

Community Liaison Group

Fens Reservoir

13 May 2025



Agenda

Welcome and introduction

Review of previous CLG meeting

Karen / David

Walking, Cycling and Horse-riding Assessment and Review (WCHAR)

WCHAR team

Project Update

Survey works

Jo / Karen

Phase three consultation

Karen

Traffic & Transport

John

Questions and closing comments from the Chair

Project Team

Project team members

- Karen
- Jo
- John
- Ruth
- Grant
- Jack
- Stephen
- Robin
- Jack
- Imogen

Questions

Welcome and introduction

A proposed reservoir in the Fens

Project team members

- Karen
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Review of previous CLG meeting

A proposed reservoir in the Fens

Chair

Our previous CLG



- Anglian Water discussed their EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) Scoping Report, which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 23 October 2024.
- The EIA explores any likely significant impacts of the project and its proposed mitigation measures.
- Anglian Water discussed the Fens Scoping Opinion, which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 3 December 2024.

Actions from previous CLG



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

Project update

A proposed reservoir in the Fens

Project team

Project update

Survey works

Traffic and transport

Walking, Cycling and Horse-riding Assessment and Review

Phase three consultation

Project timeline

The development timeline



Surveys

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Project team

Surveys: an overview



Starting summer 2025

- **Ground investigations**
including boreholes and trial pits
- **Non-intrusive surveys**
walkovers to observe environmental factors

Ground Investigation 2024 & 2025

Completed in 2024:

- 150 Ground Investigation locations.
- Deepest borehole was 85m. Total length boreholes drilled 1.1km
- Trial Trenching to identify new heritage assets and significance
 - 237 trenches; 50m long x 2m wide x 0.5m deep.
 - Total length 12km of trenches excavated.

Archaeological Finds:

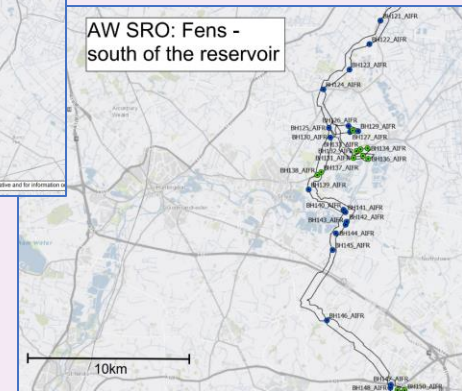
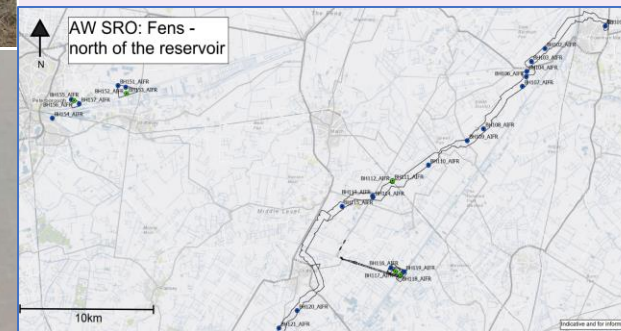
- The oldest artifact located so far is a Neolithic flint knife, 4000 to 2500BC (perhaps 5000 years old).
- Iron Age pottery (1000BC), Roman (43AD-410AD) and Medieval pottery (up to 1485AD), and numerous animal bones.
- (Paleoenvironmental) laboratory analysis underway, carbon dating extracted soil samples for pollen, plant macrofossils, microorganisms, and insects.



Looking to 2025, programmed June to October

Associated Infrastructure:

- 60no. boreholes with 11no. crossings (rail, road, water), deepest is 30m deep
- Archaeological geophysics (non-intrusive) primarily at AI sites, approximately 65ha



Reservoir Site:

- Supplementary GI (approx. 267no), providing further geological and geotechnical information.
- Observational trial Puts (6m deep, inverted pyramid shape)
- Archaeological trial trenching – circa 600no.

Surveys – what to expect

We're using our temporary works compound on land north of Chatteris to deliver the surveys.

You may see:

- People working on the site
- Slight increase in traffic to and from the compound
- Low-level noise.

This is not a sign of construction work starting.



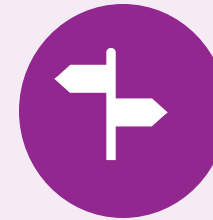
Surveys – what to expect



Disruption **low-level** and kept to a minimum.



We'll have **access permission** from landowners in advance.



We'll **keep roads clean** where our vehicles are using them for access.



We'll **take care** not to disturb wildlife.



We'll contact you with more information before starting.

Traffic and transport

A proposed reservoir in the Fens

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Traffic and transport



- ✓ We are exploring transport options for the construction and operation of the reservoir.
- ✓ We are committed to minimising and mitigating the impacts the reservoir could have on local roads, as much as we reasonably can.
- ✓ We will also consider whether any existing transport infrastructure local to the reservoir needs to change for when it is open.
- ✓ We will ensure our planning reflects the feedback we received in our phase two consultation around potential impacts on the local road network and ensuring access to the reservoir is safe.

What we're doing right now

Appraising existing travel and service routes near to the reservoir.

Engaging with key stakeholders including the local planning and highway authorities, Network Rail and National Highways.

Exploring options for a range of transport methods during construction.

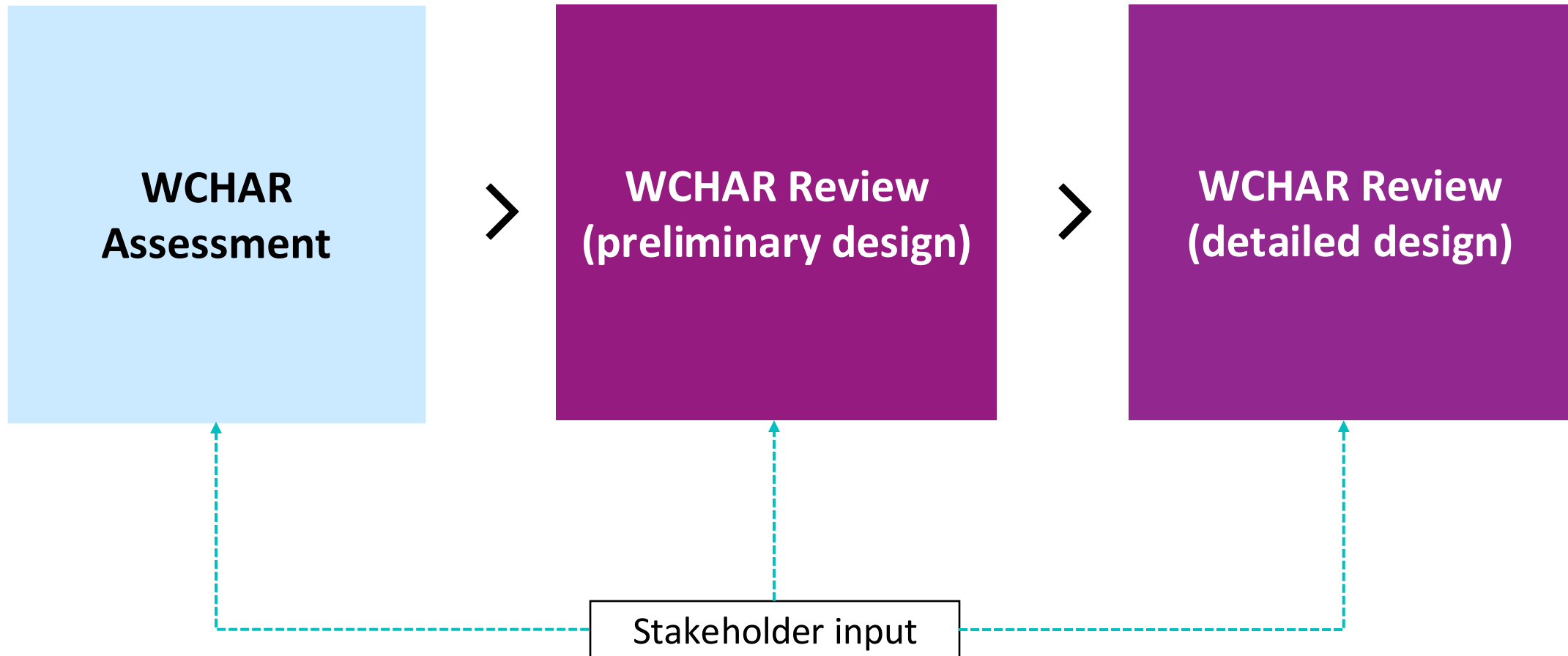
Developing forecasts for potential visitor numbers and assessing sustainable travel options based on this information.

Assessing how traffic and transport could affect local communities and amenities during both construction and operational phases.

Walking Cycling and Horse-riding Assessment and Review (WCHAR)

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WCHAR Process



WCHAR assessment

Policy and strategy review

- Analysis of relevant walking, cycling and horse-riding policies

Existing conditions

- Collision data
- Existing transport services
- Trip generators
- Existing WCH facilities and networks

User surveys

- Understand the current usage of key walking, cycling and equestrian networks

Stakeholder Engagement

- Liaison with local user groups
- Public engagement
- Discussions with local authorities and other key stakeholders

Site Visit

- On the ground assessment of existing walking, cycling and horse-riding facilities
- Used to identify opportunities that may be missed during desk-based reviews

Opportunities

- Identification of walking, cycling and horse-riding opportunities that may be relevant to the scheme

- Lighting / surfacing improvements
- Completion of 'missing links' in the National Cycle Network, Public Rights of Way or other strategic networks
- Improved links to public transport

General / Strategic

Pedestrian specific

- Footway improvements
- Upgraded pedestrian crossings
- Accessibility improvements (e.g. step-free access)

Example opportunities

- Upgrade of footways to shared paths
- Improvements to on- and off-carriageway cycle routes
- Provision of cycle parking

Cycling specific

Equestrian specific

- Upgrades to bridleways or shared use facilities to better accommodate equestrian usage
- Provision of equestrian infrastructure (e.g. Pegasus crossings)

General / Strategic

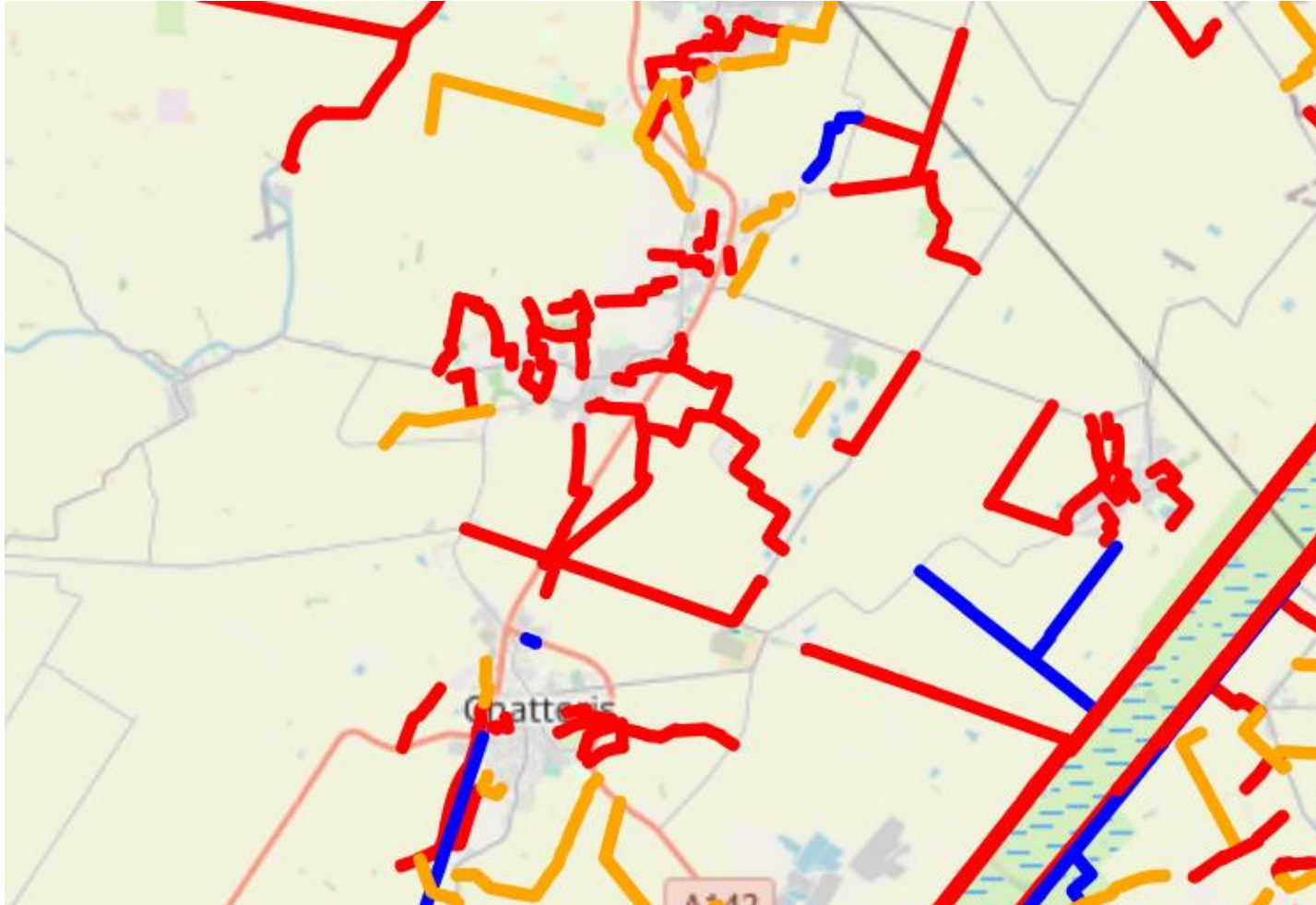
Pedestrian specific

Fens Reservoir opportunities

Cycling specific

Equestrian specific

Public Rights of Way



Key:

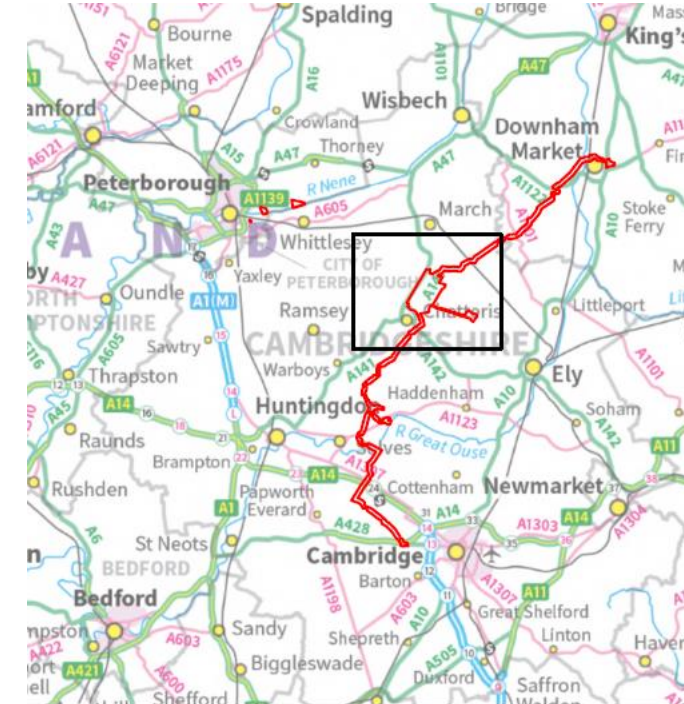
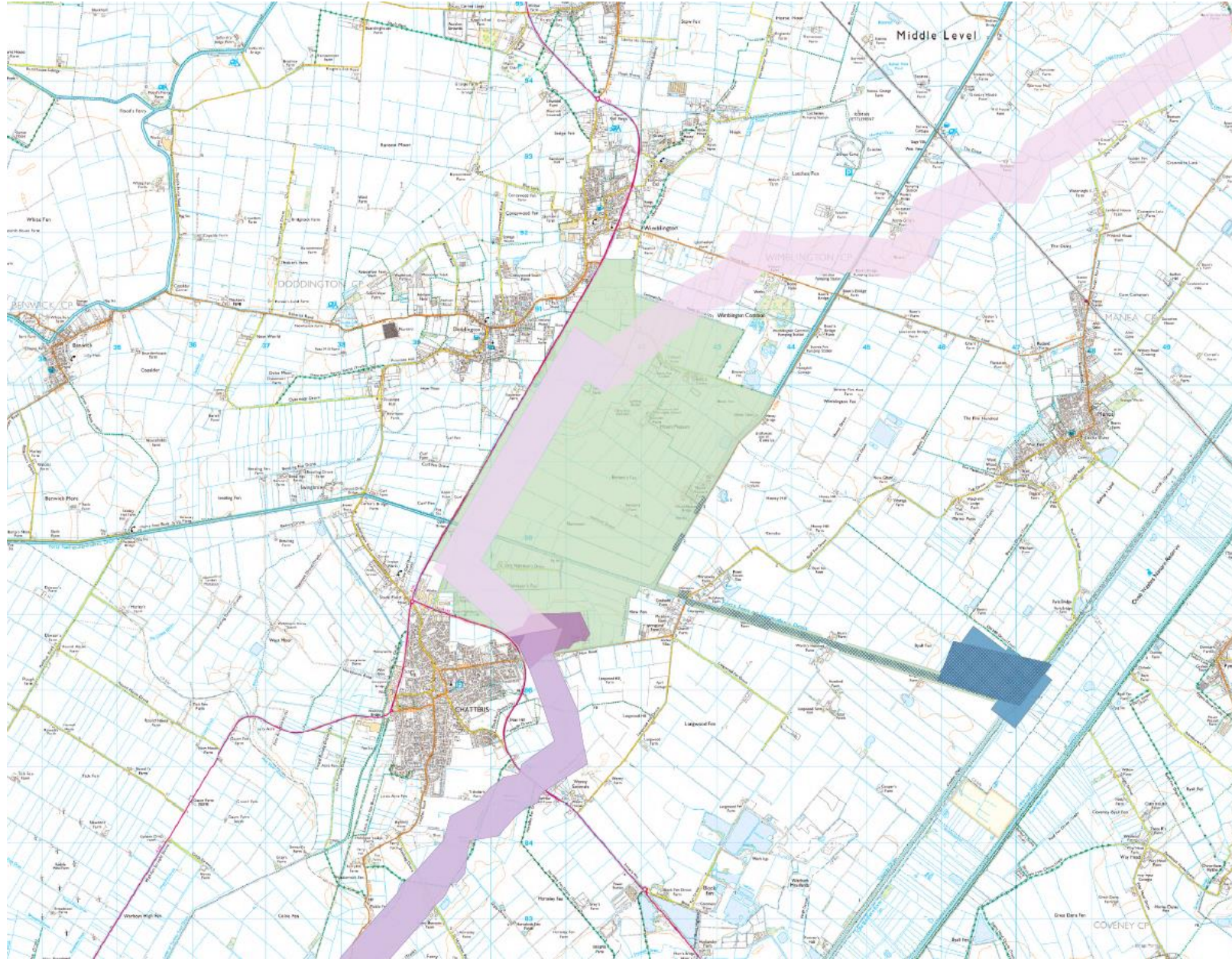
Red – Footpaths

Blue – Bridleways

Yellow – Restricted Byways

Orange – Byways Open to all Traffic

Public Rights of Way



LEGEND

- EXISTING WATERWAYS IMPACTED BY THE TRANSFER OF WATER FROM SOURCES TO THE RESERVOIR
- LAND AREAS IDENTIFIED FOR WATER SOURCES ABSTRACTION INFRASTRUCTURE
- PIPELINE CORRIDORS IDENTIFIED FOR TRANSFERRING WATER FROM SOURCES TO THE RESERVOIR
- AREAS IDENTIFIED FOR MODIFICATIONS OR UPGRADES NEEDED ALONG EXISTING WATERCOURSES TO SUPPORT TRANSFERS FROM WATER SOURCES
- LAND AREAS IDENTIFIED FOR WATER TREATMENT AND SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTURE
- SHARED CORRIDOR FOR WATER SOURCES PIPELINE CORRIDOR AND WATER SUPPLY PIPELINE CORRIDOR
- PIPELINE CORRIDORS IDENTIFIED FOR TRANSFERRING TREATED WATER INTO SUPPLY
- INDICATIVE BOUNDARY FOR MAIN RESERVOIR SITE

Phase three consultation

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Phase three consultation

We're now intending to hold an additional phase of non-statutory consultation later this year, where we will provide an update on our proposals and more detailed information on these areas we know are important.

These specific areas include construction impacts and traffic and transport.



Questions and closing comments from the Chair

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Next time

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



Thank you!



Further project information:

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

