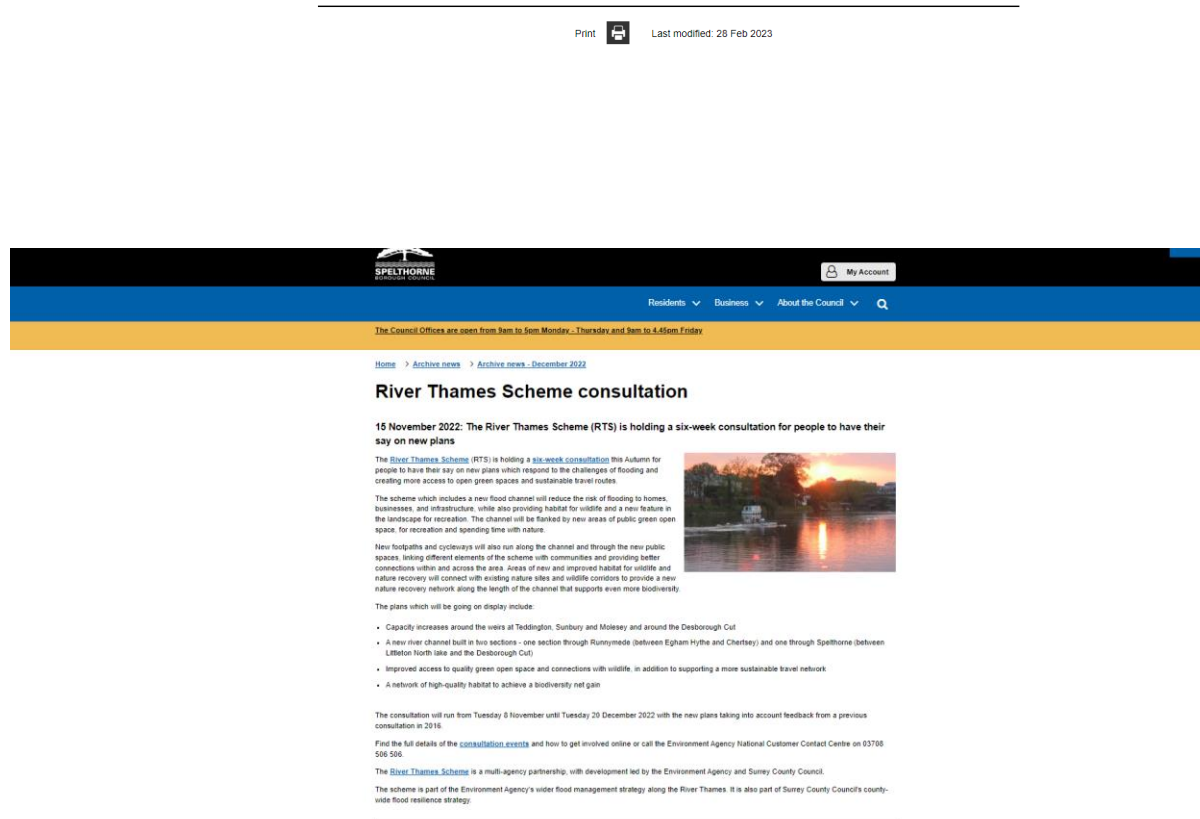
# Summary of findings from second consultation

## Appendix M- Partner promotion



The screenshot shows a news article on the Spelthorne Council website. The header includes the council logo, navigation menus for Residents, Business, and About the Council, and a search icon. A banner below the header states: "The Council Offices are open from 9am to 5pm Monday - Thursday and from 10.45am Friday". The article title is "River Thames Scheme consultation enters final week". The main text begins with "13 December 2022: A consultation on new plans which respond to the challenges of flooding has entered its final week." It describes a public consultation on new plans for the River Thames Scheme, including a new flood channel, green spaces, and infrastructure. A small image of a river scene is included. The article concludes with contact information for the Environment Agency National Customer Contact Centre.

These measures will better protect thousands of homes and businesses, enhance the natural environment around the river, and boost the local economy.  
For more information visit [www.riverthamescheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamescheme.org.uk)



The screenshot shows another news article on the Spelthorne Council website. The header is identical to the first screenshot. The article title is "River Thames Scheme consultation". The main text begins with "15 November 2022: The River Thames Scheme (RTS) is holding a six-week consultation for people to have their say on new plans". It describes the scheme's goals, including reducing flood risk, creating green spaces, and providing infrastructure. A small image of a river scene is included. The article lists several key features of the plans, such as increased capacity at weirs, a new river channel, and improved access to green spaces. It also mentions the consultation dates and contact information for the Environment Agency National Customer Contact Centre.

# Summary of findings from second consultation

Last Updated on November 20, 2022 by Kingston Society

## River Thames Scheme public consultation is now live!

The River Thames between Egham and Teddington is one of the largest areas of undefended, developed floodplain in England. In the past, the area has suffered serious floods. With climate change, the risk of flooding is only going to grow. We need a long term, sustainable plan to deal with this risk. That plan is the River Thames Scheme.



The River Thames Scheme (RTS) is a multi-agency partnership, with development led by the Environment Agency and Surrey County Council. The scheme is part of the Environment Agency's wider flood management strategy along the River Thames. It is also part of Surrey County Council's county-wide flood resilience strategy.

### The new flood channel

The River Thames Scheme will consist of a new flood channel in two sections, through the boroughs of Runnymede and Spelthorne in Surrey. In addition, there will be increases in capacity at three weirs and the Desborough Cut.



Richmond.gov.uk

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The Council

My Account

November 2022

## River Thames Scheme goes on show

9 November 2022

The [River Thames Scheme](#) (RTS) is launching a [six-week consultation](#) this autumn for people to have their say on new plans which respond to the challenges of flooding and creating more access to open green spaces and sustainable travel routes.

The scheme which includes a new flood channel will reduce the risk of flooding to homes, businesses, and infrastructure, while also providing habitat for wildlife and a new feature in the landscape for recreation. The channel will be flanked by new areas of public green open space, for recreation and spending time with nature.

New footpaths and cycleways will also run along the channel and through the new public spaces, linking different elements of the scheme with communities and providing better connections within and across the area. Areas of new and improved habitat for wildlife and nature recovery will connect with existing nature sites and wildlife corridors to provide a new nature recovery network along the length of the channel that supports even more biodiversity.

The plans which will be going on display include:

- Capacity increases around the weirs at Teddington, Sunbury and Molesey and around the Desborough Cut
- A new river channel built in two sections – one section through Runnymede (between Egham Hythe and Chertsey) and one through Spelthorne (between Littleton North lake and the Desborough Cut)
- Improved access to quality green open space and connections with wildlife, in addition to supporting a more sustainable travel network
- A network of high-quality habitat to achieve a biodiversity net gain

The consultation will run from Tuesday 8 November until Tuesday 20 December 2022 with the new plans taking into account feedback from a previous consultation in 2016.

Find the full details of the [consultation events](#) and how to get involved online or call the Environment Agency National Customer Contact Centre on 03708 506 506.

The [River Thames Scheme](#) is a multi-agency partnership, with development led by the Environment Agency and Surrey County Council.

### Share this





# Summary of findings from second consultation

**Surrey News**  
LATEST NEWS FROM SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

SEARCH


ALL RELEASES CONTACT US SURREYCC.GOV.UK SURREY MATTERS [SUBSCRIBE TO RSS](#)

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GENERAL

## Consultation into River Thames Scheme plans reaches final week

POSTED BY SCC - DECEMBER 13, 2022



**CATEGORIES**  
Select Category

**RELEASES VIA EMAIL**  
Enter your email address to receive new releases by email.

Email Address

A public consultation asking for views on new plans which respond to the challenges of flooding and creating more access to open green spaces and sustainable travel routes has entered its final week.

The River Thames Scheme launched a consultation for feedback on plans which include a new flood channel which will reduce the risk of flooding to homes, businesses, and infrastructure, while also providing habitat for wildlife and a new feature in the landscape for recreation. The consultation closes on 20 December.

River Thames Scheme project director Jeanne Capey said:

"There's just one week to go of this consultation and I urge anyone interested in the scheme to visit our website to find out more about the proposals and share their thoughts with us. Peoples' feedback on our proposals will help us develop plans and deliver improvements which benefit the local community and the environment."

Surrey County Council Cabinet Member for Highways and Community Resilience, Kevin Deanus said:

"I would encourage people to get involved and feedback their thoughts on these exciting proposals. This is a real opportunity for people to shape the future of green spaces in their local community."

Full details of the consultation and how to get involved please visit the website at [www.riverthamescheme.org.uk](http://www.riverthamescheme.org.uk) or call the Environment Agency National Customer Contact Centre on: 03705 505 505.

Ends

# Summary of findings from second consultation

The screenshot shows the Elmbridge News website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Elmbridge News logo and a search bar. Below the navigation bar is a large banner image of a street decorated with bunting. The main headline reads "The Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort". Below this, there is a sub-headline: "Millions of people across the country and the Commonwealth are invited to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort over a weekend of special events."

Below the banner, there is a section titled "River Thames Scheme" with a sub-headline "Keep up to date with the project". To the right of this section is a sidebar with social media links: "Stay up-to-date with us", "Sign up to our newsletter", "Read our latest newsletter", "Follow us on Twitter", "Follow us on Instagram", and "Follow us on Facebook".

The main article text includes:

- November 2022 newsletter**
- The River Thames between Egham and Teddington is one of the largest un-defended flood plains in Surrey and has historically suffered serious flooding. With climate change making this risk worse the River Thames Scheme was created to reduce flood risk to communities through Surrey and South West London.
- With funding approved last year, detailed design work is currently underway. The scheme, which involves creating two new river channels alongside the Thames in Runnymede and Spelthorne, as well as improving existing structures like weirs, will increase the capacity of the Thames through Surrey and south west London, reducing the risk of flooding. In Elmbridge improvements will be made to Sunbury and Molesey weirs.
- Alongside the channels there will be large areas of green space, new foot and cycle paths, and improved wildlife habitats. The flood channels will also provide opportunities for fishing, boating and canoeing bringing health benefits to communities as well as opportunities for tourism, recreation and leisure.
- We are planning to make our proposals public later this year and your feedback will be important to us and will help determine our final plans which will go through a thorough and robust consultation and planning process. Please visit the [River Thames Scheme website](#) for more information.

At the bottom of the article, there is a video player titled "The River Thames Scheme" with a play button icon. Below the video player, it says "Watch on YouTube".

At the very bottom of the page, it says "Data published: 16 November 2022".

## River Thames Scheme

The River Thames between Egham and Teddington is on the largest area of undefended, developed floodplain in England.

In the past, the area has suffered serious floods. With climate change, the risk of flooding is only going to grow.

Runnymede Borough Council is working in partnership with the Environment Agency and other local authorities to deliver the River Thames Scheme - a flood alleviation and management scheme in the area affected by flooding from the Thames.

- [River Thames Scheme](#)



Was this information useful?

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix N- Desborough Cut bed lowering theme library

Theme	Subtheme	Theme Found	Count of Response ID
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Decreasing flood risk is important	45
Technical aspects	Flow and flood control	It improves flow capacity	40
Technical aspects	Flow and flood control	It improves flood control	31
Technical aspects	Dredging	Dredging is needed	23
Technical aspects	River issues	Previous flooding experience	15
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Proposed lowering will make no difference	14
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Mitigate flood risk	12
Technical aspects	Flow and flood control	Need to improve capacity	10
Technical aspects	River issues	Propose to lower other parts of river	10
Technical aspects	Scheme suggestions	Query Desborough Cut proposals	5
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Increases flood risk	4
Technical aspects	Flow and flood control	Raise the river banks	3
Technical aspects	Scheme suggestions	The experts should provide the best solution	3
Technical aspects	Concerns about scheme	Concern regarding other sections of river	2
Technical aspects	Concerns about scheme	Results of modelling	2
Technical aspects	Scheme suggestions	Widen Desborough Cut	2
Technical aspects	Concerns about scheme	Scheme concerns	1
Technical aspects	River issues	Existing river sediment	1
Technical aspects	Scheme suggestions	Weir gate infrastructure	1
Technical aspects	Scheme suggestions	Wider scheme queries	1
Sustainability	Sustainability	Sustainability is important	1
Support	Support	It seems to be a good solution	37
Support	Support	Supports scheme	10

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Support	Build for future	Longevity as a factor, not cheapest options	1
Support	Support	Welcome improvements	1
Oppose	Oppose	Oppose this development	4
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Maintenance required	6
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Downstream impact	21
Impact	Wildlife impact	Impact on the wildlife	13
Impact	Environmental impacts	Impact on the environment	12
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Impact on recreational use of river	9
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Upstream Impact	9
Impact	River users	Impact on river users	7
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Flow impact	5
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Impact of faster stream	5
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Impact on communities	5
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Impact of maintenance	4
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Impact on homes	4
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Proposed benefits	4
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Construction impacts	3
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Impact of river occupants	3
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Jubilee River Impact	3
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Proposed development impact	2
Impact	Flood impact	Impact of flooding	1
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Concern over loss of farm land	1
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Ecological impact	1
Impact	Impact of the scheme	It seems invasive	1
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Minimal benefit	1
General	No more comments	No more comments	2
General	Concerns about scheme	Short term solution	1
General	General	Unclear response	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Design	Scheme suggestions	Scheme suggestion	4
Cost	Cost	Concern over cost	2
Consultation	Need more knowledge	Do not have enough knowledge about it	18
Consultation	Need more knowledge	More information needed	13
Consultation	Scheme is unclear	Don't understand the scheme	5
Consultation	More information needed	Here are my questions	3
Construction	Construction time	Timescales	2
Communication	Engage with community	Keep the communities engaged	1
Climate change	Climate change	Impact of climate change	3
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Biodiversity is a priority	1
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Supports biodiversity	1
Access	Access to river	Improve access to waterways	1
Access	Walking routes	Provide pedestrian/cycle bridges	1
Access	Water users	River navigation	1



## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix O- Access to new green open spaces theme library

Theme	Subtheme	Theme Found	Count of Response ID
Access	Water users	Provide access for water activities (canoes, SUP, kayaks, boats)	91
Access	Walking routes	Support pedestrian gates	61
Access	Parking	Parking for cars is needed	36
Access	Walking routes	More walking paths	27
Access	Water users	Provide access for fishing	27
Access	Access for all	Provide access for wheelchairs and prams	25
Access	Parking	Limited parking possibilities for cars	24
Access	Parking	Small car parking along the channel	24
Access	Cycling routes	More cycle paths	21
Access	Parking	Provide secure bicycle storage facilities	19
Access	Walking routes	Prioritise active travel	15
Access	Cycling routes	Off road paths for cycling	14
Access	Walking routes	Only pedestrian access	14
Access	Access for all	Free access to everyone	13
Access	Car access	Limited car access	12
Access	General concerns around access	Access should be carefully considered and controlled	12
Access	Cycling routes	Provide circular cycling routes	11

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Access	Water users	Oppose fishing	10
Access	Walking routes	Off road paths for walking	9
Access	Discourage car use	Provide alternatives to use of cars	6
Access	Parking	Free parking	6
Access	Transport	Better public transport	6
Access	Cycling routes	Concern that pedestrian gates will limit access for cyclists	5
Access	Dog walkers	Provide a dog-friendly zone	5
Access	General concerns around access	Concern over access points impact on residential areas	5
Access	General concerns around access	Keep motorbikes off	5
Access	Links to cycleways	Links to existing cycle paths	5
Access	Walking routes	Provide boardwalks on the wetlands	5
Access	General concerns around access	Remove unconsented Moorers	4
Access	Horse riders	Provide access for horse riders	4
Access	Links to footpaths	Links to existing footpaths	4
Access	Parking	Electric charging at car parking	4
Access	Transport	Improve bus services	4
Access	Walking routes	Provide circular walking routes	4
Access	Connections to schools/towns/shopping	Better direct connections between towns by buses	3

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Access	Cycling routes	No more cycling infrastructure	3
Access	Dog walkers	Keep dogs on leads	3
Access	Links to footpaths	Improve towpaths	3
Access	Transport	Provide integrated modes of transport	3
Access	Walking routes	Provide pedestrian/cycle bridges	3
Access	Water users	Oppose access for canoes/boats	3
Access	Access for all	Should be DDA compliant	1
Access	Connections to schools/towns/shopping	Connections to schools	1
Access	Dog walkers	Ban dog access	1
Access	Dog walkers	Concerns relating to dog walkers	1
Access	Links to public transport	Connections to public transport	1
Access	Transport	Provide cheaper public transport	1
Access	Water users	Access for water users	1
Access	Water users	Keep lake accessible for swimming	1
Biodiversity	Planting	Plant more trees	6
Communication	Promotion of areas	Promote the new spaces	3
Consultation	Need more knowledge	More information required to provide feedback	5
Consultation	Need more knowledge	Do not have enough knowledge about it	1
Cost	Cost	Concern over cost	1
Design	Open spaces	Provide open space/areas	9

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Design	Scheme suggestions	Scheme suggestion	9
Design	Surfaces	Proper surface for walking paths	7
Design	Cycling routes	Ensure proper design of cycle paths	5
Design	Wildlife watching	Provide birds hides for watching birds	4
Design	Work with local groups	Engage local wildlife groups	4
Design	Natural based infrastructure	Supports natural based infrastructure	3
Design	Surfaces	Better surface for cycling routes	3
Design	Work with experts	Cooperate with experts on the design	3
Design	Places to sit	Provide places to sit	2
Design	Surfaces	Keep natural surfaces for walking paths	2
Design	Viewpoints	Provide viewpoints	1
Facilities	Safety infrastructure	Provide bike stands	53
Facilities	Water infrastructure	Provide canoe chutes	27
Facilities	Water infrastructure	Provide safe swimming areas	10
Facilities	Bins	Provide bins for dog waste	7
Facilities	Bins	Provide sufficient rubbish bins	7
Facilities	Recreation	Provide picnic areas	7
Facilities	Toilets	Provide toilets	7
Facilities	Commercial	Provide cafe/food point	5
Facilities	Recreation	Provide beaches for recreation	4
Facilities	Bins	Recycling bins	3

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Facilities	Education	Provide education points	2
Facilities	Recreation	Provide playgrounds	1
Facilities	Safety infrastructure	Provide covered areas as shelters from rain or storm	1
General	No more comments	No more comments	5
General	General	Unclear response	1
Impact	Farmlands	Keep farming and grazing lands	2
Information	On-site	Better signage and information about routes	5
Information	On-site	Provide information notices about wildlife and habitats	3
Information	Mobile/online	Design dedicated website with maps and information, QR codes	1
Information	On-site	Provide information points	1
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Provide maintenance of the new areas	11
Nature	Restricting human access	Design limited access areas to protect wildlife	15
Nature	Habitats	Keep native habitats	10
Nature	Wild character	Keep human intervention to minimum	6
Nature	Wild character	Keep the area possibly wild	6
Nature	Planting	Provide wildflower meadows	3
Nature	Country parks	Establish country parks	2

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Nature	Native species	Focus on native species of trees and plants	2
Oppose	Oppose	Any of those	1
Oppose	Oppose	No changes needed	1
Safety	Safety for users	Separate walkers and cyclists	24
Safety	Safety for users	Safety for water users	11
Safety	Lighting	Better lighting along the river	4
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety	3
Safety	Vandalism	Concern over visitors ignoring the rules	3
Safety	Safety infrastructure	Provide better lifesaving equipment	2
Safety	Vandalism	Concern over inappropriate use of bird watching hides	2
Safety	Vandalism	Vandalism can be a problem	2
Safety	Safety for users	Safety for women	1
Safety	Safety infrastructure	Provide help points	1
Safety	Water safety	Concern over water quality	1
Support	Support	Agree with all of above suggestions	28
Support	Support	General support for new open/green spaces	11
Sustainability	Light pollution	Avoid light pollution	1
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Decreasing flood risk is a priority	15
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Focus on the river project only	8
Urbanisation	Build up areas	Too much build up areas instead of green spaces	1



## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix P- Connection with wildlife theme library

Theme	Subtheme	Theme Found	Count of Response ID
Biodiversity	Planting	Plant more trees	103
Information	On-site	Provide information notices about wildlife and habitats	97
Access	Walking routes	Provide boardwalks on the wetlands	93
Support	Support	Agree with all of above suggestions	78
Design	Wildlife watching	Provide birds hides for watching birds	70
Nature	Restricting human access	Design limited access areas to protect wildlife	60
Nature	Wild character	Keep the area possibly wild	42
Design	Work with local groups	Engage local wildlife groups	33
Safety	Vandalism	Concern over inappropriate use of bird watching hides	29
Nature	Native species	Focus on native species of trees and plants	26
Access	Walking routes	Oppose boardwalks	24
Nature	Habitats	Keep native habitats	24
Nature	Habitats	Provide wildlife corridors	24
Nature	Wildlife	Need to encourage wildlife	23
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Provide maintenance of the new areas	22
Access	Walking routes	More walking paths	21
Design	Scheme suggestions	Scheme suggestion	20
Information	On-site	Better signage and information about routes	15
Information	Oppose information notices	Oppose information notices	15
Access	Water users	Provide access for water activities (canoes, SUP, kayaks, boats)	14

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Design	Open spaces	Provide open space/areas	13
Habitats	Wildlife	Protect wildlife	10
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Decreasing flood risk is a priority	10
Access	Access for all	Provide access for wheelchairs and prams	9
Access	General concerns around access	Access should be carefully considered and controlled	9
Facilities	Education	Provide education points	9
Nature	Planting	More various plants	9
Nature	Planting	Provide wildflower meadows	9
Safety	Vandalism	Vandalism can be a problem	9
Support	Support	General support for new open/green spaces	9
Cost	Cost	Concern over cost	8
Nature	Wild character	Keep human intervention to minimum	8
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Focus on the river project only	8
Design	Places to sit	Provide places to sit	7
Design	Wildlife watching	Oppose bird hides	7
Facilities	Recreation	Provide picnic areas	7
Design	View points	Provide view points	6
General	No more comments	No more comments	6
Access	Parking	Parking for cars is needed	5
Access	Walking routes	Provide circular walking routes	5
Access	Water users	Provide access for fishing	5
Consultation	Need more knowledge	More information required to provide feedback	5
Design	Natural based infrastructure	Supports natural based infrastructure	5
Facilities	Bins	Provide sufficient rubbish bins	5
Access	Access for all	Free access to everyone	4

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Access	Dog walkers	Ban dog access	4
Biodiversity	Planting	Plant bee friendly plants	4
Communication	Promotion of areas	Promote the new spaces	4
Design	Thematic trails	Provide thematic trails with notices	4
Facilities	Bins	Provide bins for dog waste	4
Impact	Wildlife impact	Concern over impact on wildlife due to allowing people in	4
Information	Mobile/online	Design dedicated website with maps and information, QR codes	4
Access	Access	Accessibility is important	3
Access	Cycling routes	More cycle paths	3
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Supports biodiversity	3
Design	Surfaces	Keep natural surfaces for walking paths	3
Design	Wildlife watching	Provide bat boxes	3
Design	Work with experts	Cooperate with experts on the design	3
Facilities	Commercial	Provide cafe/food point	3
Facilities	Toilets	Provide toilets	3
Information	On-site	Provide information points	3
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Stop building on flood plains	3
Access	Cycling routes	Provide circular cycling routes	2
Access	Dog walkers	Keep dogs on leads	2
Access	Walking routes	Off road paths for walking	2
Access	Walking routes	Only pedestrian access	2
Access	Walking routes	Provide pedestrian/cycle bridges	2
Communication	Engage with community	Keep the communities engaged	2
Design	Surfaces	Proper surface for walking paths	2
Facilities	Bins	Recycling bins	2
Facilities	Water infrastructure	Provide safe swimming areas	2

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green space is important	2
Green spaces	Health	Green spaces help mental health	2
Habitats	Habitats	Leave habitats alone to restore	2
Oppose	Oppose	Oppose this development	2
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety	2
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety issues for lone walkers	2
Safety	Vandalism	Concern over visitors ignoring the rules	2
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Mitigate flood risk	2
Access	Car access	Limited car access	1
Access	Cycling routes	Concern that pedestrian gates will limit access for cyclists	1
Access	Cycling routes	Off road paths for cycling	1
Access	Dog walkers	Provide a dog-friendly zone	1
Access	Horse riders	Provide access for horse riders	1
Access	Links to footpaths	Improve towpaths	1
Access	Links to footpaths	Links to existing footpaths	1
Access	Links to public transport	Connections to public transport	1
Access	Transport	Better public transport	1
Access	Transport	Provide cheaper public transport	1
Access	Water users	Keep lake accessible for swimming	1
Access	Water users	Oppose fishing	1
Biodiversity	Wildlife watching	Provide bee hives	1
Climate change	Climate change	Need to consider climate changes	1
Consultation	Engage with community	Feedback on consultation process	1
Consultation	Need more knowledge	Do not have enough knowledge about it	1
Design	Wildlife watching	Nature cameras	1
Facilities	Recreation	Oppose picnic areas	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Facilities	Recreation	Provide beaches for recreation	1
Facilities	Recreation	Provide playgrounds	1
Facilities	Safety infrastructure	Provide covered areas as shelters from rain or storm	1
Facilities	Water infrastructure	Provide canoe chuts	1
Habitats	Wildlife	It won't help to restore wildlife	1
Impact	Wildlife impact	Impact on the wildlife	1
Maintenance	Involve communities	Engage local community in maintenance	1
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Provide maintenance of the existing areas	1
Mitigation	Environmental impacts	Consider wildlife and environment impact	1
Nature	Country parks	Establish country parks	1
Operation concerns	Land take	Compulsory purchased land issue	1
Safety	Lighting	Better lighting along the river	1
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety issues for children	1
Safety	Safety for users	Safety for water users	1
Safety	Safety for users	Separate walkers and cyclists	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix Q- Sustainable travel network theme library

Theme	Subtheme	Theme Found	Count of Response ID
Access	Walking routes	More walking paths	110
Access	Cycling routes	More cycle paths	88
Access	Cycling routes	Off road paths for cycling	57
Access	Cycling routes	Provide circular cycling routes	42
Access	Links to footpaths	Links to existing footpaths	37
Access	Transport	Better public transport	34
Safety	Safety for users	Separate walkers and cyclists	33
Access	Walking routes	Off road paths for walking	32
Support	Support	Agree with all of above suggestions	30
Access	Links to cycleways	Links to existing cyclepaths	28
Access	Links to public transport	Connections to public transport	27
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety	26
Information	On-site	Better signage and information about routes	24
Access	Connections to schools/towns/shopping	Better direct connections between towns by buses	22
Access	Connectivity	Connectivity is important	22
Access	Transport	Improve bus services	22
Access	Walking routes	Provide circular walking routes	22
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Better maintenance of cycle paths	20
Design	Cycling routes	Ensure proper design of cycle paths	17
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Decreasing flood risk is a priority	17
Access	Cycling routes	No more cycling infrastructure	16
Access	Discourage car use	Provide alternatives to use of cars	16
Design	Surfaces	Better surface for cycling routes	15
Safety	Lighting	Better lighting along the river	13
Other	Other	Other	12
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Focus on the river project only	12



## Summary of findings from second consultation

Access	Links to footpaths	Improve towpaths	11
Access	Walking routes	Provide pedestrian/cycle bridges	11
General	No more comments	No more comments	11
Road traffic	Road traffic	Suggestion on roads/road traffic	11
Access	Active travel	Encourage active travel	10
Access	Transport	Provide cheaper public transport	9
Access	Parking	Provide secure bicycle storage facilities	8
Access	Access	Connecting both sides of the river	7
Access	Access for all	Provide access for wheelchairs and prams	7
Access	Cycling routes	Cyclists do not use existing cycleways	7
Design	Scheme suggestions	Scheme suggestion	7
Access	Connections to schools/towns/shopping	Connections to schools	6
Access	Cycling routes	Concern that pedestrian gates will limit access for cyclists	6
Access	Water users	Provide access for water activities (canoes, SUP, kayaks, boats)	6
Facilities	Safety infrastructure	Provide bike stands	6
Safety	Safety for users	Wide path that would provide safe shared space for cyclists and pedestrians	6
Access	Car access	Cars will be still used/needed	5
Access	Car access	Limited car access	5
Access	Walking routes	Only pedestrian access	5
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety issues for lone walkers	5
Access	Walking routes	Prioritise active travel	4
Design	Surfaces	Proper surface for walking paths	4
Sustainability	Sustainability	Sustainable travel network	4
Access	Horse riders	Provide access for horse riders	3

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Access	Parking	Parking for cars is needed	3
Access	Parking	Small car parkings along the channel	3
Access	Transport	Provide integrated modes of transport	3
Design	Surfaces	Keep natural surfaces for walking paths	3
General	General	Unclear response	3
Habitats	Wildlife	Protect wildlife	3
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Provide maintenance of the existing areas	3
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Provide maintenance of the new areas	3
Oppose	Oppose	No changes needed	3
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Stop building on flood plains	3
Access	Access	Accessibility is important	2
Access	Connections to schools/towns/shopping	Connections to shopping	2
Access	Parking	Electric charging at car parking	2
Access	Parking	Free parking	2
Access	Parking	Limited parking possibilities for cars	2
Access	Walking routes	Provide boardwalks on the wetlands	2
Biodiversity	Planting	Plant more trees	2
Communication	Engage with community	Keep the communities engaged	2
Consultation	Need more knowledge	More information required to provide feedback	2
Information	Mobile/online	Design dedicated website with maps and information, QR codes	2
Information	On-site	Provide information notices about wildlife and habitats	2
Nature	Habitats	Provide wildlife corridors	2
Safety	Policing	Introduce traffic police	2

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Sustainability	Light pollution	Avoid light pollution	2
Access	Access during construction	Provide access for pedestrian and cyclists during construction	1
Access	Access for all	Free access to everyone	1
Access	Transport	Lack of public transport	1
Access	Transport	Safe travel network	1
Access	Transport	Supports public transport /travel network	1
Consultation	Engage with community	Feedback on consultation process	1
Cost	Cost	Concern over cost	1
Design	Places to sit	Provide places to sit	1
Facilities	Bins	Provide sufficient rubbish bins	1
Facilities	Commercial	Provide cafe/food point	1
Facilities	Recreation	Provide beaches for recreation	1
Facilities	Water infrastructure	Provide canoe chutes	1
Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green space is important	1
Green spaces	Health	Green spaces help mental health	1
Information	Mobile/online	Design mobile app with maps	1
Nature	Country parks	Establish country parks	1
Nature	Habitats	Keep native habitats	1
Nature	Restricting human access	Design limited access areas to protect wildlife	1
Nature	Wild character	Keep human intervention to minimum	1
Road traffic	Road traffic	Complain on local roads/facilities	1
Safety	Safety for users	Safety for women	1
Safety	Vandalism	Concern over inappropriate use of bird watching hides	1
Urbanisation	Build up areas	Too much build up areas instead of green spaces	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix R- Balance of green spaces, wildlife connections and sustainable travel network theme library

Theme	Subtheme	Theme Found	Count of Response ID
Habitats	Wildlife	Wildlife is important	88
Sustainability	Sustainable travel	Sustainable travel is priority	57
Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green spaces will boost local area	38
Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green space is important	34
Green spaces	Health	Green spaces help mental health	32
Green spaces	All factors linked together	Access to green spaces is a base for other factors	29
Sustainability	Alternative to car use	Sustainable alternatives to car needed	27
Access	Transport	Supports public transport /travel network	24
General	General	Unclear response	24
Habitats	Habitats	Preserving habitats is important for environment	24
Green spaces	Enough green spaces	Too much green space already	20
Green spaces	Need more green spaces	Shortage of green spaces	19
Balancing factors	All equal	Equal priorities	18
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Biodiversity is a priority	18
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Flood alleviation is priority	16
Design	Scheme suggestions	Scheme suggestion	15
Habitats	Wildlife	Protect wildlife	14
Technical aspects	Concerns about scheme	Scheme concerns	14
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Need to educate about biodiversity and its importance	13
Urbanisation	Build up areas	Too much build up areas instead of green spaces	13
Green spaces	Need more green spaces	Need more green space	12

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Habitats	Habitats	Nature is more important	12
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Should focus on flood risk	12
Access	Access to river	Access to river is important	11
Access	Active travel	More walking/cycling paths	11
Habitats	Habitats	Preserving habitats is important	11
Access	Transport	Not sure on travel network	10
Habitats	Habitats	Habitats are endangered	9
Access	Access	Scheme needs to be accessible	8
Sustainability	Sustainability	Sustainable travel network	8
Habitats	Habitats	Fragmented wildlife habitats	6
Sustainability	Need to reduce air pollution	Air pollution is a concern	6
Sustainability	Public transport use	Not many people will use public transport	6
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Biodiversity is in crisis	5
Sustainability	Plan for future	Sustainable future for next generations	5
Urbanisation	Build up areas	Intensive urbanisation is a concern	5
Access	Transport	Safe travel network	4
Green spaces	Green spaces opportunities	Green space opens up opportunities	4
Sustainability	Sustainability	Sustainability is important	4
Access	Access to river	Provide blue open spaces	3
Access	Transport	Lack of public transport	3
Balancing factors	All equal	Balance is the best option	3
Road traffic	Road traffic	Complain on local roads/facilities	3
Support	Support	Great scheme to improve habitats	3
Support	Support	Supports scheme	3
Balancing factors	All factors linked together	They are all connected with each other	2
Climate change	Climate change	Need to consider climate changes	2

## Summary of findings from second consultation

General	General	Comments on housing in the area	2
Habitats	Habitats	Leave habitats alone to restore	2
Mitigation	Carbon footprint	Concerned about carbon footprint in the community	2
Urbanisation	Pressure from developers	Problem with pressure from developers	2
Access	Dog walkers	Concerns relating to dog walkers	1
Access	Transport	Provide cheaper public transport	1
Cost	Cost	Concern over cost	1
Design	Surfaces	Keep natural surfaces for walking paths	1
Green spaces	Green spaces usage	People will not make use of the green space	1
Habitats	Habitats	Lack of knowledge on the current habitats	1
Habitats	Wildlife	It won't help to restore wildlife	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix S- High quality habitats and increased biodiversity or more new green open space theme library

Theme	Subtheme	Theme Found	Count of Response ID
Habitats	Wildlife	Wildlife is important	51
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Biodiversity is a priority	43
Habitats	Habitats	Preserving habitats is important for environment	39
Design	Scheme suggestions	Scheme suggestion	35
General	General	Unclear response	30
Green spaces	Enough green spaces	Too much green space already	29
Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green spaces will boost local area	24
Balancing factors	All equal	Balance is the best option	18
Balancing factors	All equal	Equal priorities	18
Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green space is important	17
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Biodiversity is in crisis	16
Habitats	Habitats	Nature is more important	15
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Need to educate about biodiversity and its importance	13
Balancing factors	All factors linked together	They are all connected with each other	12
Green spaces	All factors linked together	Access to green spaces is a base for other factors	12
Green spaces	Need more green spaces	Shortage of green spaces	12
Technical aspects	Concerns about scheme	Scheme concerns	12
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Should focus on flood risk	12
Green spaces	Green spaces management	Local green space is not managed effectively for biodiversity	11
Habitats	Habitats	Habitats are endangered	11
Green spaces	Health	Green spaces help mental health	10



## Summary of findings from second consultation

Green spaces	Need more green spaces	Need more green space	10
Urbanisation	Build up areas	Too much build up areas instead of green spaces	10
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Flood alleviation is priority	9
Support	Support	Great scheme to improve habitats	8
Habitats	Wildlife	Protect wildlife	7
Habitats	Habitats	Preserving habitats is important	6
Access	Access	Scheme needs to be accessible	5
General	General	Comments on housing in the area	4
Habitats	Habitats	Leave habitats alone to restore	4
Habitats	Habitats	Native species concerns	4
Access	Active travel	More walking/cycling paths	3
Climate change	Climate change	Need to consider climate changes	3
Habitats	Habitats	Fragmented wildlife habitats	3
Sustainability	Plan for future	Sustainable future for next generations	3
Access	Access to river	Access to river is important	2
Consultation	Engage with community	Feedback on consultation process	2
Nature	Planting	Plant life	2
Urbanisation	Pressure from developers	Problem with pressure from developers	2
Access	Access to river	Provide blue open spaces	1
Access	Dog walkers	Concerns relating to dog walkers	1
Access	Transport	Provide cheaper public transport	1
Access	Transport	Supports public transport /travel network	1
Consultation	Need more knowledge	More information required to provide feedback	1
Cost	Cost	Concern over cost	1
Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green spaces will attract non-locals	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Green spaces	Green spaces opportunities	Green space opens up opportunities	1
Habitats	Habitats	Lack of knowledge on the current habitats	1
Impact	Environmental impacts	Impact on the environment	1
Impact	Visual impact	Concern over visual impact on landscape	1
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Need flood defence	1
Technical aspects	Scheme suggestions	The experts should provide the best solution	1
Urbanisation	Build up areas	Intensive urbanisation is a concern	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix T- Additional comments on scheme design theme library

Theme	Subtheme	Theme Found	Count of Response ID
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Decreasing flood risk is important	41
Design	Scheme suggestions	Scheme suggestion	39
Technical aspects	Concerns about scheme	Scheme concerns	32
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Concern over increase flood risk in other parts	32
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Decreasing flood risk is a priority	32
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Flood alleviation is priority	32
Access	Water users	Provide access for water activities (canoes, SUP, kayaks, boats)	30
Access	Access to river	Access to river is important	27
Operation concerns	River management	Flood control and river management as a priority	27
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Mitigate flood risk	26
General	General	Unclear response	22
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Should focus on flood risk	13
Access	Access	Connecting both sides of the river	11
Technical aspects	Flow and flood control	It improves flood control	11
Access	Access during construction	Keep access to the river during construction	10
Operation concerns	Flood risk	Provide effective flood management	10
Access	Water users	Provide access for fishing	9
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Biodiversity is a priority	9
Facilities	Water infrastructure	Provide canoe chuts	9
Green spaces	Enough green spaces	Too much green space already	9
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Provide maintenance of the new areas	9
Cost	Cost	Concern over cost	8

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green spaces will boost local area	8
Mitigation	Environmental impacts	Consider wildlife and environment impact	8
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety	7
Construction	Construction time	Get it done fast	6
Consultation	Engage with community	Feedback on consultation process	6
Design	Work with experts	Cooperate with experts on the design	6
Habitats	Habitats	Preserving habitats is important for environment	6
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Impact on recreational use of river	6
Nature	Restricting human access	Design limited access areas to protect wildlife	6
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Focus on the river project only	6
Access	Access	Accessibility is important	5
Access	Access	Scheme needs to be accessible	5
Access	Access for all	Provide access for wheelchairs and prams	5
Biodiversity	Planting	Plant more trees	5
Design	Open spaces	Provide open space/areas	5
Facilities	Bins	Provide sufficient rubbish bins	5
Facilities	Recreation	Provide picnic areas	5
Habitats	Wildlife	Wildlife is important	5
Nature	Habitats	Keep native habitats	5
Nature	Wild character	Keep the area possibly wild	5
Access	Access for all	Free access to everyone	4
Access	Cycling routes	More cycle paths	4
Access	Water users	Keep lake accessible for swimming	4
Communication	Work with experts	Engage with experts and local groups	4
Facilities	Water infrastructure	Provide safe swimming areas	4
Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green space is important	4

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Habitats	Habitats	Preserving habitats is important	4
Habitats	Wildlife	Protect wildlife	4
Hydropower	Hydropower	Implementing hydropower generation elements	4
Impact	Wildlife impact	Impact on the wildlife	4
Information	On-site	Provide information notices about wildlife and habitats	4
Maintenance	Involve communities	Engage local community in maintenance	4
Safety	Water safety	Concern over water quality	4
Technical aspects	Dredging	Dredging is needed	4
Technical aspects	Flow and flood control	Raise the river banks	4
Access	Access during construction	Provide access for pedestrian and cyclists during construction	3
Access	General concerns around access	Access should be carefully considered and controlled	3
Access	Links to footpaths	Improve towpaths	3
Access	Parking	Small car parkings along the channel	3
Access	Walking routes	Provide boardwalks on the wetlands	3
Access	Water users	Access for water users	3
Communication	Inform	Keep the local communities informed	3
Communication	Inform	Provide information about impact on the local communities	3
Design	Work with local groups	Engage local wildlife groups	3
Facilities	Bins	Recycling bins	3
Facilities	Toilets	Provide toilets	3
General	No more comments	No more comments	3
Green spaces	Green spaces opportunities	Green space opens up opportunities	3
Habitats	Habitats	Habitats are endangered	3
Habitats	Habitats	Nature is more important	3
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Concern over loss of farm land	3
Mitigation	Traffic disruption	Minimise disruption to traffic	3

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Nature	Native species	Focus on native species of trees and plants	3
Safety	Flood risk	Safety of houses downstream of Desborough Cut	3
Support	Support	Great scheme to improve habitats	3
Sustainability	Need to reduce air pollution	Air pollution is a concern	3
Sustainability	Transport during construction	Use river for materials transport	3
Technical aspects	Flow and flood control	It improves flow capacity	3
Urbanisation	Build up areas	Intensive urbanisation is a concern	3
Access	Access during construction	Provide access routes during construction	2
Access	Cycling routes	Off road paths for cycling	2
Access	Transport	Better public transport	2
Access	Walking routes	More walking paths	2
Access	Walking routes	Off road paths for walking	2
Access	Walking routes	Provide pedestrian/cycle bridges	2
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Need to educate about biodiversity and its importance	2
Climate change	Climate change	Need to consider climate changes	2
Climate change	Raise awareness of climate change	Raise awareness of climate change	2
Communication	Engage with community	Keep the communities engaged	2
Communication	Engage with stakeholders	Align the scheme with local strategic plans	2
Construction	Construction time	Deliver the scheme in phases	2
Consultation	Need more knowledge	More information required to provide feedback	2
Design	Thematic trails	Provide thematic trails with notices	2
Design	Wildlife watching	Provide birds hides for watching birds	2
Facilities	Bins	Provide bins for dog waste	2
Facilities	Education	Provide education points	2

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Facilities	Recreation	Provide beaches for recreation	2
General	General	Comments on housing in the area	2
Green spaces	Health	Green spaces help mental health	2
Green spaces	Need more green spaces	Need more green space	2
Green spaces	Need more green spaces	Shortage of green spaces	2
Habitats	Habitats	Native species concerns	2
Impact	Environmental impacts	Impact on the environment	2
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Impact on homes	2
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Better maintenance of cycle paths	2
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Maintenance required	2
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Minimise the impact on community	2
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Provide information about planned mitigation measures	2
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Provide mitigation measures	2
Nature	Country parks	Establish country parks	2
Nature	Habitats	Provide wildlife corridors	2
Operation concerns	Land take	Compulsory purchased land issue	2
Safety	Lighting	Better lighting along the river	2
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety issues for children	2
Safety	Safety for users	Wide path that would provide safe shared space for cyclists and pedestrians	2
Sustainability	Plan for future	Sustainable future for next generations	2
Sustainability	Used materials	Use sustainable materials	2
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Stop building on flood plains	2
Access	Active travel	More walking/cycling paths	1
Access	Car access	Limited car access	1
Access	Connections to schools/towns/shopping	Connections to schools	1
Access	Dog walkers	Ban dog access	1



## Summary of findings from second consultation

Access	Horse riders	Provide access for horse riders	1
Access	Links to footpaths	Links to existing footpaths	1
Access	Parking	Electric charging at car parking	1
Access	Parking	Limited parking possibilities for cars	1
Access	Transport	Lack of public transport	1
Access	Walking routes	Support pedestrian gates	1
Access	Water users	Oppose fishing	1
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Biodiversity is in crisis	1
Biodiversity	Planting	Plant bee friendly plants	1
Biodiversity	Wildlife watching	Provide bee hives	1
Communication	Promotion of areas	Promote the new spaces	1
Consultation	More information needed	Here are my questions	1
Consultation	Need more knowledge	Do not have enough knowledge about it	1
Consultation	Need more knowledge	More information needed	1
Consultation	Scheme is unclear	Don't understand the scheme	1
Design	Natural based infrastructure	Supports natural based infrastructure	1
Design	Surfaces	Better surface for cycling routes	1
Design	Surfaces	Proper surface for walking paths	1
Design	Wildlife watching	Provide bat boxes	1
Facilities	Commercial	Provide cafe/food point	1
Facilities	Recreation	Provide playgrounds	1
Facilities	Safety infrastructure	Provide covered areas as shelters from rain or storm	1
Green spaces	All factors linked together	Access to green spaces is a base for other factors	1
Habitats	Habitats	Leave habitats alone to restore	1
Habitats	Wildlife	Wildlife reserve	1
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Proposed benefits	1
Impact	Wildlife impact	Concern over impact on wildlife due to allowing people in	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Information	On-site	Better signage and information about routes	1
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Provide maintenance of the existing areas	1
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Minimise disruption	1
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Reduce waste	1
Nature	Wildlife	Need to encourage wildlife	1
Operation concerns	Drought periods	Concern over drought periods	1
Road traffic	Road traffic	Complain on local roads/facilities	1
Road traffic	Road traffic	Suggestion on roads/road traffic	1
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety issues for lone walkers	1
Safety	Safety for users	Safety for water users	1
Safety	Safety for users	Separate walkers and cyclists	1
Safety	Safety of users	Concerns relating to anti-social behaviour	1
Safety	Vandalism	Vandalism can be a problem	1
Support	Support	General support for new open/green spaces	1
Support	Support	Supports scheme	1
Sustainability	Alternative to car use	Sustainable alternatives to car needed	1
Sustainability	Sustainability	Sustainable travel network	1
Sustainability	Transport during construction	Reduce use of lorries	1
Sustainability	Used materials	Use local resources and local business	1
Sustainability	Used materials	Use recycled/renewable materials	1
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Need flood defense	1
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Proposed lowering will make no difference	1
Urbanisation	Pressure from developers	Problem with pressure from developers	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix U- Approach to construction theme library

Theme	Subtheme	Theme Found	Count of Response ID
Mitigation	Traffic disruption	Minimise disruption to traffic	40
Mitigation	Environmental impacts	Consider wildlife and environment impact	39
Design	Scheme suggestions	Scheme suggestion	34
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Mitigate flood risk	31
Sustainability	Used materials	Use sustainable materials	26
Operation concerns	Flood risk	Provide effective flood management	24
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Minimise disruption	20
Access	Access during construction	Keep access to the river during construction	18
Mitigation	Carbon footprint	Minimise carbon footprint	16
Communication	Inform	Inform in advance about disruption	15
Communication	Inform	Keep the local communities informed	15
General	No more comments	No more comments	14
Sustainability	Transport during construction	Use river for materials transport	14
Construction	Construction time	Get it done fast	13
Sustainability	Used materials	Use recycled/renewable materials	13
Sustainability	Transport during construction	Reduce use of lorries	12
Access	Access during construction	Provide access for pedestrian and cyclists during construction	11
Sustainability	Used materials	Reduce Reuse Recycle as a rule	11
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Minimise the impact on community	10
Consultation	Need more knowledge	Do not have enough knowledge about it	8

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Mitigation	Noise	Minimise noise impact	8
Sustainability	Used materials	Use natural materials	8
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Concern over increase flood risk in other parts	8
Communication	Engage with community	Communication with residents	7
Sustainability	Sustainability	Sustainability is important	7
Sustainability	Used materials	Use local resources and local business	7
Consultation	More information needed	Here are my questions	6
Access	Access during construction	Provide access routes during construction	4
General	General	Comments on housing in the area	4
Impact	River users	Impact on river users	4
Impact	Visual impact	Concern over visual impact on landscape	4
Support	Build for future	Longevity as a factor, not cheapest options	4
Sustainability	Transport during construction	Use of electric vehicles	4
Access	Access	Accessibility is important	3
Communication	Work with experts	Engage with experts and local groups	3
General	General	Unclear response	3
Hydropower	Hydropower	Implementing hydropower generation elements	3
Mitigation	Demolition	Avoid demolition of buildings	3
Safety	Safety for users	Safety for water users	3
Access	Access to river	Access to river is important	2
Communication	Coordination of works	Good coordination is needed	2
Communication	Engage with community	Engage with the neighbours	2
Communication	Engage with community	Keep the communities engaged	2
Construction	Construction time	Deliver the scheme in phases	2

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Consultation	Engage with community	Feedback on consultation process	2
Consultation	Need more knowledge	More information required to provide feedback	2
Facilities	Bins	Provide sufficient rubbish bins	2
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Provide information about planned mitigation measures	2
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Provide mitigation measures	2
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Reduce waste	2
Operation concerns	River management	Flood control and river management as a priority	2
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety issues for children	2
Sustainability	Need to reduce air pollution	Air pollution is a concern	2
Technical aspects	Dredging	Dredging is needed	2
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Decreasing flood risk is a priority	2
Technical aspects	River issues	Previous flooding experience	2
Access	Access	Connecting both sides of the river	1
Access	Car access	Limited car access	1
Access	Cycling routes	Off road paths for cycling	1
Access	Links to footpaths	Links to existing footpaths	1
Access	Parking	Parking for cars is needed	1
Access	Transport	Better public transport	1
Access	Walking routes	Provide pedestrian/cycle bridges	1
Access	Water users	Keep lake accessible for swimming	1
Access	Water users	Provide access for fishing	1
Access	Water users	Provide access for water activities (canoes, SUP, kayaks, boats)	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Climate change	Climate change	Need to consider climate changes	1
Communication	Promotion of areas	Promote the new spaces	1
Design	Work with experts	Cooperate with experts on the design	1
Facilities	Commercial	Provide cafe/food point	1
Facilities	Toilets	Provide toilets	1
Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green space is important	1
Habitats	Wildlife	Protect wildlife	1
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Concern over loss of farm land	1
Information	On-site	Better signage and information about routes	1
Maintenance	Involve communities	Engage local community in maintenance	1
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Provide maintenance of the new areas	1
Nature	Wild character	Keep human intervention to minimum	1
Nature	Wild character	Keep the area possibly wild	1
Oppose	Oppose	Oppose this development	1
Safety	Lighting	Better lighting along the river	1
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety	1
Safety	Safety for users	Separate walkers and cyclists	1
Safety	Vandalism	Vandalism can be a problem	1
Safety	Water safety	Concern over water quality	1
Support	Support	General support for new open/green spaces	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

### Appendix V- Additional consideration theme library

Theme	Subtheme	Theme Found	Count of Response ID
Design	Scheme suggestions	Scheme suggestion	67
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Decreasing flood risk is important	45
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Concern over increase flood risk in other parts	43
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Decreasing flood risk is a priority	37
Operation concerns	River management	Flood control and river management as a priority	30
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Flood alleviation is priority	27
Access	Access to river	Access to river is important	25
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Mitigate flood risk	24
Communication	Inform	Keep the local communities informed	23
General	No more comments	No more comments	21
Operation concerns	Flood risk	Provide effective flood management	20
Access	Water users	Provide access for water activities (canoes, SUP, kayaks, boats)	19
Consultation	More information needed	Here are my questions	18
Construction	Construction time	Get it done fast	17
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Should focus on flood risk	15
Consultation	Need more knowledge	More information needed	13
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Focus on the river project only	13
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Stop building on flood plains	13
Support	Support	Supports scheme	12



## Summary of findings from second consultation

Technical aspects	Dredging	Dredging is needed	12
Cost	Cost	Concern over cost	10
Access	Access during construction	Keep access to the river during construction	9
Green spaces	Enough green spaces	Too much green space already	9
Technical aspects	River issues	Previous flooding experience	9
Communication	Work with experts	Engage with experts and local groups	8
Facilities	Water infrastructure	Provide canoe chutes	7
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Impact on homes	7
Safety	Water safety	Concern over water quality	7
Access	Access	Connecting both sides of the river	6
Communication	Engage with community	Communication with residents	6
Consultation	Engage with community	Feedback on consultation process	6
General	General	Comments on housing in the area	6
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Maintenance required	6
Mitigation	Environmental impacts	Consider wildlife and environment impact	6
Safety	Flood risk	Safety of houses downstream of Desborough Cut	6
Communication	Engage with community	Keep the communities engaged	5
Facilities	Commercial	Provide cafe/food point	5
Hydropower	Hydropower	Implementing hydropower generation elements	5
Impact	Environmental impacts	Impact on the environment	5

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Nature	Wild character	Keep the area possibly wild	5
Technical aspects	Flow and flood control	It improves flood control	5
Communication	Engage with stakeholders	Align the scheme with local strategic plans	4
Design	Work with local groups	Engage local wildlife groups	4
Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green spaces will boost local area	4
Habitats	Wildlife	Wildlife is important	4
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Flow impact	4
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Impact on recreational use of river	4
Operation concerns	Land take	Compulsory purchased land issue	4
Safety	Safety for users	Safety for water users	4
Technical aspects	Concerns about scheme	Scheme concerns	4
Technical aspects	Flow and flood control	Raise the riverbanks	4
Urbanisation	Build up areas	Too much build up areas instead of green spaces	4
Access	General concerns around access	Access should be carefully considered and controlled	3
Access	General concerns around access	Remove unconsented Moorers	3
Access	Links to footpaths	Improve towpaths	3
Access	Walking routes	More walking paths	3
Access	Walking routes	Provide pedestrian/cycle bridges	3
Access	Water users	Access for water users	3
Access	Water users	Provide access for fishing	3
Access	Water users	River navigation	3
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Biodiversity is a priority	3

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Communication	Inform	Provide information about impact on the local communities	3
Construction	Construction time	Timescales	3
Facilities	Water infrastructure	Provide safe swimming areas	3
General	General	Unclear response	3
Green spaces	Health	Green spaces help mental health	3
Habitats	Habitats	Preserving habitats is important for environment	3
Maintenance	Involve communities	Engage local community in maintenance	3
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Provide maintenance of the new areas	3
Safety	Lighting	Better lighting along the river	3
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety	3
Sustainability	Sustainability	Sustainability is important	3
Sustainability	Transport during construction	Use river for materials transport	3
Access	Access for all	Free access to everyone	2
Access	Cycling routes	More cycle paths	2
Access	Parking	Parking for cars is needed	2
Access	Water users	Keep lake accessible for swimming	2
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Need to educate about biodiversity and its importance	2
Biodiversity	Planting	Plant more trees	2
Climate change	Climate change	Impact of climate change	2
Climate change	Climate change	Need to consider climate changes	2
Communication	Coordination of works	Good coordination is needed	2
Construction	Construction time	Deliver the scheme in phases	2

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Design	Open spaces	Provide open space/areas	2
Design	Places to sit	Provide places to sit	2
Facilities	Recreation	Provide picnic areas	2
Green spaces	All factors linked together	Access to green spaces is a base for other factors	2
Habitats	Habitats	Habitats are endangered	2
Habitats	Habitats	Preserving habitats is important	2
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Concern over loss of farmland	2
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Impact on communities	2
Mitigation	Demolition	Avoid demolition of buildings	2
Mitigation	Traffic disruption	Minimise disruption to traffic	2
Nature	Habitats	Provide wildlife corridors	2
Nature	Restricting human access	Design limited access areas to protect wildlife	2
Nature	Wildlife	Need to encourage wildlife	2
Operation concerns	Drought periods	Concern over drought periods	2
Oppose	Oppose	Oppose this development	2
Other	Other	Other	2
Support	Support	General support for new open/green spaces	2
Support	Support	It seems to be a good solution	2
Support	Support	Welcome improvements	2
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Need flood defence	2
Technical aspects	Flow and flood control	It improves flow capacity	2
Access	Access	Accessibility is important	1
Access	Access	Scheme needs to be accessible	1
Access	Access for all	Provide access for wheelchairs and prams	1
Access	Active travel	Encourage active travel	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Access	Connectivity	Connectivity is important	1
Access	Cycling routes	Off road paths for cycling	1
Access	Dog walkers	Keep dogs on leads	1
Access	General concerns around access	Concern over access points impact on residential areas	1
Access	Horse riders	Provide access for horse riders	1
Access	Parking	Small car parking along the channel	1
Access	Transport	Better public transport	1
Access	Transport	Lack of public transport	1
Access	Walking routes	Provide boardwalks on the wetlands	1
Access	Water users	Oppose fishing	1
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Supports biodiversity	1
Climate change	Raise awareness of climate change	Raise awareness of climate change	1
Communication	Engage with community	Engage with the neighbours	1
Communication	Inform	Inform in advance about disruption	1
Communication	Promotion of areas	Promote the new spaces	1
Consultation	Scheme is unclear	Don't understand the scheme	1
Design	Natural based infrastructure	Supports natural based infrastructure	1
Design	Wildlife watching	Provide birds hides for watching birds	1
Facilities	Bins	Provide bins for dog waste	1
Facilities	Bins	Provide sufficient rubbish bins	1
Facilities	Bins	Recycling bins	1
Facilities	Recreation	Provide beaches for recreation	1
Facilities	Toilets	Provide toilets	1
Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green space is important	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

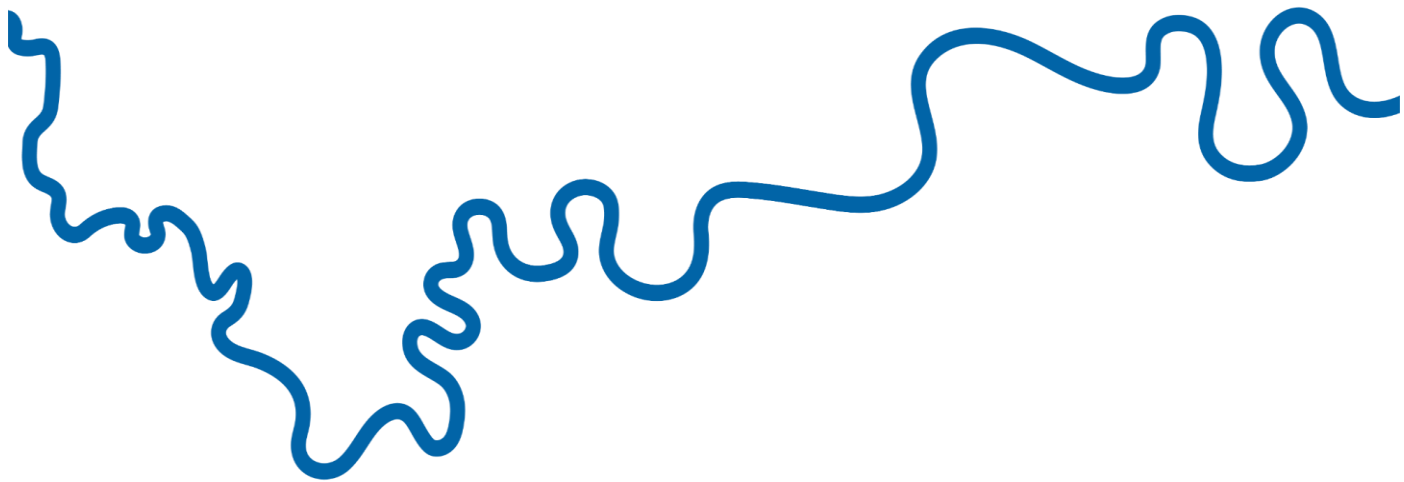
Green spaces	Access to green spaces	Access to green spaces will attract non-locals	1
Green spaces	Green spaces opportunities	Green space opens up opportunities	1
Habitats	Habitats	Native species concerns	1
Habitats	Habitats	Nature is more important	1
Habitats	Wildlife	Protect wildlife	1
Impact	Flood impact	Impact of flooding	1
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Construction impacts	1
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Downstream impact	1
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Ecological impact	1
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Proposed benefits	1
Impact	Impact of the scheme	Upstream Impact	1
Impact	Visual impact	Concern over visual impact on landscape	1
Impact	Wildlife impact	Impact on the wildlife	1
Information	On-site	Better signage and information about routes	1
Information	On-site	Provide information notices about wildlife and habitats	1
Maintenance	Proper maintenance	Provide maintenance of the existing areas	1
Mitigation	Carbon footprint	Concerned about carbon footprint in the community	1
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Minimise disruption	1
Mitigation	Mitigation measures	Provide mitigation measures	1
Nature	Country parks	Establish country parks	1
Nature	Habitats	Keep native habitats	1

## Summary of findings from second consultation

Nature	Native species	Focus on native species of trees and plants	1
Road traffic	Road traffic	Suggestion on roads/road traffic	1
Safety	Safety for users	Concern over safety issues for children	1
Safety	Safety for users	Separate walkers and cyclists	1
Sustainability	Need to reduce air pollution	Air pollution is a concern	1
Sustainability	Used materials	Use local resources and local business	1
Sustainability	Used materials	Use recycled/renewable materials	1
Technical aspects	Flood risk	Proposed lowering will make no difference	1
Urbanisation	Pressure from developers	Problem with pressure from developers	1



## Summary of findings from second consultation



The River Thames Scheme, delivered in a partnership led by the Environment Agency and Surrey County Council, will reduce flood risk for residents and businesses and improve the surrounding area.





### **Accessibility**

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