A proposed reservoir in the Fens

Community Liaison Group

20 November 2025

Welcome and introduction

A proposed reservoir in the Fens

Project team members

- **Mark** – Programme Director
- **Tom** – Fens Reservoir Project Manager
- **Sarah** – Fens Stakeholder Lead
- **Damien** – Fens Local Authority Relationship Lead
- **Vicky** – Planning Lead
- **Grant** – Public Affairs Lead
- **Clare** – Masterplanning Lead
- **Jack** – Engineering team
- **Kat** – Environment team
- **Keeley** – Sustainability team
- **Alex** – Construction Lead
- **Emily** – Traffic and transport team
- **Ruth** – Landowner Lead
- **Robin** – Consultation Lead
- **Imogen** – Consultation team

Agenda

Welcome and introduction

Review of previous CLG meeting

Final questions and feedback

Presentation on our updated proposals and chance for discussion

Close

Interactive feedback and discussion

Review of previous meeting

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Our previous CLG

- Anglian Water provided an update on survey works.
- Anglian Water provided an update on its Traffic and Transport proposals.
- We had a useful interactive session on our Walking, Cycling and Horse-riding Assessment and Review (WCHAR).
- Anglian Water provided an update on what its phase three consultation proposals could include.

Previous actions

- Anglian Water to organise the next meeting.
- Anglian Water to share slides and minutes with attendees.
- Attendees to continue to share relevant information with their organisations and gather feedback as representatives.

Project update

A proposed reservoir in the Fens

Where we are

The development timeline

2022–2026

Pre-application consultation (multiple phases)

Have your say

DCO application submission

2027

2027/28

DCO examination

Secretary of State decision

2028

2030

Construction of reservoir starts

Reservoir in supply (earliest)

2036

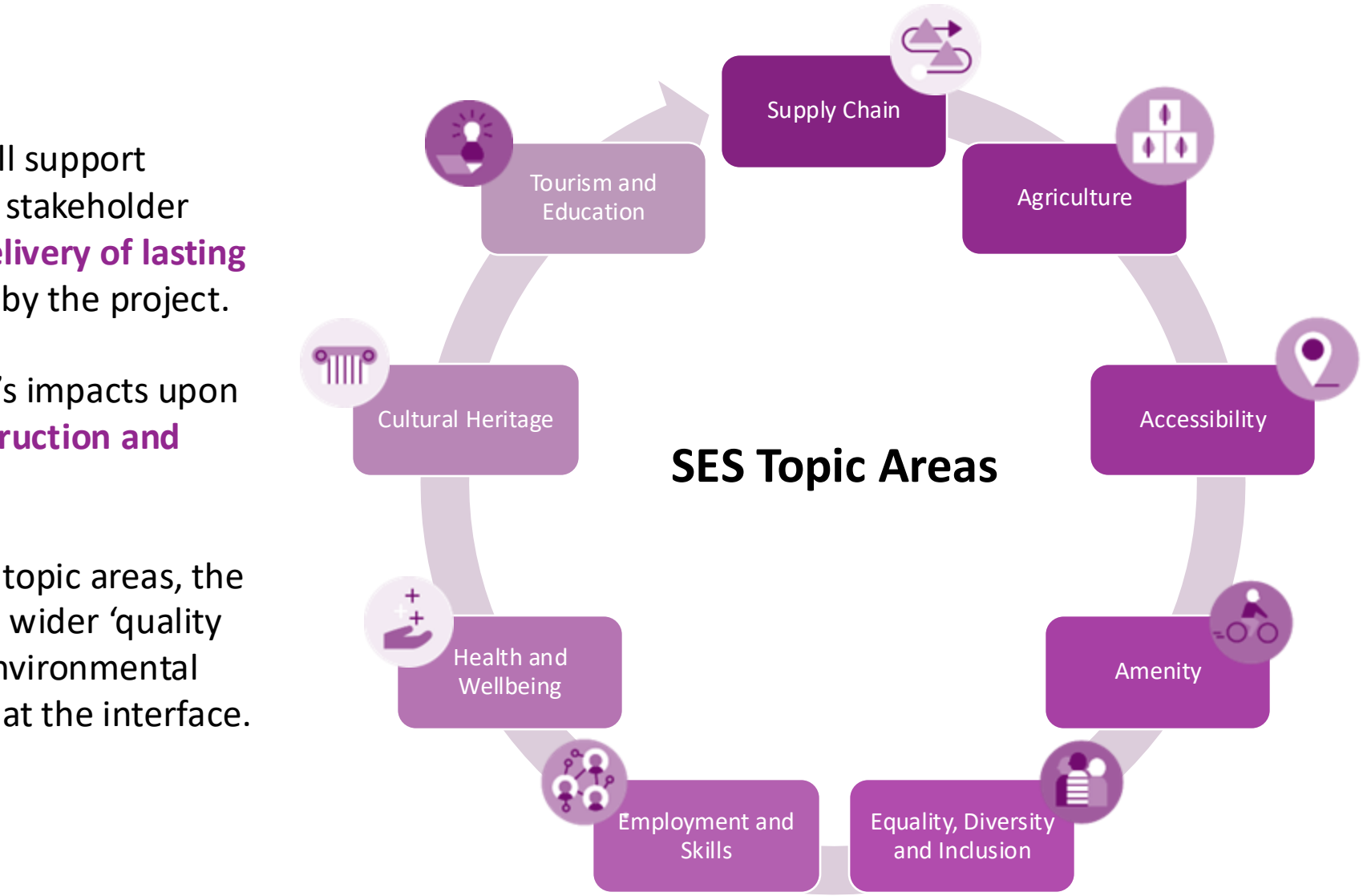
Please note: this timeline is indicative only and may change as our proposals develop

Our socio-economic strategy (SES)

A Socio-Economic Strategy (SES) will support Anglian Water to navigate complex stakeholder requirements and **maximise the delivery of lasting socio-economic benefits** delivered by the project.

The SES will investigate the project's impacts upon these topic areas in **both the construction and operational phases**

Whilst focusing on socio-economic topic areas, the SES will also need to read-across to wider 'quality of place' issues that may overlap environmental issues with nature-based solutions at the interface.



Public consultation and feedback

A proposed reservoir in the Fens

Community events

COMMUNITY EVENTS		
LOCATION	DATE	TIME
St Wendreda's Church Hall	Monday 3 November	3pm-8pm
Wimblington Parish Hall	Friday 7 November	1pm-6pm
Bar Hill Village Hall	Saturday 8 November	10am-3pm
Queen Street Church	Monday 10 November	3pm-8pm
Bluntisham Village Hall	Tuesday 11 November	11am-4pm
Downham Market Town Hall	Thursday 13 November	3pm-8pm
Doddington Village Hall	Friday 14 November	1pm-6pm
The Bricstan Hall	Saturday 15 November	10am-3pm
Manea Village Hall	Tuesday 18 November	3pm-8pm
Swavesey Memorial Hall	Friday 21 November	1pm-6pm

Phase three consultation

Our consultation is open from **15 October until 10 December 2025.** We are consulting on our phase three design proposals for:

- Design of the main reservoir site
- Reservoir construction, traffic and transport
- The associated water infrastructure
- How we would construct the associated water infrastructure
- Supporting Environmental Information Report

Engaging with landowners

We have prioritised **engagement with landowners,** talking to those directly affected ahead of sharing information with the public.

We have engaged through **one-on-one meetings with landowners,** as well as our **landowner engagement forum.**

Drop-in events were run prior to community consultation events.

Providing feedback

People can provide feedback in several different ways:

- On Anglian Water's project website using the online form: **www.fensreservoir.co.uk**
- Sending an email to: **info@fensreservoir.co.uk**
- Sending written feedback to: **Freepost Fens Reservoir**

All feedback shared will be reviewed, recorded, and carefully considered as we develop our proposals.

We will publish a feedback summary report after our consultation.

Our phase three reservoir proposals

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A new destination for Fenland

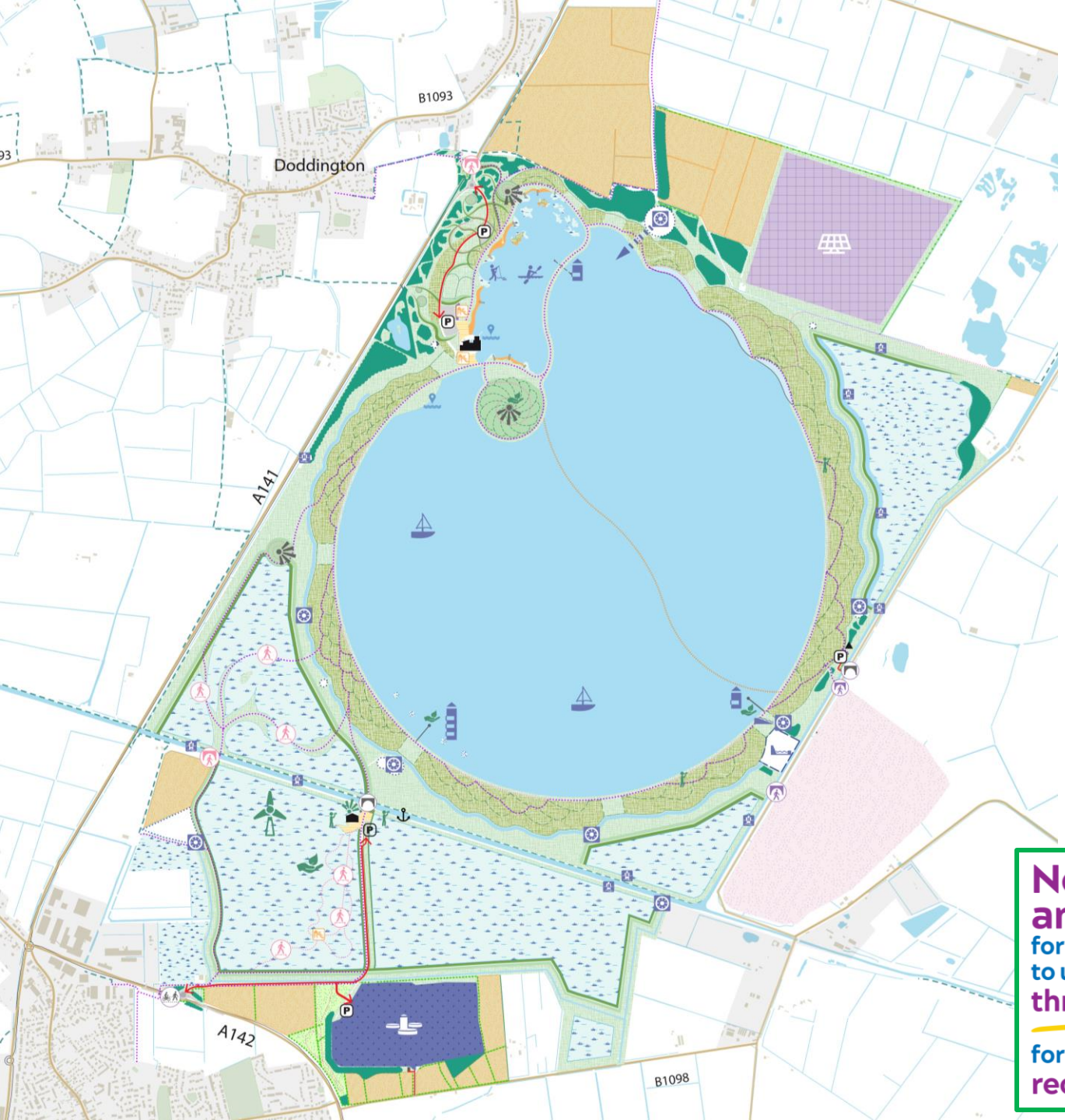
Creating a place where people, nature and water come together

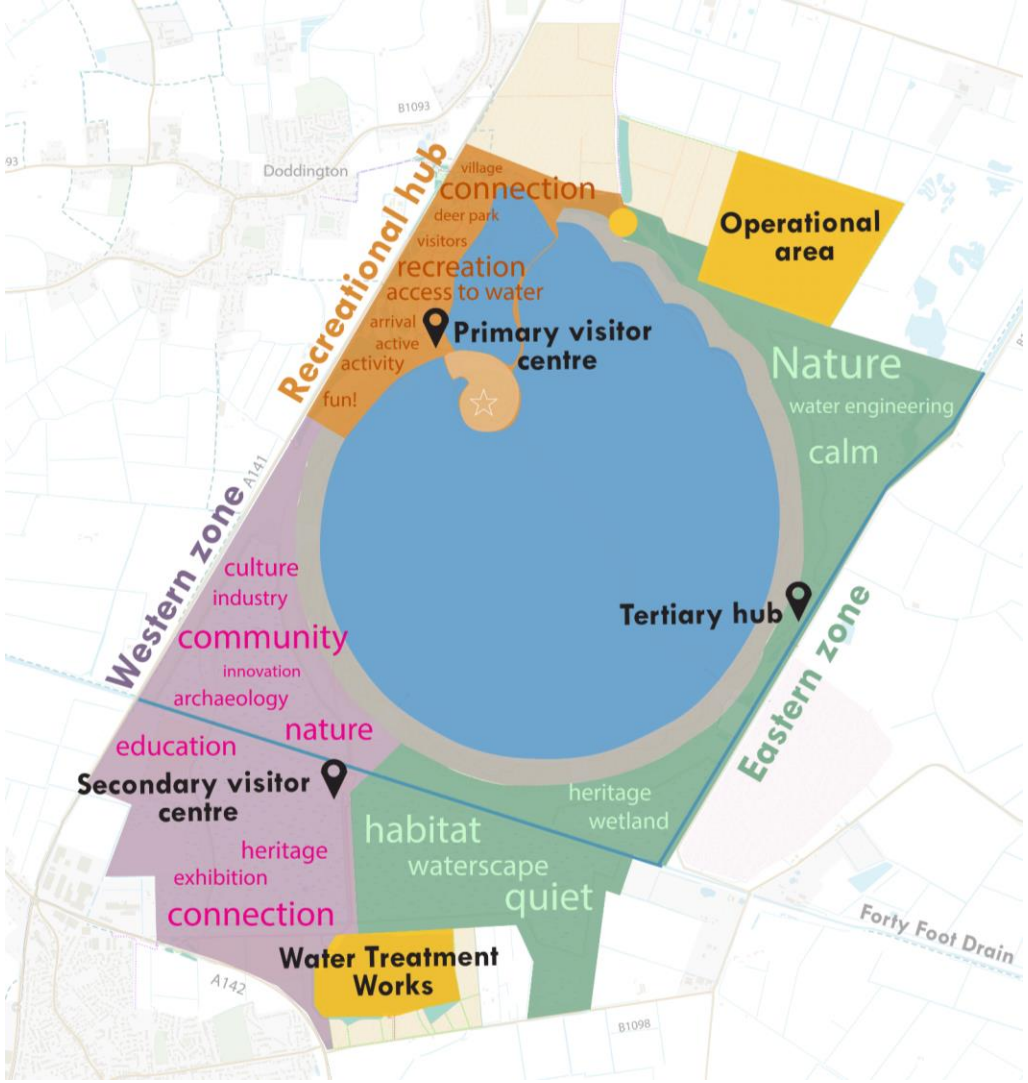
Supporting a thriving region

Supporting **skills** development and creating **new jobs**

An **exciting destination** that could draw up to **400,000 visitors** every year

This is a significant investment in England's water infrastructure and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to deliver lasting benefits for people and nature in Cambridgeshire





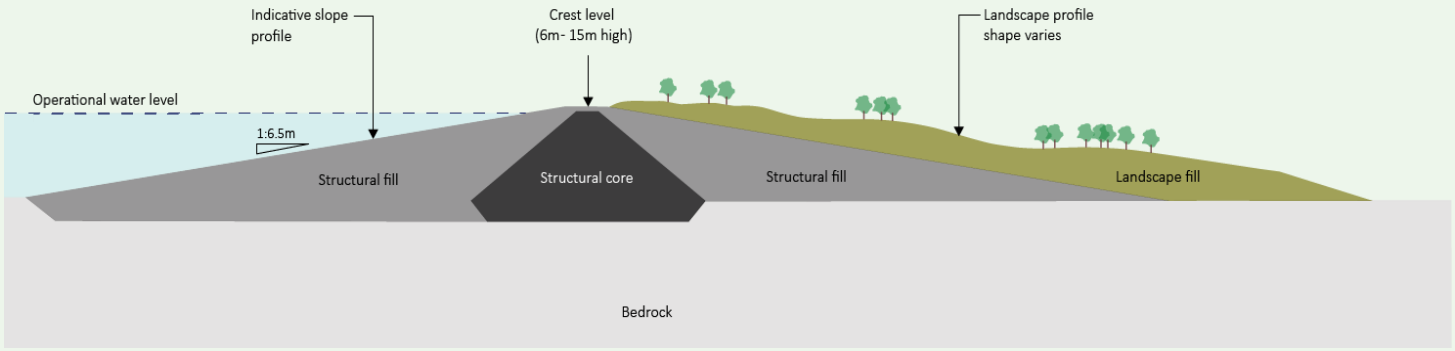
New amenities for communities to use, with three visitor hubs for leisure and recreation

Celebrating nature with over **500** hectares of wetland and open space

Access for **everyone** by foot, bike or horse with around **35KM** of **active travel routes** across the site

Our phase three design proposals

Our phase three design proposals celebrate the unique character of the Fens. They show three zones that could offer something different, providing a place for everyone.



Recreational Hub
The main recreational hub featuring the main visitor centre and lagoon.

Eastern Zone
A haven for precious fenland wildlife with links to the east.

Western Zone
Opportunities to explore and enjoy nature with active travel routes, direct links to Chatteris, and a second visitor centre.

Constructing the reservoir

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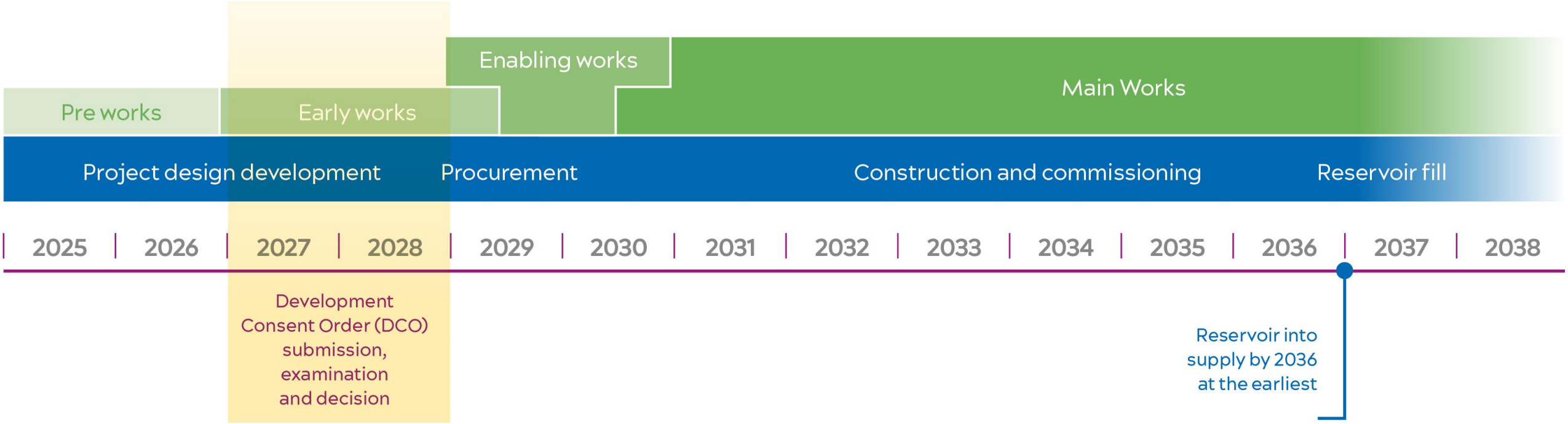
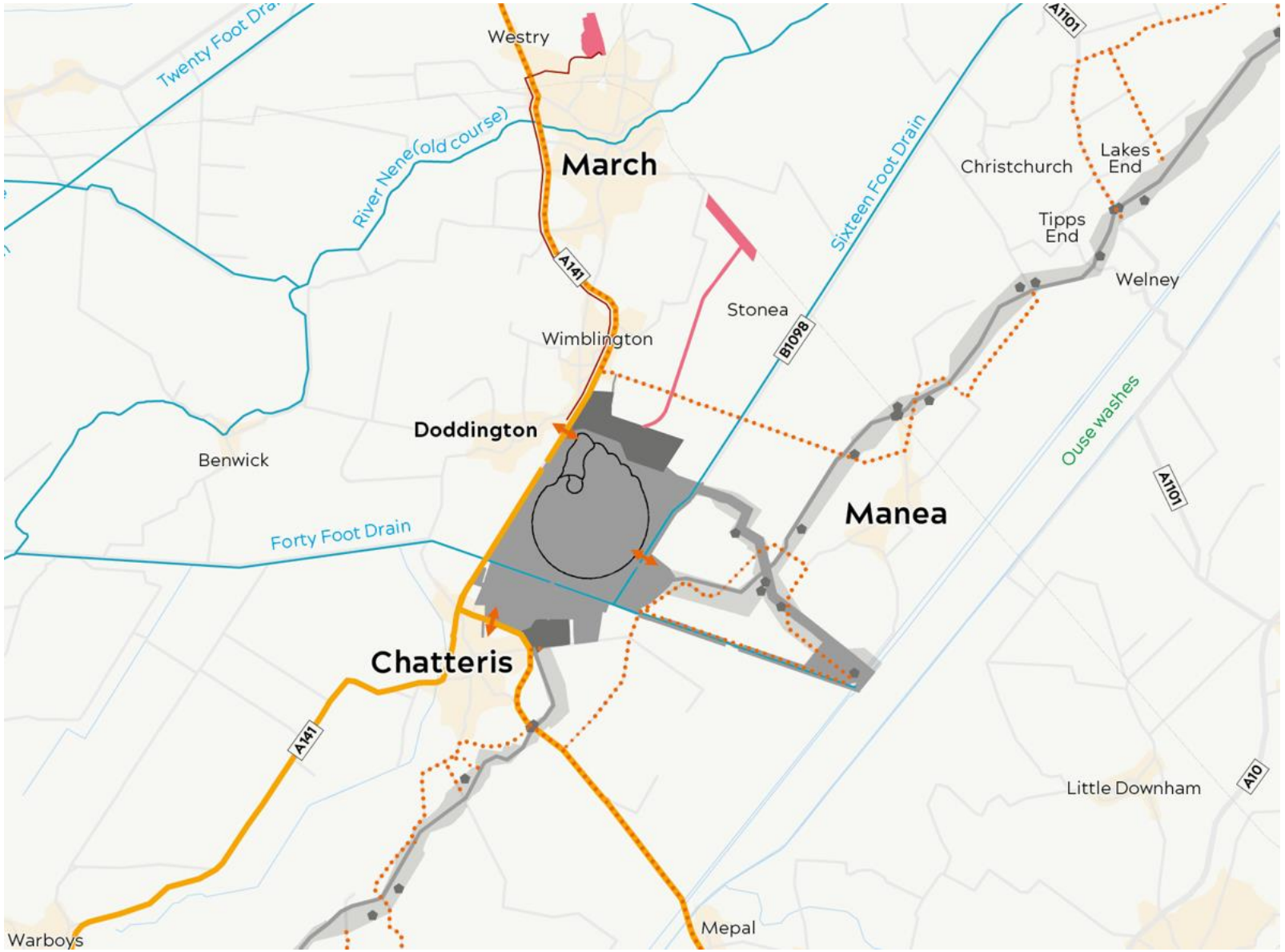
Constructing the reservoir

How we're planning for construction:

- Identifying opportunities to re-use as much material from the site as we can.
- Working out how and when we need to carry out certain construction activity, and the workforce involved.
- Considering how we will keep impacts on people, place and environment as low as possible, and the ways we can manage these impacts.



Constructing the reservoir



Key

- Our phase three indicative project boundary
- Construction working areas and environmental mitigation (including working widths for pipeline construction, based on best engineering route)
- Indicative locations for construction equipment, staff facilities and materials storage
- Proposed locations for access to and from the reservoir
- Options being considered for construction railway sidings and their associated routes to the main reservoir site
- Proposed routes for HGV construction traffic reaching the site from the strategic road network
- Proposed HGV road routes from the strategic road network to the associated water infrastructure areas
- Phase three reservoir proposals
- Existing Middle Level channels

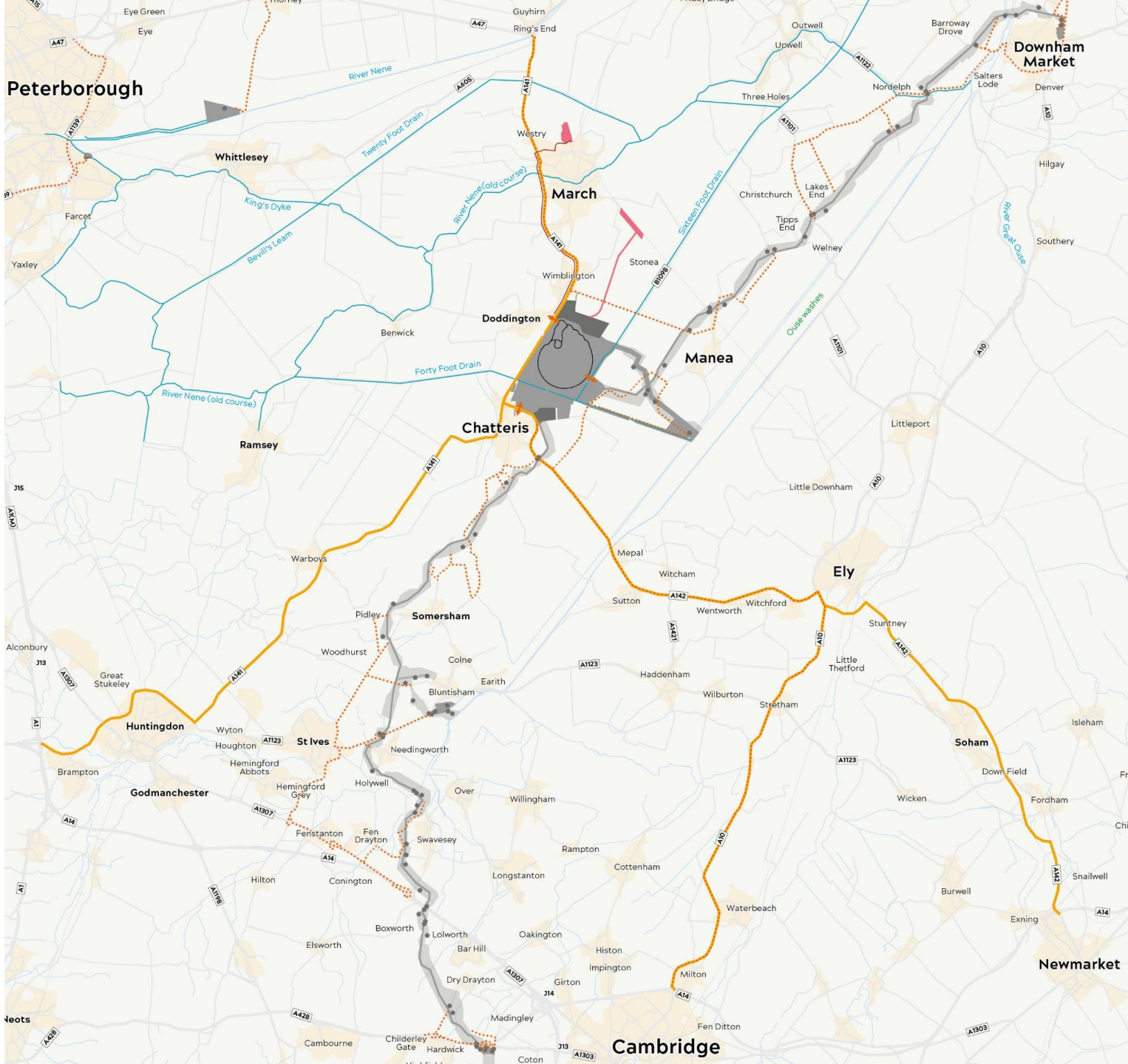
Developing our traffic and transport proposals

- We’re committed to exploring how we can minimise potential disruption for local communities and reduce carbon emissions.

- We’ve identified four possible road routes that use A roads and motorways, helping to keep heavy vehicles off smaller local roads.

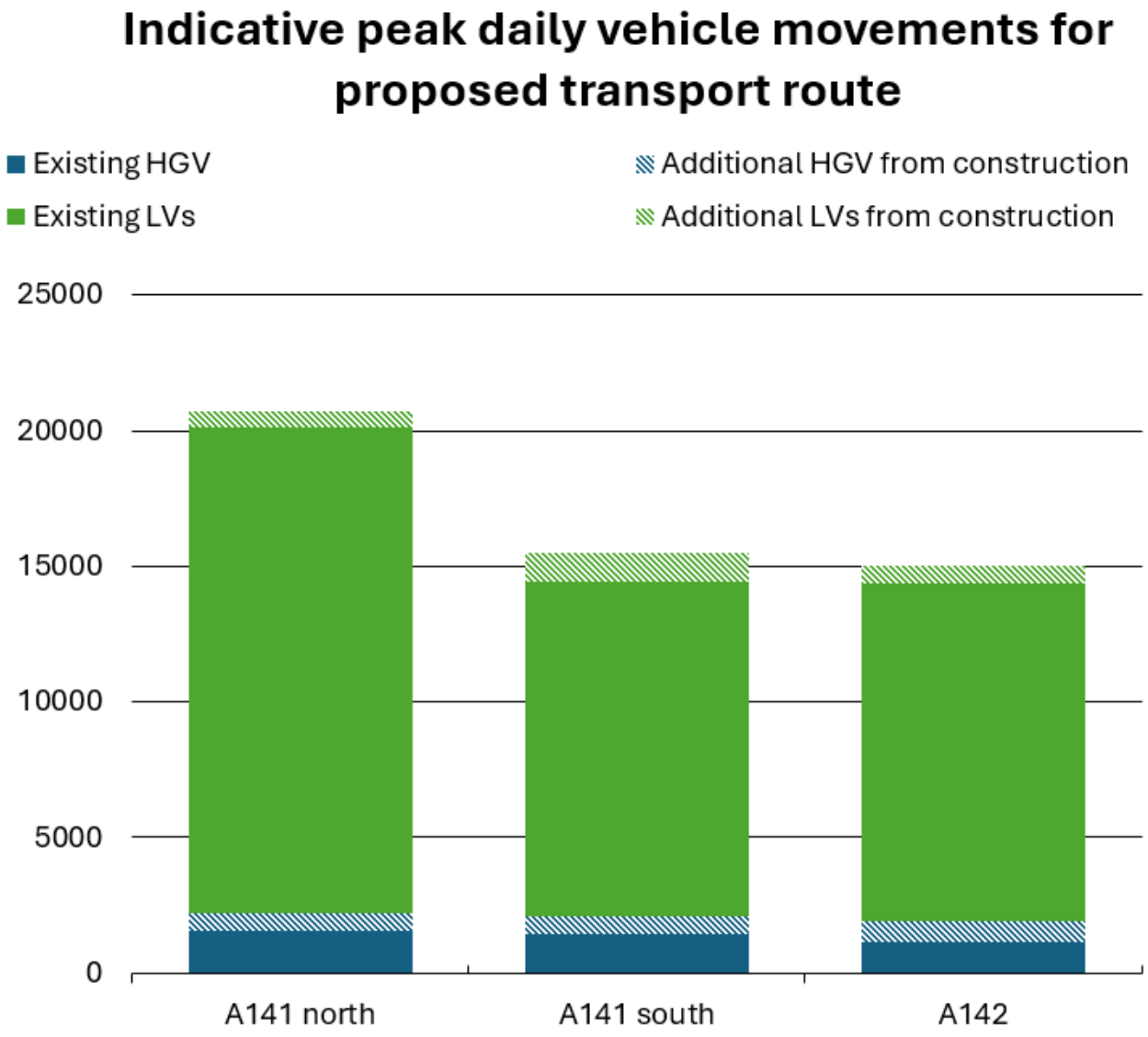
- We’ve also identified two rail options:
  - Whitemoor Yard (March) – transfer by HGV along A141 to site
  - Manea Sidings (Stonea) - transfer by HGV along haul route to site

- We’re actively working with Network Rail to assess the two rail options.



How we'll manage impacts on the road network - main road routes

- We are assessing rail options to reduce HGV trips on the road network.
- Construction traffic will include a mix of heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) and light vehicles (LVs)
- Estimated additional 1000 – 1400 total vehicles (HGV+LV) per day (1 to 2 vehicles per minute)
- 6% to 12% increase in traffic flows per day (HGV + LV)
- Estimated additional 600 – 650 HGVs per day (1 per minute).
- Rail options could reduce road traffic by up to 400 HGVs per day (note Whitemoor Yard option still uses A141)
- Further assessment is being undertaken to identify impacts and any mitigation required.



How we'll manage impacts on the road network - Pipeline Corridor and Associated Infrastructure access routes

- Pipeline corridor access and AWI site access:
  - Over 500 potential highway access routes assessed
  - Sifted to one route per access point (approximately every 1km along pipeline corridor and at AWI sites)
  - Estimated number of HGV movements per day at each access point is approximately 60 HGVs (equivalent to one HGV movement every 10 minutes)
  - Some access routes will be used for more than one access point
  - Further assessment is being undertaken to identify locations where cumulative impacts may occur and any mitigation required.

- We may need to make some improvements to some roads, such as widening sections and reinforcing the surfaces to prepare for heavier vehicles.

- Further information can be found in our Design Refinement Report.

Our phase three associated water infrastructure proposals

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Our scheme

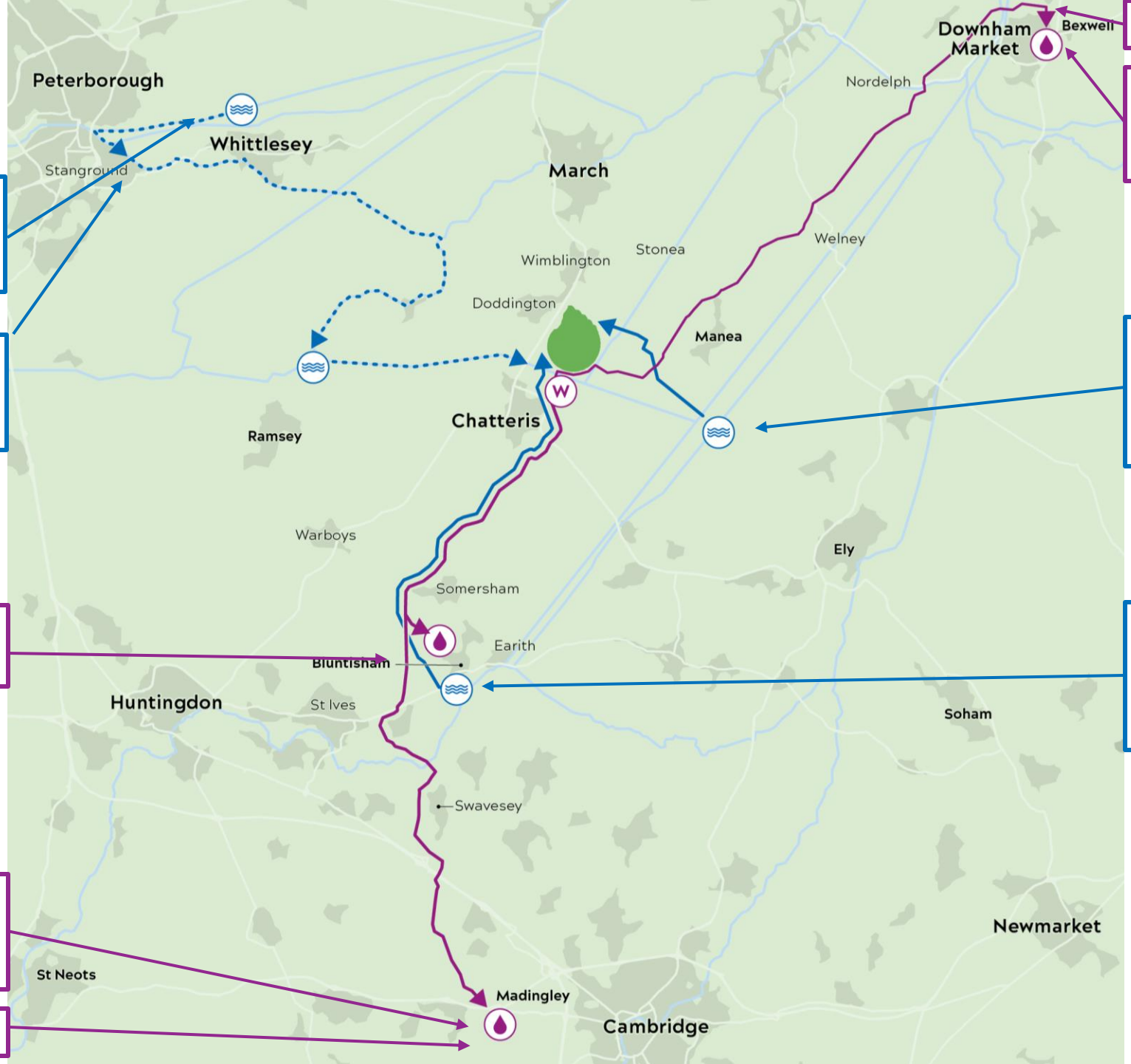
Counter Drain treatment and pumping station into River Nene.

River Nene bypass pipe around Stanground Lock into Middle Level system.

Connection point to Cambridge Water network.

Madingley service reservoir and connection point to Cambridge Water network.

Overflow pipe to watercourse.



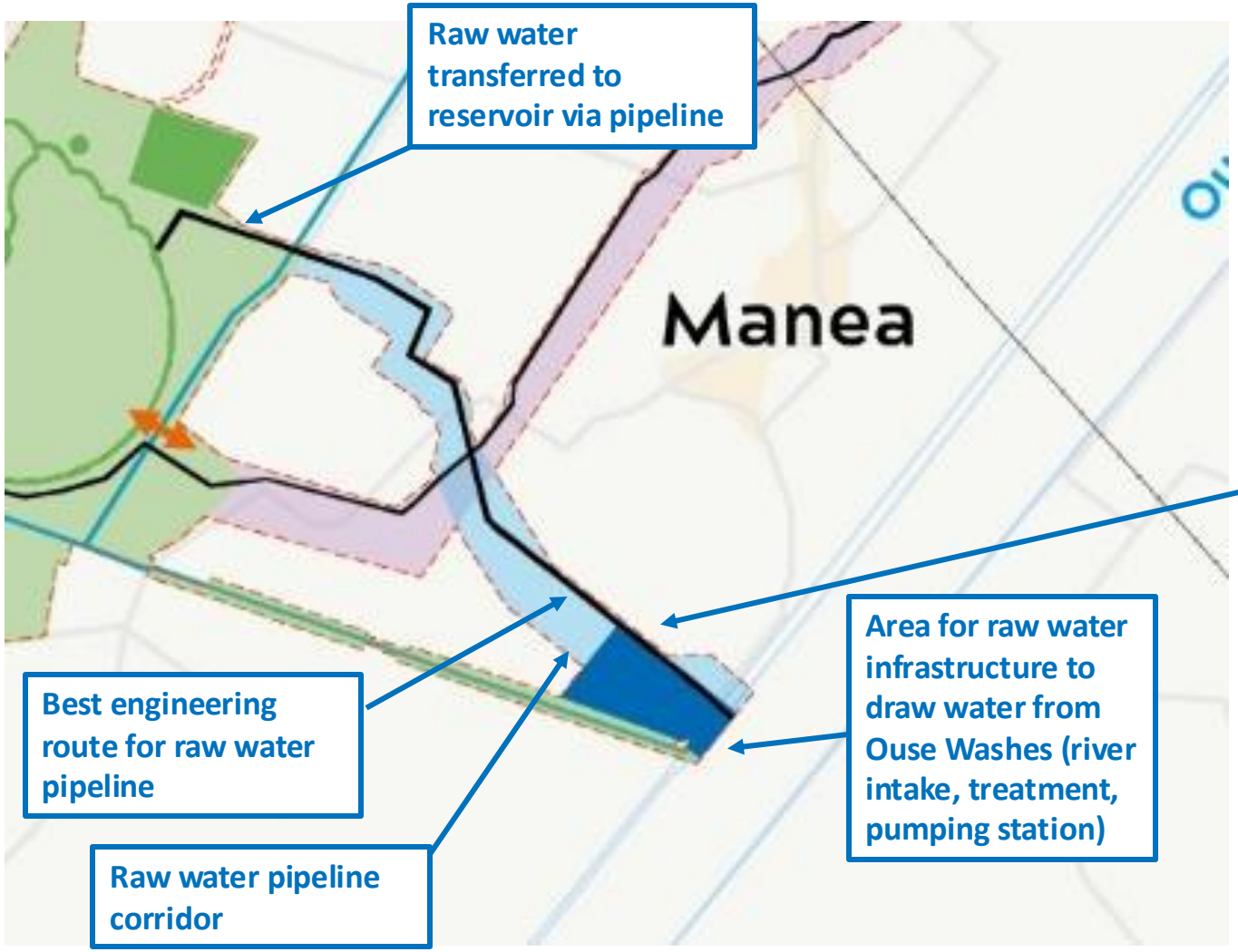
Overflow pipe to watercourse.

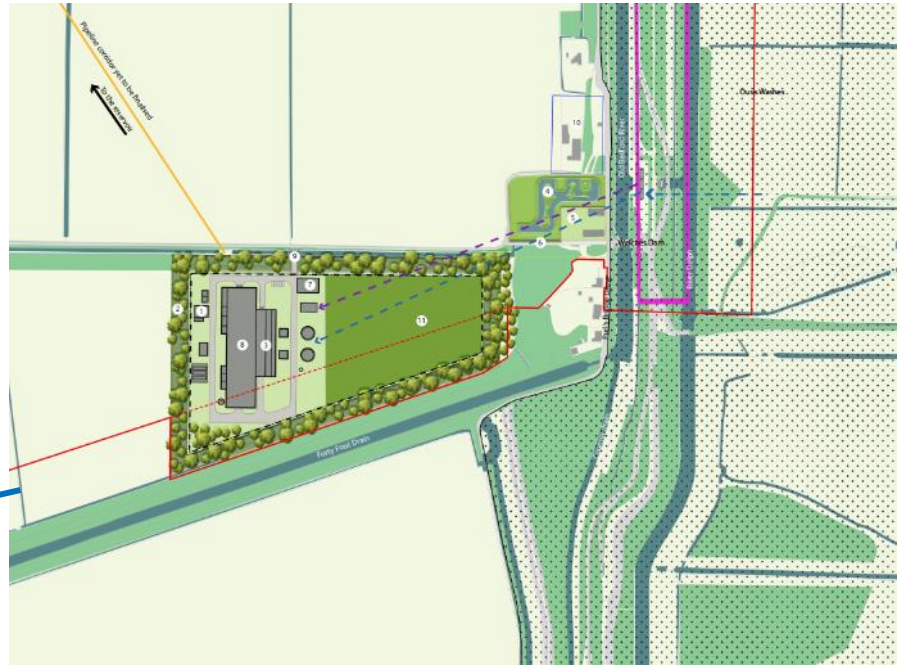
Bexwell service reservoir and connection point to Anglian Water network.

River intake, treatment and pumping station to draw water from Ouse Washes and pump to reservoir via pipeline.

River intake, treatment and pumping station to draw water from River Great Ouse and pump to reservoir via pipeline.

Our proposals near Manea





Our phase three consultation materials will show the changes made since our previous consultation

Environmental Impact Assessment

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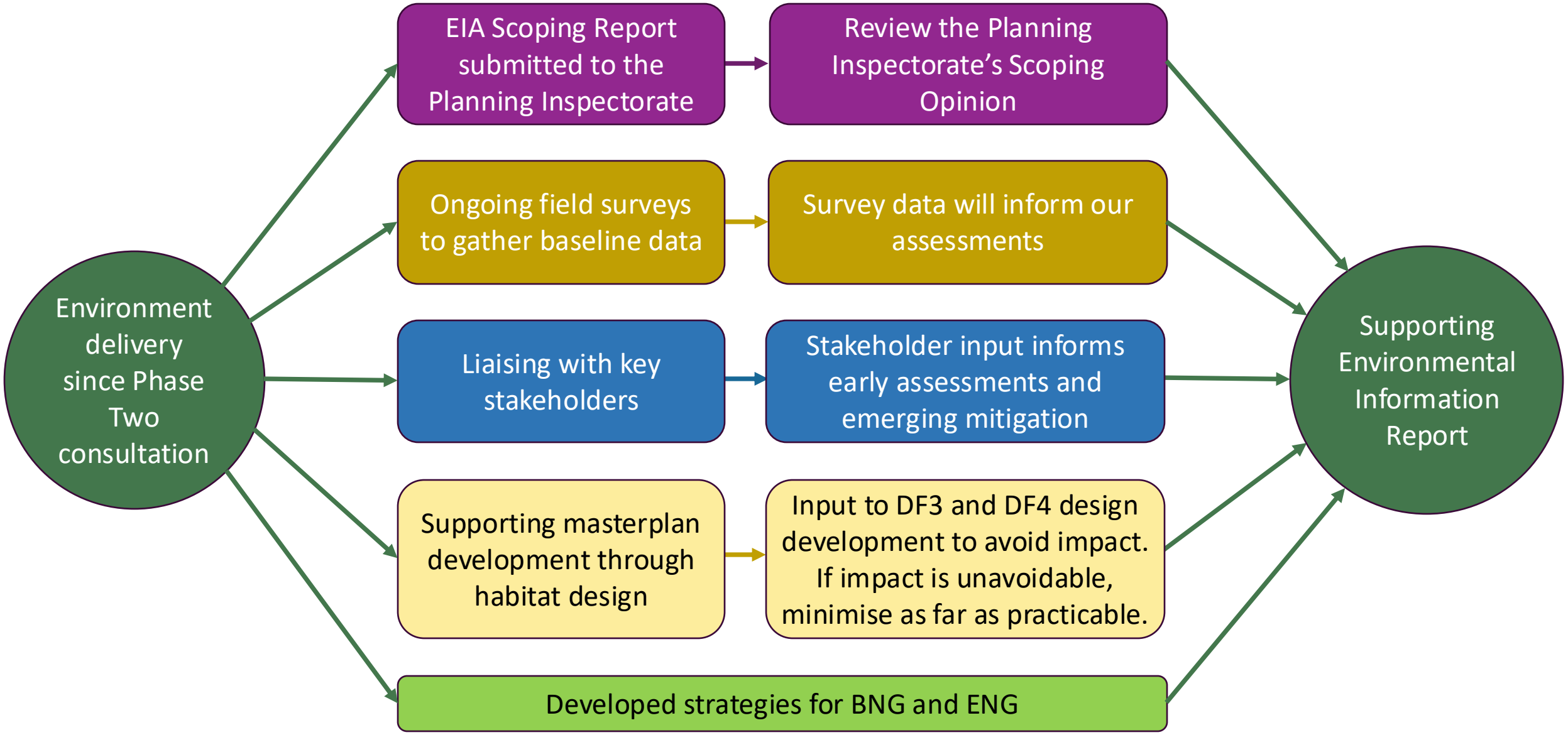
Environment delivery since phase two consultation



Interactive feedback and discussion

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Any questions?

Next time

- Our next CLG meeting will take place in 2026.
- A copy of the slides and a summary of today's meeting will be added to the project website www.fensreservoir.co.uk.

Thank you!

Further project information:

- **www.fensreservoir.co.uk**
- **Register for updates – www.fensreservoir.co.uk/stay-informed/register/**