Draft

Contents

Executive Summary (1)

The Lower Thames Catchment (Maidenhead to Teddington) is a socially, economically and environmentally diverse catchment. Currently it fails to meet Water Framework Directive objects of clean water. Due to the many pressures of urbanisation and the loss of natural environment, sections of the Thames channel and its tributaries vary in status, quality and the challenges facing them. Key issues in the catchment include pollution from phosphates that are reducing the diversity of aquatic species and the impact of weirs and other obstructions to fish migration.

The catchment based approach, gives us the opportunity to take responsibility locally, answer questions towards issues, and fix problems in the catchment. It has been a much needed and vital way to improve on the status of water quality in the catchment.

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership, hosted by Thames21, has been formed to represent the local community and organisations. Projects are developed to improve the health of the River Thames, its environment, and strengthen the relationship between the catchment and people for future generations.

This Catchment Plan builds on the consultation work delivered by Thames21 in 2012 and draws on the detail of current operational plans of partnership members. This plan represents unifying goals and actions of the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership members which will seek to improve the physical functioning and holistic condition of the River Thames and tributaries, and mitigate against key issues such as flooding and climate change where realistically possible, thus benefitting both wildlife and people, securing its health for the future.

At present the Partnership is working to take forward actions for the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDS) and public awareness and engagement days, hand in hand through a partnership project with members, stakeholders and local community. This will see the creation of additional freshwater habitat, on the backwaters of the Heavily Modified Thames and champion behaviour change to increase responsible water use.

Foreword (2)

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Plan is a living document and welcomes comments and contribution for its evolution.

Introduction (3)

Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership (3.1)

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership is a focussed group of local stakeholders who are working together through a Catchment Based Approach (CaBA) to improve the Lower Thames Catchment and tributaries and bring direct on-the-ground benefit to people and wildlife now and for future.

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership has been meeting quarterly since 2013, discussing and planning ways in which it can progress its work. The Partnership is able to drive forward its work programme because of vital funding received through the Environment Agency's Catchment Partnership Fund (CPAF 2015).

Ongoing work includes direct engagement with key local groups and individuals; the creation of a Catchment Plan and Vision Summary; and the submission of bids for funding which will seek to unlock much needed resources to deliver practical improvements on the ground.

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Plan (MTCaP) (3.2)

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership has reviewed the available information on this catchment and compiled the data to create the Catchment Plan. This incorporates the detail gathered during local stakeholder consultations delivered by Thames21, existing projects and working plans from other member organisations,

Thames Landscape Strategy, River Thames Alliance, Canoe England and Environment
Agency (see appendix).

Public stall for catchment partnership consultations 2012.

The Catchment Plan alone will not deliver results on the ground; no member or stakeholder is bound to adhere to it, it will require investment by people to bring about positive change. It is a live document and will continue to evolve as the catchment is amended over time.

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the MTCaP (3.3)

The European WFD became part of UK law in 2003. It gives the Environment Agency (EA) an opportunity to plan and deliver a better water environment, focussing on ecology.

The WFD will help protect and enhance the quality of:

- Surface freshwater (including lakes, streams and rivers)
- Groundwater
- Groundwater dependant ecosystems
- Estuaries
- Coastal waters out to one mile from low-water

How the WFD will happen

The country has been divided up into River Basin Districts, which are then subdivided into Catchments. The Lower Thames is one of these sub catchments within the River Thames Basin District. The Lower Thames stretch of river from Maidenhead to Teddington constitutes to 2 sections of Lower Thames Catchment.

A management plan is required for WFD for each River Basin District, with review and updating every six years.

River Basin Management Plans first published in 2009 are currently being updated.

Working through the River Basin Management Plans, the WFD requires that watercourses (including rivers, lakes, groundwater's, estuaries and coastal waters) are managed sustainably. Good status for each type of water body is defined by a set of biological, chemical and physical standards.

Identifying pressures and risks

As part of the River Basin characterisation process, the EA have assessed the pressures on water bodies, and the risk of failing to achieve the objectives of the WFD by 2015.

The EA has looked at 5 different categories of potential pressures:

- Diffuse sources of pollution
- Point sources of pollution
- Water abstraction and flow regulation
- Physical or man-made alteration to the water body
- Alien species

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Plan focusses on identifying the problems and threats to the Lower Thames Catchment and identifies solutions to how these can be addressed and improved through the Catchment Based Approach (CaBA) and partnership working.

A shared vision for the catchment by 2027 (4)

Vision for the Lower Thames Catchment (4.1)

- An improved quality of the terrestrial and aquatic environment of the Lower Thames Catchment by 2021, for wildlife and people, that is protected and enhanced to safeguard its good health for the future.

- Restore and create natural river habitats and environment, which support a thriving river. Thus enabling and benefiting the movement of wildlife and people throughout the Lower Thames Catchment.

- Sustain a dynamic catchment partnership that connects people with the river and provides the opportunity for discussion and collaboration between partnership members.
- Ensure the partnership best encompasses and represents the diverse communities and stakeholders across the Lower Thames Catchment for decision making and delivery of local projects.

- Raise awareness and promote opportunities for education about the Lower Thames Catchment.

- The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership is representative of the Lower Thames catchment and integrated in wider decision making processes and plans.

- The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership will seek sustainable outcomes.

A shared vision for the catchment by 2027 (4)

Catchment Partnership in action (4.2):

- Dynamic and strong working relationship with representatives from the public, local authority, local organisations and local stakeholders to form the partnership group.
- Working together across the Lower Thames to share resources and expertise, with a shared vision and common goals to improve the current profile and status of the Lower Thames catchment.
- Providing the best single point for open discussion and collaboration working between the many individual organisations, stakeholders, and people operating across the Lower Thames catchment.
- Promoting the wide range of recreational and leisure opportunities along the River Thames and championing best practise.
- Supporting and working with local projects, organisations, and authorities with shared aims and common goals to benefit and improve the Lower Thames Catchment.
- Engaging and increasing awareness of the risks posed and the value of rivers to the local people.
- Promoting the projects of members, the catchment partnership, and benefits of collaboration to create wide scoping external interest for future investment into the Lower Thames Catchment.

About the Catchment (5)

Summary of Catchment and its Issues (5.1)

The Lower Thames Catchment reaches from Hurley to Teddington (64.5 km), encompassing 14 rivers water bodies and 12 lakes of which 23 are designated heavily modified or artificial (422 km2). It includes 1 surface water operational catchment and, either wholly or partially, 2 groundwater catchments. The operational catchments have distinct characteristics and pressures, and require a different combination of measures to achieve long-term objectives for the water environment and reduce the risks of flooding (EA[1]: EA[2]. 2014; EA[3]. 2012).

The water bodies in the catchment are the River Thames from Maidenhead to Teddington, and the tributaries; the Cut, Maidenhead, Boveney and Chalvey Ditches, the Salthill Stream and Datchet Common Brook. Also included are Desborough, Knight and Queen Elizabeth II Storage Reservoirs as well as Englemere Pond and Littleworth Ponds (SSSI) (EA[1]: EA[2]. 2014; EA[3]. 2012).

The Thames provides an endless amount of benefits to many people, businesses, and wildlife. It is a prime recreation and leisure resource used for canoeing, rowing, fishing, walking and cruising, in the heart of the South East of the UK. For the large population in the Thames basin this is their source of drinking water. The Thames Path National Trail runs its entire length and also forms part of a national cycleway. The catchment also is home to prominent landscape and wildlife heritage and Sites of Special Scientific Interest. It includes the rural areas of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Surrey, and the suburban towns of Maidenhead, Windsor, Slough, Bracknell, Staines, Walton-on-Thames, Sunbury and Teddington (EA[1]: EA[2]. 2014; EA[3]. 2012).

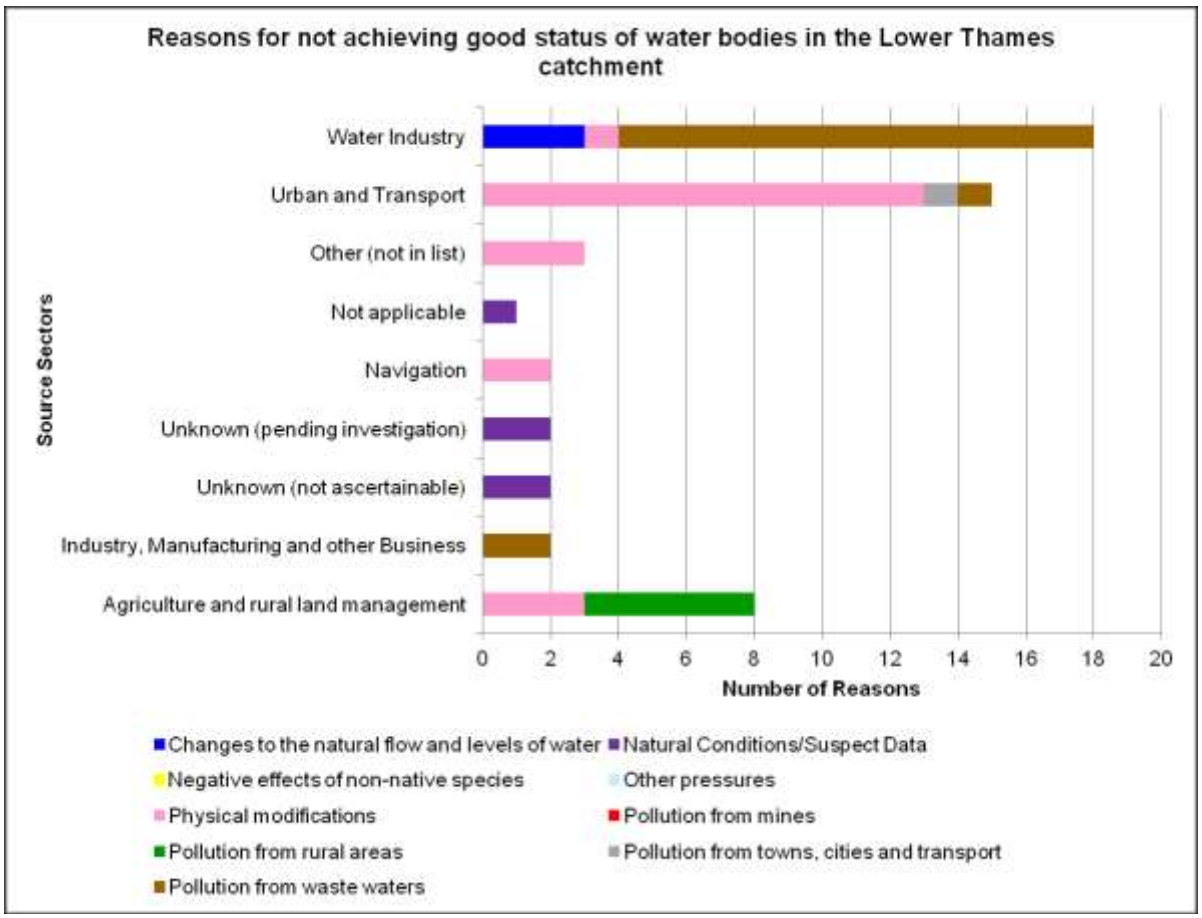
The Lower Thames River is managed to protect local people and property from flooding, and is maintained for boating, the majority of these rivers are designated heavily modified. There is a high pressure from urban developments in the catchment. This has created long stretches of manmade bank. The modification of these rivers and the surrounding developments has led to diminished habitats, reduced diversity in the Thames and reduced the river's benefits as a natural resource (EA[1]: EA[2]. 2014; EA[3]. 2012).

Other pressures from urban and rural development have caused phosphate levels to be high in a number of rivers. Sources of nutrients in this catchment include effluent from sewage treatment works. Considerable water abstraction requires the flow on the main River Thames to be closely managed through the Lower Thames Operating Agreement with Thames Water. The above issues and the presence of pollutants give rise to poor water quality and habitat diversity on a number of rivers, as well as varied biological quality throughout the catchment (EA[1]: EA[2]. 2014; EA[3]. 2012).

Since the initial assessment of status was made, the Environment Agency and its partners have been working to understand the reasons for not achieving good status. The Environment Agency has carried out 125 investigations in the Lower Thames

management catchment since 2009. These have helped to determine the reasons why water bodies are failing and the likely causes(EA[1]: EA[2]. 2014)

Figure 1 shows the total list of WFD problems that have been identified so far and the responsible sectors (EA[2]. 2014).



How are the issues being tackled? (5.2)

Across the Lower Thames Catchment there are a diverse range of organisations working, within their own remit, but in turn bringing improvement and opportunity for change to the catchment. Some of these organisations are listed at the end of this Plan. The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership seeks to coordinate a joined-up Catchment Based Approach (CaBA) to this, maximising resources and eventual benefits.

River Basin Management Plan

The Thames River Basin Management Plan published by the Environment Agency outlines work that a range of organisations will undertake within the region, including the Lower Thames Catchment, to comply with the Water Framework Directive, based on current status and reasons for failures. A draft plan for the period 2015-2021 was published in October 2014. 'Challenges and Choices' provides a summary of issues, based on Environment Agency monitoring, and possible actions.

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership

The Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership's approach to tackling the issues is through direct delivery of actions against our 3 goals. Through consultation with catchment stakeholders, a series of actions have been identified to improve the catchment. This is a live document and as such, the long-term and aspirational schemes can be considered at each review and included / excluded as required at the time of that review.

A table undertaking ketso workshop group task 2014.

Operational Plans in the Catchment

There are many long-standing active groups in the Lower Thames catchment that have their own operational plans delivering actions through projects and activates locally. ***(Please provide a summary of your work plan)***

- *British Canoeing (previously known as Canoe England) has developed environmental awareness advice for members to recognise good practice for protecting the aquatic environment. Environmental projects are supported on many waterways in partnership with River Trusts and organisations to include the Lower Thames Catchment where members and canoe clubs participate in litter picks and river clear up activities to assist in maintaining an important natural resource and recreational amenity.*

- *The Maidenhead Waterway town centre "Ring" project secured planning consent in December 2012 and the first stage of construction is now underway. Once completed the priority will be to dredge and clear the Bray Cut which already connects the town centre channels to the Thames next to Bray Marina. A weir and fish pass is being installed at Green Lane to lift surface water levels. A lock is included in the planning consent, but will be built only when the size of craft able to access the area. The navigation standard we are pursuing for the waterway is ultimately intended to accommodate up to 55ft narrow boats.*

- *RTA is currently working through a River Thames length consultation paper covering all aspects of the way the Thames works to the benefit of the populace who live in the Thames Valley. Inevitably the responses will lead to a better understanding of what is required for the sustainable and well managed River Thames into the future. Catchment planning is centre on much of what is hoped to be achieved. The plan will be delivered during the remainder of 2015 and into early 2016 by presentation of Strategies and Policies which will build into a River Thames Waterways Plan 2015/21.*

- *Thames Landscape Strategy (TLS) has established a series of 'in action' projects to implement the Thames Landscape Strategy on the ground. These consist of sub-groups of the TLS bringing together those groups and organisations that are needed to implement each individual project.*

- *Thames21 delivery project works with local communities to develop and manage a programme of community engagement and environmental enhancement activities along the non-tidal Thames catchment upstream of Teddington Lock.*

- Organisation……..

- Organisation…….

Goals & Actions for the Lower Thames Catchment (6)

Social Goals (6.1)

To see improved opportunities for recreation and leisure across the catchment and in turn raise awareness to a more sustainable use of this resource and ensure it is valued and future safe guarded. This goal has much scope for engaging the local communities in the Lower Thames Catchment, whether that is providing opportunities for physical engagement e.g. practical conservation projects or surveying and monitoring training or by raising awareness through communication planning e.g. leaflets and web updates about misconnections and use of water as a resource.

It is important to work with academic institutes to carry out applied research and ensure that education takes place at every level. Ways of improving of the river environment for water related activities such as canoeing, kayaking and angling should also be included in planning.

Local university students visit the Jubilee River for case studies and volunteer days 2014.

The Thames national trail runs the length of this part of the River Thames. Access to and along it should be improved to bring people closer to nature with the provision of suitable riverside paths which will allow for walking, cycling and horse riding, and slipways for canoers and boaters.

Clear sign posted public footpath around Desborough Island.

Public Rights of Way should be reviewed to assess existing connectivity and propose ways in which the network can be improved.

Local Access Forums and Rights of Way Improvement Plans should be considered and consulted. Within the New Environmental Land Management Scheme (NELMS) provision of educational access is proposed through merging of the previous multiple options.

Consideration should also be given to the creation of an Integrated Access Strategy.

Actions agreed by partnership members to achieve social goals of the catchment

- Highlight opportunities to improve access to riverside e.g. riverside walks / paths to encourage cycling and awareness
- Run an education campaign in schools regarding the river environment and the impact of littering e.g. plastic bags (citizenship in curriculum)
- Work with local people to raise awareness about their own impact on the water environment e.g. misconnections, water bills, water meters, conserving water and information on pollution in every day products.
- Coordinate river clean-up community events
- Re-establish the Friends of groups
- Continue to support the existing Friends of groups
- Install more access points for river dipping activities
- Improve visual access to see the rivers
- Source and share resources within the Lower Thames Catchment e.g. waders, boats, litter pickers, mink rafts etc. for community events.
- Identify a system for volunteers to follow if they need to contact someone about the CaBA work.

Economic Goals (6.2)

To work with land stakeholders; businesses and funding bodies to create inward investment opportunities for Lower Thames Catchment.

There is a large scope across the Lower Thames Catchment to bid for support funding. The Catchment Restoration Fund was vital in supporting the work of the Lower Thames Catchment Partnership during 2013-14. During 2014-15 we secured further funding through the Catchment Partnership Fund and have now been extend for 2015-16 through the Catchment Partnership Action Fund.

The Rural Development Programme for England provides money for projects to improve agriculture, the environment and rural life. Funding goes to schemes to improve businesses or promote environmentally friendly ways of managing land. Some funding also goes to Local Action Groups (LAGs). These are run by volunteers who represent the public, private and voluntary sectors in their communities. LAGs are responsible for setting strategies for their areas and funding local projects.

Actions agreed by partnership members to achieve economic goals of the catchment

- When funding becomes available, bid for continuation and project delivery funding
- Explore opportunities for joint funding from external sources
- Cross political boundary working, using current initiatives as a platform
- Use the planning process as a way to encourage / engage developers
- Engaging with the buying process to access section 106
- Link in with other schemes and campaigns where possible.

Environmental Goals (6.3)

Support flood risk management, sustainable drainage, improve connectivity, control of Invasive Non Native Species (INNS), and litter. Projects which re-meander and reconnect with the floodplain (where there is no flood risk to property) are very effective measures to consider also. There is also scope to assess and remove or bypass fish barriers. Gravel riffles can maintain water levels whilst providing valuable habitat for invertebrates and spawning fish and also incorporate provision for canoe access. In-channel restoration and maintenance and bankside vegetation management are important to the improvement of the tributes in the catchment,

Volunteers clearing the Salt Hill Stream from litter and over growth 2013

There is a great urgency prevent, control and eradicate invasive, alien species. Invasive Non Native Species (INNS) are an increasing problem in the Thames Basin. There is a need to work in partnership across the Thames river basin from local level upwards through the catchment partnership to monitor, collate data and manage this problem,

Sunbury Weir and old fish pass and Sunbury Lock Ait Point 2014.

Eel Management Plans need to be adhered to under the Eel Regulations. It is possible that river habitat improvement projects could be funded from 2015 under the proposed 'Making Space for Water' option in the New Environmental Land Management Scheme (NELMS).

Managing flood risk from main rivers and the sea is the responsibility of the Environment Agency. The Lower Thames Catchment has a role to play in terms of the risk of flooding and there are opportunities for creating and improving defence against floods and mitigating the impacts of climate change.

Natural England and the Association of Drainage Authorities have published The Drainage Channel Biodiversity Manual (NE121) for integrating wildlife, land drainage and flood risk management.

To improve the way in which water is captured, waste water is managed; and to reduce nutrients in our watercourses. Water companies and catchment partnerships will need to work together to achieve this goal. Treatment of sewage to remove phosphorous is a vital component to any future success. It is recognised that this brings water quality benefits but treatment can be expensive and requires large input of resources that make it not practical.

A UK Water Industry Research (UKWIR) project has explored the costs and benefits of different approaches for phosphorous reduction in watercourses including land management options that can be referred to for future project planning. Reed beds and wetlands could provide a cost-effective and sustainable solution whilst enhancing the landscape and providing valuable habitats for wildlife.

Misconnections in the catchment have a damaging effect on water quality. The Environment Agency and the Water Companies have the opportunity to work through the partnership and catchment based approach to address this problem.

There will be a need to monitor and manage water abstraction and drought; water efficiency and leakage; water capture; and water levels. Supporting documents and plans to consider under this section include:

- Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy
- Restoring Sustainable Abstraction Programme
- Water Resource Management Plan
- Water Drought Pan
- Water Level Management Plans
- Waterwise website: www.waterwise.org.uk

Actions agreed by partnership members to achieve environmental goals of the catchment.

- Remove flood debris and unclog the river.
- Create more backwaters.
- On tributaries decanalise where appropriate and allow rivers to re-meander naturally.
- Highlight opportunities for increasing lateral connectivity e.g. push back embankments as far as possible – protecting infrastructure and property but re-connecting floodplain and making additional flood storage
- Create new floodable areas and reed bed reservoirs.
- Reintroduce, recreate and connect floodplain grazing.
- Raise community awareness to be able to collect data and pull invasive plants like Himalayan balsam and floating pennywort
- Promote biosecurity and good practise to all water users – Check Clean Dry campaign (CCD).
- Support control of vermin
- Survey longitudinal connectivity across catchment and opportunities for notching weirs and improving flows
- Use natural construction methods where possible and appropriate
- Retro fit
- gravel and reed beds to soften banks where concrete can't be removed
- Regular monitoring of water quality
- Create wetlands and reed beds to filter and improve water quality
- Increase public awareness of pollution on rivers so they know if a pipe into a river is bad or permitted.
- Improve water quality and reduce siltation
- Work with the water companies to consider improving the condition of sewage discharge (at limit of technology of phosphate removal.)
- Highlight opportunities for water quality improvement
- Tackle misconnections at source (link to web
- Action on diffuse pollution
- Conduct a comprehensive survey of waste misconnections to log and report

Catchment Partnership Project List 2015 (7)

Project Name	Lower Thames Project Description's June 2015 (The EA has made a bid for DEFRA funds to for these projects over the next 6 years . Greater partnership funding will increase our chances of securing very limited DEFRA funding)	Location (central grid reference)	Waterbody ID (separate by comma if more than 1 wb)	Total
Maidenhead GW Safeguard Zone chlorinated solvent Boreholes	Elevated Solvents causing drinking water standard failure and imposition of Safeguard zone. The £25k bid will drill 2-3 boreholes into the Chalk to refine our knowledge of the pathway/source of the solvent contamination which is impacting the College Avenue abstraction so that we can take the necessary action to remediate the pollution. We are working with SE Water who also intends to drill 2-3 boreholes at a cost of £20-25k. Between our 2 organisations we are aiming for 2 phases of drilling within Year 1 so that the boreholes drilled by one organisation will be able to inform the location of the following set of boreholes drilled by the other thereby achieving the maximum information from the combined set of boreholes.	SU88278135	GB40601G602600	60000
Maidenhead GW Safeguard Zone chlorinated solvent remediation project	Waiting for Sara Matthews to call back with technical info on this project.			0
Canbury Gardens improvements (Urban)	This project includes habitat enhancement at Canbury Gardens and is looking for funding from the Major of London and match funding from Kingston Council. The project will also improve access through the park by foot and cycle routes moving them to higher down so they are passable in high tide/flood conditions. The lower walk ways will be naturalised with diverse habitats allowing access to the river for the community. Disabled	TQ1786170095	GB106039023232	350000 £20,000 from EA this year 15/16. Rest from other sources

	fishing access is an aim. At the moment there is hard engineering and this project will replace with soft banking in line with the required mitigation measures. They would like to copy the Thames Ditton bank softening model (a past EA TLS collaborative project). This meets a number of pressures on the Thames and the bundle of measures. The £20k (plus an initial £5k in 2014 for design study) would be the EA contribution to the overall project cost of £350k			
Desborough Island floodplain wetland restoration project	The object of the project is to restore a fully functioning wetland habitat that will store water during flood conditions to attenuate downstream flood damage, then drain effectively so the habitat can return to high quality wetland (and not remain ponded and stagnant). The area will be accessible by the public and will provide a high quality environment to increase their access to nature and improve quality of life. The River Thames Scheme (RTS) re-joins the River Thames at this point and some widening of the channel is required. There are opportunities to work with the RTS and Thames Landscape Strategy (community supported Steering Group member for WFD catchment host) for joint funding and collaborative benefits.	TQ08406631	GB106039023232	500000
Lower Thames Improvement Project	This project focuses on the Lower Thames from Teddington to Cookham and covers 2 WFD waterbodies GB106039023232 and GB106039023231. The project will put in place 12 mitigation measures not yet in place identified on these waterbodies by the RBMP. The Lower Thames Project will help secure improvements to fish populations. It addition the project will help to mitigate water quality pressures through re-naturalising the floodplain. One element of the project will be delivered in partnership with landowners and businesses to secure	TQ0342871381	GB106039023232, GB106039023231	1950000

	improvements through the promotion of good practice by the initiation and management of a 'best practice' awards scheme focussed on reversing the impacts of inappropriate developments and bank protection. The project will also work specific sites to secure fish passage and habitat creation including Sunbury, Abbey River, Eton and Bray. The TLS is delivering flagship work to re-naturalise river banks on the Thames in an urban park setting. The catchment partnership, led by Thames 21, has a track record of successfully gaining grants from various sources. They will apply for funds to support these projects at the community level. At Sunbury the project will improve the River Thames within an urban area: The Lock island will be enhanced to create a range of interlinked habitats including; the provision of fish passage through a natural bypass channel and wetland, wet woodland, reed bed creation plus flood storage and community access. This work will be essential to improve fish populations on the rest of the River Thames and tributaries as it is the most downstream barrier without a fish pass: Sunbury has been identified as the top priority site for fish passage, not only on the Thames catchment, but nationally. The Sunbury element of the project will work alongside planned development in the area including a proposed hydropower scheme, and will be supported by monies (at least £50K) gained through the sale of the previously EA owned Sunbury Yard. EA led feasibility work has already been undertaken at this site. Securing WFD funding to support projects would secure the opportunity to work alongside the River Thames Scheme to create additional floodplain habitat including backwaters, ponds, reed beds and to re-create a historic braded river channel. Further, multi-functional work is also possible			

	on the Abbey River and on the main River Thames at numerous locations including Eton, Bray and Penton Hook. These works combined will secure natural flood risk management measures, reconnect the river and floodplain, deliver urban SUDS, enable the Thames river system to be more resilient to climate change, and bring about opportunities for water based recreation, education and engagement amongst communities in some of the most urban areas in the country.			
Slough Tributaries	This project is seeking to improve 5 waterbodies within the Lower Thames catchment: Chalvey Ditch (at Slough) GB106039023550, Chalvey Ditch (Lower to Thames) GB106039023470, Salthill Stream GB106039023530, Datchet Common Brook GB106039023520, and the Thames (Cookham to Egham) GB106039023231. A large proportion of these tributaries are heavily urbanised; draining industrial and residential settlements in and around Slough. Pollution incidents from urban and industrial runoff are not uncommon, and the waterbodies suffer from associated water quality and sediment pressures. Much of the channel lengths are culverted or heavily engineered and are failing for fish, macrophytes, invertebrates, DO, phosphates, and mitigation measures assessment. Slough Borough Council and the EA are investigating Slough Flood Alleviation Scheme in this area which provides opportunities to align WFD benefits with flood defence initiatives at a number of locations. DEFRA have funded a Pathfinder Officer which is a pilot, community based, project seeking to reduce flood risk in the area. If funded this project would enable the Environment Agency to maximise WFD benefits delivered as part of the Flood	SU9903079374	GB106039023550, GB106039023470, GB106039023530, GB106039023520, GB106039023231.	1385000

	Alleviation Scheme and community links established by the Pathfinder project. WWF are funding a 5 year project for a Development Officer (funded by Thames Water) to promote urban SUDS and integrating Flood and WFD outcomes. Slough BC have funding opportunities for Parks improvements that could have WFD benefits plus community benefits such as increased park usage and reduced obesity. The proposed works include; reprofiling/realigning channels with impoverished morphology, enhancing existing channels for example by establishing multi-stage profiles, de-culverting rivers through parks, SUDS initiatives eg. within Slough Trading Estate development, establishing buffer strips to reduce sediment input, and targeting floodplain/riparian planting in upper reaches of the waterbodies. Morphological improvements through deculverting and river realignment would be achieved through close working with local developers who will be decontaminating the riparian corridor amongst other measures as part of their planned development. Outside of the FAS there are opportunities to work with other partners; including Thames Water at their reservoir site on the Datchet Common Brook to improve morphology in the heavily engineered channel; There are cattle poaching issues that could be tackled in collaboration with Natural England and the EA with Countryside Stewardship grants.. Other important locations for improvement include the Chalvey Ditch downstream of the M4 to mitigate for overwidening that was undertaken when it was diverted as part of the Jubilee River scheme. Fish passage is also an important Mitigation Measure which will be delivered as part of this project; notably at the Jubilee syphon.			

The Cut Improvement Project	This project is seeking to improve 6 waterbodies on The Cut catchment: the Thames (Cookham to Egham) GB10603902323, The Cut (Binfield to Thames) GB106039023510, The Cut (Ascot to Bull Brook) GB106039023440, Bull Brook GB106039017670, The Cut (West Bracknell) GB106039017660, and The Cut (Warfield to North Bracknell) GB106039017680. The whole of The Cut catchment is failing to reach GES/GEP with classifications from Moderate to Bad. Failures include fish, invertebrates, phosphates, DO, ammonia, and mitigation measures assessment. The upper reaches of the catchment are characterised by urbanisation which has resulted in heavily engineered river channels, culverting, and associated urban run-off pressures. The lower reaches of the catchment exhibits poor channel form and is disconnected, for fish, from the Thames and waterbodies upstream. This fragmentation is owing to 3 obstructions to fish passage on The Cut (Binfield to Thames) and a small number of obstructions in the upper waterbodies. If funded this project will; work to promote and install SUDS in the upper reaches; enhance existing balancing ponds through planting to improve their function and sediment traps and nutrient sinks; undertake work to improve channel form and function; and secure fish passage at priority structures. Small private STW discharges also impact on many of the waterbodies; advisory visits will be targeted here to ensure compliance and identify areas where habitat creation work could bring about ecological and water quality improvements. There is a great deal of development in the area including the Maidenhead Link Road. We will seek WFD benefits through the development process.	SU591970360	GB10603902323, GB106039023510, GB106039023440, GB106039017670, GB106039017660, GB106039017680.	700000

Hurst Park project	This is a community interest project led Thames Landscape Strategy in partnership with the EA, Elmbridge council and Friends of Hurst Park. The initial design and consultation phase will be followed by restoration and preservation of 1.5km river banks and set back from the river to allow better connectivity with the flood plain. Community use combined with environmental benefit will be central to this inclusive project. The River Thames Scheme has a plant depot at the park for RTS work at Molesey Lock. The community would like some environmental pay back for having the depot in the park. This would be a joint LA, EA (RTS/WFD) project led by Thames Landscape Strategy (TLS) and Thames 21.	TQ1444169026	GB106039023232	55000

Partnership Coordination (8)

What will statutory organisations do? (8.1)

Environment Agency
Protection and enhancement of the water environment to European legal standards including river works, pollution prevention and water resource regulation, and managing flood risk from rivers and the sea.

Natural England
Protection of the Environment (Habitats Directive) including planning and development advice, managing Environmental Stewardship agreements, and notifying, assessing and protecting designated areas.

Surrey County Council
Management of Surrey surface water flood risk, biodiversity, county farms, coast and trails.

Forestry Commission
Britain's largest land manager with direct responsibility for a suite of Community Woodlands within the Landowner and land manager within the catchment with links to developments and planning.

London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
Landowner and land manager within the catchment with links to developments and planning.

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames
Landowner and land manager within the catchment with links to developments and planning.

Spelthorne Borough Council
Landowner and land manager within the catchment with links to developments and planning.

Elmbridge Borough Council
Landowner and land manager within the catchment with links to developments and planning.

Runnymede Borough Council
Landowner and land manager within the catchment with links to developments and planning.

Slough Borough Council
Landowner and land manager within the catchment with links to developments and planning.

Royal Borough of Maidenhead & Windsor Borough Council
Landowner and land manager within the catchment with links to developments and planning.

Thames Water

What partnership member organisations will do? (8.2)

Example

Name
Strap line (200words)
Web Address
Contact?

Thames21
Thames21 is the voice of the community for the River Thames and its waterways, working with communities to improve rivers and canals for people and wildlife. Host of the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership.
www.thames21.org.uk
Contact: Luke Damerum
luke.damerum@thames21.org.uk

Thames Landscape Strategy

http://thames-landscape-strategy.org.uk/

The River Thames Alliance
Alliance of councils, communities, companies, charities, clubs and all those who care about the future of the River Thames.
http://www.visitthames.co.uk/about

Thames Valley Angling Association
http://thamesvalleyaa.webs.com/
Contact:

Thames Anglers' Conservancy
http://www.rivertac.org/
Contact: admin@rivertac.org

RUG 8
http://www.riverusergroups.org.uk/
Contact: Bernard Hales
Bernard@enterpriseno1.co.uk

RUG 7
http://www.riverusergroups.org.uk/
Contact: Chris Turner
Chris@turner-web.co.uk

River Thames Society
www.riverthamessociety.org.uk/
Contact: admin@riverthamessociety.org.uk

Residential Boat Owners Association
http://www.rboa.org.uk/
Contact: secretary@rboa.org.uk

Maidenhead Waterways
http://www.maidenheadwaterways.org/
Contact: contactus@maidenheadwaterways.org

Hampton and Molesey Riverside Trust
Friends of Hurst Park
http://www.hmrt.co.uk/
Contact**:** Info@hmrt.co.uk

Friends of Desborough Island
http://www.fodi.uk/
Contact: info@fodi.co.uk

British Cannoning
http://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/
Contact:

What can you do? (8.3)

There are many ways in which you can make a difference to your catchment. You can link with, support and contribute to the work of the Maidenhead to Teddington Catchment Partnership

If you are a member of the local community, you can contact Thames21 and Thames Landscape Strategy and join their local volunteer group, or visit http://www.thameswater.co.uk/save-water/9692.htm to look at ways to save your home money and water.

You can visit www.thames21.org.uk/the-maidenhead-teddington-catchment/

If you are a local business you can look at ways in which you can save water and save money or receive grants by visiting www.carbontrust.org.uk

If you are a farm business you can contact your local Catchment Sensitive Farming Officer and Campaign for the Farmed Environment Coordinator for advice on how to protect soil and water resources, improve wildlife and save money. Visit www.farmingfutures.org.uk for suggested actions to achieve business and environmental benefits in relation to climate change. Visit www.leafuk.org for six simple steps for managing water quality and use on your land.

Would you like to know more? (9)

If you feel you can contribute to the Partnership or would like further information please contact luke.damerum@thames21.org.uk

Appendix (10)

You, your canoe, and the marine environment British Canoeing
Available from: http://www.canoe-england.org.uk/waterways-and-environment/environmental-good-practise-/you-your-canoe-and-the-environment/

Thames Waterways Plan 2015 The River Thames Alliance
Available from:

"In Action" Projects Thames Landscape Strategy
Towpath management
Available from: http://thames-landscape-strategy.org.uk/what-we-do/projects/

Non-Tidal Thames Project Thames21
Available from: luke.damerum@thames.21org.uk

References (11)

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Environment Agency[2] (EA). (2014). The Lower Thames Catchment. A summary of information about the water environment in the Lower Thames management catchment. Available from: https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/portal/ho/wfd/draft_plans/consult?pointId=s1406201448406#section-s1406201448406

Environment Agency[3] (EA). (2012). Lower Thames Catchment Baseline Information. Lower Thames Catchment Consultation Draft.

Thames21. (2012). WFD Pilot Community Catchment Plan.