

Appendix B: Consultation questions

Thames Valley Flood Scheme Survey – Give us your views

We would encourage you to complete this survey online by clicking [here](#).

Alternatively, please use this form and submit by sending an email to TVFS@environment-agency.gov.uk

Introduction

At the Environment Agency, one of our roles is to manage flood risk from rivers and the sea. Even with our work to reduce the likelihood and impact of flooding now, along with our planned flood schemes, the risk of flooding will continue to increase because of climate change, bringing more frequent and severe floods.

Because of this, we are looking at what we can do to further manage flood risk across the whole of the Thames Valley.

The Thames Valley Flood Scheme would work on a large scale, acting as an overlay to complement other existing and planned schemes.

1a. To help us understand how much of a priority you think this work should be to us, please rate how strongly you agree or disagree that managing flood risk in the Thames Valley is important?					
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither/no opinion	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Do you agree that managing flood risk in the Thames Valley is important?					
	Please explain your answer:				

1b. It is important that we provide information that is useful, clear and easy to understand. Please rate on a scale of 1 to 5 how useful you found the following information sections within our consultation.					
	1 – not useful	2	3	4	5 – very useful
Why do we need the Thames Valley Flood Scheme?					
What is the Thames Valley Flood Scheme?					
Project ambitions and working together					
The Strategic Environmental Assessment					
Engagement Timeline					
Frequently asked questions					
Other consultations and engagement					
Do you have any other feedback on the information we have provided?					
Is there any other information we could provide you with that you would find helpful?					



Our objectives

Our objectives for the Thames Valley Flood Scheme are listed here.

Reduce the flood risk to homes, businesses and infrastructure

Build climate change resilience for people who live, work in and visit the Thames Valley.

- Climate change resilience for the Thames Valley Flood Scheme means finding ways to prepare against the impacts of climate change in terms of managing flood risk, creating new wildlife habitat and reducing carbon emissions.

Support sustainable development

- Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Our Sustainability Appraisal for the Thames Valley Flood Scheme aims to make sure relevant aspects of the environment are considered in our plans.

Deliver benefits that go beyond managing flood risk

- Provide additional benefits such as habitat, water quality, air quality improvements and recreational benefits.
- Managing flood risk across a large geographical area like the Thames Valley may require large areas of land. Where we can, we aim to make this space accessible for people and wildlife. This will help meet our aspiration to create large areas of parkland and habitats for people to enjoy and in which wildlife can thrive.



2. To help us understand how important you feel it is we meet each of these objectives, please rate on a scale of 1 to 5 how strongly you agree or disagree (1 being strongly disagree and 5 being strongly agree).

	1 – strongly disagree	2	3	4	5 – strongly agree
Reduce flood risk					
Build climate change resilience					
Support sustainable development					
Deliver benefits beyond managing flood risk					

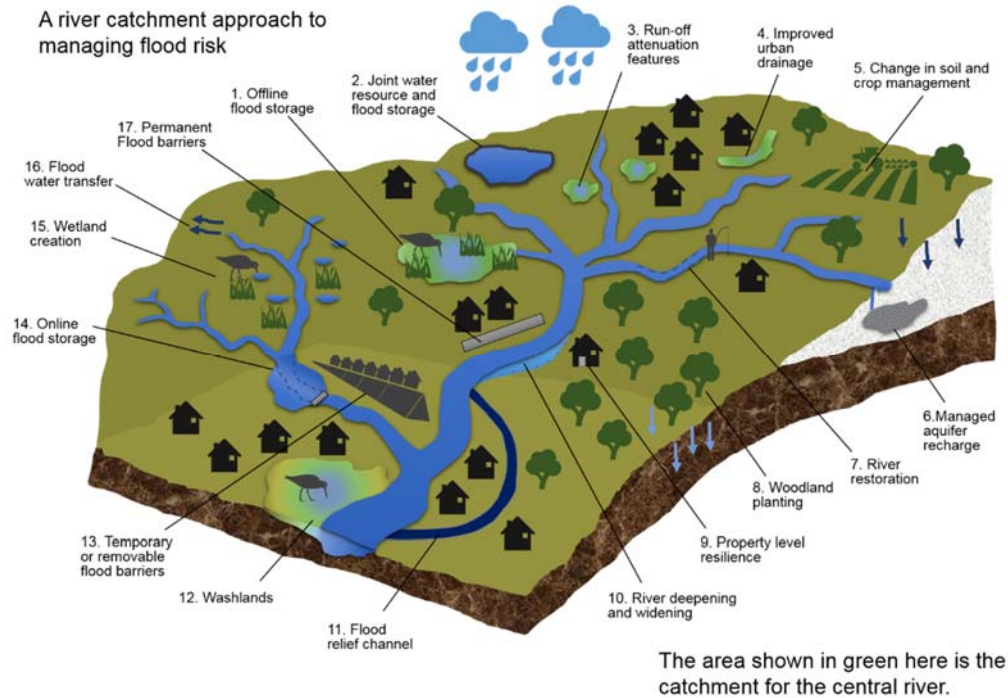
Do you have any additional comments?



Our approaches

At this early stage in the Thames Valley Flood Scheme, we have identified 17 approaches which have the potential to manage flood risk across the Thames Valley. These approaches can be seen in the diagram below.

As this project develops, we will need to decide which of these approaches or combination of these approaches will work best to meet the project ambitions. To do this we will consider many different factors including your feedback to this consultation. We will be following Environment Agency and Government guidance in relation to assessing schemes and ensuring value for money. We will use this guidance alongside feedback from this and future consultations and engagement to decide which of the approaches to take forward.



3a. Please tell us what you like about the approaches we have identified and whether any of them concern you.

3b. Can you think of other ways to manage flood risk that we have not included?



Our ambitions

We have developed ambitions for this project and shared them with our potential partners.

Please share what each ambition means to you below.

4a. What do these flood risk ambitions mean to you?					
	1 – not at all important	2	3	4	5 – very important
Improve flood resilience to over 20,000 properties					
Benefit communities and businesses that have previously suffered river flooding where defences have not been built and are not planned					
Improve the climate change resilience of communities that benefit from existing and planned flood risk management schemes into the future					



4b. What do these environmental ambitions mean to you?					
	1 – not at all important	2	3	4	5 – very important
Create new publicly accessible recreational asset(s) of regional significance, such as parks and open spaces					
Create new habitat(s) of regional significance delivering net gain for biodiversity and natural capital . This means creating new and improved areas that will benefit people and wildlife					
Provide a measurable positive contribution to sustainable development, demonstrating our contribution towards international, national and local goals					



4c. What do these additional ambitions mean to you?					
	1 – not at all important	2	3	4	5 – very important
Benefit a large geographical area throughout the Thames Valley, including multiple local authorities					
Ensure the project is economically viable, affordable and deliverable					
Deliver the project in partnership					
Explore opportunities to work with others to reduce flood risk from surface water, groundwater and sewers					
Emit 80% less construction carbon in comparison to previously constructed Flood Alleviation Schemes and be a Net Zero contributor from 2030 onwards					
Help communities understand the need for climate resilience measures to reduce the growing flood risk					
Encourage diversity and reduce inequality in the Thames Valley					

4d. If you have any more comments on our shared ambitions, please include your comments here.



Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Our Sustainability Appraisal will meet the statutory requirements of a Strategic Environmental Assessment and some organisations are required to respond to this section. Members of the public are welcome to read and respond to the following questions, but it is fine to miss this section out if it is not of interest to you.

We will be writing to all statutory consultees to inform them that the consultation is live.

To comment on this section of our survey, you will need your copy of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report to hand.

5. In Section 3 of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report you can see a review of the regulations, policies and plans we have considered in creating the sustainability objectives. Are there any others we should be aware of?

6. In sections 4 and 5 of the Sustainability Scoping Report we have presented information on the current state of the catchment in social, economic and environmental terms.

6a. Have we considered the right information at this stage of the Sustainability Appraisal? Please circle your answer below.

Yes	No
Please explain your answer:	



6b. Do you think we should consider any additional information in assessing the likely impacts of the scheme? Please circle your answer below.

Yes	No
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If yes, please list here:

If you are a statutory responder, where possible please provide a link to the location of the data for us to consider.

7. The objectives are listed in section 6.2 of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.

7a. If we met these objectives, do you think the scheme would be sustainable, that is would it meet the needs of the present without compromising the needs of future generations? Please circle your answer below.

Yes	No
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Please explain your answer:



7b. Are there any further objectives that you think should be included? Please circle your answer below.

Yes

No

Please explain your answer

**8. Have we identified the right topics to include in the Sustainability Appraisal?
The topics are discussed in section 4 and 5 of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.**

Yes

No

Please explain your answer:



Additional comments

9. Do you have any additional comments or feedback you would like us to consider?



About you

We now want to know more about you! The data collected in this section will help us understand the reach of our consultation and will be used to improve how we engage with those who live and work across the Thames Valley. As with the rest of the survey, these questions are optional and will be received anonymously.

10. Please tell us the first part of your postcode so we can gain a picture of where responses to the consultation have come from.						
11. What is your age? Please circle your answer below.						
16 - 24	25 – 34	35 – 44	45 – 54	55 - 64	65 – 74	74+
12. Is your property in a flood risk area? Please circle your answer below.						
Yes	No			Not sure		
13. Please circle your answer below: I'm interested in the Thames Valley Flood Scheme as...						
A resident	Business Owner	Landlord	Member of an organisation	Member of an interest group	Member of a community group	Other (please state below)
Other interest:						
If you answered business, landlord, organisation, group or other in question 13, please tell us more.						



14. What is your ethnicity and first language?
Ethnicity:
First Language:

15. To which gender identity do you most identify? Please circle your answer below	
Female	Male
Transgender female	Transgender male
Gender variant/non-conforming	Prefer not to answer
Not listed - please add:	

Sign up for updates

The Environment Agency would like to keep you informed about the Thames Valley Flood Scheme and we will keep your details securely until the project is closed.

If you would like to be kept updated on progress for the Thames Valley Flood Scheme, please email us at TVFS@environment-agency.gov.uk.

To keep up to date on the scheme please visit our [GOV.UK page - Thames Valley Flood Scheme](#).



Almost done...

Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey. By submitting your response, you give us permission to analyse and include your response in our results.

Please email your response to: TVFS@environment-agency.gov.uk

Alternatively, please send by post:

Environment Agency
Kings Meadow House
Reading
RG1 8DQ

How we will use your information

We will publish a summary of responses on our website in which we will publish the name of the organisation for those responses made on behalf of organisations.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we may be required to publish your response to this consultation, but will not include any personal information. If you have requested your response to be kept confidential, we may still be required to provide a summary of it.

If you would like anything in your response to be kept confidential, you are asked to state clearly what information you would like to be kept as confidential and explain your reasons for confidentiality. The reason for this is that information in responses to this consultation may be subject to release to the public or other parties in accordance with the access to information law (these are primarily the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)). We have obligations, mainly under the EIRs, FOIA and DPA, to disclose information to particular recipients or to the public in certain circumstances.

In view of this, your explanation of your reasons for requesting confidentiality for all or part of your response would help us balance these obligations for disclosure against any obligation of confidentiality. If we receive a request for the information that you have provided in your response to this consultation, we will take full account of your reasons for requesting confidentiality of your response, but we cannot guarantee that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances.

The Environment Agency is the data controller for the personal data you provide. For further information on how we deal with your personal data please see our Personal Information Charter or contact our Data Protection team.

Address: Data Protection team, Environment Agency, Horizon House, Deanery Road, Bristol, BS1 5AH

Email: dataprotection@environment-agency.gov.uk

This consultation is being conducted in line with the Cabinet Office's "Consultation Principles".

If you have any queries or complaints about the consultation process, please email consultation.enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk.

