



Landscape Character Assessment

Table of Contents

1	RTS LandscapeCharacter Assessment 1
1.	1 Landscape Character Assessment 1
1.	2 Published Landscape Character Assessments 1
1.	.3 Approach to the RTS Landscape Character Assessment
1.	.4 Landscape Character Assessment
1a. \	WINDSOR HISTORIC LANDSCAPE
1b.	DATCHET FORMAL RECREATION
1c. [DATCHET BUILT UP SETTLEMENT
1d.	DATCHET RIVERSIDE DISPERSED SETTLEMENT14
1e. l	BATTLE BOURNE RIVERSIDE PASTURE
1f. S	OUTHLEA FARM RIVERSIDE PASTURE
1g. I	HORTON LAKES LAKESIDE RECREATION
1h. (OLD WINDSOR MIXED FARMLAND
1i. C	DLD WINDSOR BUILT UP SETTLEMENT
1j. V	VRAYSBURY LINEAR SETTLEMENT
1k. \	WRAYSBURY RESERVOIR LANDSCAPE
1I. V	VRAYSBURY LAKESIDE RECREATION
1m.	ANKERWYCKE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE
1n.	RUNNYMEDE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE
10.	RUNNYMEDE RIVERSIDE LINEAR SETTLEMENT
1p.	HYTHE END RIVERSIDE LINEAR SETTLEMENT
1q.	HYTHE END LINEAR SETTLEMENT
1r. S	STAINES RIVERSIDE PASTURE
1s P	OOLEY GREEN BUILT UP SETTLEMENT
2a T	HORPE LEA FORMAL RECREATION
2b T	HORPE BUILT UP SETTLEMENT
2c. 1	THORPE INDUSTRY
2d. ⁻	THORPE SETTLED FARMLAND
2e. l	EGHAM HYTHE BUILT UP SETTLEMENT
2f. E	GHAM HYTHE LINEAR RIVERSIDE SETTLEMENT
2g. S	STAINES RIVERSIDE BUILT UP SETTLEMENT
2h. /	ASHFORD FORMAL RECREATION
2i. S	TAINES RECREATION
2j. L	ALEHAM RIVERSIDE LINEAR SETTLEMENT

2k. THORPE PARK BUILT UP LAKESIDE RECREATION	54
2I. ST ANN'S HILL HISTORIC LANDSCAPE	56
2m. CHERTSEY BUILT UP SETTLEMENT	58
2n. ABBEY MEAD SETTLED MIXED FARMLAND	60
20. LALEHAM BURWAY FORMAL RECREATION	62
2p. LALEHAM UTILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE	64
2q. TRUMPS GREEN BUILT UP SETTLEMENT	66
2r. TRUMPS GREEN SETTLED MIXED FARMLAND	
3a. LALEHAM PARK RIVERSIDE RECREATION	70
3b. SHEPPERTON ARABLE FARMLAND	72
3c. SHEPPERTON LAKESIDE RECREATION	74
3d. SHEPPERTON MIXED FARMLAND	76
3e. UPPER HALLIFORD FORMAL RECREATION	78
3f. SHEPPERTON BUILT UP SETTLEMENT	
3g. CHERTSEY ROAD SETTLED SCRUBLAND	
3h. DUMSEY MEADOW RIVERSIDE PASTURE	
3i. CHERTSEY RIVERSIDE RECREATION	
3j. ADDLESTONE DISPERSED SETTLEMENT	
3k. SHEPPERTON RIVERSIDE LINEAR SETTLEMENT	
3I. TOWPATH RIVERSIDE LINEAR SETTLEMENT	91
3m. FERRY LANE LAKESIDE RECREATION	93
3n. OLD SHEPPERTON LINEAR SETTLEMENT	95
3o. ASHFORD ROAD SETTLED SCRUBLAND	97
4a. DESBOROUGH ISLAND RIVERSIDE RECREATION	
4b. DESBOROUGH UTILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE	
4c. WALTON LANE RIVERSIDE RECREATION	
4d. WEYBRIDGE BUILT UP SETTLEMENT	
4e. LOWER HALLIFORD MEADOWS DISPERSED SETTLEMENT	
4f. SHEPPERTON RIVERSIDE RECREATION	
4g. SUNBURY BUILT UP SETTLEMENT	
4h. ELMBRIDGE RIVERSIDE RECREATION	
4i. WALTON UTILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE	
4j. HAMPTON UTILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE	117
4k. HAMPTON BUILT UP SETTLEMENT	119
4I. HURST PARK RIVERSIDE RECREATION	
4m. MOLESEY BUILT UP SETTLEMENT	123
4n. ESHER BUILT UP SETTLEMENT	

40. MOLESEY RESERVOIR LANDSCAPE	. 127
4p. THAMES DITTON RIVERSIDE RECREATION	. 129
4q. BUSHY PARK AND HAMPTON COURT PARK HISTORIC LANDSCAPE	. 131
4r. HAM BUILT UP SETTLEMENT	. 133
4s. TEDDINGTON BUILT UP SETTLEMENT	. 135
4t. HAM LANDS RIVERSIDE PARKLAND	. 137
LEGEND	. 139
FIGURES - Landscape Character Areas Sheets 1 - 3	. 142

1 RTS Landscape Character Assessment

1.1 Landscape Character Assessment

1.1.1 Landscape Character Assessment is defined by Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition¹ (GLVIA3), as:

"The process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the landscape and using this information to assist in managing change in the landscape. It seeks to identify and explain the unique combination of elements and features that make landscapes distinctive. The process results in the production of a Landscape Character Assessment.²"

1.1.2 There is a well-established and widely used methodology for landscape character assessment; 'An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment', October 2014³, published by Natural England, which is a development of the influential 'Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland', 2002⁴, published by the Countryside Commission and Scottish Natural Heritage. Landscape character assessment forms the baseline for the assessment of landscape effects and, therefore, needs to be appropriate in its level of detail for the effective assessment of project scale proposals.

1.2 Published Landscape Character Assessments

1.2.1 The following landscape character assessments and strategy documents are relevant to the wider context of the River Thames Scheme (RTS), although not all of these falls within the landscape Study Area for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report (See Figure ENVIMSE500260-GBV-ZZ-3ZZ-DR-EN-10078).

¹ Guidelines of Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Third Edition, 2013, published by The Landscape Institute and the Institute for Environmental Management & Assessment

² GLVIA3 Glossary page 157

³ An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment, 2014, Christine Tudor, Natural England

⁴ Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland, 2002, (CAX84), Countryside Commission and Scottish Natural Heritage

⁵ Landscape Character Assessment, Guidance for England and Scotland: Topic Paper 6: Techniques for Judging Capacity and Sensitivity, 2002, published by the Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage ⁶ GLVIA3 Glossary page 158

- Natural England: National Character Area: NCA 115 'Thames Valley'
- Natural England: National Character Area NCA 129 'Thames Basin Heaths'
- Natural England: National Character Area NCA 114 'Thames Basin Lowlands'
- Natural England: National Character Area NCA 111 'Northern Thames Basin
- Surrey County Council: Surrey Landscape Character Assessment (2015)
- Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Landscape Character Assessment 2004
- Environment Agency: Lower Thames Landscape Strategy Study (2009)
- Natural England: London's Natural Signatures: The London Landscape Framework (2011)
- The Lower Thames Flood Risk Management Strategy, Environment Agency Consultation Document – summary of comments and responses to consultation 2010
- The Thames Landscape Strategy 1994
- London Borough of Richmond upon Thames Urban Design Study Executive Summary 2021
- London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames Public Space Design Guide 2006
- 1.2.2 The existing landscape character assessment work is of varied dates and for a range of differing purposes. Other than at the national level there is no consistent approach across the landscape study area.
- 1.2.3 The National Character Area landscape information is current but at a high level and not on its own likely to be sufficiently detailed for project-based assessment of landscape effects without more detailed character assessment work being available.
- 1.2.4 The Surrey Landscape Character Assessment dates from 2015 and is therefore a relatively up to date assessment which was prepared in accordance with the 2014 Natural England guidelines. The Environment Agency work from 1995 and 2000 is more appropriate in respect of its level of detail but it too is also relatively dated, whilst the 2009 study is high level and more related to establishing landscape types rather than the process of characterisation.
- 1.2.5 The Natural England published London Landscape Framework London's Natural Signatures, dates from 2011 and the All London Green Grid policy framework from the same year. The All London Green Grid is adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance in The London Plan. These are both relevant to the eastern end of the landscape study area. The All London Green Grid relates only to the open space and undeveloped areas of London, not the urban areas which the London Landscape Framework does.
- 1.2.6 Given the relative inconsistency of the published landscape character assessment and landscape strategy work across the study area it is considered that an independent project level landscape character assessment should be developed for the assessment of the landscape effects of the RTS.

1.3 Approach to the RTS Landscape Character Assessment

- 1.3.1 The RTS Landscape Character Assessment has been prepared in accordance with the 2014 Natural England guidance and has involved the following principal steps:
 - Step 1 Defining the Purpose and Scope of the Assessment
 - Step 2 Desk Study
 - Step 3 Field Survey
 - Step 4 Classification and Description
- 1.3.2 The primary purpose of this assessment is to provide a suitable project level landscape character assessment baseline for the assessment of the landscape effects of the RTS. It is intended that it will form the basis of the baseline for a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment that will form part of an Environmental Statement that will accompany the Development Consent Order for the RTS. The main user will be the appointed landscape architect and assessor for the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. The results and outcomes of this and the final assessment will be referred to by the Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State, local planning authorities, statutory consultees, third parties (such as other bodies consulted on the planning application or landowners directly affected by the RTS) and interested members of the public.
- 1.3.3 The primary purpose is to inform the assessment of landscape effects of a flood alleviation project, therefore the emphasis for the assessment has been on defining those key landscape characteristics which may be adversely or beneficially affected by such works, such as topography, land cover and the sensitivity of a particular landscape to change of the type envisaged with the RTS scheme. The geographical extent of the assessment has been dictated by the Study Area for EIA Scoping. This is the project boundary plus a 500m buffer that is combined with the 1 in 100 year floodplain. This is an area that is expected to experience a change in flood risk as a result of the project, i.e. the landscape/townscape will no longer experience intermittent flooding which could result in potential effects upon landscape character.
- 1.3.4 Desk and field-based work has considered the extent of any effects on landscape character, from the existence of the flood channels and other project components including channel sections, weir sites, temporary compounds, landscape design initiatives including new raised landform and the effects of the landscape/townscape no longer being intermittently flooded. Individual landscape character areas have been mapped to include the extents of their defining characteristics, however in some larger urban locations, the character area edge has been defined by a suitable edge feature such as a major road.
- 1.3.5 The desk-based assessment has considered landscape character at a broad scale over a wide area and has involved a review of all relevant published landscape character assessments and spatial data including relevant Local Plans and planning policy. Additional information available through parallel work on the RTS project has also been reviewed, including topographical and vegetation mapping and Environmental Site Appraisal Plans.
- 1.3.6 Field survey work has involved working with the use of a standardised field survey sheet (see Table 1), specifically prepared for this project, to ensure that information is gathered in a rigorous and methodical way to test and refine and add to the outputs of the desk study.
- 1.3.7 The final step has been the refinement of the characterisation process in which the various landscapes have been classified, mapped and described and the information set out on the landscape character assessment sheets.

1.4 Landscape Character Assessment

- 1.4.1 The landscape character assessment process has defined 72 separate landscape character areas for the landscape Study Area associated with the project.
- 1.4.2 The distribution of these is set out on Figure ENVIMSE500260-GBV-ZZ-3ZZ-DR-EN-10113
- 1.4.3 The following landscape character sheets for each area include the following:
 - A summary of the key characteristics
 - A general description of elements, features and characteristics
 - Selected photographs

Table 1: Survey Field Sheet

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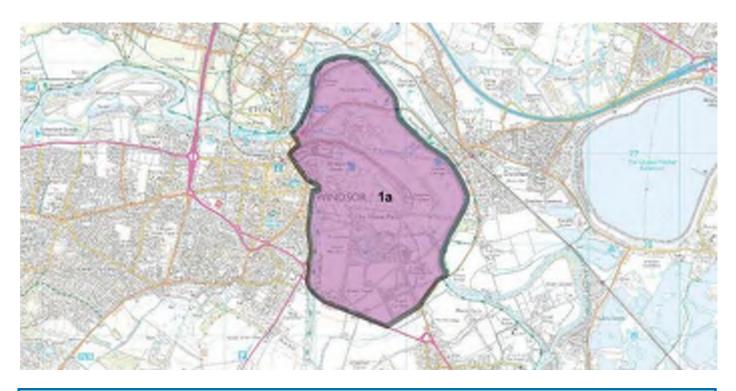
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DIVERSITY	Walled' simpler diversel complex
TEXTURE	Second-testared rough very rough
TORM	Vartical duping/ rolling/ horizontal
UNE	Straight applar or red shares
COLOUR	Honochromal motedi colourfuli garish
BALAHCE	Harmonicus/ balanced discordant/ chaotic
HOVEHENT	Dead still calm bury
PATTERN	Random/ organised regulari formal
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RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H **1a. WINDSOR HISTORIC LANDSCAPE**

Landscape Type: Historic Landscape Location: Windsor Home Park



Key Characteristics

- Private, farmed, registered historic parkland which forms part of the Windsor Royal Estate, surrounded by the built-up areas of Windsor and Old Windsor
- A large-scale landscape set within the River Thames floodplain, generally flat, although it rises some 25m in elevation by Windsor Castle
- Land cover includes pastures with scattered trees, arable fields and parkland with tree lined avenues
- Few scattered cottages, some woodland and a golf course can be found within the area
- Pristine riverside setting and important setting for Windsor Castle

Description

The Home Park lies adjacent to Windsor, the town forming its west boundary. The character area is bounded to the north and east by the River Thames. To the south the A308 Albert Road, connecting Windsor and Old Windsor, separates the Home Park from Windsor Great Park. The two parks are connected by the Long Walk which extends some 5km south from the Cambridge Gate to the statue of King George III. A network of public paths can be found across the park.

The setting is urban to the west (Windsor) and east (Datchet). The Home Park surrounds Windsor Castle to the north, east and south. The Castle itself is situated on a promontory above the river on the western boundary of the park.

Land-use is predominantly farmland, with the Shaw Farm complex (1840s Grade II listed buildings) and the Prince Consort's Home Farm complex (1840s, Grade II listed building) occupying two-thirds of the area.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H The Home Park also includes Frogmore House and the Royal Gardens. Due to its riverside setting, the character area retains a generally calm pastoral character.

Several other listed buildings can be found across the character area: The North Lodge, to the south of Albert Road. To the southeast, off Datchet Road, are the Royal Gardens Lodge and the Albert Bridge Lodge. The Long Walk Gate and Lodge give access to the park south of the Castle, eastwards off the Long Walk.

A golf course has been created on the South Slopes lying southeast of the Castle, and a cricket ground lies 500m south of the Castle.

Some long views out to Snow Hill. Local restricted views across the Thames to the largely rural land beyond. Views from the Long Walk.

Overall condition is excellent, and the Home Park presents a robust landscape character.



View from Albert Bridge



View from Datchet Riverside

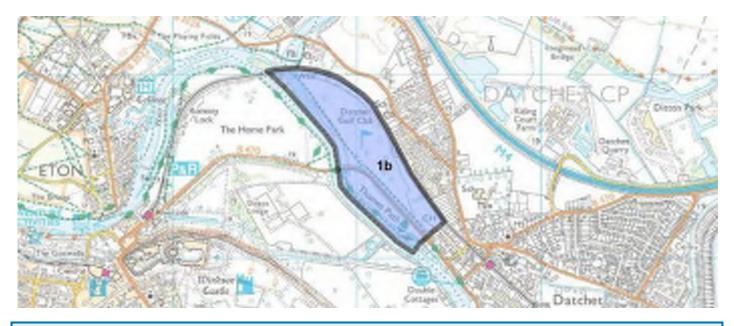


View from Windsor Home Park

1b. DATCHET FORMAL RECREATION

Landscape Type: Formal Recreation

Location: Datchet



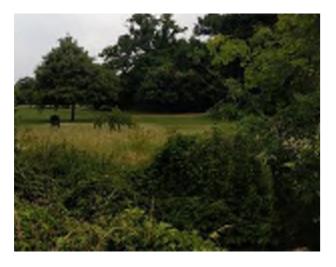
Key Characteristics

- Flat to gently undulating man-made landform with pockets of mixed species planting
- Mature parkland trees with areas of younger planting and golf course features (bunkers, greens and fairways)
- Adjacent to River Thames Jubilee River

Description

The character area is located on the riverside edge of the village of Datchet. The site is bordered by the B470 road, River Thames and Jubilee River to the west and the Staines to Windsor and Eton railway line to the east and north.

The landform is flat with slight undulations and sloping towards the adjacent watercourses of the River Thames and Jubilee River. There is a public footpath through the golf course which provides a close visual connection with both rivers and their confluence. Planting within the character area is predominantly mature tree planting with mixed shrub and hedge planting located in pockets throughout the course. Riparian vegetation makes up the river's edge along both the Thames and Jubilee River. Due to the flat floodplain landscape and dense boundary planting inter-visibility to adjacent character areas is difficult.

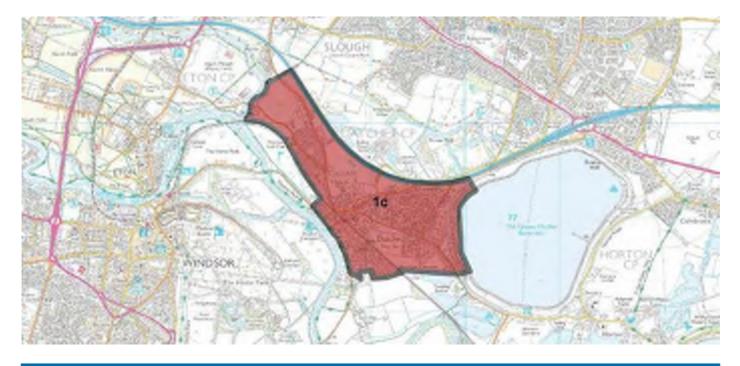




1c. DATCHET BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement

Location: South Datchet



Key Characteristics

- Medium scale built-up suburban townscape that shows a fluid, organised pattern based on the street layout land use is predominantly residential
- The historic village of Datchet expanded from its historic core at Datchet Church in the post war period, in a ribbon like fashion and has a strong historic character around the High Street the northern half of the area is part of the Datchet Conservation Area
- Rich architectural heritage, includes buildings in a great variety of vernacular styles with dwellings ranging from early Victorian to late 20th century
- Area separated from the rest of the village by the Windsor-Staines railway line
- Abrupt, built edge backing onto open countryside to the south

Description

The area constitutes the south edge of the village of Datchet and is situated near to the River Thames. The B3021 borders the west part of the area and the Windsor-Staines railway runs along its eastern edge. Datchet Golf Course is situated to the north and Southlea Farm to the south.

The character of the settlement within the character area is variable. Development has spread from the historic core of the village across the rural floodplain, resulting in a composite townscape character. The recently developed built form has been unsympathetic to the local vernacular and leads to a chaotic composition of materials and architectural styles. The High Street leads via a level crossing over the railway to the historic village centre of Datchet. This is composed of several period cottages organised around the village green. The built form is varied with a mixture of Georgian cottages and Victorian/Edwardian terraces.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H

Buccleuch Road and Upper Montagu Road present medium to high density housing types. Façades are uniform and repetitive along the street. Block pattern consists of short and long two-storey terraces with some larger semidetached two or three-storey dwellings.

Lower Montagu Road and Beaulieu Close show a low density residential suburban type consisting of long, wide curvilinear and straight streets with short subsidiary roads terminating in cul-de-sac. Housing type defined by late 20th century semi-detached and detached two-storey houses and bungalows, set in regular plots with short front and long rear gardens.

Regular plot forms, density and scale, an overall consistent built form and lack of on-street parking result in a harmonious streetscape character. The cul-de-sac layout conveys a calm suburban atmosphere to the area.

Even though this is a relatively low density suburban environment, there are only few street trees. The vegetation is mostly composed of ornamental trees and shrubs species within private gardens (sycamores, beech, magnolia, hornbeam, privet). Some large scale ornamental trees such as cedars and horse chestnuts provide focal points, scattered within the streetscape and some gardens.

Views are mainly linear and unfolding along roads and streets. Some are defined by rhythmic façades and others are framed by leafy front gardens. Views are generally contained by the built form and street tree planting and/or trees and shrubs within front gardens.

To the south of the character area, the presence of the Thames Water abstraction site and engineered channel with its utilitarian nature including steel palisade fencing and equipment, imposes a harsher developed character to the streetscape.



Detached properties on Beaulieu Close



Beaulieu Close view from Southlea Road



Windsor Road

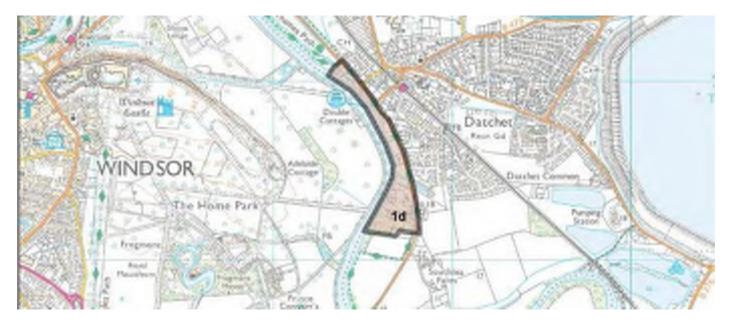


Properties overlooking the Thames Water abstraction channel

1d. DATCHET RIVERSIDE DISPERSED SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Riverside Dispersed Settlement

Location: Datchet



Key Characteristics

- Low density suburban townscape modern riverside settlement comprising generously spaced detached properties overlooking the River Thames
- Landform very gently sloping down to the River Thames short steep banks to water's edge with sheet piled and concrete capping beam retaining Windsor Home Park riverbanks
- Land cover includes scattered trees, hedgerows, private gardens and riverside green
- Views are framed along leafy streets street tree planting and/or trees and shrubs within front gardens allow only occasional glimpses to dwellings
- The Thames Path runs north to south along the whole area

Description

The character area is located on the riverside edge of the village of Datchet. It extends from the town edge to the north, to form the south end of the village, and is parallel the B3021/Southlea Road.

This is a low-density residential riverside settlement with characteristic 'leafy' streets. Built form is defined by suburban large scale detached two-storey houses, set within medium to large gardens. A variety of architectural styles include 19th and 20th century houses (including Victorian and Edwardian styles). Residential dwellings are positioned and orientated to reflect their riverside setting and provide views over the river and Windsor Home Park.

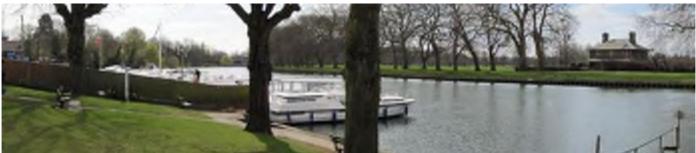
The leafy streetscape character is reinforced by well established private gardens, including mature trees/shrubs that are often bounded by tall mixed or yew hedges. This provides a strong sense of enclosure and privacy to dwellings.

Some large scale ornamental trees such as weeping willows, lombardy poplars, horse chestnuts, cypresses and cedars contribute to the leafy character. There is a well-defined interface between public/private realm – marked by hedges, fences, or brick walls with entrance gates.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H Land use is predominantly residential. However, some engineering features and recreational activities are also present in the area, in the form of a Thames water abstraction channel to the south, and a small boat yard to the north. A relatively quiet and peaceful residential suburb, although the area suffers from a certain level of noise disturbance lying next to a relatively busy road and directly under the Heathrow Airport flight path.

Wide open views out towards Windsor Home Park on the opposite bank, with views to the Castle in winter. Direct views from Windsor Home Park and from adjoining roads into the character area. There are views from the open riverside area and from up and downstream of the Thames.

The area feels to be in a good condition due to a high degree of domestic care and has a strong character. The Thames Water abstraction channel and bridge are discordant elements in this area with a concrete wall and steel fencing.



Datchet riverside and boatyard, with Windsor Home Park on opposite bank



Corner of High Street and Windsor Road



Corner of High Street and Windsor Road

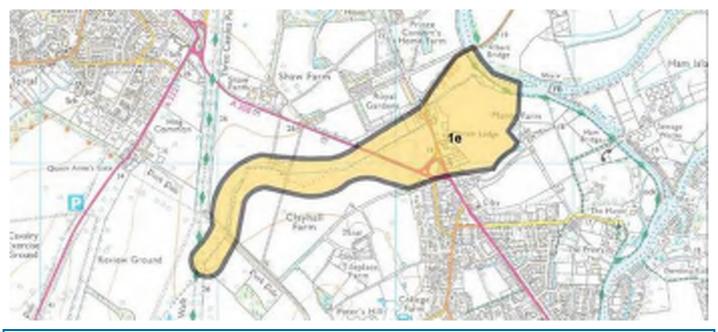


View facing upstream of the River Thames

1e. BATTLE BOURNE RIVERSIDE PASTURE

Landscape Type: Riverside Pasture

Location: Windsor



Key Characteristics

- River corridor floodplain, dominated by grassland with mature broadleaved trees and hedgerows
- Adjacent to Grade II listed building: "Royal Garden Lodge, Southlea Road, The Home Park, Windsor"
- Adjacent to Registered Park and Garden: "Royal Estate Windsor, Frogmore"
- Contained with Registered Park and Garden: "Windsor Great Park"

Description

The Battle Bourne is a small river that connects with the River Thames running through Windsor Great Park. The character area is a floodplain of long grasses flanked by mature tree planting and hedgerows. Access to the character area is restricted by a low steel fence. The river is culverted under the B30211 Southlea Road which borders the site to the west. The landform is predominantly flat with some sloping towards the River Thames and some bunding to the edge of the B3021 road.



Battle Bourne River and Floodplain



Battle Bourne River and Floodplain

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H **1f. SOUTHLEA FARM RIVERSIDE PASTURE**

Landscape Type: Riverside Pasture

Landscape Character Area: Southlea Farm, Datchet



Key Characteristics

- Mixed farmland, predominantly arable cultivation, with some pasture and rough grazing
- The River Thames, running along the west and south edges, is wooded with a soft edge but only imparts a riparian character to these areas
- The area retains 'historic' features such as field systems lined with hedgerows and mature trees and designed landscape features, which give it a relatively intact rural feel
- Tree cover is sparse, with scattered trees and small pockets of woodland widely dispersed trees are associated with dwellings, water bodies and along field boundaries
- Settlement is dispersed and comprises scattered mid-large houses and isolated homes set in extensive land
- Landscape is tranquil and unified although it is cut through by the relatively busy B3021, which has a strong visual and audible influence, as does the Heathrow airport flight path

Description

The area is bounded by the Windsor-Staines railway to the east, the built-up edge of Datchet to the north and by the River Thames to the south and to the west. The land is part of the Crown Estate and mostly farmed from Southlea Farm.

The medium scale field pattern is separated by field boundaries, mostly low hedgerows with scattered trees some of which appear irregularly maintained, and fences with some drainage ditches which promote an open character to the landscape.

Fields are reasonably regular in size and shape and are either grazed by cattle or arable farmland. To the north the boundaries consist of gappy hedgerows or post and wire fencing. Tree cover is found in the form of linear groups that extend from the riverside to contain pastureland. It consists of occasional shelterbelt or Lombardy Poplars and mixed species hedgerows. A tall cedar marks the potential site of a walled monastery garden to the south of Southlea Farm. Some ornamental vegetation around the linear group of cottages exists.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H This landscape feels intimate and enclosed or open depending on the occurrence of tree belts and proximity to the river. From within this area there are some wide views especially to the south and the east. Other views are constrained by shelterbelts, hedgerows and the built form of the farm buildings. Southlea Farm provides a visual focus to the south of the area as it lies in the middle of flat open fields.

The limited small-scale settlement within the area helps maintain a predominantly rural character, although to the north the highly developed built-up edge of Datchet imposes a more developed character to the landscape.

Public access is restricted generally to the western side where the public footpath/Thames Path and the B3021 lie. Views from the Thames Path are generally focused on the River and Windsor Home Park on the opposite bank, but there is a clear view across the character area from the Albert Bridge to the south. There are corresponding views into this character area from Windsor Home Park.

The strength of the character is average with very limited distinctive features and moderately weak visual connectivity to the River Thames.

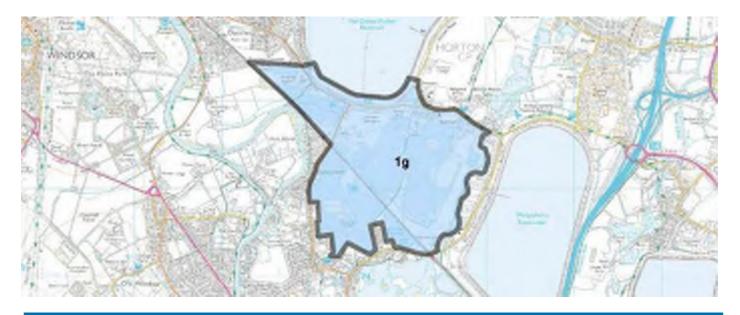


Pasture at Southlea Farm, view from the Thames Path towards the river

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 1g. HORTON LAKES LAKESIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Lakeside recreation

Landscape Character Area: Horton Lakes



Key Characteristics

- Broad flat open floodplain with minimal topographic variation
- Relatively recent wetland landscape. Degraded 'edge of town' landscape with an eclectic mix of previous and current land uses such as landfill, water works and horse paddocks with neglected boundaries and fly tipping
- Flooded former gravel pits extend across much of this area which are now primarily used for recreational purposes such as watersports centres or informal nature reserves, and with a large concrete plant and quarry still active on the east of the site
- Vegetation is predominantly restricted to extensive belts around restored gravel pits, but provides a mosaic of habitats such as woodland belts, scrub and waterside margins important wildlife corridors rich in biodiversity
- Limited public access two local public footpaths provide access north-south from Datchet and Horton to Wraysbury, with level crossings of the Windsor-Staines railway

Description

The area lies to the east of the River Thames. It extends from Datchet, to the north, to the north edge of Wraysbury to the south. The character area unfolds along the B376, wrapping around Queen Mother Reservoir, which creates an imposing, impermeable boundary to the northeast. The Windsor-Staines railway, which runs along the south- west of the area, is also largely impenetrable save for a footbridge. The Wraysbury No.1 Gravel Pit Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI sits partially within the area at the southern end.

Former gravel workings within this landscape have resulted in the creation of extensive areas of wetland habitat, creating a very distinctive landscape where water is the dominant feature. However, this is also a characteristically green landscape with pockets of floodplain pastures, grassland and woodland, and the presence of a variety of wetland and riparian habitats supporting a diverse flora and fauna.

This disturbed but naturalising landscape is retained at an intermediary stage of recolonisation as it is primarily managed for nature conservation purposes. It can, therefore, have a scruffy, wild or unkempt visual appearance in places.

Settlement is limited, comprising isolated properties and several small groups of houses to the north of the area along the B376 and a small caravan park settlement to the northwest.

The Thames Water pumping station, which is a lone distinctive 20th century building to the north of the site, serves as a landmark and focal point within the area.

Land use is predominantly water based leisure and recreation. The eastern lake is occupied by Liquid Leisure Waterski and Wakeboard Ltd. and is used for active water sports. Kingsmead and Island Lakes north of the railway are internationally recognised for coarse fishing. The presence of active gravel extraction east of the area and a landfill site partly intrude on the landscape.

There are restricted views from the residential settlements located in the north of the site. These tend to be impeded by the reservoir to the north and by vegetation to the west. There are few views out from the whole character area due to the dense vegetation cover around the lakes and along the railway line.

From outside there are views into the character area from the top of the Queen Mother Reservoir (although this is not publicly accessible and glimpses from the adjoining road and railway.

Hedgerows are overgrown and lake margins unmanaged and there is evidence of fly-tipping. Despite this, the area retains a fair, distinctive character, mostly due to the presence of the lakes and the dense tree cover that creates a peaceful atmosphere.



Datchet lake 2

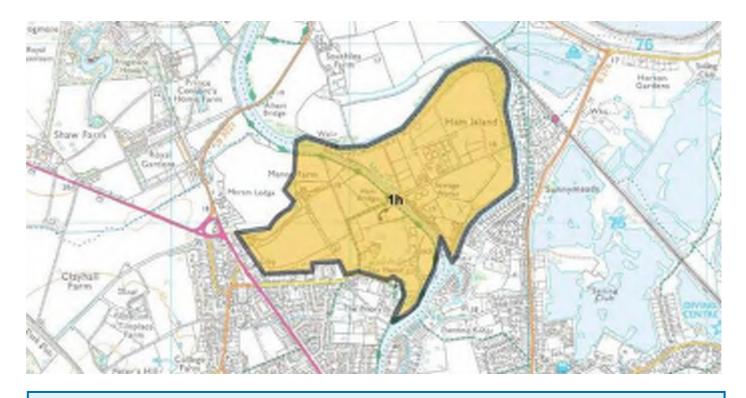
Kingsmead Lake

Public footpath leading to Horton Road

1h. OLD WINDSOR MIXED FARMLAND

Landscape Type: Mixed Farmland

Landscape Character Area: Old Windsor



Key Characteristics

- Open arable pasture
- Open farmland
- Sewage works
- Man-made island to east of character area formed by canal

Description

The character area is located to the east of the settlement of Old Windsor with a meander of the River Thames forming its westernmost boundary. The landscape is flat and predominantly comprised of agricultural and pastoral field plots. Throughout the study area hedgerow boundaries do restrict inter-visibility through some areas however there are a select number of locations where breaks in the boundaries allow for good levels of inter-visibility across the field plots. The eastern portion of the character area is Ham Island, comprising of a small linear riverside settlement, Windsor Sewage Treatment Works and areas of pastoral grassland.

Ham Island is created via The New Cut, a canal that cuts through the area connecting to the River Thames at both ends. Old Windsor lock is located at its southernmost point and there is a weir to the north. The New Cut canal creates a corridor through the study area with riverside properties to the east and a narrow towpath to the west. Riparian vegetation and tree planting are located along both canal banks. This canal has a feeling of intimacy and enclosure.



Pastoral field plot



Windsor Sewage Treatment Works



View along the New Cut Canal



Riverside properties



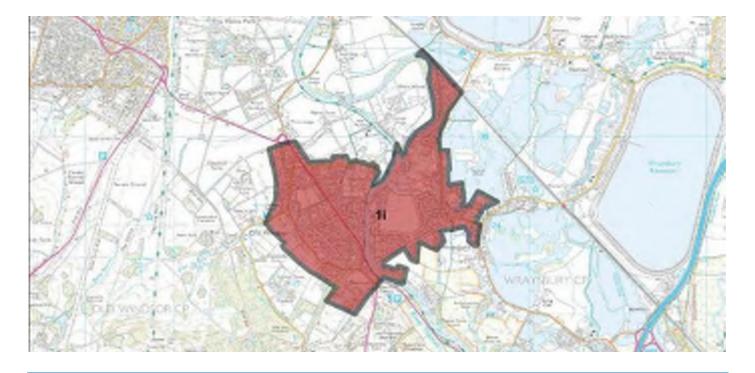
View across field plots



RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 11. OLD WINDSOR BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement

Location: Old Windsor



Key Characteristics

- Low density suburban townscape a modern riverside settlement
- Predominantly flat landform very gently sloping down to the River Thames
- Land cover includes scattered trees, hedgerows, private gardens, local parks and green spaces and parking facilities adjacent to retail hubs
- Views of the Thames from the Thames Path National Trail

Description

Old Windsor is a low density settlement situated to the west of the River Thames and to the southeast of the town of Windsor. Built form is typically defined by suburban two-storey houses. Residential dwellings are located in clusters mainly focused around the A308/Straight Road.

The streetscape character is reinforced by private gardens and driveways. There are occasional street trees and amenity and defensive planting to private residences.

Land use is predominantly residential and leisure with some small scale agriculture plots situated to the north of the character area.

The character area although adjacent to the River Thames does feel somewhat disconnected from it due to residential properties being in proximity to the riverbank. The Thames Path however does provide a continuous route alongside the river and is accessible from the north and south of the character area.





Typical residential streets within Old Windsor

1j. WRAYSBURY LINEAR SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Linear Settlement

Landscape Character Area: Wraysbury



Key Characteristics

- Residential settlement with historic core
- Land use is mainly residential, with some commercial and retail activities
- Adjacent to embankments of Wraysbury Reservoir
- Areas of common recreation land, scrub land and arable land

Description

Wraysbury is a settlement lying on a broad, flat floodplain east of the River Thames. Restored gravel extraction pits and large water reservoirs dominate its eastern landscape setting; to the west and south is a rich arable landscape with patches of common land.

The area is characterised by a loose suburban grain, comprised of mostly semi and detached properties, with some terraced properties. There is significant mature and ornamental tree, shrub and hedge planting, present throughout the streets, however this is mostly contained within private gardens, with some small patches of communal space.

The large Wraysbury Reservoir sits to the north east of the character area with its large embankments being visible from within the adjacent residential streets.



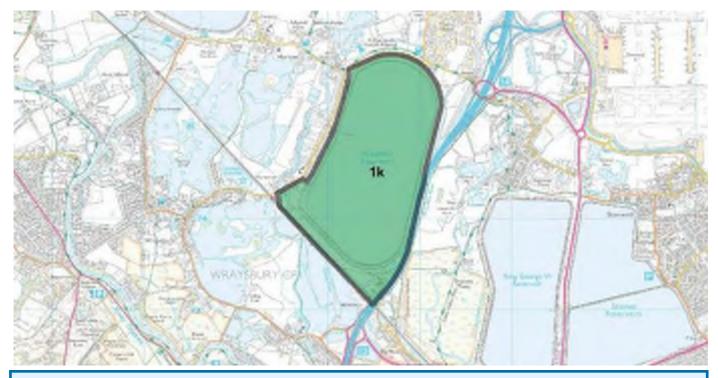
Embankment of Wraysbury Reservoir



Residential Street in Wraysbury

1k. WRAYSBURY RESERVOIR LANDSCAPE

Landscape Type: Reservoir Landscape Location: Wraysbury



Key Characteristics

- 20m-high elevated water storage reservoir located on the edge of Wraysbury water is not visible from beyond this landscape character area
- Steep grazed grass banks associated with the heavily engineered structure provide a hard visual edge, restricting views and intruding upon the surrounding flat floodplain landscape
- Scattered trees, with some additional planting along the ditch running along southern edge, lessen the harsh and rigid appearance of the existing boundary treatments (security fencing and gates)
- Wraysbury Reservoir is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and also forms part of the Southwest London Waterbodies Ramsar site and Special Protection Area (SPA)
- No public access

Description

Located to the north of Wraysbury and bounded by the London-Windsor railway to the south and the M25 to the east, Wraysbury Reservoir is an imposing engineered water storage structure which has become a distinctive landmark in the wider area.

The steep grassed artificial embankment is used as pasture, which serves to soften the overall appearance of the structure. Nevertheless, the reservoir appears as a vast landform rising some 20 to 30m above adjacent settlements and vegetation, contrasting starkly with the surrounding flat landscape.

Being a raised reservoir, the water is not visible from road level. Therefore, the character area retains a predominantly green and unified aspect. The concrete auxiliary pump building and stainless steel industrial security fencing are disparate features in the area.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H

Tree planting has been undertaken at the base of the reservoir to soften the overall appearance of the structure and provide visual and environmental enhancements. Marginal planting along the ditch located just inside the southern fence provides some diversity to the vegetation cover of this vast area that is mostly grazed grassland.

The slopes are managed by the grazing of sheep and appear in good condition. Boundary treatment and management is infrequent and inconsistent giving the area a degraded character.

Also, due to the proximity of Heathrow aeroplanes are often seen and heard within the area.

Views in are restricted by the densely planted boundary line surrounding the area. The reservoir embankment is most visible from Stanwell Road along its northern edge and from the elevated M25 to the east. Dense hedgerows and shelterbelts along Coppermill Road allow only intermittent glimpses of the landform. The reservoir is also visible from the eastern edge of Datchet and south Slough, where some residential roads and private gardens back directly onto this character area.







Wraysbury Reservoir Service Entrance

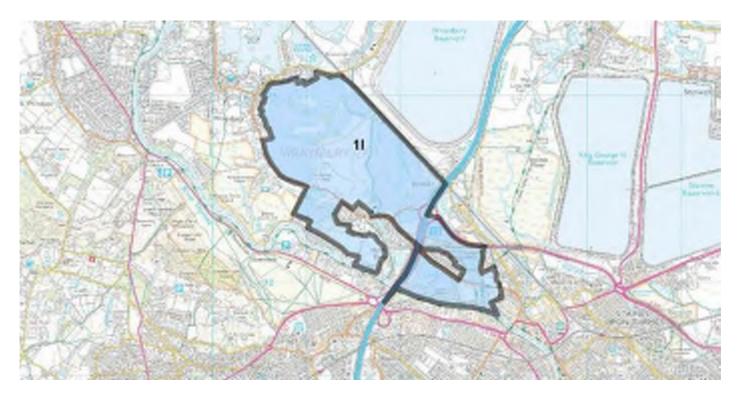
Sheep grazing on the embankment

View from Stanwell Road

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H **11. WRAYSBURY LAKESIDE RECREATION**

Landscape Type: Lakeside Recreation

Landscape Character Area: Wraysbury Lakes



Key Characteristics

- Low lying wide and flat floodplain landscape with some topographic variation provided by the domed landform of the former Wraysbury landfill site
- Lake complex formed from flooded gravel pits; these waterbodies are often well wooded and have a strong and attractive naturalistic character with positive views
- A mosaic of open water, islands, grassland, scrub and woodland habitats; together these waterbodies and the 'scrubby' areas around them provide a rich habitat for a great variety of wildlife
- Wraysbury Lakes and Hythe End Gravel Pits are designated as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention - these also form part of the Southwest London Water Bodies SPA and are now classified as SSSIs
- Limited public access, with only one public right of way running along the eastern edge of the area

Description

The character area extends from the south edge of Wraysbury, to Hythe End and Staines beyond. The southern tip of the area adjoins Bell Weir Lock which is an important focal point in the wider riverscape. The eastern edge is marked by Colne Brook a tributary of the River Colne.

It is important to note that to the west of the area lies the historic landscape associated with Ankerwycke Farm, former Benedictine Priory and owned by the National Trust. This site is accessible by several permissive footpaths, and some of these run directly along the character area's western edge.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H In this area, gravel extraction has fragmented the traditional pattern of the floodplain landscape leaving expansive wetlands of flooded pits. Many areas have naturalised and, due to their scenic as well as ecological value, have become important habitats or been restored for waterbased recreational activities. Wraysbury lake complex is designated as a Ramsar site along with several other lakes located to the east within Surrey.

Shelterbelts and linear woodland are features in the open floodplain landscape. These areas of woodland, although limited in extent, provide locally important habitat. To the south, the former landfill is essentially a large open meadow used for grazing cattle.

A single public footpath provides access north-south through the wetland between Wraysbury and Hythe End. Land use is predominantly leisure and recreation related with some recreational opportunities associated with waterways and wetlands, in particular the Silver Wings Sailing Club and fishing at Lower Hythe Gravel Pits.

A strong sense of calm and tranquillity results from the absence of settlement within the area, the restricted public access and the dominance of the lakes.

Overall this is a landscape that is in good condition, though in places more disturbed areas sometimes appear disjointed and 'scruffy' in character. There is a strong distinctive character but with the landfill site distracting from the otherwise generally consistent appearance.



Colne Brook



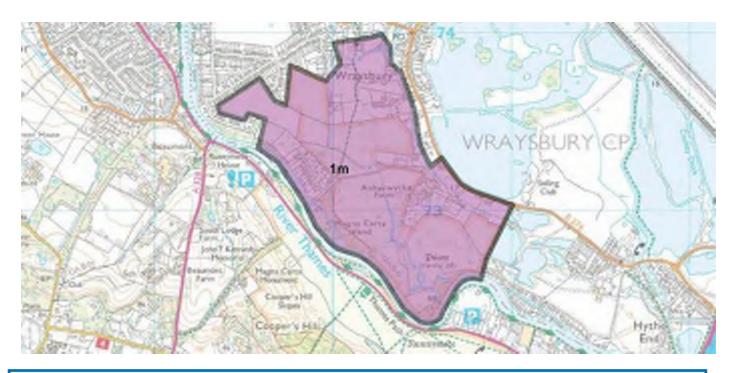


Public footpath off Wraysbury Road

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 1m. ANKERWYCKE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

Landscape Type: Historic Landscape

Location: Ankerwycke Farm and Magna Carta Island



Key Characteristics

- Large area of land on the north bank of the River Thames, which comprises several connected enclosed grazing meadows forming the National Trust site of Ankerwycke Farm
- Predominantly flat floodplain landscape gently rolling towards the river's edge and overlooking the large expanse of Runnymede situated on the opposite bank of the River Thames
- Vegetation cover includes small copses and scattered trees, with some mature specimens of oak, lime, willow and ash, and a rich and varied selection of hedgerow shrubs and trees
- Publicly accessible via a network of Public Rights of Way and Permissive Footpaths, the site is readily accessible from Wraysbury and is a well-used local open space (Open AccessLand)
- Presence of national heritage landmarks to the southeast, the ruins of the Ankerwycke Priory and the Ankerwycke Yew

Description

The character area is in the River Thames floodplain, south of Wraysbury. Ankerwycke Farm, owned and managed by the National Trust, extends from the edge of the village, past St Andrew's Church, down to the riverside. It is bounded by private properties on all sides, apart from the southern edge, along the river.

The farmland is predominantly composed of medium to large meadows used for grazing cattle (i.e. cows, sheep). Some pastures are used as paddocks for horses and ponies. It is publicly accessible via a network of permissive footpaths and gateways, offering a large expense of green open space (Open Access Land) in a wider area where they are scarce. It is therefore a site well-used by locals and visitors alike.

The area is a uniformly flat floodplain grassland with scattered trees and copses. The meadows are separated and enclosed within dense hedgerows and shelterbelts running along rural fencing. These also mark the location of Public Rights of Way leading to and from the centre of Wraysbury.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H

The farmland has a parkland feel with mature trees forming distinctive features within the landscape. The remains of the Ankerwycke Priory provide additional historic interest to the local landscape.

There is a mix of land use with Ankerwycke Farm being a working farm area of pasture and hay meadows, which is publicly accessible and a local focus for leisure and recreation.

It is important to note that Ankerwycke Farm is a unique historic site due to its proximity to Magna Carta Island and the presence of the ruins of the Ankerwycke Priory and the Ankerwycke Yew. As such it is a National Heritage attraction.

Views out are limited, as all meadows are enclosed behind dense hedgerows and shelterbelts. However, Cooper's Hill (across the river to the south) is generally visible throughout the area. The River Thames is generally not visible, hidden behind lines of poplar trees and dense scrub. The dense boundary vegetation restricts visibility from outside the area, though there are occasional glimpses from Runnymede on the opposite riverbank.



Meadow with mature trees south of Magna Carta Lane

View towards Cooper's Hill



Ruins of Ankerwycke Priory



Ankerwycke Yew



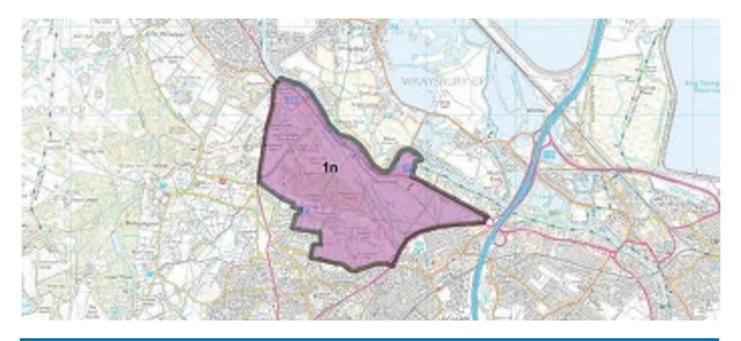
View from river's edge towards Runnymede



Dense boundary planting

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H **1n. RUNNYMEDE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE**

Landscape Type: Historic Landscape Location: Runnymede



Key Characteristics

- A large-scale semi-rural landscape set within the River Thames floodplain; this is a flat, low lying landscape, surrounded by built-up areas of Old Windsor and Egham
- Historically significant landscape, associated with the signing of the Magna Carta, which is registered as Common Land together with Cooper's Hill Slopes the area is owned and managed by the National Trust
- Wide riverside water-meadows that have retained an essential pastoral character despite the expansion of nearby settlements
- Rich biodiversity and varied habitats with areas of wetland, improved meadows and riparian woodland
- Extensive public access along the River Thames and across the meadows; presence of several memorials across the area, including the Magna Carta Memorial and the John F. Kennedy Memorial

Description

The character area is located directly to the south of the River Thames and stretches from Old Windsor to the north to Egham to the south. To its west is the steep wooded hillside of Cooper's Hill including the elevated RAF Memorial, its lookouts providing panoramic views of the surrounding landscape. The M25 passes in proximity to the southeast corner of the area.

The eastern sections are of a low lying floodplain landscape, comprising large scale riverside meadows used as pasture for grazing cattle, as well as hay making. Although predominantly open, the landscape is divided by dense mixed-species hedgerows and shelterbelts.

The River Thames exerts a strong influence on the character area and helps to retain a positive rural feel despite the proximity of settlements and frequent and obtrusive road and air-traffic from the nearby A308 and Heathrow airport.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H The Thames Path National Trail runs along the river to the north and connects with several other public rights of way across the character area, although there are some areas with limited formal public access.

The wetland formed by Langham Pond and its surrounding meadow, in the centre of the character area, represents a unique habitat type in southern England. As such, it is of international importance for nature conservation, and is a registered Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Views out from the lower areas are relatively open, with some long-distance views, particularly across the meadow directly south of Cooper's Hill.





Meadow pasture

View from Magna Carta Island

View over meadow with Cooper's Hill on the right-hand side



Magna Carta Memorial



Thames riverside



View from Cooper's Hill

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 10. RUNNYMEDE RIVERSIDE LINEAR SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Riverside Linear Settlement

Location: Runnymede



Key Characteristics

- A small-scale lowland semi-rural landscape lying within a generally flat but gently undulating part of the Thames river valley
- Some of the essential rural character of the larger area has been fragmented by the expansion of settlements and the associated major roads that dissect this area
- Narrow, linear settlement
- Characterised by a mixed land use, mainly residential but with hotel, boatyard and other commercial uses
- Edges of settlement characterised by strong boundaries and screening shelterbelts

Description

The character area is in the Thames floodplain on the south bank of the river between Old Windsor and Egham. It is at the end of an open, typically rural stretch of the River Thames through Runnymede which is associated with the signing of the Magna Carta. The settlement backs directly onto the historic landscape of Runnymede National Trust site - water meadow and adjoining hillside.

The area extends from Runnymede Pleasure Ground in the west, to Runnymede Bridge (M25 crossing) to the east. It is a small scale, inward focused narrow settlement which has developed from Egham along Windsor Road/A308.

There is a linear ribbon of residential plotland housing set along the river. This is predominantly composed of late 20th century large scale detached houses, built on long narrow plots that extend from one side of the area to the other (from the river to the north to Windsor Road to the south).

Most of the properties benefit from medium sized gardens overlooking the river with direct access onto the Thames Path. However this modern development, that replaced the original plotland bungalows, turns its back to the river and is cut off from the surrounding landscape due to the strong presence of Windsor Road.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H The built form is almost completely hidden from view by shelterbelts and trees, with only occasional glimpses through openings in the hedgerows. It is well integrated within its setting however, particularly in the north of the area where the riverside retains a typical Arcadian and peaceful character.

Land use is mainly residential but there is also a large modern hotel, some commercial uses and traditional riverside development such as a boatyard, Bell Weir Lock and leisure boat moorings. The latter are important characteristic features of the area as they demonstrate a lively, working aspect of the Thames. The river also provides valuable opportunities for leisure and recreation.

There is dense vegetation cover around the housing plots, mostly from ornamental trees and shrubs, as well as hedges that separate properties. Species include horse chestnut, London plane, cherry, maple and hornbeam. There are mixed native hedgerows and shelterbelts growing alongside roads and alder, ash and willow occur along the river.

As the area's northern edge opens fully onto the river, developments on the opposite bank are in open view with direct views from the Thames Path and Runnymede Hotel outdoor facilities and private views towards the river from back gardens. On the riverside, the Bell Weir Lock provides a strong focal point that can be seen from both ends of the towpath.



View from Thames Path towards Hythe End on the east bank of the river





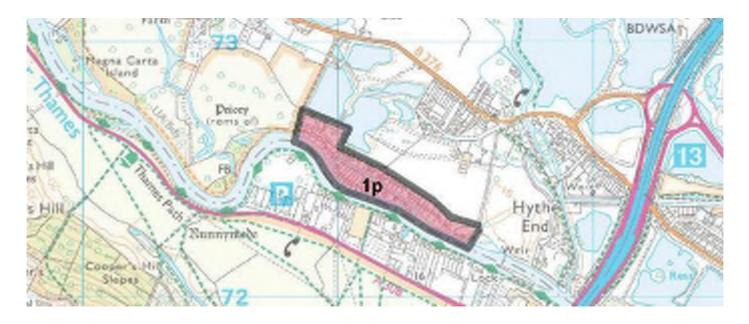
Bell Weir and Lock

Thames Path

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H **1p. HYTHE END RIVERSIDE LINEAR SETTLEMENT**

Landscape Type: Riverside Linear Settlement

Location: The Island at Hythe End, South Wraysbury



Key Characteristics

- Low density, linear settlement comprising plotland housing properties exclusively residential land use with private moorings
- Isolated from Wraysbury main urban area access via private road only
- Sheet piling and concrete capping beam retaining riverbank
- Narrow channel separates island from roadside dwellings
- Views contained by built form and vegetation
- No public access

Description

The area lies on the northern bank of the River Thames upstream of Bell Weir Lock. Although situated further south and geographically closer to Staines, Hythe End forms part of the village of Wraysbury. Former gravel pits and grassed fields create a clear boundary to the north of the area. There is a Thames Water abstraction facility and adjoining riverside cottages lying to the east edge of Hythe End road.

The linear settlement is laid out in regular plots on which self-built properties were established along the riverside and subsequently redeveloped into more substantial residencies. Access is limited to a private road that leads to the Staines Road/ Wraysbury Road/B376.

The built form consists of a ribbon of medium scale detached dwellings, mostly late 20th century bungalows and pavilions. A narrow channel separates the plots alongside the road from the island.

The settlement is well integrated within the riverscape but blocks views and curtails access to the river edge from Hythe End.

Vegetation cover is sparse and is comprised mainly of native mixed hedgerows and shelterbelts. There are diverse combinations of ornamental tree and shrub planting in private front and back gardens, resulting in a sporadic and contrasted vegetation cover.

There are some occasional views out to the north through gaps in fences and hedgerows towards fields directly opposite the settlement beyond the road and private views towards the river from back gardens. Direct views are gained into the character area from the river and opposite bank, including from the River Thames Path and Runnymede recreation ground.

Overall this is a streetscape of good condition, due to a high degree of domestic care with a moderately strong character and distinctiveness.





Hythe End Road, facing west



Former landfill site north of Hythe End Road



Hythe End Road, facing east

Waterside properties

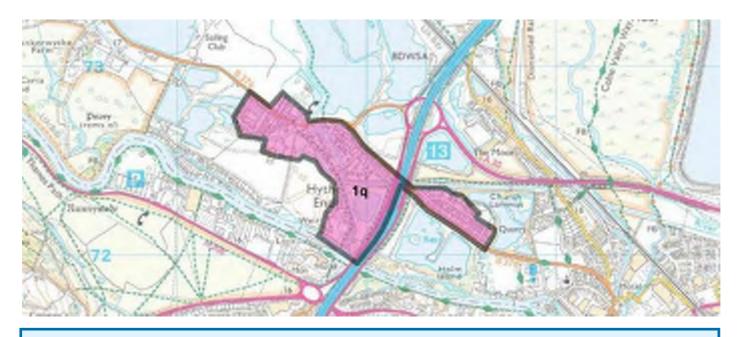


View from Thames Path on oppositebank

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 1q. HYTHE END LINEAR SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Linear Settlement

Location: Hythe End, South Wraysbury



Key Characteristics

- Medium density urban fringe settlement with a degraded 'edge of town' streetscape that encroaches onto the surrounding wetland landscape
- Development on leftover land after the exploitation of gravel pits which encircle the area, creating a scattered pattern with a close intermingling of housing and industry
- Sparse vegetation cover
- Urban influences such as the industry on the urban fringe, overhead power lines and the A376 corridor have a high detrimental impact on the area and lessen the 'rural feel' found closer to the village core of Wraysbury
- Two distinctive water corridors, including the Colne Brook cross the area
- Limited public access one public footpath running along the Colne Brook, leading from Feathers Lane to the riverside

Description

The character area is located to the southeast corner of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. It is bounded by the M25 to the east and the B376 to the north. Flooded gravel pits surround the area on several sides and former and active landfill sites are in close proximity.

This is a small, isolated pocket of infill development that dates originally from the 1960s and there is a great variety of architectural styles and materials. There is also an eclectic mix of modern land uses such as industrial estates, pumping station, guest houses, a restaurant and garages that combine to create a fragmented pattern and feel.

A varied and dispersed mix of small to medium scale housing types (mainly inter-war and post-war suburban) follow a reasonably linear pattern along the B376 and adjoining network of smaller roads and lanes. These are mostly detached two-storey houses however the character and form of dwellings differ considerably from one another and RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H modern development has been largely insensitive to traditional forms and materials present within the wider area.

The pattern of settlement and land use has created a fragmented landscape. Consequently built form has created a physical barrier between the surrounding areas of wetland landscape.

Street trees are uncommon however small ornamental trees/shrubs in private front gardens make a small but valuable contribution to the streetscape. Streetlights vary in style according to the age of development.

Due to the density and arrangement of built development, the depth of views are generally limited. However, there are important glimpsed views to the River Thames from the south edge of the area.

Generally the area has an average to poor strength of character with very limited distinctive features and the quality of the streetscape is strongly influenced by the presence of extremely busy and large scale transportation corridors (M25 and B376) as well as the surrounding industrial land uses and adjacent degraded landscapes.





Ferry Lane, Hythe End



Wraysbury Road crossing under the M25

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H **1r. STAINES RIVERSIDE PASTURE**

Landscape Type: Riverside Pasture

Location: Staines Moor, Stanwell



Key Characteristics

- Expansive alluvial flood meadow southeast of Heathrow Airport
- Site of Special Scientific Interest
- Within the Colne Valley Park
- Area adjacent to the King George VI Reservoir is a Ramsar site (part of Southwest London Waterbodies

Description

Staines Moor is a large area of grassland and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). It is located southwest of the conurbation of Stanwell Moor and is located between the M25 motorway and Heathrow airport. It is common land and as such contains footpaths for public access. The land is grazed by cattle. It is intersected by the River Colne with the small Wraysbury river to its western boundary and the King George VI reservoir to its eastern boundary. It is flat meadow grassland with native tree and hedgerow planting to its fringes and with scattered scrub and shrub growth throughout. Overhead power lines are a prominent feature to the south of the site. Although the pedestrian approach is enclosed and unwelcoming, the moor itself has a tranquil and calm feeling with a balanced and natural appearance.



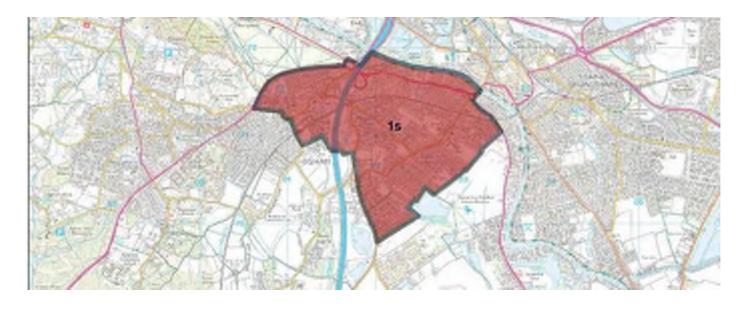
Looking northeast across character area



Pedestrian access to character area under A30

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 1s POOLEY GREEN BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement Location: Pooley Green, Egham



Key Characteristics

- Low density suburban townscape generally comprised of three storey buildings arranged in clusters along the central artery Pooley Green Road
- Flat landform with a land cover that includes scattered trees, hedgerows, private gardens and occasional communal amenity spaces
- Views are framed along streets; with occasional tree planting and/or trees and shrubs within private front gardens

Description

The character area is located to the west of the River Thames and the east of the M25 motorway. It is a residential area comprised of three storey housing, small parks and amenity spaces and local commercial and light industrial premises. Within residential streets, the planting is predominantly within private gardens with occasional street trees and a dense ribbon of mature trees grow within the rear gardens along Pooley Green Road. There is some amenity planting located within the streets and small parks and areas of green space are interspersed within the streets and include the central Hythe Park. There is strong sense of suburban order to the streets with a mix of generally 20th century housing.



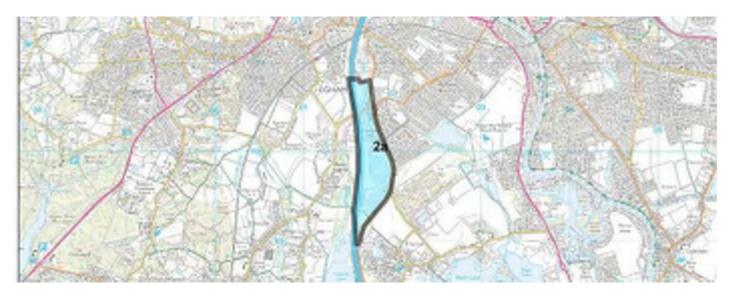
Residential streets of Pooley Green



RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2a THORPE LEA FORMAL RECREATION

Landscape Type: Formal Recreation

Location: Thorpe Lea Fishery



Key Characteristics

- Enclosed site of private recreation
- Fishing ponds with managed grassland and tree and shrub planting
- Partially used for horse grazing
- Bordered by the M25 motorway and the B388 road

Description

This character area is an enclosed space for private recreation and pasture. It is comprised of two fishing ponds set within managed grassland with the site being bordered and divided by native tree and hedgerow planting. The M25 forms the western edge of the character area whilst the B388 road forms the eastern edge. Plots of light industrial units are situated to the north of the area. There is also a private area for canine recreation set in and amongst areas of native woodland planting. There is public footpath access to the north of the character area adjacent to the M25 motorway.

The character area is calm, yet due to the adjacent industrial estate and road infrastructure there is constant vehicle noise and movement to the periphery.

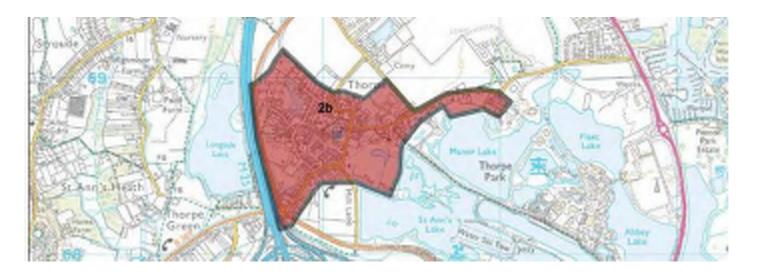


Native Vegetation and space for pasture

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2b THORPE BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement

Character Area: Thorpe



Key Characteristics

- Residential settlement
- Land use is mainly residential with some commercial, retail activities and small scale industry
- Adjacent to Thorpe Park amusement park
- Areas of common recreation land and pasture
- Village core conservation area

Description

The character area is located between the M25 motorway to the west and Thorpe Park amusement park to the east. The River Bourne, a tributary of the River Thames borders the character area to the south adjacent to the M3 motorway. It is predominantly comprised of small residential sinuous streets and cul-de-sacs which have a calm and enclosed feel. Buildings are mostly two and three storey semi-detached housing of 19th and 20th century with some more historic buildings toward the village core conservation area.

Planting is mostly contained within private gardens with occasional street trees and areas of amenity grass and shrub planting. Public/private edges are mostly comprised of defensive planting and/or low height garden walls or fences typical of suburban residential streets.

There are small plots of private settled farmland to the north of the character area and elsewhere there are small, scattered amenity spaces situated within residential streets. The Frank Muir memorial field provides a large area of open space and woodland adjacent to the M25 with open grassland and copses of native woodland planting.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H



Frank Muir Memorial Field



Residential street



Historic village core



RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2c. THORPE INDUSTRY

Landscape Type: Industry

Location: Thorpe Industrial Estate



Key Characteristics

- Enclosed industrial estate
- Flat landform
- Busy, noisy industrial character, dominated by vehicle traffic
- Amenity street planting and defensive planting to residential units
- Boundary is typically steel palisade fencing with unkempt native hedgerow and scrub planting

Description

The character area is located north of the village of Thorpe. It is an industrial estate with a combination of warehouses and large retail and commercial premises. The estate has an enclosed feeling with secure fencing and dense planting at the boundaries.

The character is noisy and busy with constant vehicle traffic including large articulated vehicles. The surrounding area is a mix of woodland, arable land, land for private recreation and pockets of residential settlement.



View within character area showing boundary treatments and commercial units



Industrial units within character area

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2d. THORPE SETTLED FARMLAND

Landscape Type: Settled Farmland

Landscape Character Area: Thorpe Hay Meadow



Key Characteristics

- Low lying, predominantly flat floodplain landscape contained on all sides by semi-rural suburban settlements
- Remnants of undisturbed landscape at Thorpe Hay Meadow, nature reserve and designated SSSI
- Small scale open fields of pasture and grazing with scattered trees, dominate the northwest of the area
- Several small scale waterbodies connected by Mead Lake drainage ditch remain scattered across the area

Description:

The character area lies in the northeast of Runnymede Borough, west of the A320, to the southwest of Egham and to the northeast of Thorpe. This is a flat open floodplain landscape, semi-rural in character, comprising a mixture of remnant areas of agricultural and horticultural land, with operational and former landfill and gravel workings. Some of these are backfilled and some remain as waterbodies. Generally, it is under managed and areas have overgrown and transitioned into open scrubby grassland and scrub woodland. Old hedgerows containing a variety of species form internal boundaries to the fields and plots.

The nature and condition of field boundaries are variable. Species rich wetland habitats occur along drainage ditches and around the remaining waterbodies. The area is crossed by several public rights of way which connect some of the waterbodies and meadows across the area. Views into and out of the area are largely restricted due to the tree cover at the edges of the character area.



A view into the character area looking west from A320



Arable land within character area

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2e. EGHAM HYTHE BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement

Location: South Egham Hythe



Key Characteristics

- Medium to low-density residential housing expansion from Staines from the mid to late 20th century
- Semi-detached and detached properties on small scale plots set in a regular pattern a homogeneous building type and inconsistent architectural style
- Short streets branching off from the A320 and mostly ending in cul-de-sac and dead ends
- Adjacent to a rather unkempt landscape of former gravel pits
- Land use is primarily residential with some industrial sheds and commercial activities including a petrol station
- Located within Runnymede Borough Council Landscape Problem Area (Policy NE10)

Description

The character area lies east of Egham and south of Staines. It is located just east of the M25 transport corridor and south of Thorpe Hay Meadow with the settlement developing around the A320. It is part of the agglomeration of Staines-Upon-Thames but is located on the west bank of the River Thames on the edge of the main settlement.

The area displays a variety of architectural styles, from typical inter-war suburban housing types to early post-war and mid to late 20th century developments. There is however a consistency of built form and character within each 'estate'.

The medium density residential suburban settlement consists of short subsidiary roads spreading from the A320 and finishing in cul-de-sacs or dead ends. Predominantly properties are semi-detached and detached two-storey dwellings, set in regular plots with relatively short front gardens. Many have private off-street parking on driveways (sometimes with garages) or communal parking bays and there is a consistent plot form, density and building scale that results in a harmonised streetscape character.

The leafy suburban character is reinforced by well vegetated domestic front gardens, some containing ornamental lawns, trees and shrubs and often bounded by low brick walls and clipped hedges. Street trees are uncommon however some unfenced front gardens as well as some shared amenity greenspaces include small to medium ornamental trees and shrubs that make a valuable contribution to the streetscape. There is a leafier character towards the southern edge of the area with some large properties set within extensive gardens.

Views are channelled along streets and framed by the regular facades of houses and there are some long views out from the back of the properties to the surrounding pastures.

Due to the simplicity of the architectural form and detailing, and the predominantly darker coloured palette of materials, the streetscape has a somewhat austere and utilitarian character but feels maintained and in a good condition.



Green Lane, Egham Hythe

Ferry Avenue, Egham Hythe

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2f. EGHAM HYTHE LINEAR RIVERSIDE SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Linear Riverside Settlement

Location: Egham Hythe



Key Characteristics

- Compact, medium-density riverside residential settlement established along the A320
- Former 'plotland' housing, facing the River Thames opportunistic development of the second half of the 20th century
- Regular street pattern extending from the road to the River Thames' edge, with some individual plots to the south of the area stretching over the whole width of the area
- Properties make the most of their riverside setting, each plot overlooking the river and the opposite bank.
- Public open space at Truss's Island Riverside Park, a small park with a slipway and a footbridge leading onto Truss Island, a small eyot on the River Thames

Description

The character area is located on the west bank of the River Thames, to the southeast of Egham and stretching south to Penton Hook Marina. It is in the immediate vicinity of Thorpe Hay Meadow and only a short distance away from Thorpe Park.

Dense mixed 'plotland' development extends downstream from Staines Bridge and is contained between the A320 single carriageway and the River Thames. To the west, the settlement is fringed by extensive disturbed landscapes (characterised by active mineral extraction sites, flooded gravel pits and remnant farmland).

Well connected, a network of short side streets branch off of the A320, which leads to the wider road network (including the M25 and M3).

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H During the inter-war period, temporary chalets and sheds on plots of land, were converted into bungalows with small waterfront gardens; in the second half on the 20th century, continuous redevelopment of these plots has led to the existing permanent houses and bungalows which retain the relatively small scale and size of their predecessors.

Characteristically, their built form consists of two-storey detached and semi-detached dwellings, although trailers and temporary residences still occur in places nearer the river. There is a leafier character toward the south end of the area, south of Mayfield Gardens where compact residential housing gives way to distinctive riverside properties with larger gardens.

There is a consistent plot form, density and building scale that results in a reasonably harmonised streetscape despite the disparate architectural types and styles.

Vegetation cover is irregular and mostly includes short front and riverside gardens containing open mown grass and small to medium scale ornamental trees and shrubs. Poplar, willow, birch, sycamore and beech species can be found along the verges of the A320 and in certain areas of side streets.

Largely opportunities are limited for riverside activities within the character area due to private ownership of the bankside. There is one small area of accessible riverside at Truss's Island & park, which is the only local public open space in the area.

The nature of the street pattern, curved roads and short cul-de-sacs, keeps views short and there are no notable landmarks due to the consistency of built form throughout the area.

Despite its weak connectivity to the river and lack of coherent building pattern and style, a rather balanced and leafy streetscape conveys a fair strength of character to the area and overall it feels to be in a good condition.



Properties on Bundy's Way off the A320

A320 Road

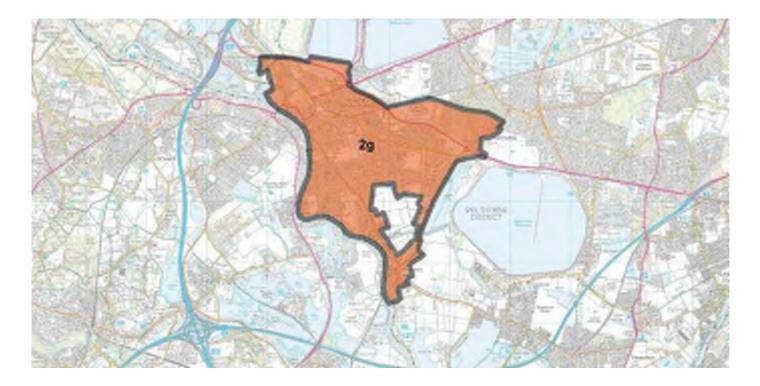


View from Thames Path on opposite bank

2g. STAINES RIVERSIDE BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Riverside Built Up Settlement

Location: Staines-upon-Thames



Key Characteristics

- Low density suburban townscape and modern settlement
- Predominantly flat landform very gently sloping down to the River Thames
- Busy commercial town centre
- Active riverside setting
- Numerous listed buildings within town centre
- Town centre and riverside within Conservation Area

Description

The character area is located to the east of the River Thames. The Grade II listed Staines Bridge connects the town to the adjacent Egham.

Staines is a busy active town populated with a mix of commercial, residential and light industrial premises. The scale of built form is predominantly low to medium rise buildings of mixed architectural style and period within the town centre.

Pedestrian legibility is strong with clear connections to and from the riverside and the town centre. Access along the riverside provides a pedestrian connection south to Shepperton and north to Lammas recreation ground.



Riverside path in Staines-upon-Thames, looking toward Staines Bridge



Staines-upon-Thames pedestrianised high street

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2h. ASHFORD FORMAL RECREATION

Landscape Type: Formal Recreation

Character Area: Ashford



Key Characteristics

- Private Golf Course
- Dense mature boundary planting and fencing
- Enclosed by the Village of Ashford and the A308 road
- Flat landscape with artificial undulations, typical of a golf course

Description

The character area landform is flat with slight undulations typical of a golf course. Small pockets of water and sand bunkers are also present.

Planting within the character area is made of mature broad leaved and coniferous tree planting with mixed shrub and hedge planting located in pockets throughout the course.

The area is bordered by the A308 to the south whilst the village of Ashford encloses the site to the west, north and east. There are no public rights of way through the site and views into the site are mostly restricted by fencing and mature tree, shrub and hedge planting. It is ordered and balanced in appearance with a predominantly natural and neutral colour palette.



Wooded boundary with view through to greens

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2i. STAINES RECREATION

Landscape Type: Recreation

Location: Staines-upon-Thames



Key Characteristics

- Large area of enclosed green amenity spaces and pasture
- Flat managed grassland
- Divided with native tree and hedgerow planting
- Area is partially accessible from the north and east via informal footpaths

Description

The character area is located with the conurbation of Staines-upon-Thames.

The area is a large flat expanse of pasture and amenity grassland with a combination of public and private recreation.

Mature tree and hedgerow planting create edges to the area. The feeling within is calm and balanced with muted natural colours. The landform is flat with inter-visibility obscured by the mature planted boundary edges.



View facing south across character area



Grassland pasture with informal footpaths

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2j. LALEHAM RIVERSIDE LINEAR SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Riverside Linear Settlement

Location: Laleham Reach



Key Characteristics

- Low density, linear settlement comprising 'plotland' housing properties with private moorings
- Isolated from the main urban area access via private road only
- Filtered and fragmented views onto grazing land at the centre of the area
- No public access

Description

The area lies north of the M3 and east of Thorpe Park and is a linear floodplain settlement bound by the sinuous curve of the River Thames with a narrow private road of detached 20th century houses and bungalows of various sizes following the route of the river. The individually designed houses are set back from the road and the generous gardens overlook the river and private moorings.

The private road is accessed via a park home development in the southwest of the area. The road eventually passes boat yards and marine businesses. At the centre is a fenced area of rough grazing land with copses, clumps of native trees and scrub. Field boundaries are irregular and housing is disconnected from the fields by perimeter planting which results in filtered and fractured views.

The area feels open and large in scale. It is horizontal with curved boundaries and is muted, balanced and still, yet also random in appearance.



Hythe End Road, facing west



Park home development

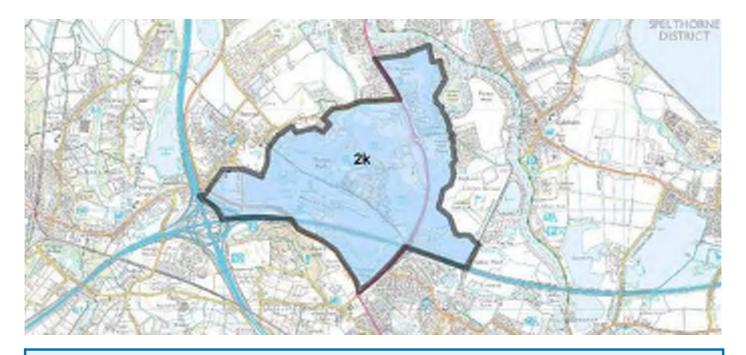


Detached bungalows and houses set back from narrow private road

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2k. THORPE PARK BUILT UP LAKESIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Built Up Lakeside Recreation

Landscape Character Area: Thorpe Park and adjoining lake complex



Key Characteristics

- Low lying, flat floodplain with minimal topographic variation, strongly contrasting with the adjoining topography of the rising valley side of Runnymede to the west and St Ann's Hill to the south
- Extensive waterbodies of flooded gravel pits that support a range of man-made and semi-natural open water habitats of great ecological interest St Ann's Lake is a Ramsar site, a SPA (as part of the Southwest London Water Bodies) as well as a protected SSSI
- Shelterbelts and linear woodlands form a strong vegetated character hiding both settlement and waterbodies
- Contains Thorpe Park and various active water based and less active recreation facilities
- Located at the junction of the busy large scale transportation corridors of the M25 and the M3
- Outside of Thorpe Park and Thorpe Lakes, much of the remainder of the area retains a relative sense of tranquillity, due to the dominance of waterbodies and the dense tree cover

Description

The character area lies in the northeast of Runnymede Borough. Norlands Lane, the A320 and the M3 form the character area boundaries to the north, east and south. The area extends to the outskirts of Thorpe village in the west and the River Thames to the east.

The area consists of an extensive complex of open waterbodies and wetlands of former gravel workings which encompass Thorpe Park (the theme park and popular visitor destination). This is a substantially altered landscape in which lakes make up a significant part of the land cover such that the area appears largely dominated by water. Therefore, watersports centres, Cemex Angling to the north, Penton Hook Marina to the east, and Thorpe Lakes to the south provide a wealth of water-based recreation opportunities.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H The wide variety of uses results in a diversity of habitats and conditions. Within the developed lakeside, open water plus associated wetland habitats including grassland and woodland support a number of wetland species and provide valuable wildlife habitats. St Ann's Lake is recognised to be of international and national nature conservation importance, and other lakes surrounding Thorpe Park are managed as informal nature reserves. The lakes' banks are almost entirely dominated by trees and shrubs.

Excluding the built-up islands that make up Thorpe Park, settlement density is relatively limited, often comprising of isolated properties and small clusters of commercial or industrial buildings. Several local footpaths provide access to and across the area, notably Monk's Walk which runs on an embankment across the wetland area, connecting Thorpe to Chertsey (Abbey Mead).

Dense tree cover around the lakes creates a strong sense of containment and enclosure, restricting views to and from the adjacent landscapes. There are some long views along linear footpaths and across water bodies.

This is a relatively tranquil and peaceful area despite the presence of Thorpe Park and the adjoining M3 motorway. Well maintained, the character area is in overall good condition with a strong distinctive character.



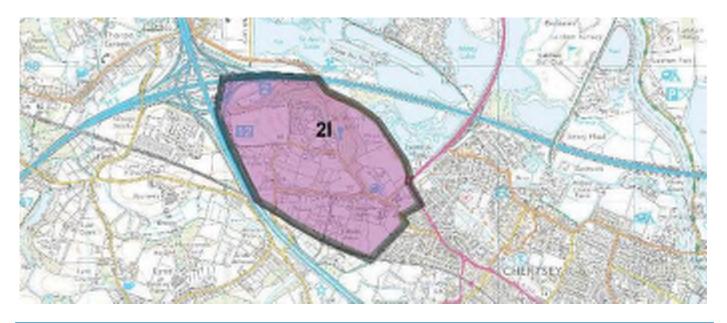
Monk's Walk

St Ann's Lake

Thorpe Park

21. STANNS HILL HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

Landscape Type: Historic Landscape Location: St Ann's Hill & The Dingle, Chertsey



Key Characteristics

- Area characterised by St Ann's Hill and The Dingle historic core
- Rural and historic character despite the proximity to the M3 and M25 road corridors and railway line to the south
- Unusual properties located on St Ann's Hill Road including White Court and St Ann's Court

Description

The character area is located approx. 1.5km to the northwest of Chertsey, immediately south of the M25 and M3 junction. The area consists mainly of the features that contribute to the St Ann's Hill and the Dingle Grade II listed park and garden including late 18th century planting on the site of a prehistoric hill fort. It was opened as a public park during the late 1920's with further planting and landscaping at this time. It continues to have public access with a park and nature trail at the site.

Today the area has grassed and wooded scenery interspersed with rhododendron shrubberies. Paths lead across the site from a small public car park. The summit of the hill has an enclosed grassed clearing on the site of a covered reservoir, with shrubberies around its edge. The ruins of St Ann's Chapel are located at the northern end of the space with other incidental historic features interspersed around the woodlands including St Ann's Well and a balustrade with viewing platform though in summer the dense tree growth limits views from these elevated locations. A viewpoint location provides opportunity for a long view northeast to the surrounding area.

The southern end of the area has an expanse of fields and the route of the railway line between Virginia Water and Chertsey. Several detached properties, mainly mid to late 20th century are dispersed along the wider, hedgelined and suburban Ruxbury Road, however as you head north along the narrow, enclosed St Ann's Hill Road, the character is more rural with interspersed, more historic properties including White Court and the unusual St Anne's Court, a refurbished 1930's house and coach house sitting within 18th century designed gardens. A few scattered rural businesses are located around the area including Ruxbury Farm animal behaviour hub and St Ann's Hill Farm. The general character is of a more rural, enclosed, settled natural landscape, despite the proximity of two significant road networks.



Informal paths through St Ann's Hill



Viewing platform



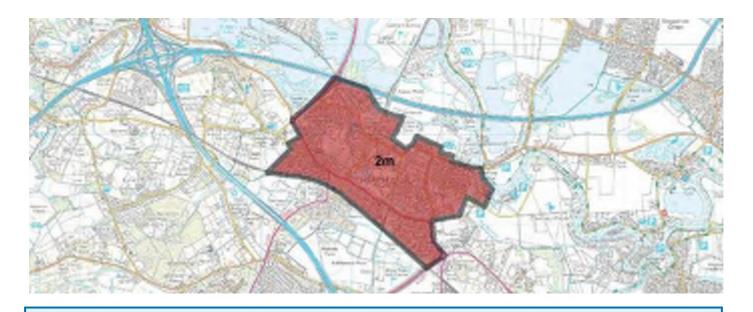
Focussed view northeast



St Ann's Court

2m. CHERTSEY BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement Location: Chertsey



Key Characteristics

- Historic town centre with Chertsey Abbey Scheduled Monument to the north
- Includes the Abbey River and Bourne river with adjacent recreation and open space
- Area effectively 'sandwiched' between M3 and M25
- Predominant residential land use

Description

Bound by the M3 to the north and sitting to the north of the M25, this character area is bounded by rail tracks along its southern boundary. The River Thames brushes the area to the northeast. It is crossed by the Grade II listed 18th century stone Chertsey Bridge which provides views over Chertsey Meads beyond the boundary of the character area.

The Abbey River runs through the area in the north. On its south bank is the Scheduled Monument, Chertsey Abbey, with its associated moats and ditches and features are still visible within the vicinity including ornate gates and walls. The Chertsey conservation area is centred on the 'T' shape formed by Guildford Street, Windsor Street and London Street and is the historic and retail heart of the area. These streets are lined with listed buildings dating from the 16th and 17th centuries and their narrow building frontages are set up against the pavement. The town's supermarkets are placed behind these streets.

The land use is predominantly residential with commercial premises scattered through the area. The residential areas vary in style and include 20th century council housing and period properties of varying size.

The Bourne runs through the area and can be accessed at Grogmore Farm Park, which offers a wooded area and play facilities.



View towards Chertsey Conservation Area



Historic remnants of Chertsey Abbey



Abbeyfields green with Chertsey Abbey behind



Chertsey Bridge

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2n. ABBEY MEAD SETTLED MIXED FARMLAND

Landscape Type: Settled Mixed Farmland

Landscape Character Area: Abbey Mead, Chertsey



Key Characteristics

- Mixed farmland, predominantly pasture and rough grazing
- A medium-scale landscape lying within a generally flat landform gently sloping to the River Thames to the east
- Characterised by a patchwork of medium to small scale meadows and paddocks with scattered trees and individual mature tree specimens
- Gentle riverside character, enhanced by the presence of the Abbey River which meanders through the flat farmland
- Field edges are characterised by an unkempt appearance of post and wire fences and derelict hedgerows
- Dissected by the M3 corridor and elevated on an embankment, it has a strong visual and audible influence
- Public footpath and bridleway running along the area's western edge on Ferry Lane

Description

The character area lies in the northeast of Runnymede Borough, on the south bank of the River Thames. The M3 motorway dissects the area. The Thames Water Chertsey Water Treatment Works is located to the north, with the site of the former abbey to the south. To the east, a Scheduled Monument sits partially within the site.

This is an open, flat floodplain of mixed farmland with several uneven small to medium sized grazing meadows, usually hedged and with some scattered trees. The medium scale field pattern is separated by gappy field boundaries, mostly hedgerows and fences, which promote an open character to the landscape.

Settlement is dispersed and comprises an isolated farmstead and adjoining cottages and sheds, several detached residential dwellings and a nursing home. To the eastern edge is the Chertsey Caravanning and Camping Site and a riverside hotel, bringing a degree of tourism into the area however the limited and small scale settlement within the area means it maintains some rural character.

The vegetation cover consists of occasional shelterbelt or lombardy poplars and mixed species hedgerows along paths and field boundaries.

From within, the open character of the landscape allows some wide views across meadows however other views are constrained by shelterbelts, hedgerows and the built form of the farm buildings. Public access is generally restricted to the western side where a public footpath leads to and from Chertsey.

This is a somewhat isolated and surprisingly remote area that feels to be in an average condition as hedgerows along the public footpath appear poorly maintained and overgrown. Its strength of character also feels quite moderate with very few distinctive features and limited connectivity to the River.



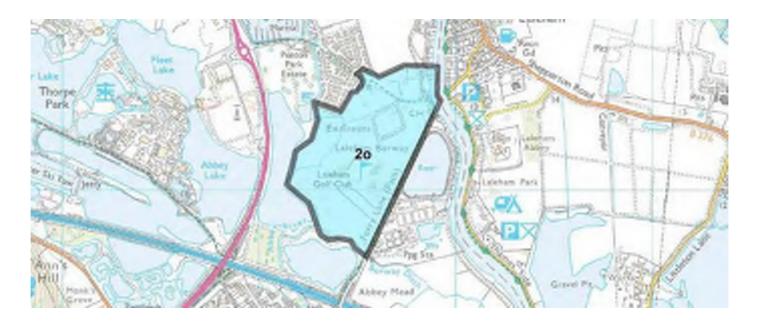
Grazing meadow adjoining the M3

View from the Thames Path on opposite bank

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 20. LALEHAM BURWAY FORMAL RECREATION

Landscape Type: Formal Recreation Landscape

Location: Laleham Burway Golf Club



Key Characteristics

- Localised but distinctive landscape associated with its former recreational use, as a golf course until 2017
- Flat to gently undulating man-made landform
- Mature parkland trees with areas of younger planting and remnants of the typical bunkers, greens and fairways of its former use
- Several earthworks dating from the medieval era including some features of historic significance remain in the area the 'enclosure' to the north, is a Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Intervisibility is generally limited, although the areas may be visible from distant or elevated locations (i.e., St Ann's Hill)
- Public footpath at the north of the area and bridleway along Ferry Lane on the east edge of the area

Description

This character area is located between Penton Hook and Chertsey on the west bank of the River Thames and is near the motorway corridors of the M25 and M3. The area is sandwiched between flooded gravel pits to the west and a Thames Water reservoir to the east. The Abbey River runs along the area's southern edge.

This is a large open area of previously amenity landscape set within the characteristically flat, low lying Thames floodplain. This landscape has been previously modified to some degree from its underlying character (floodplain meadows) by its previous use as a golf course and this specific land use of gently undulating landform is defined by the way in which it was previously maintained and used, rather than by its natural topography.

When the land was the property of Chertsey Abbey during the 7th century, a system of drainage ditches was constructed. Known as the Burway these earthworks are still clearly visible. Additionally, a rectangular shaped 'enclosure' can also still be seen in the site and is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

The land is privately owned by a farmer who uses it for agricultural grazing by cows. Its character is formed of its previous formal management, however the grass has matured into grazing meadows and the formal hedgerows and treebelts have also now matured. It is easing into informality and becoming rural and naturalistic.

There are remnants of ornamental planting including shrubs and herbaceous plants and tree cover is largely restricted to small, isolated groups and rows of varying size and includes the linear shelterbelts that defined the golf course's boundaries. The species vary and include both native and colourful ornamental trees such as poplar, willow, maple and beech.

Buildings are unused and limited to those associated with its former use, i.e. the clubhouse and maintenance sheds.



View of disused clubhouse



Public footpath through the northern end of the site



Remnants of former hedgerows and tree belts

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2p. LALEHAM UTILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE

Landscape Type: Utilities Infrastructure Location: Laleham



Key Characteristics

- Dominated by the Thames Water Chertsey Water Treatment Works, its associated reservoir and water holding areas and infrastructure
- Private road with mix of dwellings sits on the riverbank in the east of the area
- Flood plain, bound by River Thames and public footpath

Description

The character area is dominated by the Thames Water Chertsey Water Treatment Works and the raised banked reservoir located within it. It is bounded by the River Thames to the east and Ferry Lane, a public bridleway to the west.

The water company facilities utilise nearly all of the area, however a ribbon of wooden bungalows, brick houses and boat houses follow the riverbank in the east of the area. The houses have clear views onto the river and private moorings. They are accessed by a private gated road.

Clumps of trees stand on the raised banks of the reservoir and to the south of the area is an area of wetland vegetation surrounding a lake. The area is on the flood plain, with the raised banks of the reservoir breaking the flatness of the area.



View towards Chertsey Water Treatment Works



Chertsey Water Treatment Works



Raised bank of the reservoir visible in the distance

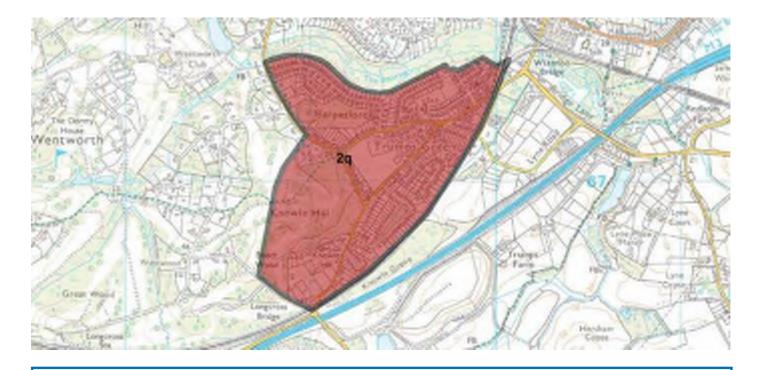


Ferry Lane Public Bridleway

2q. TRUMPS GREEN BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement

Location: Trumps Green



Key Characteristics

- Low density residential settlement, consisting of detached and semi-detached houses and bungalows
- Linear parade of shops
- Mature front gardens, trees and hedgerows
- Golf course and school playing field

Description

The character area includes the village of Trumps Green which sits north of the M3 and is bound to the south by a railway line.

This is a low-density residential settlement with characteristic 'leafy' streets. Built form is defined by detached and semi-detached two-storey houses and bungalows in medium to large gardens. It includes a variety of 20th century architectural styles.

The leafy streetscape character is reinforced by well-established private gardens, including mature trees and shrubs.

Land use is predominantly residential. To the north of the area is a golf course and school playing fields. A parade of shops serves the neighbouring residential streets.



Low density residential streets



Parade of shops

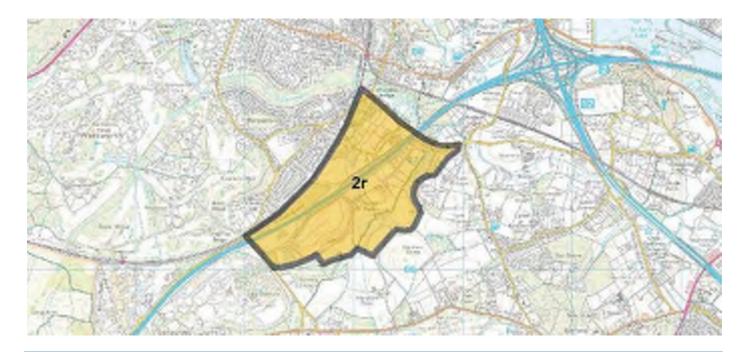


Terraced Houses

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 2r. TRUMPS GREEN SETTLED MIXED FARMLAND

Landscape Type: Settled Mixed Farmland

Location: Trumps Green



Key Characteristics

- Predominantly fields, with scattered shelterbelts and woodlands
- Bound to the north by railway and dissected by the M3.
- Raised landfill site
- Various construction, storage and light industrial businesses scattered through area

Description

The character area is separated from Trumps Green village to the north by a railway. The M3 cuts through the northeast to southwest. The area is expansive and muted.

The landscape is dominated by Trumps Farm and Lyne Place Manor grounds and the land use is mixed. The area consists of irregular fields and is broken up by shelterbelts and woodlands. To the northwest rises a landfill site and an associated anaerobic digestion plant is located just outside the area. Various construction, light industrial and storage businesses are scattered through the area.

In the east of the area a park home development sits north of the M3 and low density detached houses sits south of the motorway.

There are wide views across the open areas with glimpses of the Royal Holloway College tower.



Wide view looking north.



Trumps Farm

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 3a. LALEHAM PARK RIVERSIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Riverside Recreation

Location: Laleham Park



Key Characteristics

- Medium scale enclosed landscape lying on a flat floodplain
- Gentle lowland landform reinforced by the river which meanders along the western edge of the character area
- Designed landscape, formerly estate grounds of Laleham Manor
- Parkland characterised by a diverse vegetation structure, with mature specimen trees, including some ancient trees, within a grassland setting
- Predominantly recreational land use, with a small cluster of residential properties private estate, riverside cottages to the north
- Mix of recreational opportunities camping club, formal sports pitch, playground

Description

The character area is located just south of Laleham village and Staines-upon-Thames. The settlement to the north, farmland to the east, river to the west and gravel pit to the south create strong boundaries on all sides.

This is an enclosed area, and the vegetation cover creates a strong sense of containment, marked by hedgerows and shelterbelts. This also hides views from and towards the surrounding landscapes. However, the area is occasionally visible through gaps in hedgerows from the Thames Path, which runs along the river to the west of the area.

Laleham Park forms part of a former historic landscape, the grounds of Laleham House, an early 19th century estate later given over to recreational use. It is now a public open space that offers a diverse range of leisure and recreation opportunities.

The south of the area is divided between Laleham Camping Club and formal recreation grounds. The north, by contrast, is partly private land with Laleham Abbey and surrounding gardens, and partly accessible riverside parkland.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H

Overall the landscape is characterised by expansive areas of grassland, derived from historic parkland converted to amenity and recreation land, interspersed with large open-grown trees. Although tree cover is sparse in the south of the area, it becomes denser to the north and comprises numerous mature specimens, including oak, lime, horse chestnut, alder and hornbeam. The tree cover is in the form of hedgerows, shelterbelts, and copses and contributes to diverse riparian habitats along the Thames.

The park is fragmented into several compartments, separated from each other mostly by vegetation. Yet, it retains a strong sense of unity. It appears visually busy, especially to the south where various unsightly public playground equipment and camping facilities clash with an otherwise quiet and peaceful landscape. However as a whole, the area provides a pocket of calm within the wider landscape.

Laleham Park and its immediate surroundings provide significant historical, ecological and recreational value to the wider area. Its distinctive character acts as visual barrier to the disturbed landscapes of gravel pits and restored farmland around.

This is a well maintained landscape, in overall good condition. Strong, positive and distinctive character.







Laleham riverside

Laleham Camping Club entrance

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 3b. SHEPPERTON ARABLE FARMLAND

Landscape Type: Arable Farmland

Location: Shepperton Road, West Shepperton



Key Characteristics

- Flat, low lying floodplain landscape
- High grade agricultural landscape intensively farmed for arable production and market gardening
- Includes large field units, undivided due to the relative absence of boundaries
- A predominantly flat landform further exaggerated by the lack of vertical elements and minimal field divisions
- Some sense of neglect through presence of sporadic and gappy hawthorn hedgerows
- Homogenous character- simple landscape with very few variation and distinctive features
- Parallel to the B376 introducing a corridor of movement, noise and litter in the northern areas

Description

The character area lies between Laleham and Shepperton. This is a broad area of high grade intensively farmed land bounded by Laleham Park to the west, Shepperton village to the east and mineral extraction sites to the north and south. The B376/Shepperton Road runs alongside the northern edge of the area.

Over the years, agricultural land was fragmented due to demands made on the land for reservoirs and gravel pits, as well as urban development and roads. This is one of several remnant pockets of agriculture in the south of Spelthorne Borough.

Restored arable farmland and market gardening comprising large, reasonably regular highly geometric fields with few divisions. Tracks, hedgerows and drainage ditches marking boundaries. Species poor and discontinuous hedgerows, set alongside post and wire fencing, encircle the area.

A simplistic land use pattern. One farmstead to the north, although it is little more than a cluster of rustic agricultural buildings with cottages to the north.

A somewhat visually monotonous character that is further eroded by the apparent loss and poor condition of the field boundaries. The presence of the busy B376 also disturbs the potential for rural tranquillity.

Within this overall context, there is a general lack of cohesiveness. And the area appears isolated and incongruous, a modern mechanical agricultural development surviving within a heavily disturbed landscape.

Wide open views across fields from all sides. Views out contained by hedgerows and trees, as well as built-up area on the Shepperton side.

Distinctive rural character, but moderately strong, due to poor visual quality.



View through gappy hedgerow

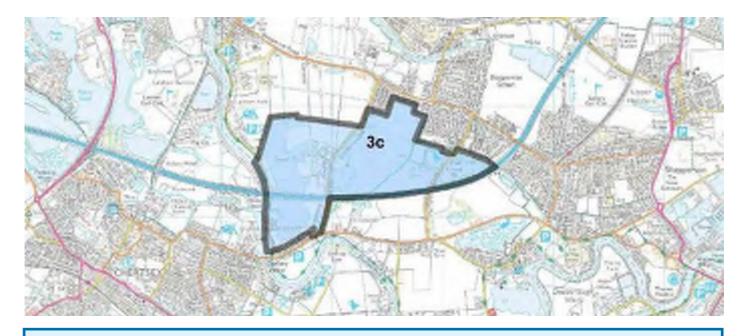
Open fields

Shepperton Road

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 3c. SHEPPERTON LAKESIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Lakeside Recreation

Location: Shepperton Lakes



Key Characteristics

- Low lying, flat floodplain with minimal topographic variation
- Predominantly waterbodies with recreational opportunities
- Expansive naturalised and restored man-made wetland landscape, resulting from the recent restoration of mineral extraction sites
- A range of habitats within this landscape including open water, scrub and woodland that support an important wildlife population
- Strong vegetated character, helping to hide both settlements and waterbodies, creating a comparatively tranquil atmosphere in parts
- High influence of road traffic, the M3 and a network of minor roads dissect the landscape
- The Thames Path and a local public footpath provide access across the area

Description

The area lies to the east of the River Thames, southwest of Shepperton. It sits within a significantly fragmented landscape, resulting from the growth, or amalgamation of settlements, the development of sand and gravel workings and the construction of major reservoirs and of the main road network - the M3 cuts through the landscape to the south. Littleton Lane divides the accessible lakes and provides access to the industry facilities.

Several extensive waterbodies, resulting from the restoration of gravel pits, compose a very distinctive landscape where water is a dominant feature supporting recreational opportunities. A protected nature reserve occupies waterbodies to the northeast corner of the area.

The lakes extend to the south edge of Shepperton, where few properties overlooking the lakes have a private boating access from their rear gardens. Overall, the area is primarily used for recreation associated with waterways and wetlands, used by sailing clubs, for fishing, etc. There are central industrial uses with an associated cluster of industrial buildings.

A mosaic of habitats, such as woodland belts, scrub and water side margins provide valuable wildlife corridors within this heavily disturbed landscape. A dense tree cover around the waterbodies creates a strong sense of containment and enclosure which restricts views to the adjacent landscapes. Consequently, views are mostly contained within the area with some long open views across lakes and a few views out to the River Thames to the west of the area.



Littleton East lake

Public footpath

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 3d. SHEPPERTON MIXED FARMLAND

Landscape Type: Mixed farmland Location: Shepperton Green



Key Characteristics

- Raised banks of the Queen Mary Reservoir in the north
- Large expansive fields
- Woodland Ash Link Local Nature Reserve follows the River Ash
- Large garden centre and business park, limited residential area

Description

This character area sits south of the Queen Mary Reservoir, the raised banks of which can be seen from New Road which runs along the north of the area. It is bound to the east by the M3

The area is mainly large open fields edged with hedgerows and trees. Trees border a large waterbody located in the centre of the area. To the west of the waterbody, the woodland Ash Link Local Nature Reserve (LNR), follows the River Ash and borders both sides of the M3. The LNR is connected by a footbridge over the M3.

A large garden centre and business park are located in the northeast of the area.

Very little residential development in the character area, with the exception of mid-20th century semi-detached council housing on New Road below the embankment of the reservoir.



View across fields





River Ash

View from M3 footbridge

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 3e. UPPER HALLIFORD FORMAL RECREATION

Landscape Type: Formal Recreation

Character Area: Upper Halliford



Key Characteristics

- Private Golf Course
- Dense mature boundary planting and fencing
- Enclosed by road infrastructure and residential settlement
- Flat landscape with artificial undulations typical of a golf course

Description

The character area is enclosed by residential settlement and road infrastructure. The M3 motorway borders the site to the west with the village of Shepperton forming the southern boundary. The village of Upper Halliford forms the eastern and northern boundary to the character area. Landform is flat with slight undulations typical of a golf course. There is one contained body of water within the course and the western edge of the area is bounded by a nature reserve of dense carr woodland planting with the River Ash running through.

A railway line heading north-south cuts through the centre of the site. The railway line is slightly sunken and bordered either side by dense hedgerow and mature tree planting. A raised footbridge creates a pedestrian crossing for users of the golf course.

Mature native tree planting is scattered throughout the course in clumps and copses with the entire boundary of the character area screened from outside by dense hedgerow and tree planting and as such views looking in or out of the character area are very limited. There are no public rights of way through the site.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H



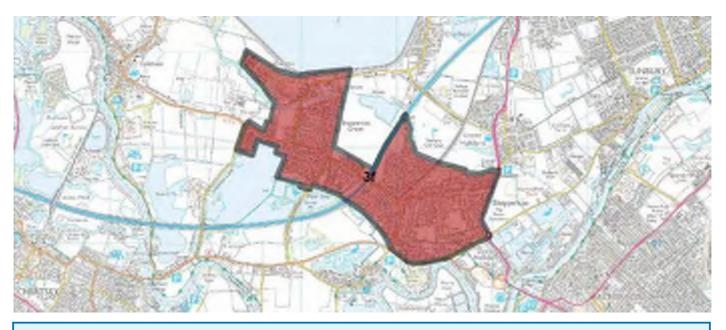
View to the golf course with its screened edges



River Ash corridor – carr woodland

3f. SHEPPERTON BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement Location: Shepperton



Key Characteristics

- Suburban character with mix of 20th century housing interspersed with pockets of Victorian and Edwardian properties and retail parades
- A few incidental historical features including St Mary Magdalene Church in Littleton
- Green river corridor of the River Ash
- Distinctive raised embankments to the edge of the Queen Mary Reservoir

Description

This large urban character area extends north from Lower Halliford in the southeast to the southwest corner of the Queen Mary Reservoir at the north and includes the area of Littleton in the northwest. It is dissected by the M3.

The medium density residential housing is mainly suburban in character, with a mix of 20th century housing within a network of streets with generally well vegetated front gardens. Parades of shops are located at its core with retail outlets located along distinctive 'service' roads inside the main routes providing access and parking to the shops. Several schools are interspersed within the residential area with their associated sports pitches and greenspace.

The north eastern edge contains some streets that include older Victorian/Edwardian properties and several of these streets are more tree lined and spacious. Shepperton Business Park is located close to Shepperton Station with several business units within, however its perimeter is densely planted and the site is reasonably enclosed, though there are more open aspects across the line from the west.

The northwest edge includes a few incidental historic characteristics with the striking Grade I listed St Mary Magdalene Church in Littleton and Littleton Manor. Other listed buildings and archaeological sites can be found at the area's fringes. The townscape to the north feels more open with broader streets interwoven with trees and other vegetation. As the road leads north it broadens out significantly within the environs of the vast Queen Mary Reservoir and the steep grassed embankments to this are clearly visible both within this location and in views north through Littleton. An ornate Edwardian bridge crosses the River Ash, a small, densely wooded green river corridor providing riverside walks below the expansive Shepperton Studios site.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H



Retail parade with internal vehicle access and parking



Mixed residential properties in the north of the area



St Mary Magdalene Church, Littleton



View north with the reservoir edge visible in the distance



Bridge over the River Ash



Queen Mary Reservoir embankment

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 3g. CHERTSEY ROAD SETTLED SCRUBLAND

Landscape Type: Scrubland

Location: Land Off Chertsey Road, Shepperton



Key Characteristics

- Large strip of restored land following landfill and mineral workings, set in a low lying floodplain landscape
- Dense scrubby woodland and scrubby grassland has taken over the area due to lack of management
- Largely unsettled character, fragmented landscape due to insensitive development and the proximity of urban areas
- General sense of neglect through presence of unmanaged overgrown meadows, sporadic and gappy hedgerows and degraded timber fencing
- Bounded by the M3 corridor and the busy B375, which have a strong visual and audible influence
- Disturbed landscape poor visual quality
- No public access

Description

The area is located just south of the M3 and on the north side of the B375. It is bounded by Littleton Lane to the west and Shepperton to the east. This area is much affected by transportation corridors which border and fragment the landscape.

This is an open, flat scrubland comprising several uneven, small to medium-sized overgrown grazing meadows, usually hedged and with some scattered trees. Field boundaries, mostly hedgerows and fences with some drainage ditches, appear poorly maintained. The area tends to be relatively open and featureless.

Dispersed settlement comprised of a relatively large industrial site and a small scale linear row of industrial sheds and cottages along Chertsey Road. Apparently randomly developed and located, their built form appears completely out of character with the surrounding landscape. Yet, with such minimal small scale settlement the landscape maintains some rural character.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H The vegetation cover consists predominantly of rough scrubland, occasional copses and scattered trees, and mixed species shelterbelts and hedgerows along roads and field boundaries.

The area presents an eroded landscape character and distinctiveness due to neglect or inappropriate management. One high voltage transmission line crosses this character area which has a significant negative influence on the visual character of the area. Views out are generally contained by vegetation on all sides. There are some long occasional views across fields and through gaps in the trees and hedgerows.

This is a remote and isolated area with very few distinctive features and poor connectivity to the wider landscape.



View from public footpath over M3



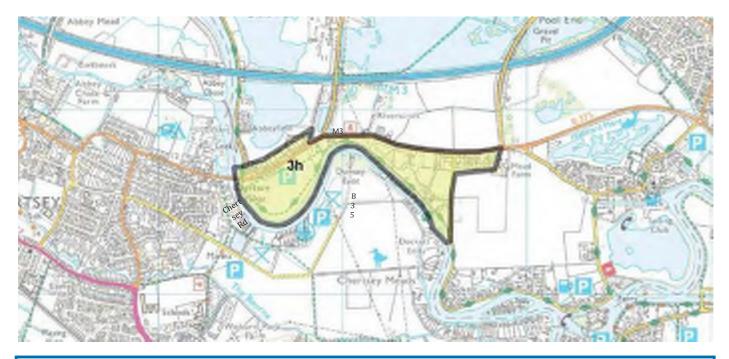
M3 from footbridge

Views from gappy hedgerow

3h. DUMSEY MEADOW RIVERSIDE PASTURE

Landscape Type: Riverside Pasture

Location: Dumsey and Ryepeck Meadow Moorings



Key Characteristics

- Flat, low lying floodplain landscape
- Landform very gently sloping to the river
- Semi-natural landscape comprising water meadows, rough grazing and enclosed paddocks part of the area is a protected SSSI (Dumsey Meadow SSSI) and Chertsey Bridge, to the west of the area is a scheduled monument
- Predominantly recreational land use some residential land use, with house boats moored along the towpath to the east
- Several public rights of way cross the area, in particular the Thames Path
- A sense of calm and tranquillity results from the absence of settlement, the controlled access to area and the dominance of the river

Description

The character area is an open riverside meadow situated just downstream from Chertsey Bridge Scheduled Monument lying on a bend of the River Thames south of the B375/Chertsey Bridge Road. Framed by and completely open onto the River Thames on the southern side.

The area comprises a large public open space as well as private residential gardens and paddocks owned by residents of house boats moored alongside the Thames towpath.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H This is essentially a water meadow landscape. For the most part, unimproved, cattle and pony grazed pasture. A few scattered trees and shrubs across the area, mostly pollarded willows and open-grown hawthorns. A wildflower-rich grassland covers most of the land.

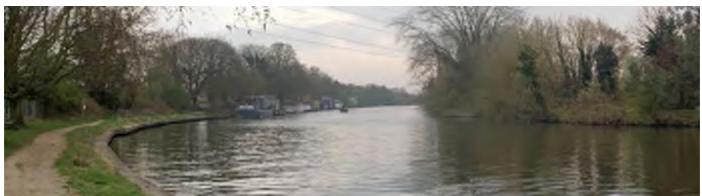
As a species rich habitat now very rare in southeast England, Dumsey Meadow has recently been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. It is managed by the local authority as a nature reserve accessible to the public.

Together with Chertsey Meads on the opposite bank of the River Thames, Dumsey Meadow provides access to a substantial green area between the largely urbanised Chertsey and Shepperton areas. Due to its intrinsic nature conservation and landscape value, the meadow offers heritage, educational and recreational resource in the wider area.

The area is visually very exposed to residential properties situated on the southern bank of the River Thames. This is a well maintained landscape with a moderately strong character.



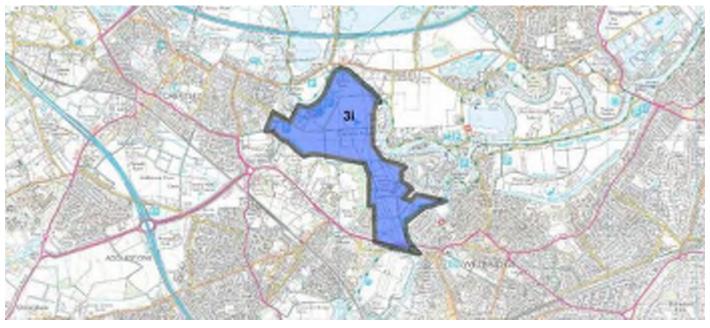
View from Thames Path, facing upstream



View from Thames Path, facing downstream with Ryepeck Meadow Moorings in the distance

31. CHERTSEY RIVERSIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Riverside Recreation Location: Chertsey



Key Characteristics

- Open and expansive grasslands criss-crossed by informal paths
- Local nature reserve with belts of trees and scrub
- Limited residential land use on bank of River Thames.

Description

This open and expansive character area is criss-crossed with informal pathways, with a narrow road crossing west to east. It is bound by the River Thames to the north and west. The area is mainly grassland with belts of trees and scrub. The east half is a local nature reserve with its own car parks.

In the northwest a small residential development of detached homes look out to the River Thames and their private moorings. Adjacent is a boat hire business with a boat yard. A further residential area is found in the northeast.



Views across Chertsey Meads

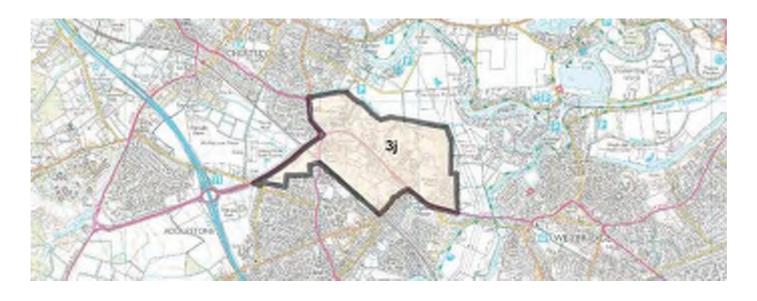




Small residential area adjacent to the river

3j. ADDLESTONE DISPERSED SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Dispersed Settlement Location: Addlestone



Key Characteristics

- Disbursed detached residential plots and isolated uses including schools and stables
- Wooded road and rail corridors
- More rural feeling than the adjacent settlements of Addlestone and Chertsey

Description

The character area is located to the north of the railway line between Chertsey and Addlestone with its northern boundary at The Bourne, south of Chertsey Meads. Its northwestern edge is more suburban, with two secondary schools and other pockets of light industry including a commercial stable and an expansive garden centre, both located along Woburn Hill. These features are interspersed with spacious residential plots that sit within a more natural feeling landscape of woodland and hedged boundaries. The remaining areas are characterised by open fields.

Houses are a mix of mid to late 20th century two and single storey detached properties interspersed with isolated period properties, several with distinctive perimeter wall and entrance gates and the occasional four storey development. Mature hedgerows and tree cover are visible along road boundaries and the area feels detached and more rural in character than the neighbouring settlements of Addlestone and Chertsey.

The linear network of field plots provide a glimpsed green buffer from the edge of the residential streets where they wrap south between the wooded edged A320 and the edge of Addlestone.

The area generally feels open in character with views across the fields, however parts feel more enclosed by the wooded edges adjacent to the railway line and road network and the high boundaries to some of the larger residential properties.



View along Woburn Hill



Open views towards the railway corridor



Distinctive boundary treatments

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 3k. SHEPPERTON RIVERSIDE LINEAR SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Riverside Linear Settlement

Location: Shepperton, Hamhaugh Island and surrounds



Key Characteristics

- Low density, linear settlement comprising plotland housing properties residential land use with private moorings
- Isolated from Weybridge main urban area access via private road only
- River Wey converges with River Thames, with weirs and locks strong features of waterways
- Views contained by built form and vegetation
- No public access

Description

The area sits on the southern bank of the River Thames, north of the large Weybridge settlement and includes a series of islands. It is buffered by fields and the outskirts of Weybridge.

It mainly consists of a linear settlement, laid out in regular plots on which self-built properties were established along the riverside and island perimeters, with many plots subsequently redeveloped into more substantial residencies. The built form consists of ribbons of medium scale detached dwellings, mostly late 20th century bungalows and pavilions. The area is also home to water sports clubs.

The settlement is well integrated within the riverscape, but blocks views and curtails public access to the river edge. There are private views towards the river from back gardens. Direct views into the character area are gained from the river and opposite bank.

The River Wey converges with the River Thames and weirs and locks and short canals are strong features of the riverscape. A tow path from the south leads to the Thames locks in the east of the area.

Vegetation is scattered with willows featuring on the riverbanks and denser woodland on Hamhaugh Island. The area is calm, tranquil, open and expansive.



Low open character with residential properties integrating with the water



View to the lock.

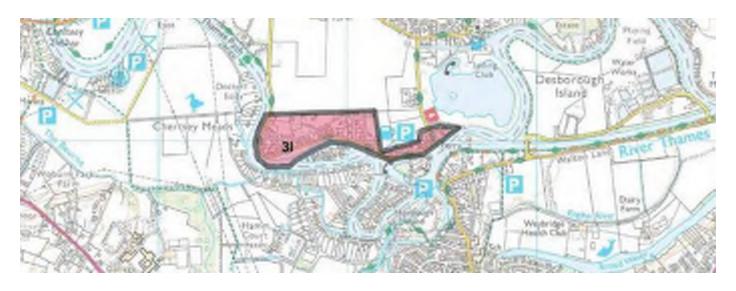


Weir and lock infrastructure

3I. TOWPATH RIVERSIDE LINEAR SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Riverside Linear Settlement

Location: Towpath, South Shepperton



Key Characteristics

- Riverside settlement with a landform very gently sloping down to the river where sheet piling and concrete capping beams retain the banks
- Some of the essential rural character of the larger area has been fragmented by the expansion of settlements and the associated major roads that dissect the area
- Narrow, linear settlement
- Residential and recreational land use
- Diverse and colourful housing styles on varied sized plots
- A good strength of character

Description

The character area is located on the riverside edge of the village of Shepperton, by Shepperton Lock, and faces Chertsey Meads and Weybridge. The areas of former gravel pits and meadows create a strong boundary to the north of the area.

This is an enclosed linear settlement along the Thames towpath with a low-density residential riverside development laid out in an organised pattern, comprising regular plots on which self-built properties were established along the riverside. The built form consists of a ribbon of medium to large scale semi-detached and detached bungalows and houses. Residential dwellings are positioned and oriented to reflect their riverside setting.

Land cover comprises areas of amenity grassland along the River Thames' edge complemented by trees along the roads and defining public spaces. There is a diverse combination of ornamental tree and shrub planting in private gardens. Some large scale ornamental trees such as weeping willows, poplars, horse chestnuts, cypresses and cedars contribute to the area's leafy character. Land use is predominantly residential, although this is a well-known leisure destination frequented by local residents and visitors. Recreational activities are centred around Shepperton Lock to the east of the area, with shops, cafés, a sailing club and a small marina.

There are wide open views out over the river, towards the lock and opposite bank. There are also some occasional views out through gaps in fences and hedgerows.



View from Thames Path on opposite bank





Thames Path

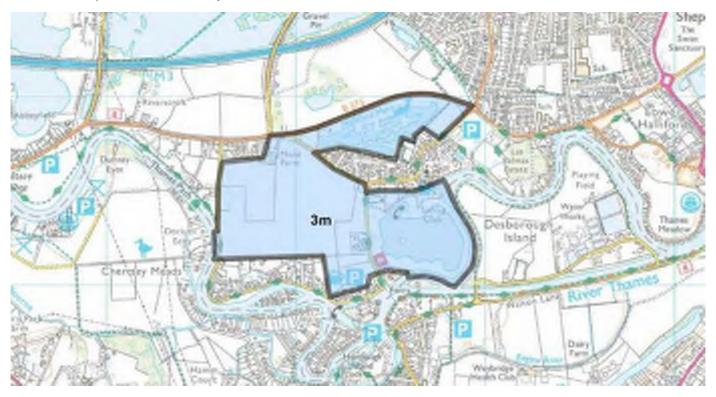


View from Shepperton Lock House

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 3m. FERRY LANE LAKESIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Lakeside Recreation

Location: Ferry Lane Lake & Halliford Mere



Key Characteristics

- Low lying, flat floodplain landscape with minimal topographic variation
- Lakes of varying sizes originating from man-made waterfilled gravel pits which are now primarily used for recreational purposes
- Tree belts along linear boundaries and scrubby woodland around lakesides and in southwest. Much of the tree planting is recent
- Some pastures have fallen into neglect with signs of dilapidated fencing, overgrown or gappy hedges and overgrazed fields
- Land use is predominantly leisure and recreation with a range of water based active and passive recreational facilities, including open water swimming and fishing
- Semi-enclosed character with moderate to low intervisibility
- Public access to the area is limited with only a few public footpaths but including the Thames Path

Description

The character area lies on the east bank of the River Thames opposite Desborough Island. It is contained by the urban development of Shepperton.

This is essentially a young landscape made of restored mineral workings. It is a relatively peaceful area and is valued for its range of recreational activities. Halliford Mere to the north, is a small scale private fishing lake complex well-known locally for fly-fishing and Ferris Meadow Lake to the east is home to an open-water swimming club. These areas are not accessible to the public.

Although waterbodies cover much of the land in the character area, there are also areas of open rough grazing meadows and some paddocks to the west of the character area. Boundary treatment and management is infrequent and inconsistent in this area, giving it a degraded character.

Within the very fragmented and densely urbanised surroundings, the area offers a valuable variety of habitats supporting a diverse flora and fauna.

A denser tree cover is usually found along boundary lines, around lakes and in the southwest and these combine to create a strong sense of containment and enclosure. It also restricts views to and from the area with views mostly being contained within the area and the quite strong, overall character is disparate and somewhat 'scruffy'.



Former landfill site off Ferry Lane



Access to Ferry Lane lake



Public footpath leading to Old Shepperton

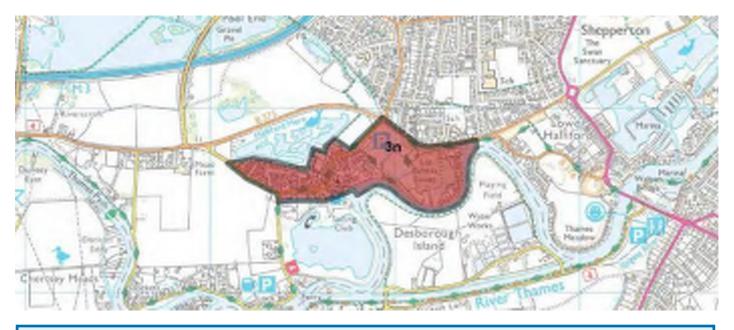


View from Desborough Island on opposite bank

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 3n. OLD SHEPPERTON LINEAR SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Linear Settlement

Location: Old Shepperton



Key Characteristics

- Flat suburban townscape
- Adjacent to the River Thames, with a landform very gently sloping to the river
- Short steep banks to the water's edge
- Built-up linear settlement
- Mixed land use ecclesiastical, commercial and residential results in an active though tranquil townscape
- Variety and rhythm created by varying building lines and heights, and texture created by the varied materials palette and façade detailing, contribute to a colourful and vibrant environment
- Thames Path runs through settlement where private properties overlooking the river restrict riverside access

Description

The character area is located on the riverside edge of Shepperton. It extends from the town edge to the north to the riverside to the south. The settlement developed over time on both sides of Chertsey Road and is now contained by waterbodies with former gravel pits to the north. At the south it backs onto the surrounding landscape at Desborough Island, providing a pastoral settled scene where it faces the River Thames.

This area is Shepperton's historic village core that developed around the village church and square. A considerable time depth within the built development is apparent. A tight urban form was created by a relatively moderate density development organised on a sinuous network of narrow streets with most buildings drawn close to street frontages.

The built form is characterised by larger, irregular plots with medium to large detached and semi-detached two- storey houses on the south side of the Chertsey Road and with some properties overlooking the river inlet to the south.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H A smaller scale built-up pattern on the north side comprises semi-detached houses and terraces. A variety of architectural styles including 19th and 20th century houses (including Victorian and Edwardian styles) is evident.

The interface between public and private realm is clearly defined with buildings typically opening directly onto the street. High garden boundary walls add to this sense of clarity and definition. Occasional short front gardens bounded by low boundary walls occur on side streets.

A leafy village character is reinforced by some well-established private gardens that include mature trees/shrubs that are often bounded by tall mixed or yew hedges. This provides a strong sense of enclosure and privacy to dwellings. Some large-scale ornamental trees such as lombardy poplars, horse chestnuts, sycamores, cypresses and cedars contribute to the leafy character.

Views are mostly contained along the streets by built form. The village church and former marketplace provide an important landmark with an open character. There are views from the open riverside area and from up and downstream the Thames, including long open views onto Desborough Island.

There is a high degree of domestic care that creates a tidy and strong distinctive village character.



West Chertsey Road

East Chertsey Road

St Nicholas Church



View from Desborough Island on opposite bank

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 30. ASHFORD ROAD SETTLED SCRUBLAND

Landscape Type: Scrubland

Location: Ashford, Staines



Key Characteristics

- Linear strip of restored land with adjacent mineral workings, set in a reservoir landscape
- Dense scrubby woodland and scrubby grassland belt and waterbody
- Largely fragmented due to blend of land use and the adjacent urban area
- General sense of neglect through presence of unmanaged overgrown meadows, sporadic and gappy hedgerows and degraded timber fencing
- Bounded by the busy B377 Ashford Road and the River Ash corridor running adjacent to the Queen Mary Reservoir
- No public access

Description

The area is located to the east of Staines adjacent to the eastern side of the B377 Ashford Road. It is bounded by the road and the River Ash corridor running along its eastern edge. This in turn sits at the lower edge of the Queen Mary Reservoir embankments.

Much of the area is enclosed flat scrubland interspersed with trees and lakes, and with an aggregates and concrete facility in the northeast.

A solar farm is located at the southern end of the area below a tributary water course between the reservoir and the River Thames.

The vegetation cover consists predominantly of rough scrubland and hedgerows with clusters of copses and scattered trees.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H



Wooded edge to the reservoir



View along the River Ash corridor

Aa. DESBOROUGH ISLAND RIVERSIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Riverside Recreation

Location: Desborough Island



Key Characteristics

- Flat, low lying riverside meadows, traditionally used for recreation
- Meandering river channel with riparian strips of marginal vegetation
- River Thames runs along the west and south edges, but only in parts provides a riparian character to the west and southwest edges
- Dense waterside in parts and scattered hedgerow trees consisting primarily of alder and willow
- The river is fringed by an irregular pattern of small to medium sized meadows, which are mainly enclosed by straight thorn hedges

Description

The area constitutes some two-thirds of an island isolated from the south bank of the River Thames by the Desborough Cut, which creates a clear boundary to the south. The River Thames runs along the entire length of its western and northern edges. It is flanked by a water treatment facility to the east.

This is a small-scale pastoral landscape characterised by a meandering river channel in a flat alluvial floodplain. From within this openness, it offers some wide views especially to the north and the east.

Views are often tightly framed by lines of riverside trees however there are some long views of the opposite bank across the River Thames through gaps in the tree line. To the north, these trees also filter views onto the area from the settlement on the opposite bank and a settled pastoral view is gained at the north of the island towards Old Shepperton.

The area is used for recreational activities, including an outdoor shooting range and sports playing fields in the south and east parts of the island. Adjacent to each of these lies a purpose-built pavilion to accommodate visitors and associated activities.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H Tree cover is sparse throughout the landscape and is predominantly along the riverbanks. It is composed of a densely scattered riverside trees consisting primarily of alder and willow, some poplars, field maples and elders, with scattered native mixed hedgerows across the meadows.

There are some small copses. Patches of wetland vegetation occur on the riverbanks and are a distinctive feature associated with the river channel.

Overall good condition with some hedgerows in poor condition due to lack of maintenance. Strength of character is average with few distinctive features. The area loses its typical riverside feel further away from the river.



Meadow on Desborough Island



Desborough Cut



Old Shepperton Riverside



Thames Riverside

4b. DESBOROUGH UTILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE

Landscape Type: Utilities Infrastructure Location: Desborough Island



Key Characteristics

- Dominated by the Thames Water Desborough Island Water Treatment Works, its associated reservoirs and water holding areas and infrastructure
- Historic water company buildings
- Access via Walton Lane bridges

Description

The character area is in the southeast corner of Desborough Island. It is bordered by the River Thames on the east and Desborough Channel to the south. The west and north sides of the area are bordered by playing fields and other recreation ground.

The area is dominated by the Thames Water Desborough Island Water Treatment Works which is located within it. The works consist of historic and modern buildings and reservoirs and water holding areas of varying sizes. An historic pump house has been converted to residential use.

Mature trees line the riverbanks. The area feels open, detached and remote.



Desborough Island Water Treatment Works



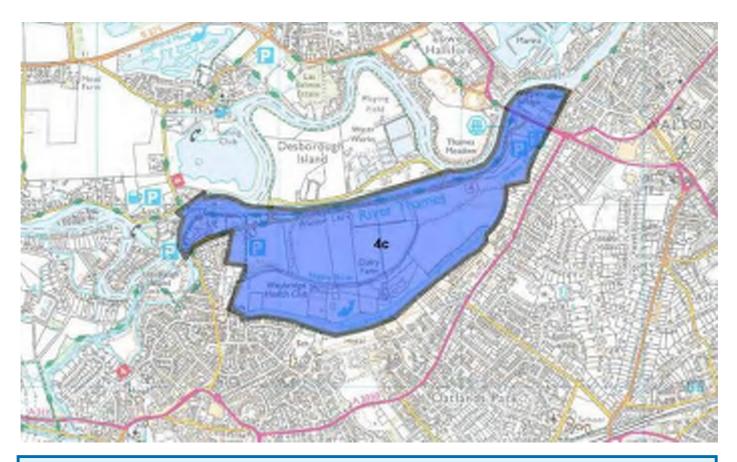


Pump House – now a residential property

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 4c. WALTON LANE RIVERSIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Riverside Recreation

Location: Walton Lane, Weybridge



Key Characteristics

- Medium scale enclosed landscape and part of a flat floodplain
- Minor riverbank slopes down to the river sheet piling and concrete capping beam retaining banks
- Long views towards Desborough Cut and River Thames around island visually notable upright mooring posts
- Semi-rural town edge with extensive farmland
- Predominantly pastoral, with some recreational land use to the north and south and a small cluster of residential properties
- To the north, the Thames Path runs east to west across the whole area to the south, Broad Water Walk runs east to west across the whole area
- Noticeable architectural features; two bridges leading to Desborough Island and D'Oyly Carte Island footbridge

Description

The character area lies on Weybridge and Walton on Thames town edges - a strip of land between the Desborough Cut and Broad Water lake. Walton Lane follows Desborough Cut at the north of the area. A public open space on the South bank of the river extends from Walton Marina, to the east and to D'Oyly Carte Island to the west.

To the north, the area is open onto the River Thames and the medium scale, simple and organised pattern is separated by hedgerows and urban fencing, which reflects the area's semi-urban location. Extensive pastoral farmland dominates central and southern parts of the area which is contained by the River Broad Water to the south and separated by hedgerows. The Engine River runs through the site and a small private road facilitates central access.

Settlement is limited to a small cluster of residential houses and sports clubs' pavilions to the west towards the ferry landing and on D'Oyly Carte Island, and isolated central developments including a large farm and health club. The land use and orientation of buildings are strongly associated with the River Thames. Due to their close proximity with the river, glimpses from settlement towards the River Thames exist.

The area provides significant recreational value to this part of Weybridge, with a range of recreational activities including horse paddocks, tennis club, rowing club, boatyard, marina etc. attracting local residents and visitors alike.

Mixed land cover along the riverbanks such as rough grazing, wet meadow and amenity grassland confers a varied visual character to the area. To the north, a tall shelterbelt separates the riverside from adjacent road and surrounding farmland. Centrally, riparian tree cover along Engine River separates the adjacent access track from the farmland to the north, and to the south riparian tree cover along the River Broad Water and pockets of woodland create a feeling of enclosure. Small copses and scattered trees, mostly alder, elder, plane and horse chestnut punctuate the landscape.

A smooth texture, associated with the expanse of the river, the road and grasslands, and muted colours, (although boats moored on the riverside add colour) result in a harmonious and still landscape character. Its distinctive aspect acts as a visual barrier to the urban area and restored farmland around.

There are few views out due to the area's enclosed form, but there are glimpses to the housing area beyond, upstream to Walton Bridge and linear views along the footpath. Wide views are gained out towards the river, eyots and opposite banks and major views up and down Desborough Cut and towpath. Views from Desborough Island bridges and across the Engine River to Oatlands Park.

This is a well-maintained landscape, in overall good condition with few detracting features.



View across Desborough Cut



View towards Engine River and Oatlands Park



Bridge to D'Oyley Carte Island

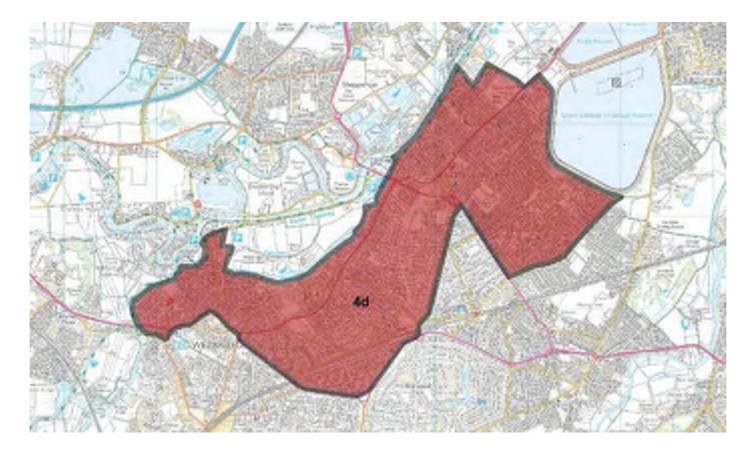


Thames Path

Ad. WEYBRIDGE BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement

Location: Weybridge and Walton on Thames



Key Characteristics

- Low density suburban townscapes and modern settlements
- Predominantly flat landform very gently sloping down to the River Wey and River Thames
- Busy commercial town centres
- Numerous listed buildings within town centres and listed Oatlands Park
- Town centre conservation area and private mid-century Span Estate in conservation area

This extensive character area is defined by the River Wey to the west and the River Thames to the north. The predominantly flat landform gently slopes to the River Wey and the River Thames. A river path follows the River Thames. The A3050 passes through the two towns that make up this area, Weybridge and Walton-on-Thames. Both towns have active high streets and Walton-on-Thames has a pedestrianised shopping area.

Both town centres have numerous listed buildings and have their own conservation area. Oatland Park and the hotel building within are listed. The Oatlands area is the historic site of Oatlands Royal Palace. The Templemere private estate built on the former Oatland Chase is a high quality unique Span development and is in its own conservation area.

Most of the area consists of a range of residential streets including compact late 20th century estates of terraced and semi-detached houses, streets with detached bungalows, period houses and parking on street and large detached houses in leafy streets set back behind high hedges and brick walls.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H



Thames Path



Waterside area and Residential properties





Various Town Centre characteristics







Oatlands Park



SPAN development



4e. LOWER HALLIFORD MEADOWS DISPERSED SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Dispersed Settlement Location: Lower Halliford Meadows



Key Characteristics

- Meadow, recreation ground and fields in the core of the character area
- Dispersed and varied residential settlements on the edges
- Defined by the River Thames which wraps around the area
- To the north a village atmosphere, with green, interesting architecture
- Views across River Thames to Desborough Island

Description

This character area is bound to the west and the south by the River Thames. The A244 runs along the northeast and cuts the southeast corner, leading across Walton Bridge to Walton on the other side of the river. Walton Lane, lined with hedgerows and characteristic brick walls crosses the area.

The area is mainly open space consisting of meadows, fields, recreation ground and public open space. Residential areas are dispersed around the edges.

The northwest of the area has a village feel. A green is surrounded by architecturally varied and attractive houses, both period and later housing borrowing the vernacular style. From here the riverbank is accessible by bridleway and has views onto Desborough Island on the opposite southern bank.

Plotland residential properties consisting of bungalows and chalet style houses, with private moorings line the south of the character area.

In the northeast of the area, on and close to the A244, housing is varied and includes bungalows, social housing and later 20th century small estates.

The area is open, with mature trees shaping the skyline.



Houses adjacent to green in northwest of area



Green/public open space in northwest of area



View from north of area to Desborough Island



Residential street



View across field



View across river to edge of area

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 4f. SHEPPERTON RIVERSIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Riverside Recreation Location: Shepperton



Key Characteristics

- Open expansive field to the north bordered by the River Ash
- Waterbodies, wetland vegetation and a range of recreational facilities characterise the south of the area
- Plotland and gated housing line the riverbank

Description

This character area is bound by the A244 to the west and the River Thames to the south. It is dissected by the hedgerow lined Fordbridge Road.

North of Fordbridge Road is a large irregular shaped field with tracks and a public footpath running north to south. In the southeast corner is a large farm complex from which event companies operate. The River Ash runs along the northeast edge of the field.

The area south of Fordbridge Road in contrast, consists mainly of waterbodies and wetland vegetation. Just south of the road is a swan sanctuary and beyond is a sizeable marina and a canoe centre. East of the marina is a fishing lake, a large hotel, equestrian centre and park home development.

In the southwest corner of the area is a gated residential development of modern detached and terraced housing. Further east the river the bank is lined with plotland residential development of bungalows and chalets overlooking the river and further housing inland.



View from south of large field



Marina



Hedgerow lined Fordbridge Road

4g. SUNBURY BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement Location: Sunbury



Key Characteristics

- Defined by the River Thames on its southern boundary and Manor Lane that crosses through Sunbury to the north
- Area is predominately residential with a village core towards the south in its riverside environs
- Unusual examples of architecture that include the 1930's Dax Court layout, the terrace of residential properties in The Avenue, St Mary's Parish Hall and St Mary's Parish Church in the Avenue and along Thames Street
- Connected to River Thames by Rivermead Island Park and Garden, from which there are views of Sunbury Lock

Description

The character area is defined by the River Thames on its southern boundary and Manor Lane that crosses through Sunbury to the north. At its eastern edge the area meets the Portlane Brook and to the west Thames Street merges into Fordbridge Road and the landscape opens up and becomes greener to the edge of the settlement. Wheatleys Eyot is connected to the area via a footbridge.

The area is predominately residential with a village core towards the south in its riverside environs. There is an architectural mix of Victorian cottages and larger Victorian and Edwardian houses, interspersed with more contemporary detached and semi-detached properties and these become more dense and suburban in feel the further north they are.

Pockets of retail can be found on The Avenue and along Thames Street, and this area has more unusual examples of architecture that include the 1930's Dax Court layout, the terrace of residential properties in The Avenue, St Mary's Parish Hall and St Mary's Parish Church.

There are a few more unusual features including The Walled Garden to the west and the Salvation Army Conference Centre to the east. As Thames Street heads east there is much character to the streetscape with a mix of Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian buildings. The Creek - a narrow road leading from Fordbridge Road to the River has a colourful and eclectic mix of small properties.

Rivermead Island Park and Garden are reached via a short footbridge with the River Thames taking a narrow detour inland. The space connects Sunbury to the river and this stretch is heavily vegetated with less of the activity and colour further east. Sunbury Lock is visible as you glance upstream from the water's edge in the park.





Green Street



Rivermead Island Park





Rivermead Island



St Mary's Parish Church





Mixed properties and the shopping parade in The Avenue

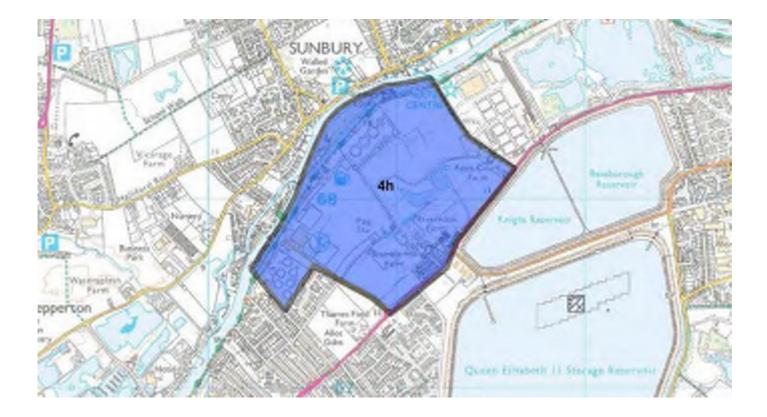
The Creek



RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 4h. ELMBRIDGE RIVERSIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Riverside Recreation

Character Area: Elmbridge



Key Characteristics

- Mixed use landscape of recreation with pockets of utilities and settlement
- Public access restricted to only parts of character area
- Thames Path is situated along northern edge of character area

Description

This character area is a flat and divided mixed use landscape that sits just east of the River Thames and northeast of Walton-on-Thames. There is a large leisure centre and sports facilities within the area. There is also settled farmland with field plots of managed amenity grassland. A small area of water utilities infrastructure is located within the site however this is fenced off and access is restricted. Public access is limited to a few locations of the area with the majority being private access only.

The Thames Path National Trail borders the character area to the north. Sunbury weir and lock island are located to the north of the character area adjacent to The Weir public house. There are multiple fenced and hedged boundaries within the character area that limit inter-visibility. Due to the limited access and the number of boundaries the character area feels divided and enclosed.

Planting is varied throughout. To the north the River Thames and Sunbury Lock island are a mixture of mature native tree species and riparian vegetation. The edges and boundaries are typically mature hedgerows with native species tree planting. There is a woodland copse to the centre of the character area adjacent to two small waterbodies. This also provides a southern boundary to the sporting complex and leisure centre. The leisure centre environs are planted with amenity and ornamental tree and shrub species.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H There is a developing ribbon of new housing development to the south of the area along Hurst Road, and a new secondary school is under construction on Waterside Drive.



River edge and The Weir public house



View across river to Sunbury Weir





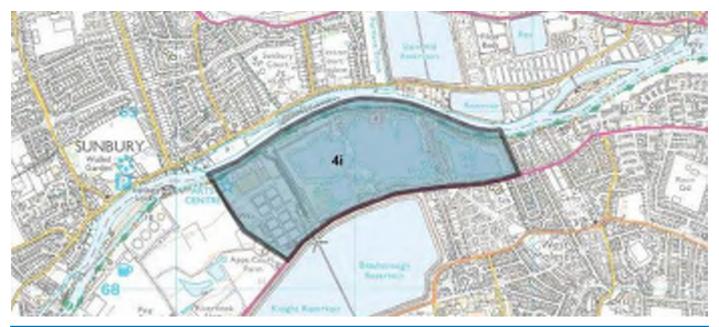
View south across leisure centre facilities



New residential properties being constructed along the southern boundary of the character area

41. WALTON UTILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE

Landscape Type: Utilities Infrastructure Location: Lower Sunbury Road, Hampton



Key Characteristics

- Architecturally striking Walton Advanced Water Treatment Works
- Naturalistic former reservoirs, now the Molesey Reservoirs Nature Reserve
- Enclosed area, with limited views into the site from all sides including from the Thames Path
- Scrubby vegetation and no public access

Description

The character area is dominated by the Walton Advanced Water Treatment Works and the Molesey Reservoirs, site of the Molesey Reservoirs Nature Reserve. It is located on the south side of the reach above Molesey Lock.

The buildings of the water treatment works date from the early 20th century when they were constructed for the Metropolitan Waterboard and their imposing and striking red brick architectural form is clearly visible from the A3050 Hurst Road.

The remainder of the area is formed of a solar farm at the western end of the area and the historic reservoirs, which were established during the latter half of the 19th century. Only historic remnants are left of this former use of the Lambeth Waterworks Company including the river moorings and occasional railings and iron gates and brick gate pillars. Once decommissioned the area was used for gravel extraction before being converted into the nature reserve, and the reservoir edges have softened over time. The limited areas of surrounding land are covered by scrub and grassland.

A key characteristic of the southern extents of the area are the grassed and in places vegetated embankment sides of the reservoirs. To the north the Thames Path follows the river along the northern boundary however the site is barely visible, hidden above and behind a mixture of brick wall and the sometimes fenced, vegetated raised embankments and the path, overgrown in places, feels connected to the river rather than the neighbouring land use.



Walton Advanced Water Treatment Works



Embankment of Knight Reservoir



Solar Farm



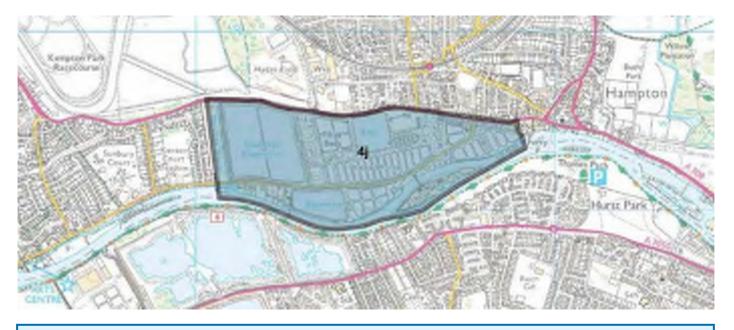
Reservoir embankments – Knight (left) and Queen Elizabeth II Storage (right)



Thames Path National Trail

4j. HAMPTON UTILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE

Landscape Type: Utilities Infrastructure Location: Lower Sunbury Road, Hampton



Key Characteristics

- Dominated by the Thames Water Hampton Water Treatment Works, its associated reservoirs and water holding areas and infrastructure
- Historic features such as the water company buildings and footbridge to Platt's Eyot
- Central road dominated by an avenue of mature broadleaved trees including limes and fenced facilities to either side

Description

The character area is dominated by the Thames Water Hampton Water Treatment Works located within it. It extends from the junction of Lower Sunbury Road with Upper Sunbury Road, with the latter continuing along its route and defining the northern boundary of the area.

The water company facilities utilise nearly all the area, however at the southeast corner a characterful footbridge provides access to Platt's Eyot, a long partly wooded island with moorings and properties/businesses within.

Lower Sunbury Road is dominated by an avenue of mature broadleaved trees, and these combine with the often majestic and dominating Victorian water company buildings to create a large, broad landscape contrasting with the neighbouring residential areas.

Whilst the large wide waterbody and reservoir infrastructure - edged by fencing, dominates the area pockets of other uses can be seen including a boathouse and at the western fringes of the area, the sloping heavily vegetated embankments to the Stain Hill reservoirs provide an unusual feature beside the road. A few residential properties are located on the south side of the road, extending back to the river edge.





Thames Water - Water Treatment Works





Wooded edge to the Stain Hill Reservoirs





Ornate footbridge to Platt's Eyot

Water company building at road junction

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 4k. HAMPTON BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement Location: Hampton



Key Characteristics

- Predominantly residential interspersed with small areas of retail and cafes
- Dominant historic water company buildings at western end
- Historic features including Garrick's Temple
- Limited access to the water at Ferry Crossing to Hurst Park

Description

This contained character area extends from the western end of Bushy Park to Hydes Field in the east. The area sits adjacent to the River Thames in its southeast corner and the Hampton to Fullwell railway line defines its northern edge.

The area is predominately residential, interspersed by occasional green spaces and lines of cafes with outdoor seating space and shops, many of them unusual and boutique in style. The areas set back from the river edge are more suburban in feel, with a mix of early and later 20th century large detached, semi-detached and terraced properties set within quiet, tree lined streets. Front gardens are generally well vegetated and maintained and with the street trees create an impression of well maintained order.

Businesses and retail outlets are interwoven with the residential properties and in occasional places the streetscape is cluttered with the associated signage and features. A village green adds to the generally small, enclosed scale and ambiance.

The historic water company buildings are dominant at the western end of Sunbury Road, their cathedral like scale dominating the streetscape and enclosing the streetscene from its proximity to the Thames.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H Garrick's Lawn Park and Garden is home to Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare, a monument to the playwright built in the mid 18th century. It is set within landscaped gardens set back from and below Hampton Court Road and feels more connected with the river, being easily viewed from the Thames Path and Hurst Park on the opposite bank.

The character changes as you progress from the waterwork buildings, with a smaller scale more village like ambience as the road passes east and unusual buildings are interspersed along Thames Street giving it an eclectic and village like feel. The parish church of St Mary's is central to the streetscene at the eastern end of the character area and its tower is visible in many views through the area.

The village like character is further emphasised to the north with housing sitting spaciously around Hampton Village Green however there are few clues in these more northern areas to identify their proximity to the River Thames.

Access to the river is limited from the town, with generally an enclosed feeling to the streets. However hidden passages with signage hint that the river can be found along Hampton Court Road.



Old water company buildings on Upper Sunbury Road



Thames street - the spire of St Mary's Church visible in the distance



Station Road

Path to the river





Ferry crossing to Hurst Park



Hampton Village Green

River Thames Scheme



Garrick's Temple viewed from Hurst Park

41. HURST PARK RIVERSIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Riverside Recreation Location: Hurst Park, Molesey



Key Characteristics

- A meandering (non-tidal) reach of the River Thames with a semi-natural mixture of mudbanks, shingle beaches, islands (aits and eyots) extensive areas of floodplain, pollarded trees and marginal vegetation, all within the context of a predominantly suburban area
- The area is largely all designated as part of two conservation areas signifying the areas' architectural and historical importance
- Hurst Park is a substantial 'naturalistic' park on a bend in the river with a partially open character, groups of deciduous trees, scrub, grassland and informal paths
- The area became well-known in the 1870's through the paintings of Alfred Sisley and remains highly popular for boating, walking, cycling and fishing

Description

The character area is located just south of Bushy Park and west of Hampton Court in the London Borough of Richmond. The A308/Hampton Court Road runs along northern edge of the area. Molesey lock and weir are located within the Hampton Village conservation area.

The lock and weir complex, spreading from the northern tip of Ash Island to the nearby Hampton Court Bridge, contribute to the utilitarian feel of the river in this area, reinforced by the presence of several marinas and boatyards. Its industrial character is attenuated by the surrounding vegetation on both riverbanks.

Along this busy stretch of the River Thames can also be found a mix of residential and recreational uses, with houseboats moored around Ash Island and Tagg's Island, several boat clubs, a cricket club, as well as riverside cafes, public houses and restaurants. However, the area retains a generally calm and leafy character, with green open spaces interspersed within settlements and numerous riverside trees.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H The Thames Path runs along the south bank of the river and is well used by locals and visitors alike. Further upstream, Hurst Park offers a wide expense of riverside meadow which contributes to maintain a predominantly green and open character to the area.

Hurst Park offers wide views either way from its central access road and parking provision. Some formal recreation is offered through hard surfaced courts, but its overwhelming character is of a broad linear green space, predominantly grassed, with mature trees and some scrubby vegetation in areas.



View towards Molesey Lock & Weir from Hampton Court Bridge



Molesey Weir from Thames Path



View towards Tagg's Island from Thames Path Thames Path at Hurst Park



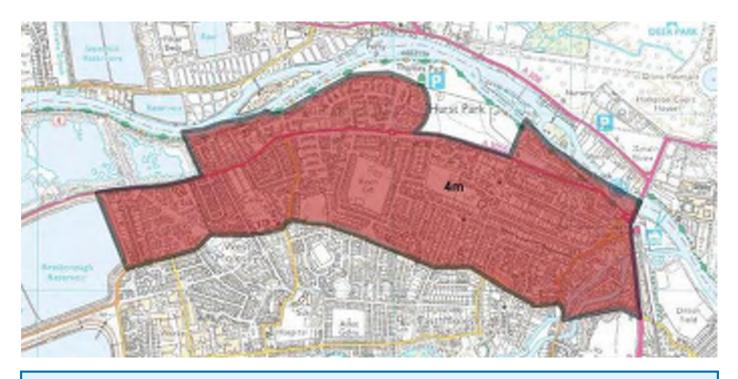
Hurst Park looking north across the Thames to Hampton



Edge vegetation beside the Thames Path in Hurst Park

Am. MOLESEY BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement Location: Molesey



Key Characteristics

- Leafy residential area of mixed housing from Late Victorian and Edwardian to early, mid and late 20th century
- Individual large, detached properties with unique features fronting the riverside and eastern extents of Hurst Park more modern properties to the west and south of the area
- Streets set back from the river defined by architectural style and with a greater urban identity than those properties located closer to the river
- The presence of the lock and distinctive weir complex and extensive moorings, along with the boatyard on Ash Island communicate that this area is part of the working River Thames

Description

This character area is located to the south of the River Thames and to the west of Hampton Court Bridge and is contained by Walton Road at the south.

It is characterised by its suburban residential environment and its proximity to the river environment on its northern border.

The built form is mainly residential with a mix of housing ranging from late Victorian / Edwardian to early, mid and later 20th century, set in a series of streets leading back from the river. 'Village like' clusters of shops are located at the eastern end, close to the busy Hampton Court Way leading to Hampton Court Bridge with further shops located to the south on Walton Road.

Further south, the area has more suburban characteristics and feels detached from the older, more characterful 'frontage' adjacent to the river. Residential streets are interspersed by public open spaces, small businesses and a recreation centre.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H The streets feel light and open and are interspersed with street and front garden trees. St Paul's Church to the north of the area is set in its own road island amongst residential properties and along with St Peter's Church further south, provide pockets of village like character to this London location.

Molesey lock and weir are located within the Hampton Village conservation area. The lock and weir complex, spreading from the northern tip of Ash Island to the nearby Hampton Court Bridge, contribute to the utilitarian feel of the river in this area, reinforced by the presence of several marinas and boatyards however its industrial character is attenuated by the surrounding vegetation on both riverbanks.

There are long views towards the lock and weir from Hampton Court Bridge.



Hurst Meadows



Molsey Lock



Residential properties on Hurst Road



Residential properties on Riverbank facing the River Thames



Molsey residential properties



Newer housing to the south of the area



Bridge Road, Molesey





Creek Road, Molesey

St. Paul's Church

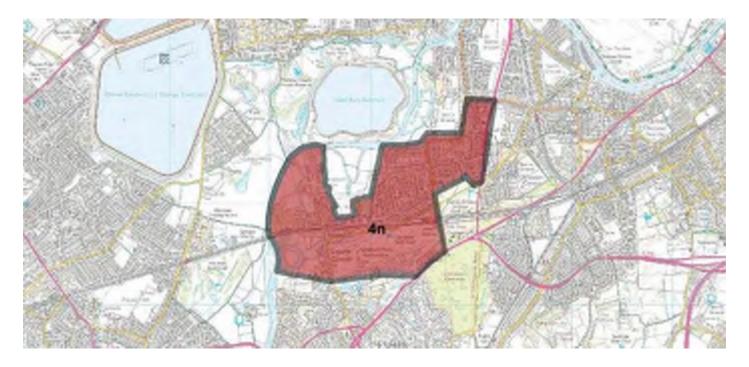


View towards Molesey Lock & Weir from Hampton Court Bridge

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 4n. ESHER BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement

Location: Esher



Key Characteristics

- Predominantly residential suburban townscape comprising of a mixed style of properties, characterised by their position either side of the intersecting railway line
- Flat landform other than raised railway embankment
- Land cover includes scattered trees, occasional hedgerows, private gardens and areas of greenspace
- Views are framed by layout of streets, often tree lines, and adjacent open spaces, with most dwellings clearly visible
- Character at northern end influenced by Sewage Works infrastructure including smell

Description

The character area is defined by the residential area of Esher to the west of the A309. It extends from the settlement edge at the north, south to Lower Green Road and includes the raised railway line between Esher and Hersham.

Its character is that of a medium density residential suburban settlement, comprising of a mix of properties that include bungalows, semi-detached and terraced houses. These are mixed in their layout, with some more distinct groupings laid out around grass squares. The main architectural style is mixed 20th century and includes former social housing stock. To the south of the railway line, some larger, detached Victorian/Edwardian dwellings are more spaciously located and include unusual gatehouses to the west of More Lane.

The streetscape character is reasonably green, with well-maintained grass verges and lines of street trees. This is reinforced by some larger established private gardens and well-kept green borders along the terrace frontages. There is a strong sense of place with the general feel of well-maintained amenity spaces. Public benches can be found in suitable public locations.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H

Whilst the land use is predominantly residential, there are odd businesses within the streets and a primary school to the north of the railway line. To the north of the area is Esher Sewage Treatment Works, and whilst visually the large footprint of this facility is not imposing to a broad area beyond the immediate streetscape, the smell is noticeable when in the residential locality.

This is generally a relatively quiet and peaceful residential suburb in a good condition, due to a high degree of care between the private and amenity streetscape.



View along Douglas Road

Vegetated edge to the railway line

Property along Lower Green Road



Houses around a green - Douglas Road

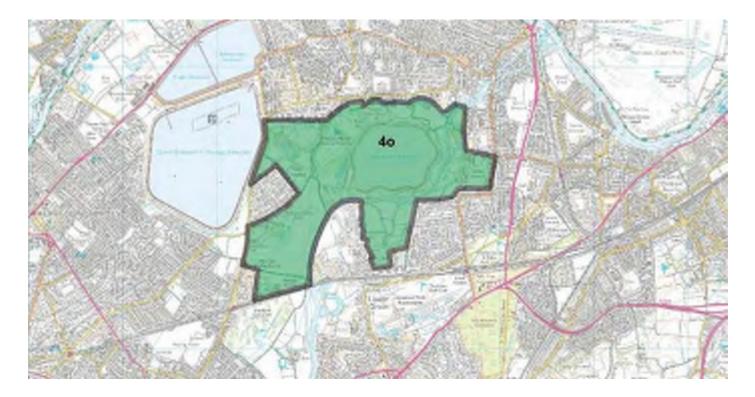
Lower Green Road

Entrance to Esher Sewage Treatment Works

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 40. MOLESEY RESERVOIR LANDSCAPE

Landscape Type: Reservoir Landscape

Location: Molesey & Esher



Key Characteristics

- Expansive area of green space with Island Barn Reservoir at its centre
- Generally flat landform with converging river corridors of the River Mole, River Ember and Dead River
- Land cover includes scattered trees, scrubland and pasture
- Recreational facilities including Island Barn Reservoir Sailing Club, Walton on Thames Camping and Caravanning Site
- A network of public footpaths through the area
- Molesey Heath with associated public access

Description

The character area is located to the south of the settlement of Molesey.

The space is dominated by the reservoir and this is used for recreation, with the Island Barn Reservoir Sailing Club having its home here and the associated sailing paraphernalia is visible along the northern shore.

The surrounding landscape has a diverse range of landcover including broadleaf trees, pasture and riparian environments, with three rivers weaving through the area.

To the west is Molesey Heath Local Nature Reserve, a reclaimed landfill site, formerly a gravel pit. It is now colonised by rough grassland and scrub and is habitat to a range of species. A path network extends throughout the reserve, with a further public right of way network extending to the south and west of the reserve, and along the northern boundary of the area, following the line of the Dead River and its convergence with the River Mole RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H



Molesey Local Nature Reserve

View along the River Mole





View along the River Ember

Open space at interface with residential area to the south

4p. THAMES DITTON RIVERSIDE RECREATION

Landscape Type: Riverside Recreation Location: Thames Ditton



Key Characteristics

- Settlement on south bank of the River Thames opposite the grounds of Hampton Court
- Many recreation grounds, open spaces and boating facilities
- Intimate and characterful high street in conservation area
- Wide range of residential developments

Description

This character area sits on the south bank of the River Thames opposite the grounds of Hampton Court. Hampton Court Station at the north of the area is separated by the River Ember. The area is bound by the railway towards Surbiton.

A series of parks line the riverbank in the west of the area, including Ditton Beach, Albany Reach Park and Cigarette Island Park. These parks have clear views of Hampton Court Palace. South of these parks is a stretch of detached houses with gardens overlooking the river with private moorings. These face Thames Ditton Island which is covered in bungalows looking out on the water.

Boat clubs, boat yards and a marina are scattered along the bank. From the bank are limited views across the water into the grounds of Hampton Court.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H

Away from the river the area is dotted with recreation and sports grounds. Gigg's Green, a triangular village green in the south of the area with a cricket pitch, sits in a conservation area of the same name. The Thames Ditton conservation area which includes the narrow, pretty and intimate high street with independent shops is north of here.

The area contains a diverse range of residential streets including leafy streets with set back detached houses, exclusive gated developments, early council housing, small Victorian terraces and Arts and Crafts style homes.



View across River Thames to Hampton Court



Hampton Court Station



Residential street



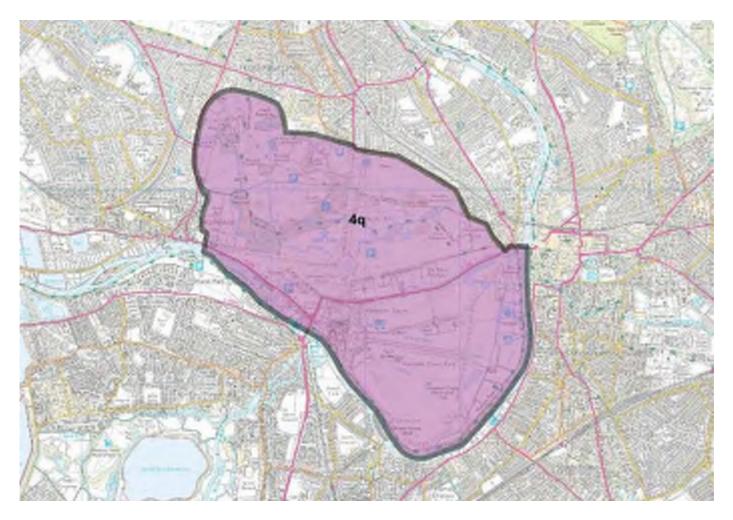
View along River Thames



Rowing club

4q. BUSHIYIPARK AND HARVIPTON ACCUURT PARK HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

Landscape Type: Historic Landscape Location: Bushy Park and Hampton Court Park



Description

The character area, located on the north bank of the River Thames, extends from the western and northern extremes of Bushy Park to Kingston Bridge in the east.

The area is dominated by the two areas of park, dissected by the busy Hampton Court Road. There are few other roads. The expansive park environment contrasts sharply with the activity and movement on the outside of the walls.

There are a few dispersed businesses set within historic properties, and clusters of shops and cafes/restaurants, generally centred around the linear Hampton Court Road. Residential properties in the main are located to the south of the road at its western end adjacent to the Thames, their gardens backing to the river. However further residences are located along the road toward the east and are generally detached with large gardens.

Tagg's Island and Ash Island are located within this reach of the Thames. Taggs Island is a private location with a few residential properties within and is accessed via a small pedestrian footbridge leading from Hampton Court Road. The adjacent Ash Island is unpopulated and heavily wooded. Boats can be seen moored around its perimeters.

The estates of Hampton Court and Bushy Park dominate the environment with visible signs and gateways interspersed with the outside built infrastructure. Further east along Hampton Court Road views into the estates become more glimpsed as they are enclosed by walls.



Hampton Court Green



Bushy Park



Junction outside Hampton Court Palace



Bushy Park



Hampton Court Road



Bushy Park



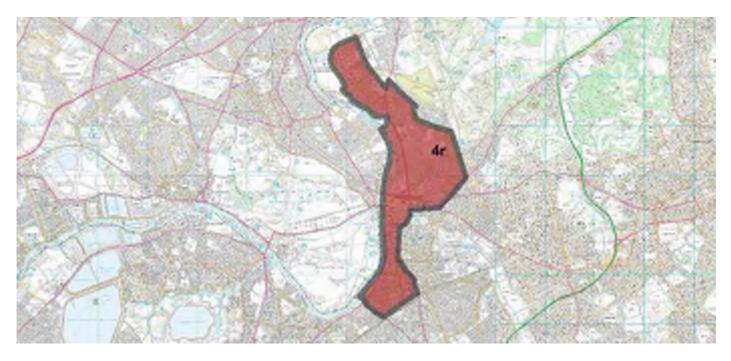
Gateways into Hampton Court Palace



Residential properties along Hampton Court Road

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 4r. HAM BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Mixed Built Up Settlement Location: Ham and Richmond



Key Characteristics

- Leafy residential area of mid to late 20th century suburban housing to the south and west of Ham historic village core
- A distinctive network of streets (roads, avenues or drives), in particular curvilinear with dead end roads and cul de sacs at its northern end
- A distinctive mix of architectural styles predominantly early to late 20th century
- Amenity open spaces positioned in and around housing grass verges and small ornamental street trees contribute to the streetscape
- Front gardens, containing ornamental lawns and ornamental planting, are bounded by low brick walls and clipped hedges
- Quiet and peaceful residential suburbs with a spacious character due to the relatively wide street proportions

Description

The character area is located to the west and south side of Ham House and Common and includes its historic village core. It is bounded to the west by the large expanse of Ham Lands. The built edges of the settlement are clearly defined by the surrounding open spaces of Ham Common and Ham Lands, Grey Court School grounds and the local National Trust property Ham House and Garden.

The built form is characterised by distinct housing types. Architectural style and materials are highly varied, depending on the age of development. Within a single range view many differing styles are visible from early 20th century to modern low-rise flats.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H To the northeast, post-war two storey semi-detached houses and short terraces are set in regular plots with relatively short front gardens. Garden boundaries are typically characterised by low brick walls and clipped hedges. Residential flats and terraced houses (two to three storeys high), typically dating from 1960s or later, are set within spacious grounds incorporating amenity spaces, footpaths and access roads terminating in dead ends and car parks.

The streetscape is characterised by open, mown shared amenity green spaces and mown grass verges with scattered small to medium ornamental street trees. In some cases houses are arranged around these areas of shared open space where they usually have close visual and physical connection with these 'suburban greens'.

There are views out to and from Ham Lands along Riverside Drive. Views within residential streets are often shorter and more confined due to the pattern of long, curvilinear streets and cul-de-sacs and views within the flat complexes are often short and limited by the larger buildings such as at Beaufort Court though those properties at its edge with Ham Lands have open views and access to this expansive greenspace.



Flats on Riverside Drive



Riverside Drive, Richmond







Varying residential properties





Riverbank looking south.



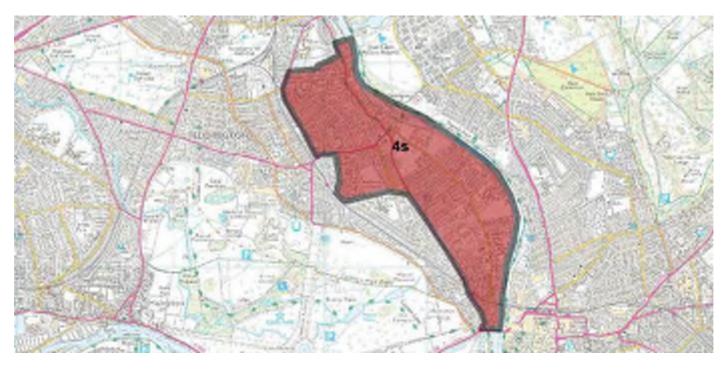
Pathway at Ham Lands Local Nature Reserve



View from the Teddington Lockfootbridge looking to the south bank.

4s. TEDDINGTON BUILT UP SETTLEMENT

Landscape Type: Built Up Settlement Location: Teddington



Key Characteristics

- A linear settlement corridor, encompassing an urban townscape, playing fields and public open spaces
- Area around Broom Road Recreation Ground includes intensively used open spaces and river frontages associated with the many boating clubs, moorings, public parks as well as public rights of way and private playing fields
- Teddington Lock is the largest lock and weir system on the River Thames and marks the beginning of the tidal Thames much of this environment lies within the Teddington Lock conservation area signifying its architectural and historical importance
- Teddington Town Centre has a mix of terraced, semi-detached and detached properties in ordered tree lined streets Hampton Wick High Street offers a contrasting area of small businesses fronting onto the High Street at the southern end of the area
- A narrow river corridor enclosed by contrasting urban townscape on the south bank and almost continual wooded frontage on the north bank

The character area is located to the west of Teddington, between the High Street to the west and Ham Lands on the eastern bank of the River Thames. It is part of Teddington's historic village core.

Leading to the River Thames, Ferry Road retains its historic village character and provides a gateway to the river. Built form is a mix of two-storey cottages behind small front gardens and boundary walls and larger Victorian semidetached houses set within well maintained gardens. The distinctive timber clad boathouse is a local landmark.

Along the riverside, a varied collection of boathouses, moored boats and slipways creates a rich panorama of riverside activity and make this a well-known and well used centre for recreation and tourism on the River Thames. Teddington lock and weir and the suspension footbridges between the south bank, Swan Ait and north bank are key landmark features in the area and allow for wide views up and downstream.

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H

Teddington lock and weir and the suspension footbridges between the south bank, Swan Ait and north bank are key landmark features in the area and allow for wide views up and downstream.

Broom Road Recreation Ground is situated in a quiet residential area in southeast Teddington and fronts the River Thames to the east. It is accessed from Broom Road, south of the High Street. The character area is bounded by three conservation areas, Teddington Lock to the north, Normansfield to the west and Broom Water to the south.

Hampton Wick conservation area includes the commercial land along the southern edge of the recreation ground, which abuts the construction compound, and west of Broom Road the open space and recreation ground forms a large area of grassland with some scattered mature and semi-mature trees on the riverside, where the landform rises and falls towards the river. It is a well-used local open space and its enclosed playground and natural play area makes it particularly attractive to families. The riverside around the recreation ground is also popular for waterbased sports and recreational activities, including a rowing club and a dragon boat club, as well as the Twickenham Sea Cadets.

On the opposite riverbank, the Thames Path runs along the narrow Lower Ham Road, connecting Hampton Wick and Kingston to the south and Richmond, to the north. Pontoons used by canoe clubs, and boat moorings makes this a well-used stretch of the River Thames.

The adjoining grounds of Teddington School extend from Broom Road to the riverside, north of the recreation ground.

Long open views from the recreation ground and Thames Path, both up and down stream.

Teddington Weir



Riverside development and activity







Tree lined residential road, Teddington



Teddington Lock footbridge



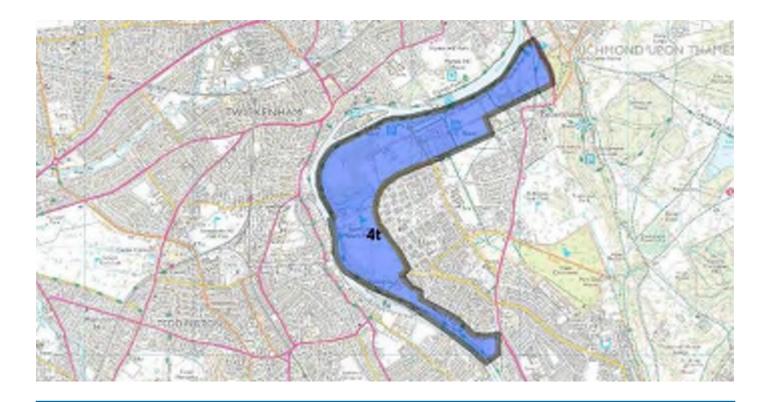
High Street, Hampton Wick



Meadow with mature trees on the eastern edge of the recreation ground

RTS Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report - Appendix H 4t. HAM LANDS RIVERSIDE PARKLAND

Landscape Type: Riverside Parkland Location: Ham Lands



Key Characteristics

- Riverside open historic parkland and gardens with small pockets of woodland
- In or beside functional floodplain and rising ground to the east at Richmond Hill
- A mix of recreational uses, including playing fields, allotments, playgrounds and 'natural' green spaces
- Local Nature Reserve and Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation, with a variety of habitats ranging from woodland to wetland which attract an abundant wildlife
- A network of well-connected public footpaths and cycleways allows access throughout the area, as well as to and from Teddington and Ham

Description

Ham Lands lies adjacent to the River Thames in Ham in the centre of the London Borough of Richmond. The area extends from Teddington Lock to the south, up to Petersham to the northeast. It is bounded by Riverside Drive to the east.

It is a 60-ha riverside Local Nature Reserve comprising small, enclosed areas of grassland with few pockets of woodland. The site was once extensively excavated for gravel, then backfilled over time with a variety of soil types from all over London. This has resulted in a unique mosaic of different vegetation types that attract a rich and varied fauna.

A network of walking paths and cycleways provide access across the area, making Ham Lands a popular destination for local visitors (i.e. families, horse riders, dog walkers, etc.). There is an off-road BMX track towards

Settlement is generally limited across the area. Ham House located at the northern edge of Ham Lands is a 17th century estate owned and managed by the National Trust. Its park and gardens are listed as Grade II by Historic England in the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England.

Views are limited within the park due to the dense hedgerows and shelterbelts around the meadows. There are, however, important views out to the Star and Garter on Richmond Hill and the historically important view from the Star and Garter along the river to Eel Pie Island.

Occasional views can be glimpsed across the River Thames from the Thames Path.

The park is in a good condition though some areas within Ham Lands and alongside the river appear to have limited management.



Water meadow with scattered trees



Meadow towards Ham House



View to the Star & Garter from Thames Path



J.M.W. Turner: England: Richmond Hill - 1819



View toward the river edge of Ham Lands from the Teddington Lock bridge



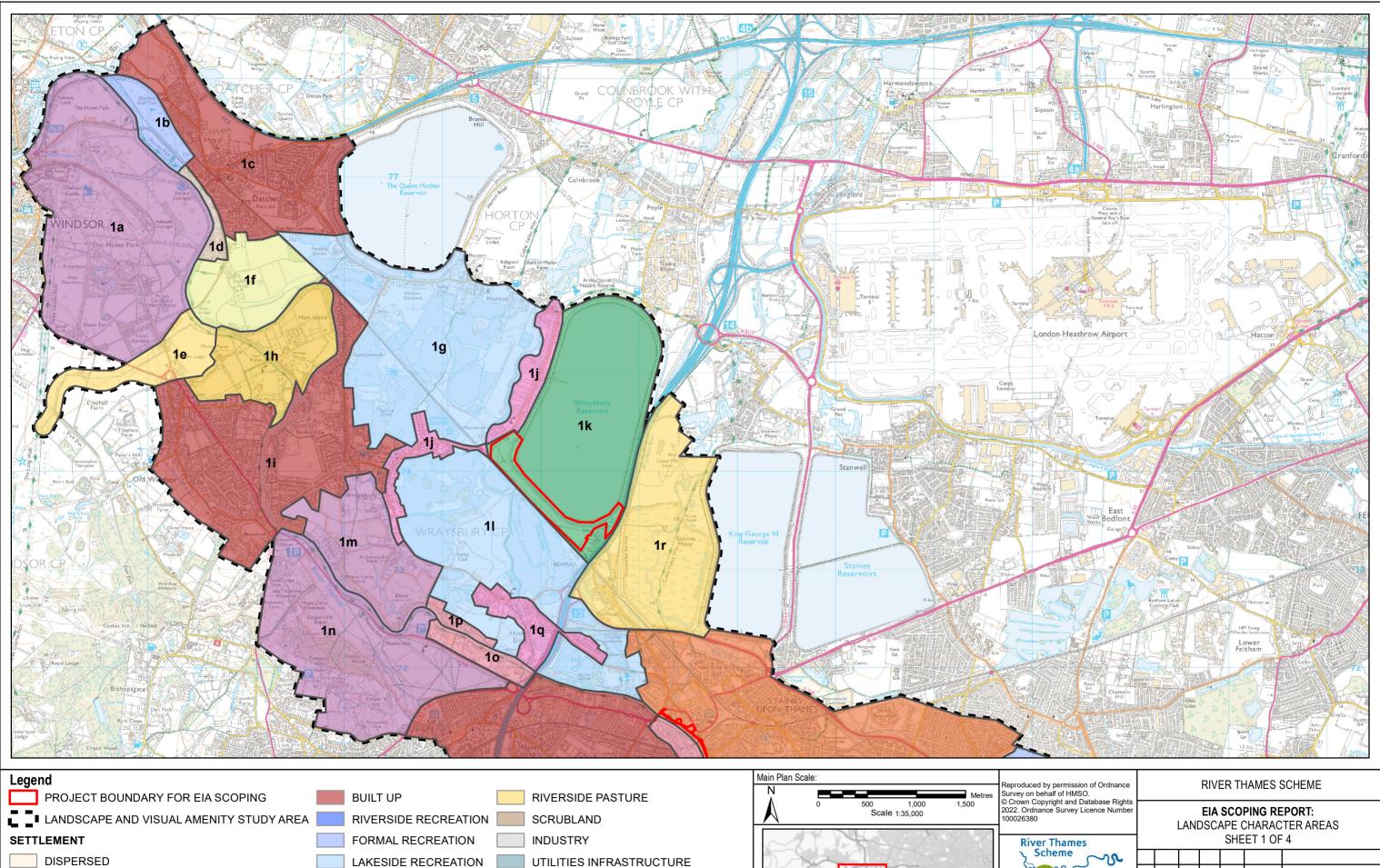
Pathway at the southern end of Ham Lands

Landscape Type	Individual Landscape Character Areas	Character Area ID
Arable Farmland	Shepperton Arable Farmland	3b
Riverside Meadow	Southlea Farm Riverside Pasture	1f
	Thorpe Settled Farmland	2d
	Dumsey Meadow Riverside pasture	3h
Riverside Pasture	Battle Bourne Riverside Pasture	1e
	Staines Riverside Pasture	1r
Settled Mixed Farmland	Old Windsor Mixed Farmland	1h
	Abbey Meads Settled Mixed Farmland	2n
	Trumps Green Settled Mixed Farmland	2r
	Shepperton Mixed Farmland	3d
Settled Scrubland	Chertsey Road Settled Scrubland	3g
	Ashford Road Scrubland	30
Historic Landscape	Windsor Historic Landscape	1a
	Ankerwycke Historic Landscape	1m
	Runnymede Historic Landscape	1n 2l
	St Ann's Hill Historic Landscape	21
	Bushy Park and Hampton Court Park Historic	4q
Inductor.	Landscape	24
Industry	Thorpe Industry	2c
Utilities Infrastructure	Laleham Utilities Infrastructure	2p
	Desborough Utilities Infrastructure	4b 4i
	Walton Utilities Infrastructure	
Formal Recreation	Hampton Utilities Infrastructure	4j 1b
	Datchet Formal Recreation	10 2h
	Ashford Formal Recreation	3e
	Upper Halliford Formal Recreation	se 1g
Lakeside Recreation	Horton Lakeside Recreation	1g 1l
	Wraysbury Lakeside Recreation Thorpe Park Built Up Lakeside Recreation	2k
	Shepperton Lakeside Recreation	3c
	Shepperton Eakeside Recreation	50

	Ferry Lane Lakeside Recreation	3m
	Thorpe Lea Formal Recreation	2a
Recreation	Staines Recreation	2i
	Laleham Burway	20
	Laleham Park Riverside Recreation	3a
	Chertsey Meads Riverside Recreation	3i
	Desborough Island Riverside Recreation	4a
	Walton Lane Riverside Recreation	4c
Riverside Recreation	Shepperton Riverside Recreation	4f
	Elmbridge Riverside Recreation	4h
	Hurst Park Riverside Recreation	41
	Thames Ditton Riverside Recreation	4p
	Ham Lands Riverside Recreation	4t
Reservoir Landscape	Wraysbury Reservoir Landscape	1k
Reservoir Lanuscape	Molesey Reservoir Landscape	40
	Datchet Built Up Settlement	1c
	Old Windsor Built Up Settlement	1i
	Pooley Green Built Up Settlement	1s
	Thorpe Built Up Settlement	2b
	Egham Hythe Built Up Settlement	2e
	Chertsey Built Up Settlement	2m
	Trumps Green Built Up Settlement	2q
Built-up settlement	Shepperton Built Up Settlement	3f
built up settlement	Old Shepperton Linear Settlement	3n
	Weybridge Built Up Settlement	4d
	Sunbury Built Up Settlement	4g
	Hampton Built up Settlement	4k
	Molesey Built Up Settlement	4m
	Esher Built Up Settlement	4n
	Ham Built Up Settlement	4r
	Teddington Built Up Settlement	4s
Dispersed Settlement	Addlestone Dispersed Settlement	Зј
	Lower Halliford Meadows Dispersed Settlement	4e

Linear	Wraysbury Linear Settlement Hythe End Linear Settlement	1j 1q
Riverside Built-Up Settlement	Staines Riverside Built Up Settlement	2g
Riverside Dispersed Settlement	Datchet Riverside Dispersed Settlement	1d
	Runnymede Riverside Linear Settlement	10
	Hythe End Riverside Linear Settlement	1p
Riverside Linear Settlement	Egham Hythe Linear Riverside Settlement	2f
Riverside Linear Settlement	Laleham Riverside Linear Settlement	2j
	Shepperton Riverside Linear Settlement	3k
	Towpath Riverside Linear Settlement	31

FIGURES - Landscape Character Areas Sheets 1 - 3



RESERVOIR LANDSCAPE

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

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RIVERSIDE LINEAR

RIVERSIDE BUILT UP

LINEAR

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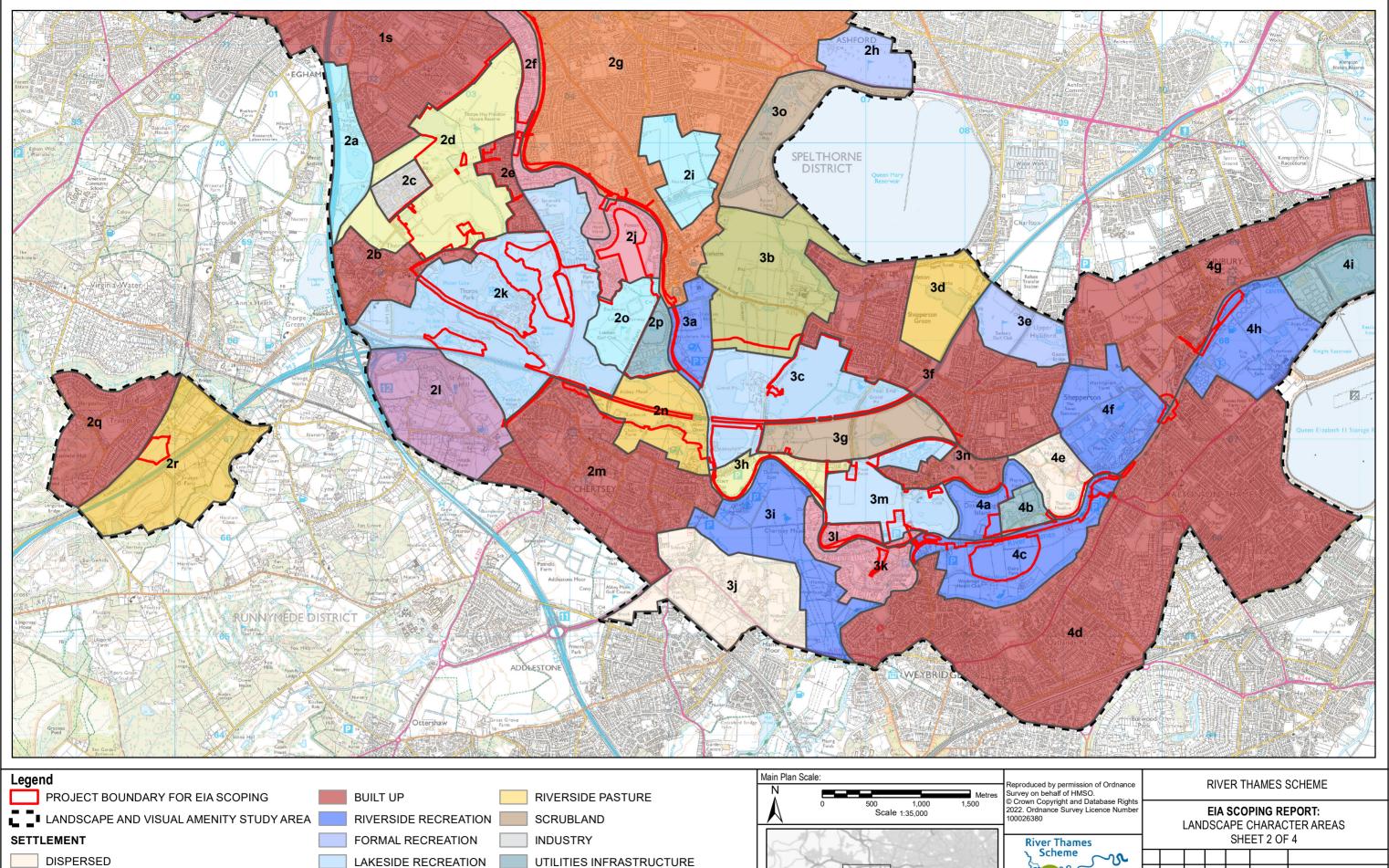
RIVERSIDE MEADOW

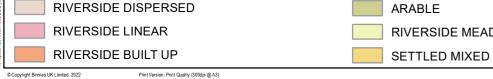
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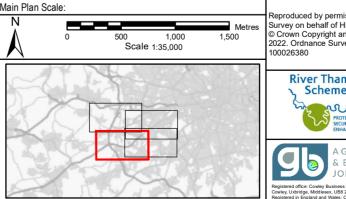






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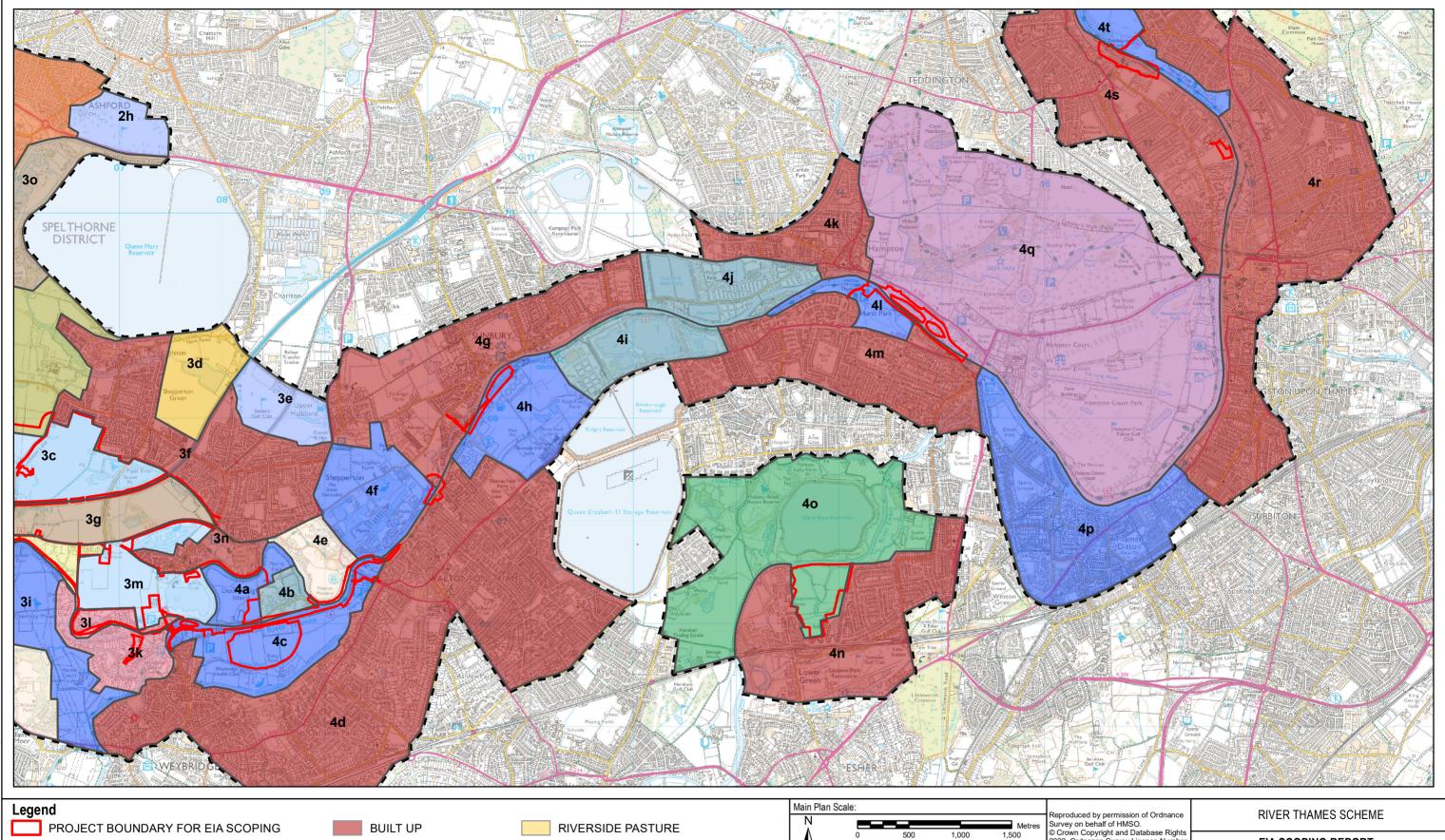




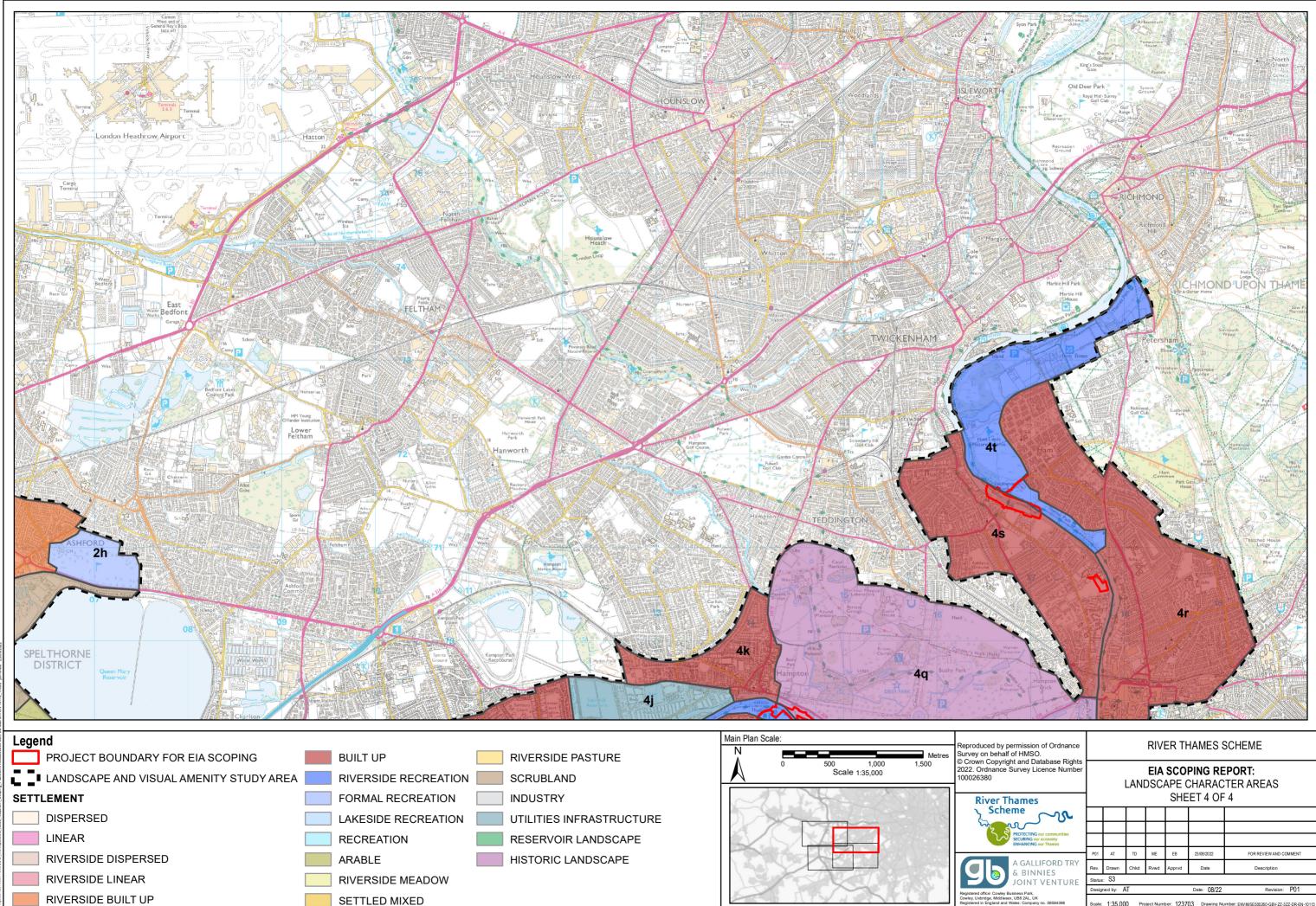
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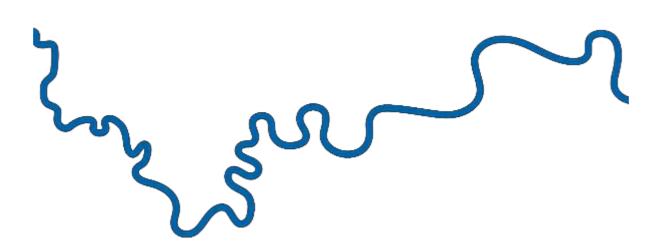
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The River Thames Scheme, delivered in a partnership led by the Environment Agency and Surrey County Council, will reduce flood risk for residents and businesses and improve the surrounding area.

River Thames Scheme



Summary of Landfill Sites

Table I-1: A summary of landfills within the study area including materialreceived and predominant landfill material within the study area according toEnvironment Agency records and GI survey data where applicable.

Location	Reference (refer to Figure 16-1 in Appendix A)	Site	Type of landfill site	Landfill details
Runnymede Channel including within 250m buffer from the channel	1	Royal Hythe Farm	Historic landfill	- Undifferentiated landfill. - Construction and demolition waste.
	2	Lakeside	Authorised historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state that the site was licenced to receive inert waste.
	3	Green Lane Pit	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert waste.
	4	Pit C Egham Experiment	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state that the site was licenced to receive inert waste.
	5	Norland's Lane (Covers all of Norland's Lane HCA)	Authorised historic landfill	 Undifferentiated landfill. Construction and demolition waste. Environment Agency records do not include information on the type of waste received.

Location	Reference (refer to Figure 16-1 in Appendix A)	Site	Type of landfill site	Landfill details
	6	Green Lane	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert waste.
	7	Longside	Authorised historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state type of waste received was commercial and household waste.
	8	Pit A Egham Experiment	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records state type of waste received was household waste. No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records state type of waste received was household waste.
	9	Pit B Egham Experiment	Historic landfill	
	10	Muckhatch Farm	Authorised historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state that the site was licenced to receive inert waste.

Location	Reference (refer to Figure 16-1 in Appendix A)	Site	Type of landfill site	Landfill details
	11	Chertsey Lane	Authorised historic landfill	 Un-differentiated landfill. Construction and demolition waste. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert and special/hazardous waste.
	12	Chertsey Lane	Authorised historic landfill	- Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert and special/hazardous waste.
	13	Penton Hook Marina	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records do not include information on the type of waste received.
	14	Mixnams Lane Site No.1 (Covers all of Laleham Reach HCA)	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state the site received inert waste.
	15	Mixnams Lane Site No. 2 (Covers part of Laleham Golf Course HCA)	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert waste.
	16	Twynersh Farm	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records

Location	Reference (refer to Figure 16-1 in Appendix A)	Site	Type of landfill site	Landfill details
				state the site was licenced to receive inert waste.
	17	Laleham Landfill	Authorised Landfill	- Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert waste.
	18	Littleton Lane Landfill (Covers part of Brett's Land HCA)	Authorised Landfill	 Undifferentiated landfill. Construction and demolition waste. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive 'landfill taking other wastes'.
Spelthorne Channel including within 250m buffer from the channel	19	Home Farm Landfill	Authorised Landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert waste.
	20	Lavenders	Historic Landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records do not include information on the type of waste received. GI undertaken in the south eastern corner identified: Undifferentiated landfill. Construction and demolition waste.
	21	Littleton Lane	Historic Landfill	- Environment Agency records

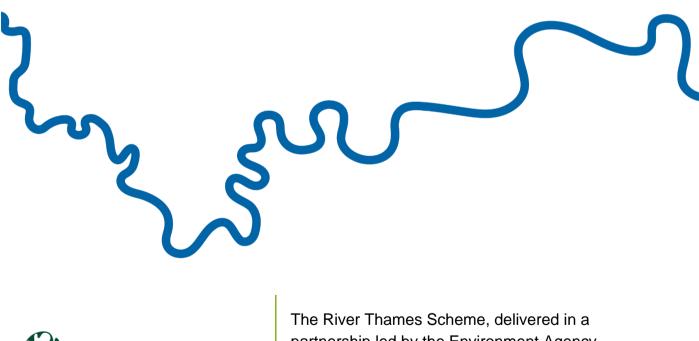
Location	Reference (refer to Figure 16-1 in Appendix A)	Site	Type of landfill site	Landfill details
				do not include information on the type of waste received.
	22	Pool End Lake	Authorised historic landfill	- Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert waste.
	23	Sheepwalk	Authorised historic landfill	- Undifferentiated landfill. - Construction and demolition waste.
	24	Chertsey Road Tip (Covers all of Chertsey Road Tip HCA)	Authorised historic landfill	 Undifferentiated landfill. Construction and demolition waste. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert, industrial, commercial, household, and special waste.
	25	Manor Farm	Authorised historic landfill	 Undifferentiated landfill. Construction and demolition waste. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert and industrial wastes.
	26	Halliford Mere 'Berwick Alistair Robin'	Authorised Landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive 'other waste'; an

Location	Reference (refer to Figure 16-1 in Appendix A)	Site	Type of landfill site	Landfill details
				example could be dredging's from waterways.
	27	Shepperton Ranges (Covers part of Land South of Chertsey Road HCA)	Authorised historic landfill	 Undifferentiated landfill. Construction and demolition waste.
	28	The Margins	Historic Landfill	 Undifferentiated landfill. Construction and demolition waste. Environment Agency records do not include information on the type of waste received.
	29	Desborough Island	Historic Landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state the site received commercial waste.
	30	Fordbridge Road	Authorised historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive industrial waste.
Sunbury Weir including within 250m buffer from the	31	Ashmere Fisheries	Historic Landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records do not include information on the type of waste received.
weir	32	Land adjoining Leisure Centre	Historic Landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records

Location	Reference (refer to Figure 16-1 in Appendix A)	Site	Type of landfill site	Landfill details
				state the site received inert, industrial, commercial household, special and liquids/sludge waste.
	33	Hurst Road	Authorised historic Landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert waste.
	34	Apps Court Farm	Authorised Landfill	- No GI survey undertaken. -Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive 'other waste'; an example could be dredging's from waterways.
Teddington Weir including within 250m buffer from the weir	35	Broom Road Recreation Ground	Historic Landfill	 No GI survey undertaken. Environment Agency records do not include information on the type of waste received.
Land South of Wraysbury Reservoir HCA including within 250m buffer from the HCA	36	Kingsmead Quarry	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records state the site was licenced to receive inert waste.
	37	Kingsmead Landfill	Authorised landfill	 No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records

Location	Reference (refer to Figure 16-1 in Appendix A)	Site	Type of landfill site	Landfill details
				indicate it is licenced to receive inert waste.
	38	Wraysbury Landfill	Authorised landfill	 No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records indicate it is licenced to receive non- biodegradable wastes.
	39	Hithermoor Farm	Authorised landfill	 No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records indicate it is licenced to receive non- biodegradable wastes.
	40	Drinkwater Landfill	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records state type of waste received was commercial and household waste.
Drink water Pit HCA including within 250m buffer from the HCA	41	Boniface Landfill aka Pondover Place	Authorised historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records state type of waste received was commercial and household waste.
	42	Trumps Farm Landfill	Authorised landfill	 No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records

Location	Reference (refer to Figure 16-1 in Appendix A)	Site	Type of landfill site	Landfill details
				state type of waste received was commercial, industrial, and household waste.
Grove Farm HCA including within 250m buffer from the	43	Molesey Road Landfill Phase I (Covers all of Grove Farm HCA)	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records indicate the type of waste received include inert, industrial, commercial, and household waste.
HCA	44	Land South of Field Common Lane	Historic landfill	 No GI survey undertaken for this site. Environment Agency records indicate the type of waste received include inert waste.







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.

River Thames Scheme



Appendix J

Water Environment Additional Baseline Information

Appendix J: Water Environment Additional Baseline Information

The following tables are presented in this appendix:

- Table J1: Water Environment Monitoring to date
- Table J2: Additional information on the non-WFD surface water bodies from the RTS Ecological Monitoring Project (EA, 2016b) within the study area
- Table J3: Additional information on the WFD lake water bodies within the Water Environment Study Area for EIA Scoping intersected by the Surrey Channels. Data from RTS Ecological Monitoring Project (EA, 2016b)
- Table J4: Additional information on the WFD lake water bodies within the Water Environment Study Area for EIA Scoping which abstract from the River Thames. Data from RTS Ecological Monitoring Project (EA, 2016b)
- Table J5: Additional information on the WFD river water bodies within the Water Environment Study Area for EIA Scoping which intersect/in proximity to the Surrey Channels or are in proximity to the Sunbury, Molesey and Teddington weirs. Data from RTS Ecological Monitoring Project (EA, 2016b)
- Table J6: Additional information on the WFD groundwater bodies within the Water Environment Study Area for EIA Scoping
- Table J7: Additional information on the WFD transitional water bodies within the Water Environment Study Area for EIA Scoping

References

Please refer to 'References' section at the end of the River Thames Scheme Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report for full details.

Table J1: Water Environment Monitoring to date

Survey type /	Surveyor	Date(s) survey	Summary	Reference
water body		undertaken		
Surface Water (Quality Survey	/S		
River Thames and Lake water quality monitoring	APEM		The RTS Ecological Monitoring Project (2012-2015) included sampling for a range of physicochemical (temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, nutrients (such as Nitrogen & Phosphorus), chlorophyll etc) and specific chemical pollutant determinants in the lakes potentially affected by the project. The frequency and spatial variation of the sampling was agreed with Environment Agency technical specialists as part of the RTS Environmental Monitoring Project in relation to establishing a suitable baseline for subsequent stages of WFD compliance assessment and EIA.	
			Whilst there is no specific guidance on the validity of water quality data, the Water Quality Monitoring Plan ('the WQMP') (GBJV, 2021n) developed by the RTS project team stipulates a few principles for monitoring which have been agreed with the Environment Agency. This includes the assumption that monitoring should be undertaken for at least one full year during each six-year RBMP cycle. The latest RBMP cycle runs from 2021 to 2027.	
			Due to the age of this data and the range of determinands monitored, it is recommended that additional surveys are undertaken to ensure the baseline water quality data is valid for DCO submission. The existing data will still be used as part of the baseline to understand any long term changes in water quality.	
Lake water quality monitoring	APEM / Binnies / Environment	2016 – 2021 (bi- annual)	Monitoring from 24 lake locations on a bi-annual basis between 2016 and 2021. The monitoring undertaken since 2016 has been undertaken to provide validation checks for the 2012-2015 environmental monitoring programme but does not in itself provide a complete data set.	GBV (2020g)
	Agency		PFOS and PFOA were added to the list of determinands from September 2020 and going forward.	
			Whilst there is no specific guidance on the validity of water quality data, the WQMP stipulates a few principles for monitoring which have been agreed with the Environment Agency. This includes the assumption that monitoring should be undertaken for at least one full year during each six-year RBMP cycle. The latest RBMP cycle runs from 2021 to 2027.	
			Due to the age of some of this data and the range of determinands monitored, it is recommended that additional surveys are undertaken to ensure the baseline water quality data is valid for DCO submission. The existing data will still be used as part of the baseline to understand any long-term changes in water quality.	
Lake water quality monitoring (including microbial monitoring)	Binnies/ Environment Agency	February 2022 and ongoing	Monitoring on a up to monthly basis at 19 lakes across the study area, and at Wraysbury 2 and Datchet 2 (locations associated with CS1). 55 determinands are monitored monthly, 87 quarterly and 11 biannually, including PFOS, PFOA and microbial monitoring. Determinands include those that have legislative requirements for monitoring and those recommended following source pathway receptor modelling. Monitoring will be reviewed on a bi-annual basis and the findings of HRA and WFD assessments will also be used to inform further monitoring for the pre-construction baseline.	
River Thames and tributary	Ricardo / Binnies /	April 2019 – 2021 (monthly)	Monitoring on a monthly basis from 27 locations on the River Thames and tributaries from across the study area, excluding HCAs. PFOS and PFOA were added to the list of determinands from September 2020. Laboratory analysis was completed for ammoniacal	

Survey type / water body	Surveyor	Date(s) survey undertaken	Summary	Reference
water quality monitoring	Environment Agency		nitrogen, orthophosphate, PFOS and PFOA. Handheld probe measurements were collected in the field for a range of physio- chemical parameters including pH, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance and temperature (°C). Due to the age of this data and range of determinands monitored it is recommended that additional surveys are required to ensure the baseline water quality data is valid for DCO submission. The existing data will be used as part of the baseline to understand any long-term changes in water quality.	
River Thames and tributary water quality monitoring (including microbial monitoring)	Binnies/ Environment Agency	February 2022 and ongoing	Monitoring on a up to monthly basis at 14 locations on the River Thames and tributaries across the study area, excluding HCAs and locations previously associated with CS1. 56 determinands are monitored monthly, 88 quarterly and 11 biannually, including PFOS, PFOA and microbial monitoring. Determinands include those that have legislative requirements for monitoring and those recommended following source pathway receptor modelling. Monitoring will be reviewed on a bi-annual basis and the findings of HRA and WFD assessments will also be used to inform further monitoring for the pre-construction baseline.	
Microbial monitoring of recreational areas of interest across the project (River Thames, tributaries and lakes)	Ricardo / Binnies / Environment Agency	the Bathing Water Season May – Sept) Monitoring was	The Project will connect the River Thames to several lake waterbodies that are currently used for recreational activities (e.g. open water swimming, sailing, windsurfing). Therefore, there may be a potential impact to recreational businesses and the health of bathers. Environment Agency Technical specialists advised the project undertook sampling in line with Environment Agency guidance for Bathing Water Standards. The Bathing Water Guidance requires 20 samples for faecal coliforms (Intestinal enterococci and Escherichia coli) to be taken within the bathing season (May and September), with an additional baseline sample to be taken between the 1st and 14th May. The technical specialists advised Ammoniacal Nitrogen should be taken alongside these samples. Monitoring from 27 locations in lakes and rivers within the project red line boundary (excluding HCAs) on a weekly basis between May and September 2019 and 2021. Locations were selected based on the presence or future recreational activities, or their potential future connection to a recreational activity. Laboratory analysis was completed for faecal coliforms and ammoniacal nitrogen. Handheld probe measurements were collected in the field for a range of physio-chemical parameters including pH, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance and temperature (°C). Advice from the UK Health Security Agency sought to seek advice on the monitoring programme in 2019. However, they did not feel they had the capability to comment. Ian Dunhill from the EA Bathing Waters group was consulted on the scope. Whilst there is no specific guidance on the validity of microbial data, the Water WQMP stipulates principles for monitoring which have been agreed with the Environment Agency. This includes verification by collecting two water samples (during the bathing season) for microbial monitoring within recreational waters.	(2019b)

Survey type / water body	Surveyor	Date(s) survey undertaken	Summary	Reference
water body				
		monitoring in 2021.		
Surface Water I	Flow Surveys			
Monthly Spot Flow Gauges	Environment Agency	May 2019 – ongoing.	Monthly spot flow gauges from Datchet Common Brook; Horton Brook; Abbey River; and Wraysbury Stream (there is a data gap April-July 2020 due to Covid 19 restrictions), Monthly samples continue to be collected from August 2020 on Abbey River only by the Environment Agency. An additional four sites were added in February 2021 (Meadlake Ditch, Chertsey Bourne, the Chap and Burway Ditch).	
			Whilst the validity of flow data is not expected to expire, regular data is recommended to ensure the most recent data is available and identify potential trends.	
Jubilee River Flow Monitoring	UKCEH	2019	UKCEH have been undertaking flow monitoring on the Jubilee River to assess potential losses to groundwater. Thames Water noted a loss following the construction of the Jubilee River and are therefore highly concerned around the potential for losses in deployable output arising from the project's augmentation flow.	
Surface Water I	Level Survevs			(20190)
	-	T	15 minute lake lovel date has been recorded from 2012 for all lakes to be interpreted by the project using Bugged TPOLL laggers	CPV(2020a)
Lake Level Monitoring	Ricardo / Environment	•	15-minute lake level data has been recorded from 2012 for all lakes to be intersected by the project using Rugged TROLL loggers. Water quality has been sampled in the same locations as the level boards (except for the Thorpe Park lakes as there is only one board) under the assumption that the lakes are well mixed.	, ,
	Agency	readings taken	adings taken bothly – bi- level data. 15-minute pressure data has also been collected across the project for this time period using barometric loggers, w	
			Generally, there is a good level data record, but some missing gaps are noted within the datasheets. Level data loggers have been replaced as necessary over the monitoring period.	
Geomorpholog	y Surveys			
MultiMoRPH Surveys	Cartographer	2019	MultiMoRPH (10xMoRPh) surveys at Datchet Common Brook, Horton Brook, Wraysbury Stream, Abbey River and Burway Ditch (upstream and downstream of intersections) were completed on two occasions (a winter survey (February) and a summer survey	
				Cartographer (2019b)
				Cartographer (2019c)
River Condition Assessment	Binnies / Cartographer	October 2020	River Condition Assessments (RCA, previously referred to as MoRPh surveys) were undertaken in 2019 on intersected tributaries and on waterbodies within the red line area and within HCAs in 2020 to inform the River Metric in Defra's biodiversity net gain calculator. The scope was developed between Cartographer (the developers of the RCA survey) and Binnies in 2020. The scope of the RCA surveys originally only included Runnymede and Spelthorne Channel redline boundaries (and downstream capacity	(2020)

Survey type / water body	Surveyor	Date(s) survey undertaken	Summary	Reference
(MoRPH Pro surveys)			improvements) but was later updated to include the HCAs. Additional requirements for RCA surveys were identified whilst on site and included in the final report produced by Cartographer.	
			In addition to RCA surveys, Cartographer were also asked to undertake RCA of the new channels based on the Indicative Landscape Plans produced as part of the previous phase of the project based on advice received by Natural England.	
			Formal guidance is not available regarding the validity of these surveys, however, as noted in Table 3.2, the ecologist recommended approach is that they can be considered valid for up to 5 years to inform the Defra Biodiversity Metric calculations.	
Sediment Quali	ty Surveys	<u> </u>		<u>,</u>
Jubilee River Suspended Sediment monitoring (current and existing data & flow cytometry)	UKCEH	2020 - 2021	UKCEH have been undertaking weekly monitoring on the Jubilee River (Taplow and Pococks Lane) to investigate water quality and sediment changes through the system. Whilst there are distinct differences between the Jubilee River and the project, the Jubilee River is the most similar type of project to draw insights from for the design of the project.	
Sediment grab sampling in lakes (part of GI work)	FUGRO / WYG / OPUS	2015	These samples only obtained data from the surface of the lakebed and not sub-surface sediments which may be exposed during construction or operation of the project.	Fugro (2015) Opus (2015) WYG (2015)
Sediment samples from River Thames dredged material	Land and Water Services	2014	Sediment samples from dredged material taken from the River Thames in the project area were analysed in October 2014. These samples were taken as part of the Lower Thames Shoal Removal (dredging) in 2014, the samples were taken from the removed shoals to determine whether the material could be re-used elsewhere, however there is low confidence in how representative this data is due to limited details (such as locations, depths, sampling methods etc.).	
Suspended Sediment Surveys	Environment Agency / UKCEH	2016, 2019/2020 and 2021.		UKCEH (2019a) UKCEH (2019b)
			The monitoring captured data over four storms in Winter 2019/20. UKCEH was instructed to take samples using an autosampler throughout the duration of the events at their existing monitoring location at Taplow on the Jubilee River. An insufficient sample size was captured during the first event (18th-22nd October 2019) for particle size distribution analysis, water quality analysis was completed. Two further events (14th-21st November 2019) and (14th-17th January 2020) were successfully captured and analysed for both water quality and particle size distribution (PSD) analysis. A single sample was collected on the 19 th December 2019 during the rising limb of the largest storm during the monitoring period. The full 24 samples were not collected for this storm, preventing full water quality analysis. Further monitoring was placed on hold due to Covid-19.	Wallingford (1988)

Survey type / water body	Surveyor	Date(s) survey undertaken	Summary	Reference
			UKCEH noted a difference within the PSD of the storm events suggesting that i) there may be changes to suspended sediment concentration and PSD throughout an event (i.e. hysteresis) and ii) there may be seasonal changes and a seasonal flushing effect.	
			Analysis was completed for PSD (two samples only), suspended solids, soluble reactive phosphorus, total phosphorus, dissolved ammonium, dissolved fluoride, dissolved chloride, dissolved nitrite, dissolved nitrate, dissolved sulphate.	
			Three further suspended sediment surveys of the River Thames were planned at Penton Hook over winter 2021/22, and has been extended to 2022/23, due to no low flows.	
			No long-term suspended sediment records exist but three months of monitoring was undertaken in 1987.	
	Mott MacDonald	2000	Nine river bed samples were taken (from channel centre, left bank toe, and right bank toe) at Bell Weir in 2000 of fine / medium gravel and course medium sand.	Mott MacDonald (2000)
Sediment Depth	Monitoring	I		
Lake Sediment Bathymetry Surveys	40Seven	2015-2016	Lake sediment depth across each of the lakes potentially affected by the project has been measured as part of the programme of bathymetric surveys undertaken in 2015 and 2016.	40Seven (2016)
Groundwater Q	uality Surveys	;		
Groundwater Quality Monitoring	Binnies	2012 – 2021 (every two – six months)		
			In September 2020, PFOS/PFOA were added to the list of determinands to be monitored due to concern of WFD failures within the study area.	
			Whilst there is no specific guidance on the validity of microbial data, the WQMP stipulates principles for monitoring which have been agreed with the Environment Agency. This includes a principle to review the spatial and temporal extent of the groundwater quality monitoring programme and acknowledged that additional boreholes may be required with determinands to be monitored on a quarterly to bi-annual basis.	
Groundwater	Binnies/	February 2022	Monitoring at 23 locations across the study area (including two boreholes in the previous CS1 area). 111 determinands are	GBJV (2021n)
Quality Monitoring	Environment Agency	and ongoing	monitored quarterly and 31 determinands are monitored bi-annually. Determinands include those that have legislative requirements for monitoring and those recommended following source pathway receptor modelling. Monitoring will be reviewed on a bi-annual basis and the findings of HRA and WFD assessments will also be used to inform further monitoring for the pre-construction baseline.	
Groundwater Le	evel Surveys			

Survey type /	Surveyor	Date(s) survey	Summary	Reference
water body		undertaken		
Groundwater	Binnies	2012 – ongoing	15-minute groundwater level data has been recorded between 2012 and 2021, across 23 boreholes within the project extent, using	GBV
Level		(Data collection	Rugged TROLL loggers. Data has been downloaded from the loggers every two to six months. Manual level readings have been	(2020b;c)
Monitoring		and manual	taken, using a borehole water level dip meter, each time the data from loggers has been downloaded to enable correction of level	
		level readings	data.	
		taken every two to six months).	15-minute pressure data has also been collected across the project for this time period using barometric loggers, which has been used to correct the groundwater levels for barometric pressure.	

Table J2: Additional information on the non-WFD surface water bodies from the RTS Ecological Monitoring Project (EA, 2016) within the Water Environment Study Area for EIA scoping

(see Figure 18-1 for locations).

	Mean Hard Bed Depth					WFD classification elements determined using the results of the Ecological Monitoring Project (2016)					
Non-WFD body	(m)	Min	Max	Range	Period of Monitoring	Total Phosphorus (TP)	Dissolved Oxygen	Phyto- plankton	Phyto- benthos	Macrophytes	Benthic macro- invertebrates
Datchet 2	3.67	15.12	15.78	0.67	Aug 13 – Nov 13 (bi- annual data) Aug 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)	Moderate	High	Moderate	Good	Poor	Moderate
Datchet 3 (N)	3.22	15.07	15.74	0.68	Aug 13 – Nov 13 (bi-annual data)	Good	High	Good	Good	Moderate	Good
Datchet 3 (S)	2.69				Aug 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)						
Sunnymeads 1		15.98	16.64	0.67	Mar 13 – Jun 14 (bi-annual data) Aug 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)	Good	High	High	Good	Moderate	Moderate
Sunnymeads 2	1.60	15.95	16.60	0.64	Mar 13 – Jun 14 (bi-annual data) Aug 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)	High	High	High	Moderate	Poor	Good
Kingsmead Island Lakes	4.71	16.16	16.70	0.54	Mar 13 – Jun 14 (bi-annual data) Aug 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)	Moderate	High	Good	Good	Moderate	Moderate
Sunnymeads 3	3.46	15.76	16.12	0.37	Jun 14 – Aug 14 Oct 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)	High	High	High	Good	Moderate	Good
Abbey 1	5.06	9.60	10.92	1.32	May 13- Aug 13 (bi-annual data) Sep 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)	Moderate	High	Good	Good	Moderate	Good

Abbey 2	5.22	9.19	10.23	1.04	May 13- Aug 13 (bi-annual data) Sep 14-Jun 15 (monthly data)	Good	High	Good	Good	Bad	Moderate
Abbey River	-	11.25	11.53	0.28	April 15- Jun 15	-	-	-	-	-	-
Littleton North	5.97	11.01	12.70	1.70	Nov 13 – Jan 14 (bi-annual data) Aug 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)	Moderate	High	Moderate	Good	Poor	Good
Littleton South	6.00	10.05	12.72	2.67	Nov 13 – Jan 14 (bi-annual data) Sep 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)	Good	High	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Good
Littleton East	6.78	9.64	10.51	0.87	Feb 13 – May 13 (bi-annual data) Sep 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)	Good	High	Good	Good	Moderate	Good
Sheepwalk West 1	3.74	9.76	10.40	0.64	Nov 12 – Feb 13 (bi-annual data) Aug 14 – Jun 15	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sheepwalk West 2	4.07				(monthly data)	Good	High	Good	Good	Poor	Moderate
Sheepwalk West 3	3.64					-	-	-	-	-	-
Sheepwalk East	4.34	9.52	10.25	0.73	Nov 12 – Feb 13 (bi-annual data) Aug 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)	Good	High	Good	Good	Moderate	Good
Ferry Lane	5.27	8.40	9.28	0.88	Feb 13 – May 13 (bi-annual data) Aug 14 – Jun 15 (monthly data)	Poor	High	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Moderate

Table J3: Additional information on the WFD lake water bodies within the Water Environment Study Area for EIA Scoping intersected by the Surrey Channels. Data from RTS Ecological Monitoring Project (EA, 2016)

(see Figure 18-2 for locations)

		Thorpe Park La	kes – GB30642753 –	Artificial					
WFD Lakes		Fleet Lake*	Abbey Lake*	Manor Lake	St Ann's Lake				
Mean Hard Bed Depth (m)		5.35	5.35 5.79 6.66						
Water level (mAOD)	Min		12.13		12.04				
	Мах		13.56		13.47				
	Range		1.43						
	Period of monitoring		Aug 14 – Jun 15						
WFD Water body attributes	Surface area (km ²)			0.949					
	Mean depth (m)		2.033						
WFD 2019 RBMP Status	Ecological Objective	Good by 2027							
	Chemical Objective		Good by 2015 ¹						
	Overall Objective		Good by 2027						
	Classification item								
	Hydromorphological Supporting Elements		Supports Good						
	Hydrological regime		Supports Good						
	Supporting elements (Surface water)		Moderate						
	Expert Judgement		Good						
	Mitigation Measures Assessment		Moderate or less						
	Physico-chemical quality elements		Good						
	Dissolved oxygen								

¹ The objective of 'Good by 2015' for Chemical status was not met. This objective is likely to be revised following the River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) Cycle 3 updates.

Transparency	Not used to classify this water body
Thermal conditions	
Acidification status (pH)	
Salinity	High
Total Nitrogen	Good
Total Phosphorous	High
Specific pollutants	High (Copper)
Biological quality elements	
Phytoplankton	Good
Macrophytes and phytobenthos (combined)	Poor
Benthic invertebrate fauna	Not used to classify this water body
Fish fauna	Not used to classify this water body
Chemical elements	
Priority hazardous substances	Fail
Priority substances	Good
Fluoranthene	Good
Other Pollutants	Does not require assessment
Supporting Elements	Moderate
Overall Status	Poor
 interpreted by the Dynney mede chennel	

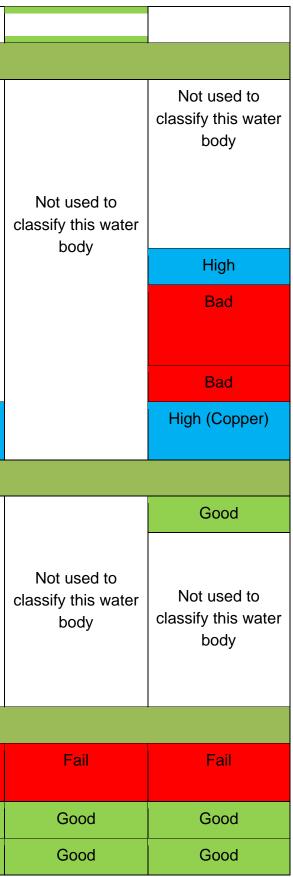
*Lakes marked with an asterisk are intersected by the Runneymede channel.

Table J4: Additional information on the WFD lake water bodies within the Water Environment Study Area for EIA Scoping which have abstractions from the River Thames. Data from RTS Ecological Monitoring Project (EA, 2016)

(see Figure 18-2 for locations).

WFD Lak	(es	Queen Mary - GB30642639 - Artificial	Kempton Park East Reservoir - GB30642569 - Artificial	Island Barn Reservoir - GB30642841 – Artificial	Knight Reservoir - GB30642791 - Artificial	Bessborough - GB30642779 - Artificial	Queen Elizabeth - GB30642813 - Artificial	Banbury - GB30647003 - Artificial	Lockwood - GB30641865 - Artificial
Mean De	pth (m)	5.80	1	8.56	8.93	9.22	13.10	7.70	6.28
Surface a	area (km²)	2.88	0.16	0.48	0.19	0.27	1.22	0.28	0.27
WFD 2019	Ecological Objective	Poor by 2015	Good by 2015	Moderate by 2015	Moderate by 2015	Moderate by 2015	Good by 2015	Moderate by 2015	Moderate by 2015
RBMP Status	Chemical Objective	Good by 2063	Good by 2015	Good by 2015	Good by 2015	Good by 2015	Good by 2015	Good by 2015	Good by 2015
	Overall Objective	Good by 2027	Good by 2015	Moderate by 2015	Moderate by 2015	Moderate by 2015	Good by 2015	Moderate by 2015	Moderate by 2015
	Hydromorphological S	Supporting Conditions	5						
	Quantity and dynamics of water flow								
	Residence time								
	Connection to the groundwater body	-							
	Lake depth variation	Not used to classify this water	Not used to classify this water	Not used to classify this water	Not used to classify this water	Not used to classify this water	Not used to classify this water	Not used to classify this water	Not used to classify this water
	Quantity, structure and substrate of the lake bed	body	body	body	body	body	body	body	body
	Structure of the lake shore								

Physico-chemical Sup	porting Elements					
Dissolved oxygen	Not used to					
Transparency	classify this water		Not used to			
Thermal conditions	body Not used to		classify this water body	Not used to classify this water	Not used to classify this water	Not used to classify this water
Acidification status (pH)	classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	body	body	body	body
Salinity	High		High	High	Good	
Total Nitrogen	Bad		Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	
Total Phosphorous	Poor		Bad	Bad	Bad	
Specific pollutants	High (Copper)		High (Copper, Permethrin)	High (Permethrin)	High (Permethrin)	High (Copper)
Biological Supporting I	Elements					
Phytoplankton	Moderate		High	Moderate	Good	
Macrophytes and phytobenthos (combined)	Poor	Not used to classify this water	Not used to	Not used to	Not used to	Not used to classify this water
Benthic invertebrate fauna	Not used to classify this water	body	classify this water body	classify this water body	classify this water body	body
Fish fauna	body					
Chemical Status						
Priority hazardous substances	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail
Priority substances	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Fluoranthene	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good



Octyphenol	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Good	Not used to classify this water body	Good			
Trichloromethane	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Good	Good	Good	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body
Other Pollutants	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment
Supporting Elements	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Good	Good	Good	Moderate	Moderate
Overall Status	Poor	Good	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Moderate

Table J5: Additional information on the WFD river water bodies within the Water Environment Study Area for EIA Scoping which intersect/in proximity to the Surrey Channels or are in proximity to the Sunbury, Molesey and Teddington weirs. Data from RTS Ecological Monitoring Project (EA, 2016)

(see Figure 18-2 for locations)

WFD Rive	ers	River Thames (Cookham to Egham) - GB106039023231 - HMWB	River Thames (Egham to Teddington) - GB106039023232 - HMWB	Chertsey Bourne (Virginia Water to Chertsey) - GB106039017070 - HMWB	Chertsey Bourne (Chertsey to River Thames) confluence - GB106039017030 -	The Moat at Egham - GB106039017060 - HMWB	Colne Brook - GB106039023010 - HMWB	Colne (confluence with Chess to River Thames) - GB106039023090 - HMWB	Surrey Ash - GB106039023480 - HWMB	Mole (Hersham to River Thames Conf at East Molesey) - GB106039017622 - HMWB	Wey (Shalford to River Thames confluence at Weybridge) - GB106039017630 - HMWB	Addlestone Bourne (Mill / Hale to Chertsey Bourne) - GB106039017020
Mean Hai Bed Dept		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Water	Min	14.48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
level (mAOD)	Max	15.13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Range	0.65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Period of monitoring	Feb 2015- Jun 2015	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WFD 2019	Ecological Objective	Moderate by 2015	Poor by 2015	Good by 2027	Poor 2015	Good by 2027	Moderate 2015	Moderate 2015	Moderate 2015	Moderate 2015	Moderate 2015	Good by 2027
RBMP Status	Chemical Objective	Good by 2015	Good by 2015	Good by 2015	Good 2015	Good 2015	Good 2015	Good 2015	Good	Good 2015	Good 2015	Good 2015
	Overall Objective	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Poor	Poor	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
	Hydromorpholo	gical supporti	ng elements									
	Quantity and dynamics of	-	-	Supports good	Supports good	Does not support good	Supports good	Supports good	Supports good	Supports good	Supports good	Supports good

water flow									
Connection to groundwater bodies									
River continuity									
River depth and width variation	-								
Structure and substrate of the river bed									
Structure of the riparian zone									
Physico-chemica Supporting Elerr									
Thermal conditions	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	High	High	Good	Good	Higł
Dissolved	Not used	Good	Moderate	-	Bad	High	High	Good	
oxygen	to classify this water body					Tiigii			High
oxygen Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)	this water	-	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	-	Not used to classify this water body	High

High	High
High	High
-	Not used to classify this water body
High	High

Acid Neutralising Capacity	High	High	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	High	High	Not used to classify this water body			
Ammonia	High	High	High	Not used to classify this water body	Good	High	High	Good	High	High	Good
Phosphate	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Good	Moderate	Poor	Poor	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Moderate
Specific pollutants	High	High	High	High (Copper)	-	High	High	High	High	High	-
Biological Quali	ty Elements										
Phytoplankton	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Good	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body
Macrophytes and phytobenthos (combined)	Not used to classify this water body	Poor	Not used to classify this water body	Poor	Poor	Not used to classify this water body	Moderate	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Moderate	Moderate
Fish fauna	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Bad	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water body	Poor	Good	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Good
Invertebrates	Good	Poor	Good	Not used to classify this water body	Poor	High	High	High	High	High	Good (2014)
Chemical Status	S										
Priority hazardous substances	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail	Fail

Priority substances	Fail	Fail	Fail	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Other Pollutants	Good	Does not require assessment	Good	Does not require assessment	Good				
Overall Status	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Poor	Poor	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

	iority bstances	Fail	Fail	Fail	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fail	Fail
	her Ilutants	Good	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessmen	Does not require assessment	Good	Does not require assessment	Good	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment
Ov	verall Status	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Poor	Poor	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
WFD Rivers	(Ecological Obj Chemical Dbjective Dverall Objecti		Good	MH by 2027 by 2015 by 2027		Congford River - surface water transfer GB806100109 - Artificial Cood po 5022 Cood po 5022 Cood po 5022		Good by Good by Good by	2027	- Hodsmill - Hodsmill - Moderate b Good by 20 Moderate b	15
		-	ogical supportin									,
	H	lydrological R	egime		Supports go		Not used to class body	ify this water	Supports	good	Supports go	bod
	F	Physico-chemi	cal quality elem	ients								
	Г	hermal condi	tions	Not u body	sed to classify		Not used to class body	ify this water	High		High	
	Γ	Dissolved oxyg	gen	High			,		Good	Good		

BOD	Not used to classify this water body		Not used to classify th water body
Acidification status (pH)	High		High
Acid Neutralising Capacity	High		Not used to classify th water body
Ammonia	High		High
Nutrient conditions	Moderate		Poor
Specific pollutants	High		-
Phytoplankton	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify this water	Not used to classify th water body
Macrophytes and phytobenthos (combined)	body body Poor	Poor	
Fish fauna			Bad
Invertebrates	Poor		Moderate
Chemical			
Priority hazardous substances	Fail	Fail	Fail
Priority substances	Good	Good	Good
Other Pollutants	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment	Does not require assessment
Overall Status	Moderate	Moderate	Bad

this	Not used to classify this water body
	High
this	Not used to classify this water body
	Good
	Poor
	High
this	Not used to classify this water body
	Not used to classify this water body
	Poor
	Poor
	Fail
	Fail
	Does not require assessment
	Moderate

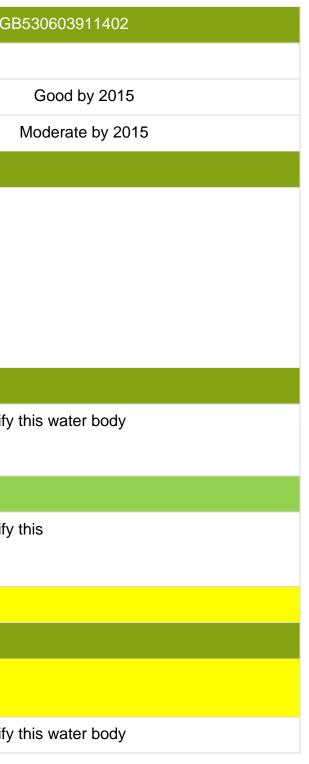
Table J6: Additional information on the WFD groundwater bodies within the Water Environment Study Area for EIA Scoping

WFD Groundwater Bodies		Lower Thames Gravels - GB40603G000300	Chobham Bagshot Beds - GB40602G601400
	Quantitative Objective	Good by 2015	Good by 2015
	Chemical Objective	Good by 2015	Good by 2015
	Overall Objective	Good by 2015	Good by 2015
	Quantitative Elements		
	Saline or other intrusions	Good	Good
	Surface water	Good	Good
WFD 2019 RMBP Status	Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE's)	Good	Good
	Water balance	Poor	Good
	Physico-chemical Supporting Elements		
N N	Saline or other intrusion	Good	Good
	Surface water	Good	Poor
	Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE's)	Good	Good
	Drinking Water Protected Areas	Good	Good
	General chemical quality assessment	Good	Poor
	Overall Status	Poor	Poor

Table J7: Additional information on the WFD transitional water bodies within the Water Environment Study Area for EIA Scoping

(see Figure 18-2 for locations).

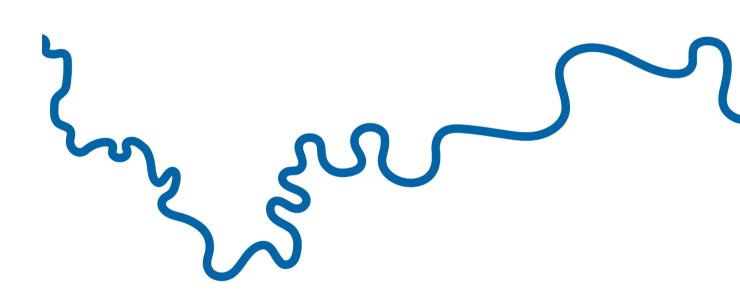
WFD transitional	water bodies	Upper Thames - GB530603911403	Middle Thames - GE
	Ecological Objective	Good by 2027	
	Chemical Objective	Good by 2015	
	Overall Objective	Good by 2027	
	Hydromorphological Supporting Conditions		
S	Depth variation	Supports good	Not assessed.
Statu	Quantity, structure and substrate of the bed		
WFD 2015 RMBP Status	Structure of the intertidal zone		
15 R	Tidal regime – freshwater flow		
⁻ D 20	Wave exposure		
N N	Physico-chemical Supporting Elements		
	Transparency	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify
	Thermal conditions		
	Oxygenation conditions		Good
	Salinity		Not used to classify
	Nutrient conditions		
	Specific pollutants	Moderate	Moderate
	Biological Quality Elements		
	Angiosperms, macroalgae and phytobenthos (Aquatic flora)	Good	Moderate
	Benthic invertebrate fauna	Not used to classify this water body	Not used to classify



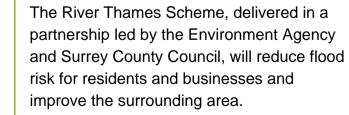
Page 21

Fish fauna	Good	Good
Chemical Status		
Priority Hazardous Substances	Fail	Fail
Priority substances	Fail	Good
Other Pollutants	Good	Good
Overall Status	Moderate	Moderate









River Thames Scheme

Environment Agency