love every drop
anglianwater

Cambridge Water

A proposed reservoir in the Fens

Phase two consultation – main site design brochure

May 2024

Content

A guide to our documents

This booklet is one in a suite of documents that we've prepared to help people understand more about our latest proposals for a new reservoir in the Cambridgeshire Fens.

Scan the QR code below with your phone's camera or visit our website at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents** to view these documents.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION	
A guide to our proposals and phase two consultation	An overview of our phase two consultation, with more information about what we're consulting on, where to find out more about our proposals and how you can have your say.
Project fact sheets	Supporting information about our approach to a range of topics and themes that we know are important.
RESERVOIR	
Phase two consultation – main site design brochure	**This booklet** – Information on the emerging design for the main reservoir site and the factors we considered to reach this point. This provides information about the initial opportunities for the features it could include, and how it is likely to operate.
Main site design report	An explanation of the emerging design for the reservoir site, and how this was developed.
ASSOCIATED WATER INFRASTRUCTURE	
Phase two consultation – associated water infrastructure proposals	Information about our proposals for drawing available water from the sources we've identified, transferring water to the reservoir, treating it, and supplying it to customers. This explains the infrastructure we may need, and the preferred options we've identified at this stage.
Options appraisal report	An overview of the options appraisal process that we have been through to identify the preferred options and sites for the associated water infrastructure. This explains the four stages (Stage A to D) of our appraisal process, how the options that were progressed for detailed assessment compared to one another, and the different combinations we assessed to identify the proposals we're taking forward at this stage.


Please note: this is an indicative image and the design may change as our proposals develop.
Sixteen Foot Drain
A141 Isle of Ely Way
Forty Foot Drain

Our vision and plans for a new reservoir

Anglian Water and Cambridge Water are proposing a new reservoir in the Fens to help meet the growing demands on water supply in the East of England.

The new reservoir is at the heart of a whole new water supply project that will help secure a reliable water supply for generations to come.

When there is available water in rivers that would otherwise drain to the sea, we would draw that water and transfer it to the reservoir using new and existing infrastructure and waterways. The reservoir will store the water for when it's needed.

Having this new water resource will reduce demands on sensitive sources such as chalk streams, helping us to protect and restore the environment. It will make us more resilient to a changing climate, reducing the impact of droughts while helping to manage river levels in wetter periods.

The proposed reservoir is located between Chatteris and March, near to Doddington, Wimblington and Manea.

Our vision for the project goes beyond simply creating a new public water supply. This is a significant investment in England's water infrastructure and a once-in-a-generation opportunity to deliver lasting benefits for people, place and the environment.

Where possible, we will consider ways to include features that local communities would value and use. We will explore opportunities that could deliver ecological benefits and promote sustainability.

We will also consider what new opportunities there are to teach future generations about how water shapes our lives and the environment.

Wider opportunities

Many of Anglian Water's existing reservoirs, such as Rutland Water and Grafham Water, are great places to explore, a haven for wildlife, and provide opportunities to learn and get closer to nature. Our hope is that the new reservoir can deliver benefits just like these.

Through our engagement with regional partners and stakeholders, it's clear that others also want us to think about how the reservoir could enable separate, wider opportunities beyond those we hope to create from the reservoir itself.

We're exploring exactly that, through working together with others that share our ambition to boost environmental, social and economic prosperity in our unique region.

To see how we're considering wider plans for the region, read the **guide to our proposals and phase two consultation brochure,** available online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

What the project includes

This diagram shows what we're currently proposing, and how all these parts fit together to create a new, major public water supply resource.

Everything in **green** is about the main reservoir site itself and how we would likely operate the reservoir. This is all explained in this document.

Our proposals for everything in **blue** and **purple** are explained in another document – our **associated water infrastructure brochure**.

Key

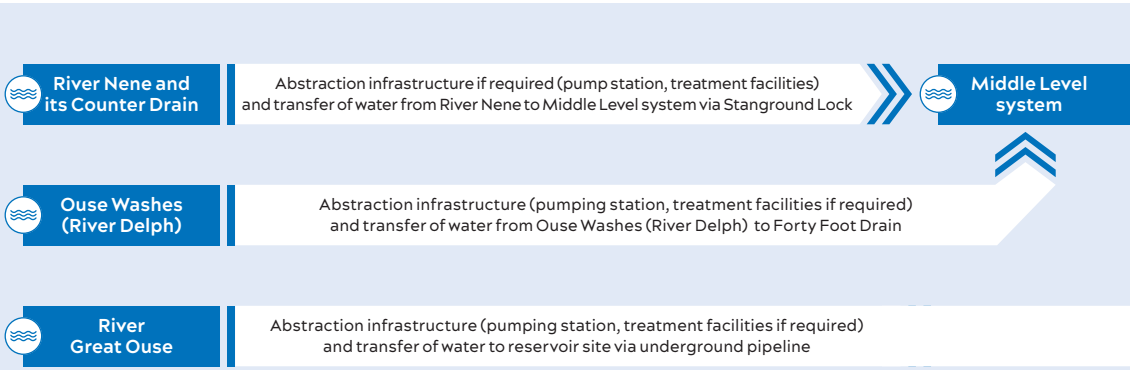
- The proposed reservoir
- Water sources
- Connection points
- Water treatment works

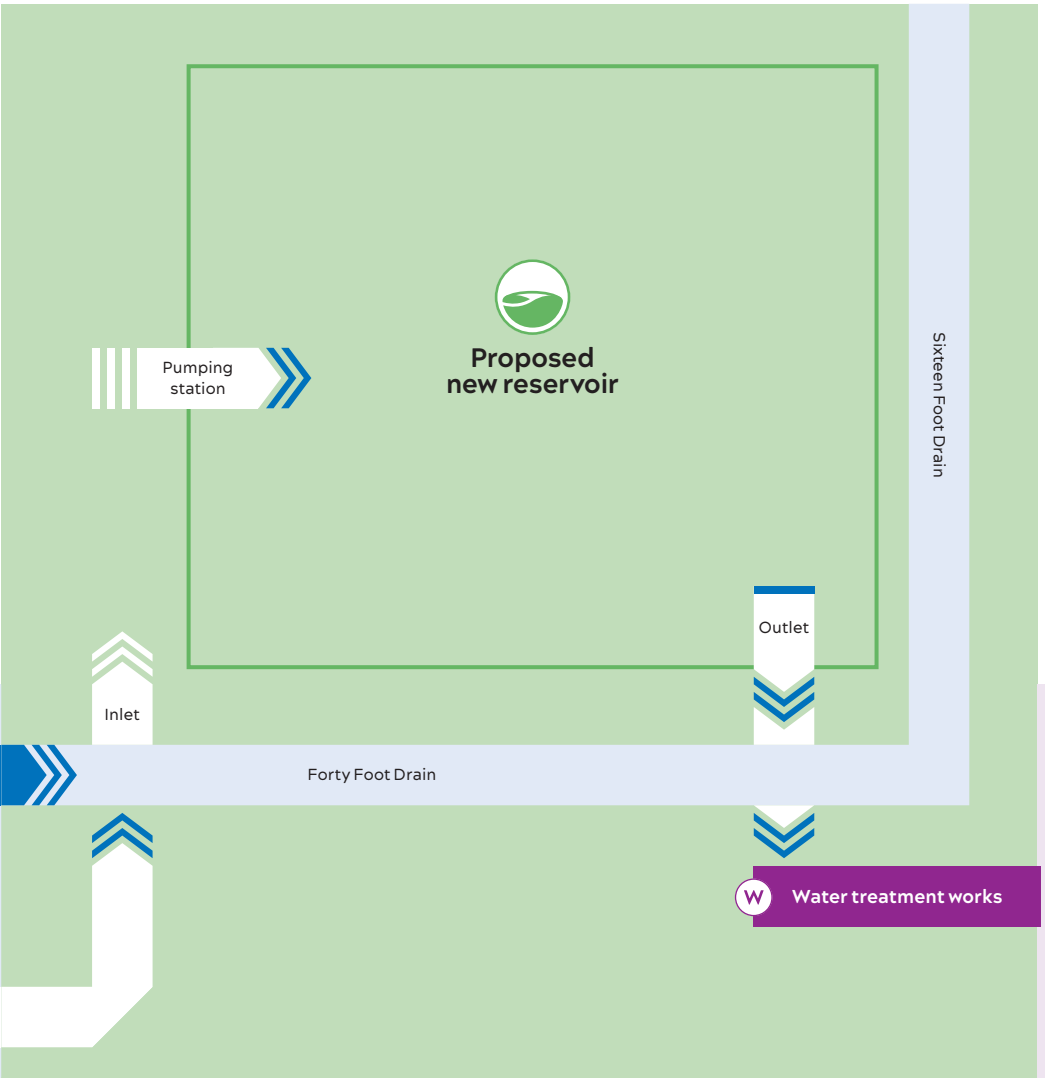
Our latest proposals

Water sources infrastructure

The infrastructure needed to draw water from each source. This includes equipment to take in water flows, pump the water and, where needed, treatment facilities to remove impurities and manage water quality.

This also includes underground pipelines to transfer water to the reservoir, and the routes to transfer water into the reservoir using existing open channel waterways.





The reservoir site

Our emerging design for the reservoir, including opportunities for recreation, wildlife, nature and other features, and how we would likely operate the reservoir.

This also includes preliminary proposals for areas of land in the vicinity of the reservoir we could need for environmental mitigation and enhancement, construction, and wider uses.

Water supply infrastructure

The infrastructure we need to treat the water stored at the reservoir and supply it to homes and businesses. This includes a new water treatment works located at the reservoir, and the underground pipelines to transfer the treated water to Anglian Water (AW) and Cambridge Water (CW) connection points for supply. We may need to build a new service reservoir at each connection point to help us put the water into the supply network.

- Underground pipeline to transfer water to **Bexwell connection point** → **Service reservoir into AW supply**
- Underground pipeline to transfer water to **Madingley connection point** → **Service reservoir into CW supply**
- Underground pipe spur to transfer water to **Bluntisham connection point** → **Service reservoir into CW supply**

Provide feedback on our proposals for the associated water infrastructure

To find out more about our plans for getting water to and from the reservoir, scan the code with your phone to see the **associated water infrastructure brochure** or visit the website link to our document library **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

The factors we considered

We've considered many different factors in developing an emerging design for the reservoir – all of which have influenced our ideas for the features it could include.

Indicative design principles

An initial set of project specific design principles which guide our plans for how the reservoir could add value and make a positive contribution for people, place and climate.

Operational requirements

The infrastructure we need to operate the reservoir, including an inlet, outlet tower (to draw water from the reservoir) and pumping equipment that moves water around the reservoir. This also includes safety requirements, monitoring equipment and many other features.

Engineering needs

The engineering requirements to ensure the reservoir meets the required design standards and is safe to operate, including embankment integrity, height and profile. This also includes how it would be built.

Economic

The costs for the reservoir over its whole life cycle – from planning and building through to its ongoing operation, including the need to deliver value for money for our customers.

Phase one consultation feedback

Feedback from land and property owners, communities and stakeholders to our phase one consultation on features they hoped to see included, and ideas to manage any impacts that have been raised.

Environment

The effect on natural environment features such as nature conservation sites and our ideas for how we could use the reservoir to encourage biodiversity and support the environment.

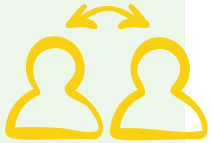
Landscape and local setting

The effect on the local landscape character, including views and surrounding communities, plus our ideas for how the reservoir could sit thoughtfully within its setting.

Integration with associated water infrastructure

How the reservoir connects to the infrastructure we need to bring water to the reservoir and from it into supply, and how these connecting features could be used as potential opportunities in the design.

Connection with surrounding communities



How local communities and visitors will travel to and from the reservoir, and different methods of doing this such as walking, cycling and boating.

Carbon

The carbon emissions related to the construction of the reservoir, ways in which we'll look to achieve water industry targets to be operationally net zero by 2030, and exploring opportunities to generate renewable energy at the reservoir.

Maximising value through design

In developing an emerging design for the reservoir, we have considered ways that these factors could support one another, for example:

- as we're considering ways to enhance the environment, does that provide opportunities to bring people and nature together?
- does the need to move water around the reservoir for operational purposes create opportunities for wetlands or recreation at the same time?
- with the need to build the embankment to meet engineering requirements, can we use that to integrate with local surroundings and manage visual impacts?

These are just some of the examples of how different elements could interact in how we develop the design.

The reservoir will meet its fullest potential if we can identify ways to get all these things working together.

Phase one consultation feedback

For more information about how we have considered and are responding to the feedback from our phase one consultation, please read our **main site design report** online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

Developing the emerging proposals

Our journey to develop an emerging design for the reservoir has included several stages to consider and test different ideas and options.

We've completed a range of activities to help inform our proposals, including:

- surveys in the area to fully understand the landscape shape and character
- researching the history of the region and the changing nature of the area, including the influence of people in draining and managing the Fens
- assessing the wider region and what existing opportunities there are for access to open, green spaces and water, and how people travel around and to the area
- different shapes and approaches to the reservoir and what opportunities these could provide for recreation, wildlife, and other benefits
- operational requirements, including the embankment height and profile and how we could use this in the design to reduce impacts and create opportunities

All of this, and much more, has shaped our thinking.

Working with Stakeholders

Part of developing our emerging design has been sharing our early work with stakeholders, whose knowledge and understanding of the local area is valuable. This has included local authorities and those responsible for waterways, the environment, the historic and cultural setting of the area, and other important factors.

We also shared our ideas with an independent design review panel – a group of specialists with expertise in placemaking and planning.

This independent review was a key step in evaluating our early work and making sure it was in keeping with National Infrastructure Commission's principles for good design, and planning policy.

Through this stakeholder engagement, different elements of our early work were identified as being good opportunities to take forward into a single emerging design.

Find out more

For more information about our early development work, the different options we explored, and the feedback we received from stakeholders, please read our **main site design report** online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

Overview of the process we're following

The emerging design will change as we review our work based on further assessments, feedback received, and the engineering and technical requirements of operating the reservoir.

The emerging design is therefore not fixed at this stage and more work is required to establish the land uses that will be included in our application for development consent.

STEP 01

- Develop broad design principles and concept
- Phase one consultation on design principles and concept

STEP 02

- Assess feedback from phase one consultation to influence emerging design
- Identify engineering and operational requirements for the reservoir
- Site and regional assessments, surveys and investigations
- Develop initial site-specific design principles
- Create design options based on feedback, engineering requirements, and initial site-specific design principles
- Options appraisal with specialist stakeholders and independent design review panel
- Develop emerging design for consultation

WE ARE HERE

- **Phase two consultation on emerging design**

STEP 03

- Assess feedback from phase two consultation to consider for ongoing design
- Preliminary environmental assessment
- Consider design in response to environmental assessment, phase two consultation feedback and site and regional assessments, surveys and investigations
- Emerging design appraisal with independent design panel
- Develop proposals for further consultation

Operating the reservoir

We will need additional infrastructure that will fill, operate and draw water from the reservoir including pumps, inlets, and an outlet tower.

We have considered these components and their potential location when developing the emerging design.

Key

- Indicative boundary for reservoir site
- Emerging design for reservoir shape
- Water transferred to reservoir
- Treated water transferred into supply
- Wetland opportunities, as shown in emerging design
- Land areas for water treatment and supply infrastructure
- Water treatment works
- Pumping station
- Outlet tower
- Outlet pipe

Managing safety at the reservoir

We are designing the reservoir in line with the latest national and international industry guidance and standards, and the legislation set out in the Reservoirs Act 1975.

This sets the requirements for design, construction, surveillance and monitoring to ensure the integrity of the embankments. The design is also being developed to be resilient to anticipated future climate events, such as the potential for sea level rise or more extreme weather events.

While the failure of an embankment, designed and constructed to current standards, is a highly unlikely event, a clear plan for managing emergency situations is a further vital part of operating the reservoir. In addition to high quality design, construction and surveillance, a requirement for the reservoir is to be able to lower (in a controlled way) the reservoir's water level quickly in the event of an emergency (drawdown).

We are in the early stages of developing the plan for how the reservoir will draw down in the event of an emergency. Our emerging work shows releasing water from the reservoir in a controlled manner into the Forty Foot Drain and the wider Middle Level system, then on to the sea, as the preferred option. This would avoid water being released into the Ouse Washes or Nene Washes.

We are continuing to assess options and will consider the potential environmental effects of an emergency drawdown event as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment.

We will incorporate several safety features into the design of our reservoir. These include:

Monitoring and surveillance

As well as ongoing monitoring by skilled operatives and equipment, we are also exploring the potential of new innovative monitoring equipment in the construction of the reservoir.

Bottom outlet valve and pipe

The bottom outlet valve and pipe is designed to allow us to lower the water level within the reservoir quickly in the event of an emergency that threatens the integrity of the embankment.

Spillway

The spillway is a lowered section of embankment with a reinforced outer face. In the very unlikely case that the water level in the reservoir rises beyond the normal operating range, the spillway is designed to overtop, allowing the safe disposal of 'spilled' water.

Test pond

Each year we would test the emergency procedure to ensure our systems and plans remain effective. At these times, water would be released into a test pond and held temporarily rather than being released. When the test is complete, the water would be pumped back into the reservoir. In the event we would ever need to fully use the emergency procedure, the water would be released from the test pond into the watercourses mentioned above.

Help shape our proposals

We understand that our proposals will have a significant effect on landowners, homeowners and communities. We're committed to working with these groups as we develop our plans and want to hear all views on our emerging proposals.

Local people and other stakeholders have an important role in influencing how our proposals are developed further. Your knowledge is valuable to us, and we welcome any feedback you have on the ideas and features we've identified.

How to provide feedback on the emerging design

We would like to get your comments on the opportunities and features included in the emerging design.

In the following pages you can find out more about the overall approach, and the features we could include in different areas.

Our feedback form is organised into questions so you can provide feedback on the different opportunities we could include. These could be about one area of the reservoir or the reservoir as a whole.

Our feedback form includes the following questions:

Do you have any comments on the initial site-specific design vision and principles?

Do you have any overall comments on the emerging design for the main reservoir site?

Do you have any comments on the initial opportunities for potential recreational areas?

Do you have any comments on the initial opportunities for potential environmental areas and wildlife habitats?

Do you have any comments on the initial opportunities for footpaths cycleways and bridleways within the main reservoir site?

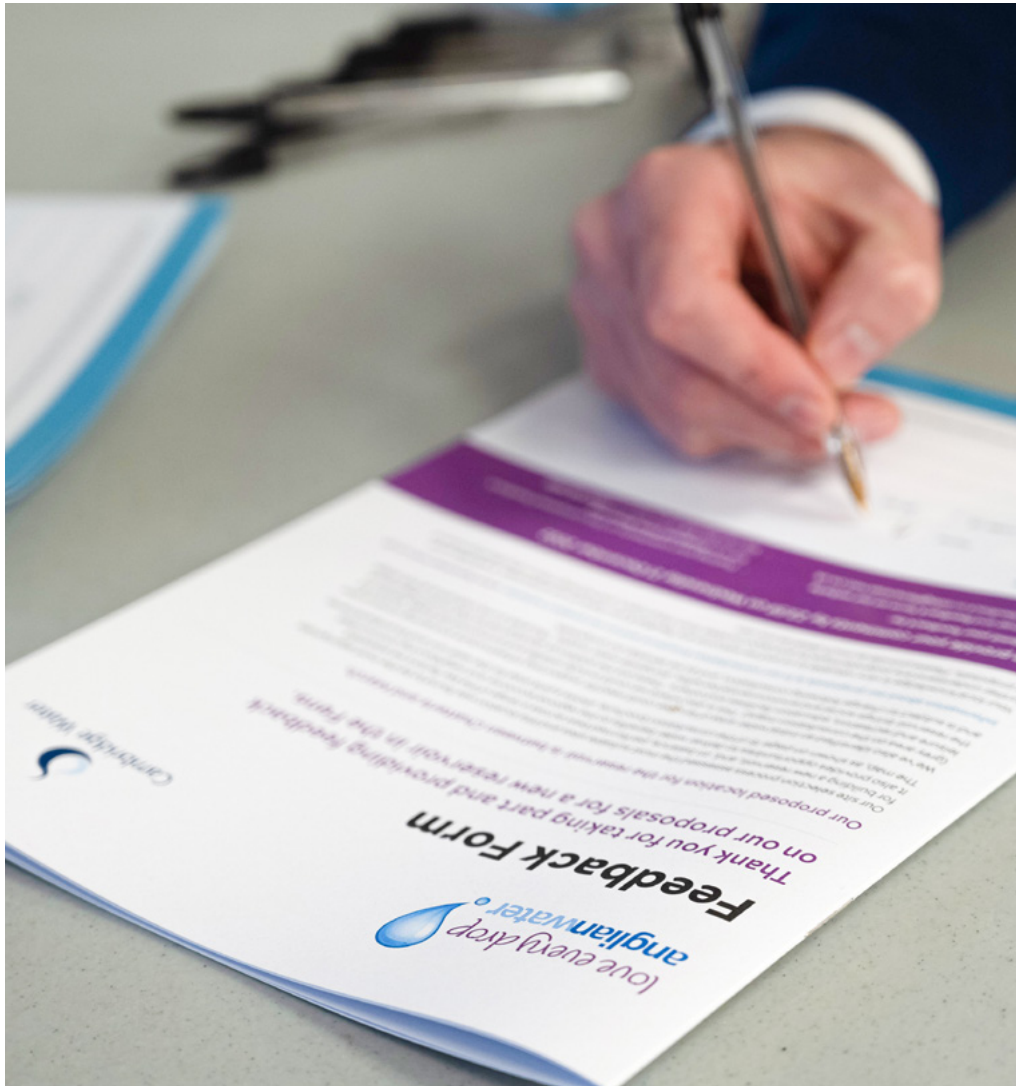
Do you have any comments on the initial opportunities for potential access arrangements from the surrounding area to the main reservoir site?

Do you have any comments on our early stage plans to include renewable energy generation at the main reservoir site?

Do you have any additional feedback about the emerging design for the main site that you have not included above?

Do you have any comments on the identified areas for environmental mitigation, construction and wider uses, or is there any information you think we should know about these areas?

The following pages provide more information about the emerging design to help you answer these questions.



How to get involved

This consultation is open from 30 May until 9 August 2024

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

Submitting your comments

You can submit feedback to us in several different ways:

- Completing a feedback form online: **www.fensreservoir.co.uk**
- Sending a hard copy feedback form or written feedback to us at: **Freepost Fens Reservoir**
- Sending an email to: **info@fensreservoir.co.uk**

Hard copies of our consultation materials and feedback forms will be available at our consultation events or upon request.

There are some aspects that are not open to influence. That's because they cannot be shaped by feedback for technical reasons, such as safety and engineering requirements, or because they have been and continue to be consulted on through the Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) process.

This includes:

- The project's **need case**
- The **capacity** of the reservoir
- The **site** for the reservoir

Please make sure you submit your feedback to us by 23:59 on Friday 9 August 2024

Our vision for the reservoir – reclaiming water for a new future

The emerging design has been developed to show how this could be an exciting destination enjoyed by surrounding communities, while also attracting visitors from across the East of England.

People

The reservoir will celebrate the Cambridgeshire Fens for the local people who know this landscape so well.

As a new focus for economic growth, it will help improve lifestyles and social prosperity, with exciting new opportunities for recreation and engagement with nature.

With new connections to nearby communities and links to existing routes in the wider area, this will be a place for people to enjoy nature, water and the surrounding countryside.

Nature

Flood storage and habitat creation areas around the reservoir could give a flavour of the historic landscape of marshes and waterways from before the Fens were drained.

These renewed habitats will aim to attract wildlife, adding to the richness of nature in the area.

Water

The Fens Reservoir will store water from local waterways, securing a resilient supply to meet the needs of future generations across Cambridgeshire and East Anglia.

It will reduce the pressure on aquifers and chalk streams and help these sensitive environments recover, while protecting water supplies for agriculture.

Find out more

In the following pages there is more information about our emerging design for the reservoir and the features we could include.

For illustrative purposes only

Design principles overview

Design principles are a set of guidelines for how a project should be designed. We have developed indicative design principles specific to the reservoir in the Fens which have guided how we have developed the emerging design to date. These are summarised below.

A narrative landscape

Celebrate both the natural and man-made history and landscape of the Fens.

Socio-economic opportunity

Consider ways to support socio-economic opportunities for local communities.

A landmark destination

Take a bold approach to become a new landmark in the region.

Enjoying water and nature

Create the foundations for a nature rich destination that will attract people, with the aim of delivering health, wellbeing, nature, education and economic opportunities.

Wetland first

Consider potential opportunities and environmental benefits of creating wetland habitats.

Moving the earth

Work with the existing landscape to be efficient in the amount of earthmoving required in the construction of the reservoir.

Connecting communities

Seek opportunities to enhance connectivity between the neighbouring communities such as Chatteris, Doddington, Wimblington, Manea, and others.

A restored Fenland landscape

Consider opportunities to contribute to habitat restoration and support local ecology.

Access to water

Create areas that provide access to water for recreation and support wetland habitats.

Net zero operation

Design and construct the reservoir to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support Anglian Water's and Cambridge Water's objective to achieve net zero operational carbon emissions by 2030.

Integrate operational components

Seek opportunities for the operational components of the reservoir to promote recreation and create intriguing places.

Find out more

Find out more about this part of the design in our **main site design report** which is available online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

We would like to hear your views on our vision and indicative design principles. Please visit **www.fensreservoir.co.uk** and complete our online feedback form or see **page 15** for other ways to provide your comments.

Overall approach

The distinctive 'ammonite' shape of the emerging design could create interest and become an attractive landmark. It's a deliberately man-made approach, featuring in a landscape that has been shaped and altered by the people living and working here for generations.

The approach is inspired by the area's ancient history with ammonite fossils – small marine creatures – found in the earth below the site, dating from a time when it was under the North Sea.

Emerging opportunities include places for recreation both on the water and land, with other areas focused on nature to create calm, quiet spaces.

We have considered the potential for connections to the surrounding communities and around the reservoir itself with opportunities for walking, cycling and horse riding. Routes of various lengths, and connections to Chatteris, Doddington and Wimblington, are all included in our emerging design.

The emerging design features a lagoon in the north west of the reservoir where water levels would largely remain consistent. This could create an area where access to water is easier, potentially supporting activities like open water swimming and kayaking, a waterside beach, play areas and boardwalks, some of which would be future opportunities delivered by third parties.

The use of excavated earth to create new landforms could provide a variety of different experiences for visitors. These could be open areas with long views across the Fenland landscape, places for play and exploring, shaded, sheltered areas, and places where people, nature and water all come together.

We've included a variety of habitat ideas to encourage wildlife at this stage, with different wetland types both inside the reservoir and surrounding it. The details and extent of these would only be confirmed when we have carried out our environmental assessments.

Large-scale wetlands next to the Forty Foot Drain are under consideration, with a view to potentially encouraging links along the watercourses for wildlife between the reservoir and existing sites including the Ouse Washes and Nene Washes, and the Great Fen project area.

Embankment design

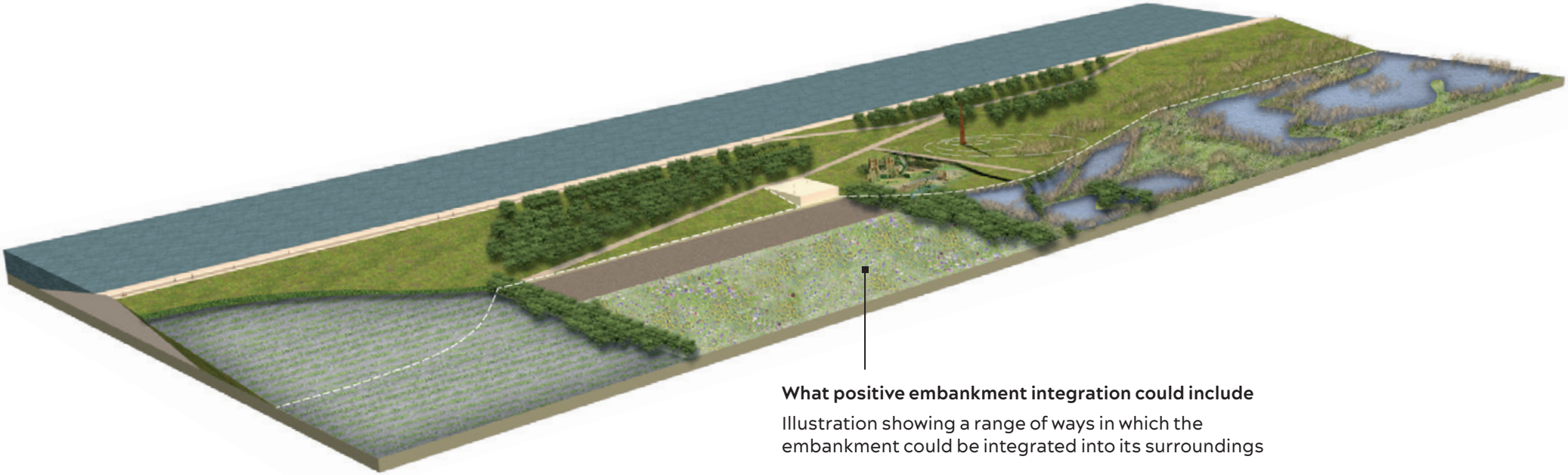
We are seeking to avoid a reservoir with basic, uniform embankment slopes that provide no shelter or integration with the surrounding landscape.

At this stage, we have considered options for planting and features on the embankments that could improve accessibility and appearance.

These opportunities are used in the emerging design shown in the following pages. At this stage, these are our initial ideas to help generate feedback – the proposals will continue to be developed based on consultation feedback, environmental assessment, engineering work, and the findings of ground surveys.

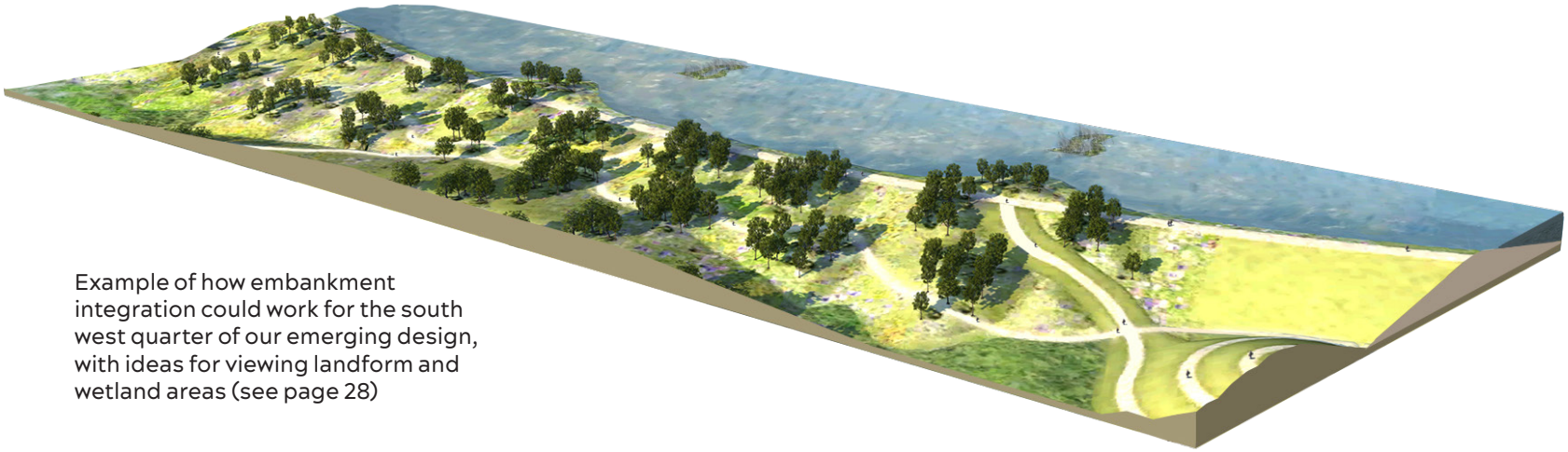
Embankment height

We estimate that the embankment crest height will be between 10 and 15 meters above existing ground level. In the emerging design the embankments are shown at 12.5metres. However, these are not fixed at this stage and require further investigation and assessment.



What positive embankment integration could include

Illustration showing a range of ways in which the embankment could be integrated into its surroundings



Example of how embankment integration could work for the south west quarter of our emerging design, with ideas for viewing landform and wetland areas (see page 28)

Find out more

For more information, please read our **main site design report** online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

Our emerging design

The size of the reservoir means that it presents the potential for many different areas and experiences.

We think including this variation could be a good way of making sure the reservoir offers opportunities for everyone, while also supporting the natural environment.

At this stage, we have organised the emerging design into five areas and explain our ideas for each of these on the opposite page.

In the following pages you can find out more about our ideas for the overall approach, and the features we could include across these areas.

Indicative Locations for Primary Infrastructure (Operational Reservoir)

- Upstream transfer (open channel)
- Water discharge point into reservoir
- Outlet tower
- Outlet valve test pond
- Spillway
- Water treatment works
- Preferred water treatment works site selection area
- Pumping station
- Wetland water inlet
- Proposed toe of outer embankment

Renewable Energy

- Indicative location for new wind turbine
- Indicative location and extent of floating solar
- Indicative location and extent of land-based solar and battery storage

Other renewable energy technologies are being considered. Further work will be undertaken to identify preferred technologies, scale and locations.

Indicative Landscape Elements

- Woodland
- Wetland
- Floating wetland
- Grassland
- Land potentially required for environmental mitigation and/or enhancement
- Landform

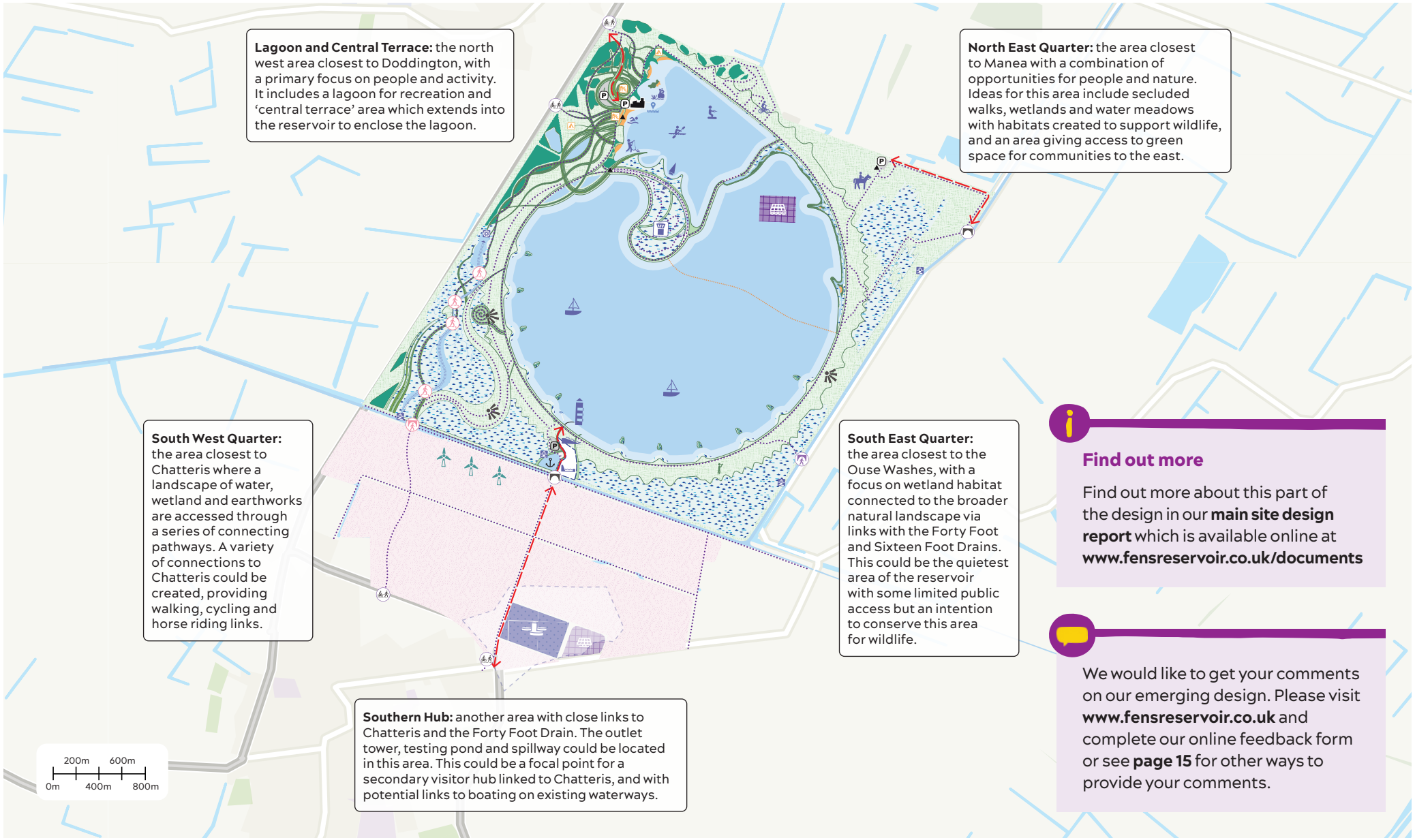
Indicative Access Elements

- Proposed shared path
- Existing Public Right of Way
- Potential vehicular access route
- Potential opportunities for community links (to be explored further)
- Proposed road crossing for walking, cycling and horse riding
- Proposed waterway crossing for walking, cycling and horse riding
- Existing waterway crossing for walking, cycling and horse riding
- Proposed all user bridge
- Proposed boardwalk crossing
- Proposed parking

The location and alignment of routes shown on the masterplan are also indicative at this stage and further work will be undertaken to define and refine these.

Indicative Opportunities for Recreation

- Buoy line – demarcating extent of recreation
- Visitor centre
- Secondary recreational facility
- Tertiary recreational facility
- Viewing tower
- Potential location for marina and associated facilities
- Recreational links
- Beach
- Camping
- Sailing
- Swimming
- Play
- Viewpoint
- WakeBoard
- Aquaplay
- Fishing
- Bird Watching
- Paddle Sport
- Point of access to the water



Find out more

Find out more about this part of the design in our **main site design report** which is available online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

We would like to get your comments on our emerging design. Please visit **www.fensreservoir.co.uk** and complete our online feedback form or see **page 15** for other ways to provide your comments.

Lagoon and Central Terrace: north west area closest to Doddington and Wimblington

In the emerging design, this area would be the main hub for activity and recreation. It has good access from the A141, with the idea that this could serve as the main route for visitors to the reservoir from across the region and local connections from the north and west.

The main visitor centre buildings and car park could be in this area, along with potential public transport drop-off points.

A key part of our emerging design is a lagoon where water could be kept at a consistent level. The land here could gently slope down toward the water with beaches, a visitor centre and play areas included in our emerging design. The lagoon could also be fringed by wetland vegetation, potentially creating links between people, nature and water.

The existing land is higher in this area compared with other areas of the reservoir meaning the embankments will appear lower here and there are more opportunities to integrate it with existing land levels.

On the outer face of the embankment, sculptural landforms could be used to create a variety of pathways and spaces for recreational use. Different uses could include parking, camping, play spaces and open areas of grass. The proposed landforms could also create areas sheltered from prevailing winds and from the busy A141.

Another key idea for this part of the reservoir is a wetland area extending out into the reservoir and forming one edge of the lagoon.

The wetland area is also where water could enter the reservoir, having been pumped up to the level of the embankment crest.

Water could then move into a central wetland, inspired by the history and landscape of the Fens before it was drained.

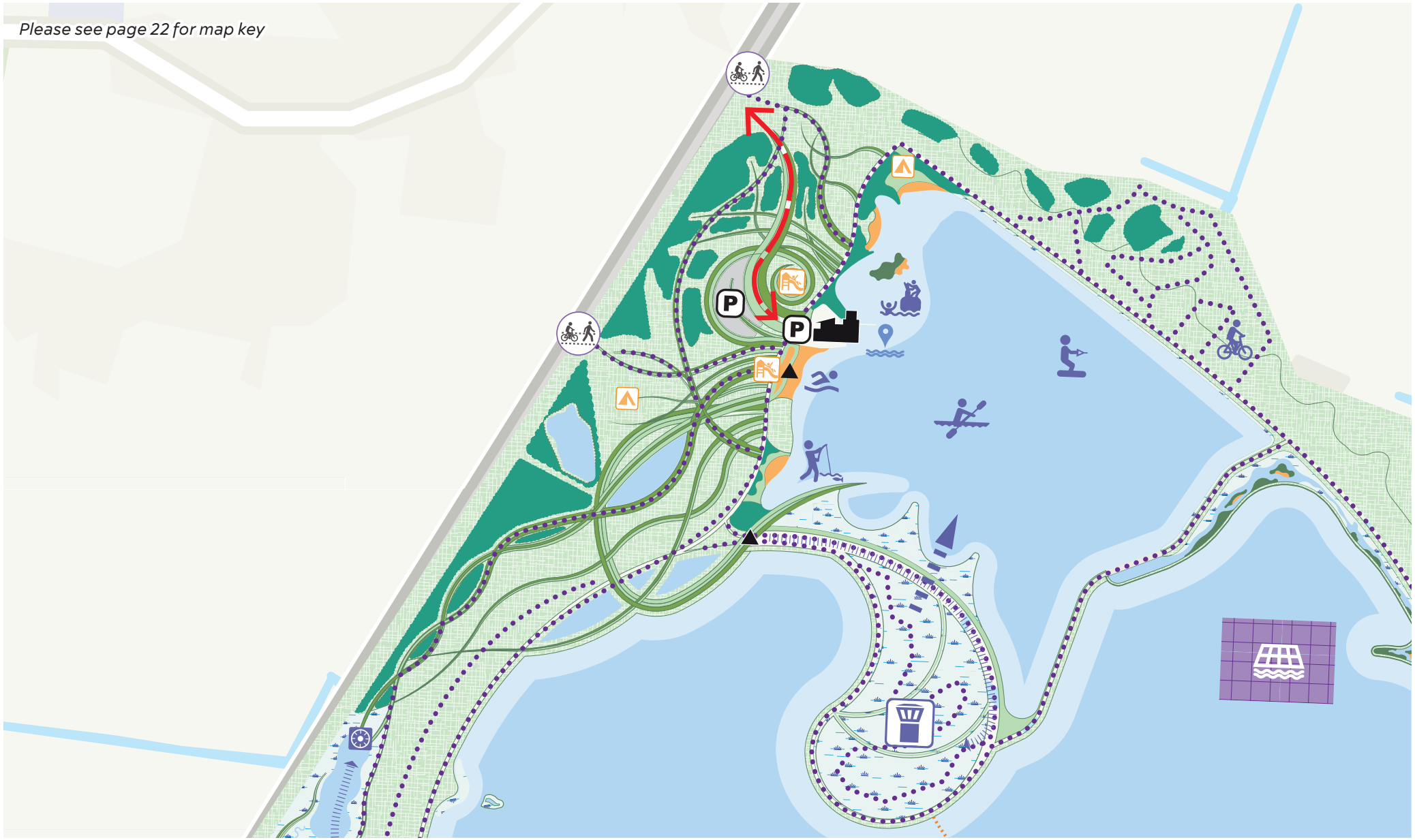
This area could be connected by boardwalks and pathways, and provide exciting views of water, land and sky together. We think there could be opportunity here for a viewing tower providing expansive views over the surrounding landscape.

Find out more

Find out more about this part of the design in our **main site design report** which is available online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

We would like to get your comments on our initial ideas for this area of the reservoir. Please visit **www.fensreservoir.co.uk** and complete our online feedback form or see **page 15** for other ways to provide your comments.

Please see page 22 for map key



Lagoon and Central Terrace eye-level viewpoint

Here's a visual impression of what this area could look like if you were viewing it from the point shown below.

Existing view from the A141 near Doddington.

An artist impression of the view towards the northern reservoir embankment from the A141 near Doddington. **Distance to crest – 500 metres**

Viewpoint location plan

Find out more

Find out more about this part of the design in our **main site design report** which is available online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

We would like to get your comments on our initial ideas for this area of the reservoir. Please visit **www.fensreservoir.co.uk** and complete our online feedback form or see **page 15** for other ways to provide your comments.

South West Quarter and Southern Hub: area closest to Chatteris

Our ideas for the south west area centre on a new landscape where sculptural earthworks and significant new areas of wetland come together. This is inspired by the historic landscape of low-lying wetland meeting the higher fen islands and historic drain structures.

Along with the area to the north west of the reservoir, this section of our emerging design could be part of a more active area with paths, landscape, wetlands, and planting creating a range of different places to explore.

The difference between the ground and embankment crest is greater than in the north west corner where the ground naturally rises to Doddington. As the embankment would be higher here, our idea is that its design could be part of this proposed sculptural landscape. Paths could be located at two levels on the reservoir embankment – one on the crest, and a lower path moving through planted areas.

At the base of the embankment, the emerging design includes wetlands and watercourses with meandering routes surrounded by planting. Water abstracted from the Forty Foot Drain could run through this area before being pumped up to the reservoir. Allowing water to pass through wetland areas could enhance water quality.

The emerging design includes a number of looping routes and boardwalks that could enable visitors to experience the proposed and wider existing landscape from a variety of different viewpoints.

On the south side of the reservoir, a secondary smaller visitor and recreation hub could be provided. If located here, the reservoir's outlet tower could be a key landmark in this section of the reservoir.

A visitor hub in this area could provide links to the reservoir from Chatteris and navigational users of the Forty Foot Drain. A new bridge over the Forty Foot Drain could provide access for vehicles, and for people walking, cycling and horse riding.

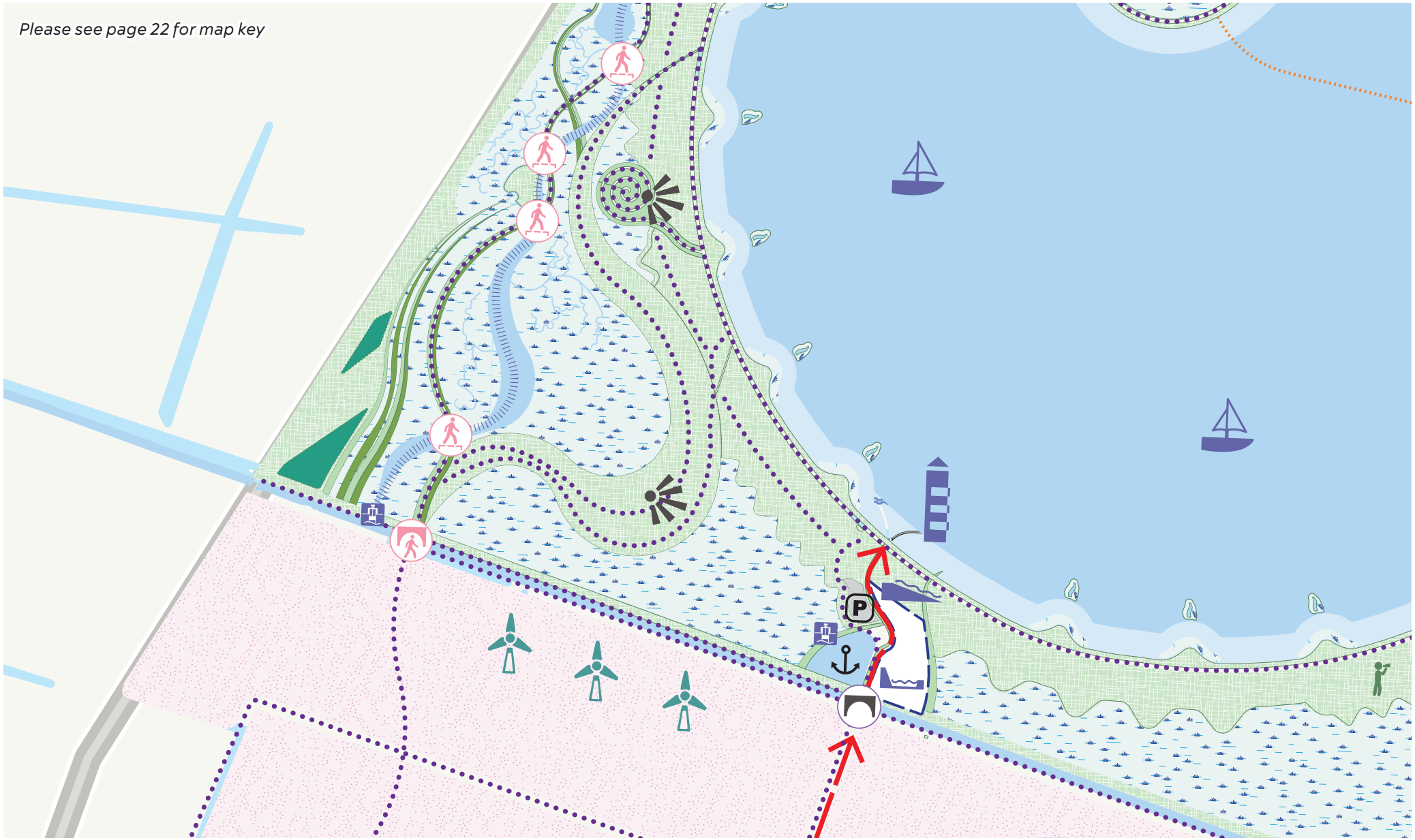
We are considering the feasibility of including renewable energy generation as part of the main reservoir site. The mix and capacity of this is being explored, but we have indicatively suggested at this stage that wind turbines could be located in the area south of the Forty Foot Drain.

Find out more

Find out more about this part of the design in our **main site design report** which is available online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

We would like to get your comments on our initial ideas for this area of the reservoir. Please visit **www.fensreservoir.co.uk** and complete our online feedback form or see **page 15** for other ways to provide your comments.

Please see page 22 for map key



South West Quarter and Southern Hub eye-level viewpoint

Here's a visual impression of what this area could look like if you were viewing it from the point shown below.

Existing view from the end of Drake Avenue, at the edge of Chatteris.

An artist impression of the view towards the southern reservoir embankment from the end of Drake Avenue, at the edge of Chatteris. **Distance from crest – 2 kilometres**

Viewpoint location plan

Find out more

Find out more about this part of the design in our **main site design report** which is available online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

We would like to get your comments on our initial ideas for this area of the reservoir. Please visit **www.fensreservoir.co.uk** and complete our online feedback form or see **page 15** for other ways to provide your comments.

South East Quarter: area closest to Ouse Washes

This area is proposed in the emerging design as the quietest part of the reservoir. Wetland creation and support for wildlife feature in our ideas for this area.

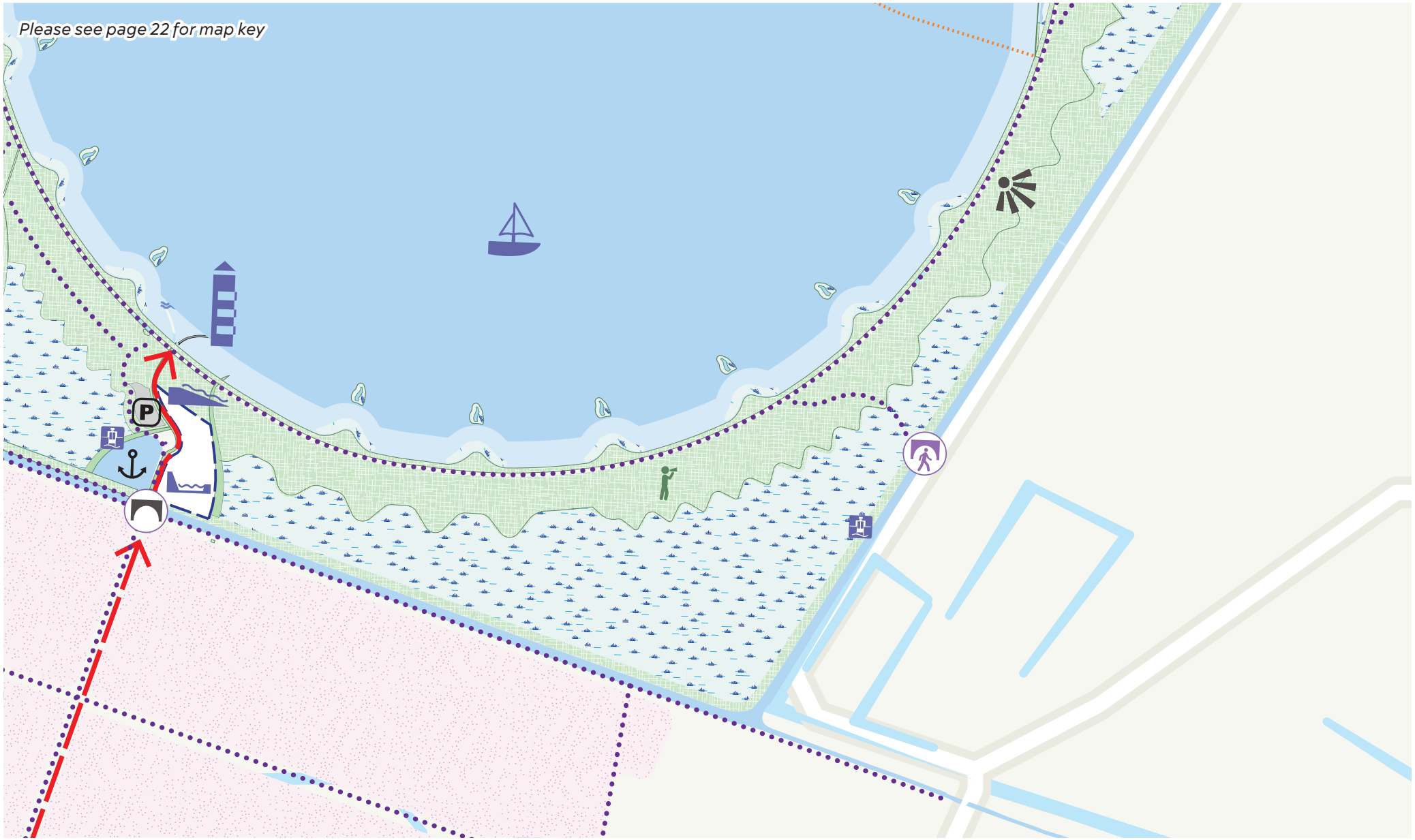
Our ideas are for broad wetlands next to the Forty Foot and Sixteen Foot Drains. This could create a connection via these watercourses, between the reservoir, the Ouse Washes, and the Great Fen Project for birds and other wildlife.

Public access in this area would include a route on the embankment crest, but otherwise be limited to help leave the proposed wetland undisturbed.

Find out more

Find out more about this part of the design in our **main site design report** which is available online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

We would like to get your comments on our initial ideas for this area of the reservoir. Please visit **www.fensreservoir.co.uk** and complete our online feedback form or see **page 15** for other ways to provide your comments.


Please see page 22 for map key
P

South East Quarter Eye-level viewpoint

Here's a visual impression of what this area could look like if you were viewing it from the point shown below.

Existing view at the junction of the Forty Foot and Sixteen Foot Drains.

An artist impression of the view towards the eastern reservoir embankment at the junction of the Forty Foot and Sixteen Foot Drains. **Distance to crest – 580 metres**

Viewpoint location plan

Find out more

Find out more about this part of the design in our **main site design report** which is available online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

We would like to get your comments on our initial ideas for this area of the reservoir. Please visit **www.fensreservoir.co.uk** and complete our online feedback form or see **page 15** for other ways to provide your comments.

North East Quarter: area closest to Manea

This is proposed as a quiet area of the reservoir in the emerging design, with nature-based routes for walking and riding. Wetlands could be a feature in this area, with pathways through the wetlands to the reservoir providing access to the reservoir crest.

The simpler visual appearance of the embankment could be used here providing opportunities for more wetland at the foot of the embankment.

Our ideas include access routes to the reservoir for communities to the east, with a small car park and paths up to the embankment crest.

Our emerging design for this area also includes wetland edges on the internal embankment of the reservoir to encourage biodiversity. To further support this idea, This area of the reservoir water could have a priority for wildlife with no recreational water uses here.

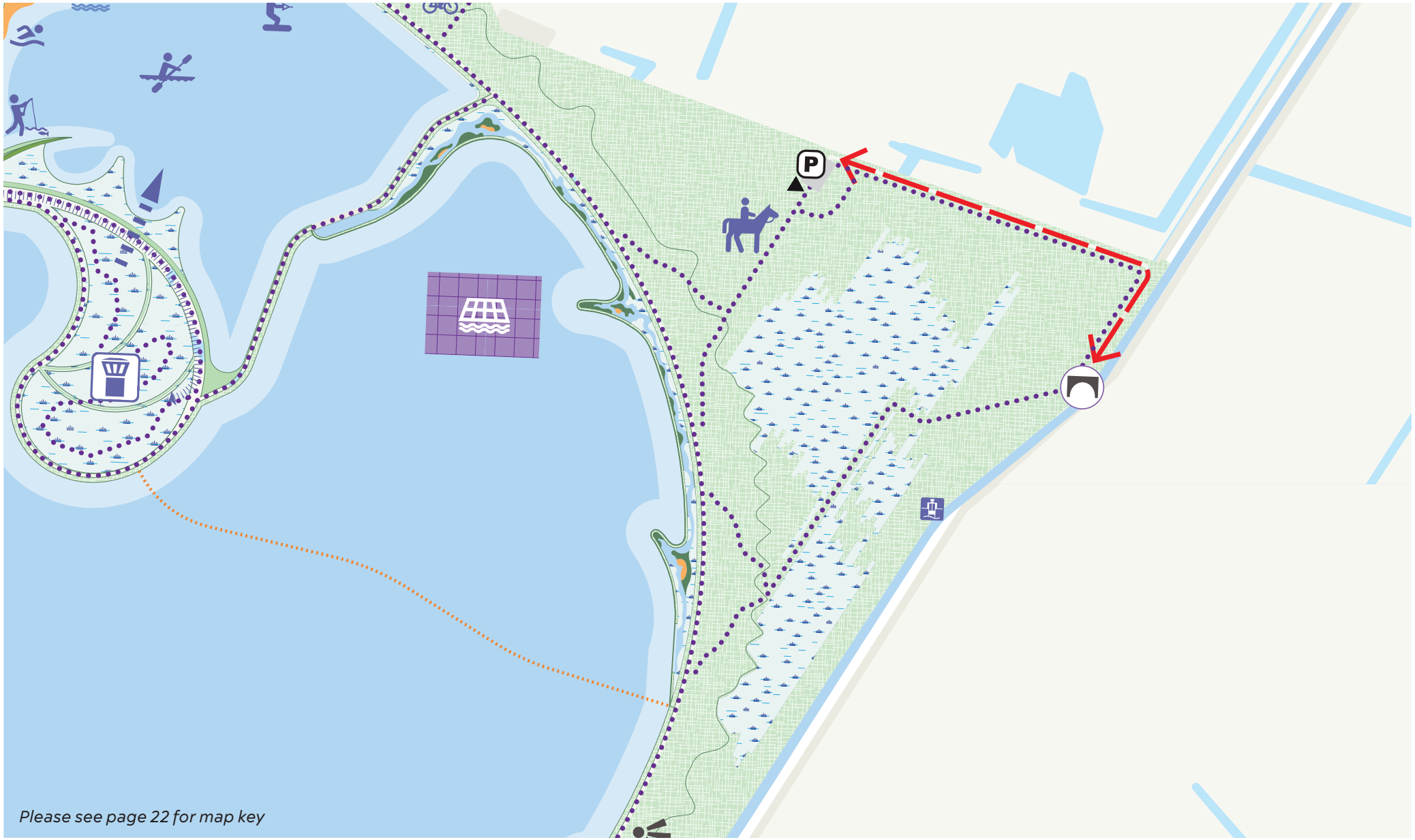
Ground levels here are slightly higher than the southern half of the reservoir generally lying above the water level in the Sixteen Foot Drain. A simple sculptural approach to the embankments could be used to provide more space for the wetlands below.

We are considering the feasibility of including renewable energy generation as part of the main reservoir site. The feasibility, mix and capacity of this is being explored, but we have indicatively suggested at this stage that floating solar panels could be located in a specific area.

Find out more

Find out more about this part of the design in our **main site design report** which is available online at **www.fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

We would like to get your comments on our initial ideas for this area of the reservoir. Please visit **www.fensreservoir.co.uk** and complete our online feedback form or see **page 15** for other ways to provide your comments.



Please see page 22 for map key

Additional land areas

Our work to date has focused on the emerging design for the reservoir.

We have also done some very early thinking on the areas of land we could need for environmental mitigation and enhancement, construction, or for other works related to the reservoir.

This is based on the early consideration of known constraints around the reservoir, and the size of the reservoir and its embankments.

However, this is subject to further assessment and consultation, and whether the land is needed on a permanent or temporary basis is still to be confirmed.

We would like to get your feedback on these areas of land. Do you have any comments on the identified areas or is there any information you can provide about these areas to help us develop our work further?

More developed thinking on construction and environmental mitigation plans will follow at a later consultation. By this time we will have completed preliminary work on our environmental impact assessment. Further surveys will also have been completed to continue our understanding of ground conditions and other matters.

Your feedback

We would like to get your comments on our initial ideas for this area of the reservoir. Please visit **www.fensreservoir.co.uk** and complete our online feedback form or see **page 15** for other ways to provide your comments.


Key
Indicative project boundary
Indicative areas of land potentially required for construction and/or environmental mitigation/enhancement
Preferred corridors for associated water infrastructure
Preferred area for water treatment works
Indicative location of water treatment works
Indicative location of solar panels

love every drop
anglianwater

Cambridge Water

Get in touch

You can contact the project team by:

Email **info@fensreservoir.co.uk**

Freephone **0800 915 2492**

Write **Freepost Fens Reservoir**

Website **www.fensreservoir.co.uk**