Welcome to the River Thames Scheme Supplementary Consultation

As part of the Development Consent Order process, we carried out a statutory consultation from 22 January to 4 March 2024.

One of the focal points of statutory consultation was the alignment and impacts of the Scheme at Ferris Meadow Lake. In our statutory consultation materials, we presented seven options for the channel design at this location.

Since statutory consultation, we have completed the detailed appraisal of those seven options at Ferris Meadow Lake, in addition to two further options included as a result of feedback received during statutory consultation.

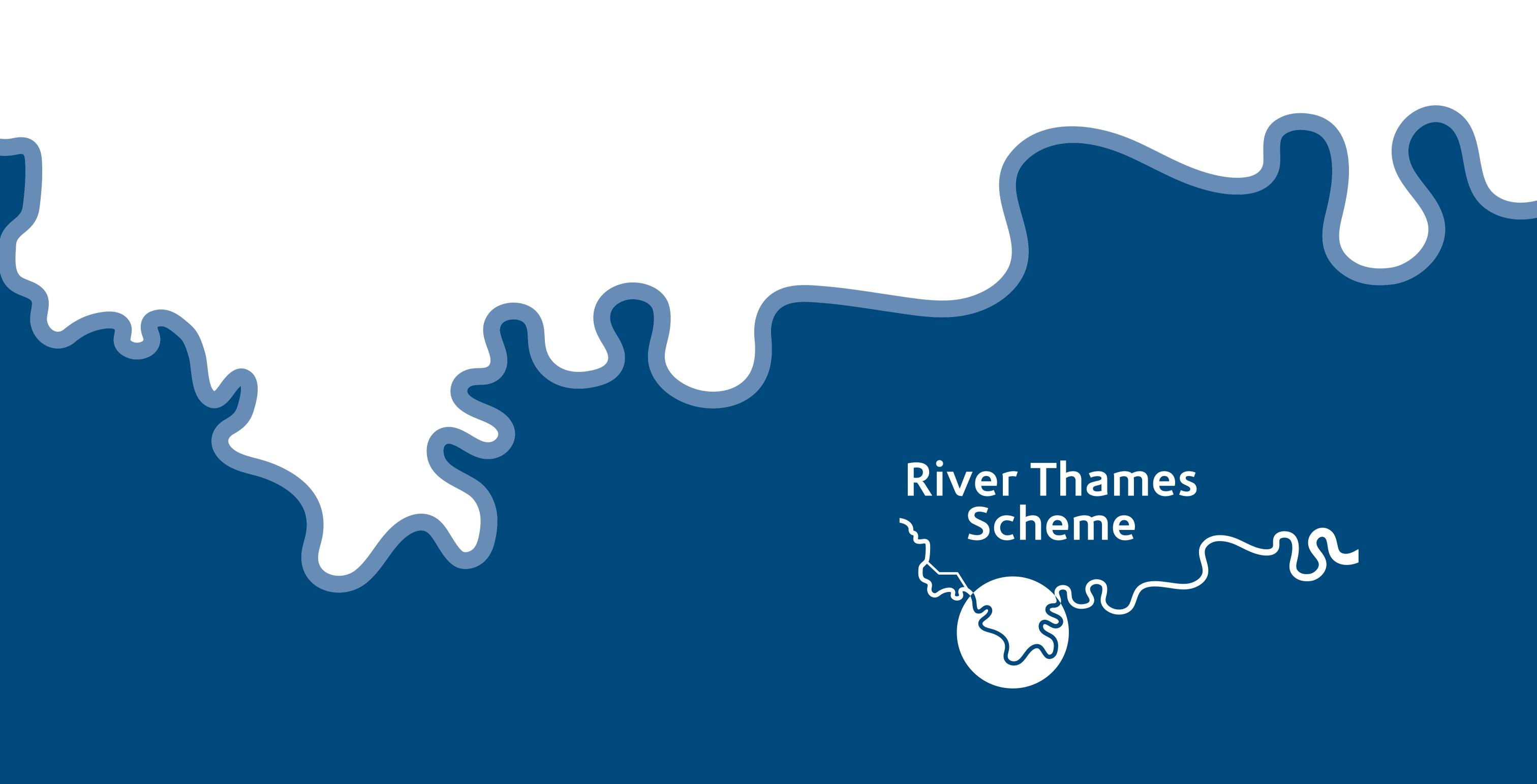
The appraisal's outcome has shown that Option 1 performs best overall, and as such is the preferred option for the proposed Scheme design at Ferris Meadow Lake. Option 1 involves the Spelthorne channel passing through Ferris Meadow Lake.

We are now consulting to seek feedback on how we can develop the Scheme design at Ferris Meadow Lake and on the Ferris Meadow Lake Options Appraisal Report.

Tell us what you think about

- How we can best develop the Scheme design at Ferris Meadow Lake in light of the additional information provided and the preferred option being Option 1.
- The Ferris Meadow Lake Options Appraisal Report.

Please take this time to look at the materials provided at the supplementary consultation events and ask our team any questions you may have.



OUR VISION

"The River Thames Scheme will reduce flood risk to people living and working near the Thames, enhance the resilience of nationally important infrastructure, contribute to a vibrant local economy and maximise the social and environmental value of the river"

OUR GOALS

A landscape-based approach to creating a healthier, more sustainable, and more resilient community.

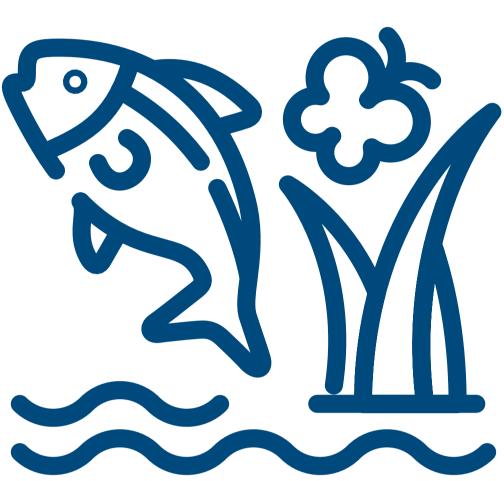
We will:



Reduce the risk of flooding for dwellings, businesses and infrastructure.



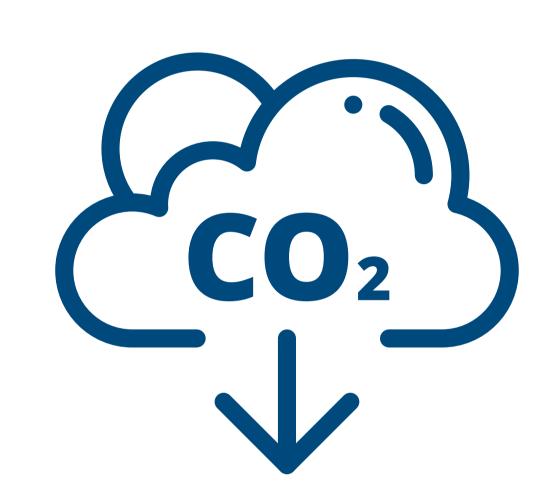
Improve access to quality green open spaces, connection with wildlife and more sustainable travel network.



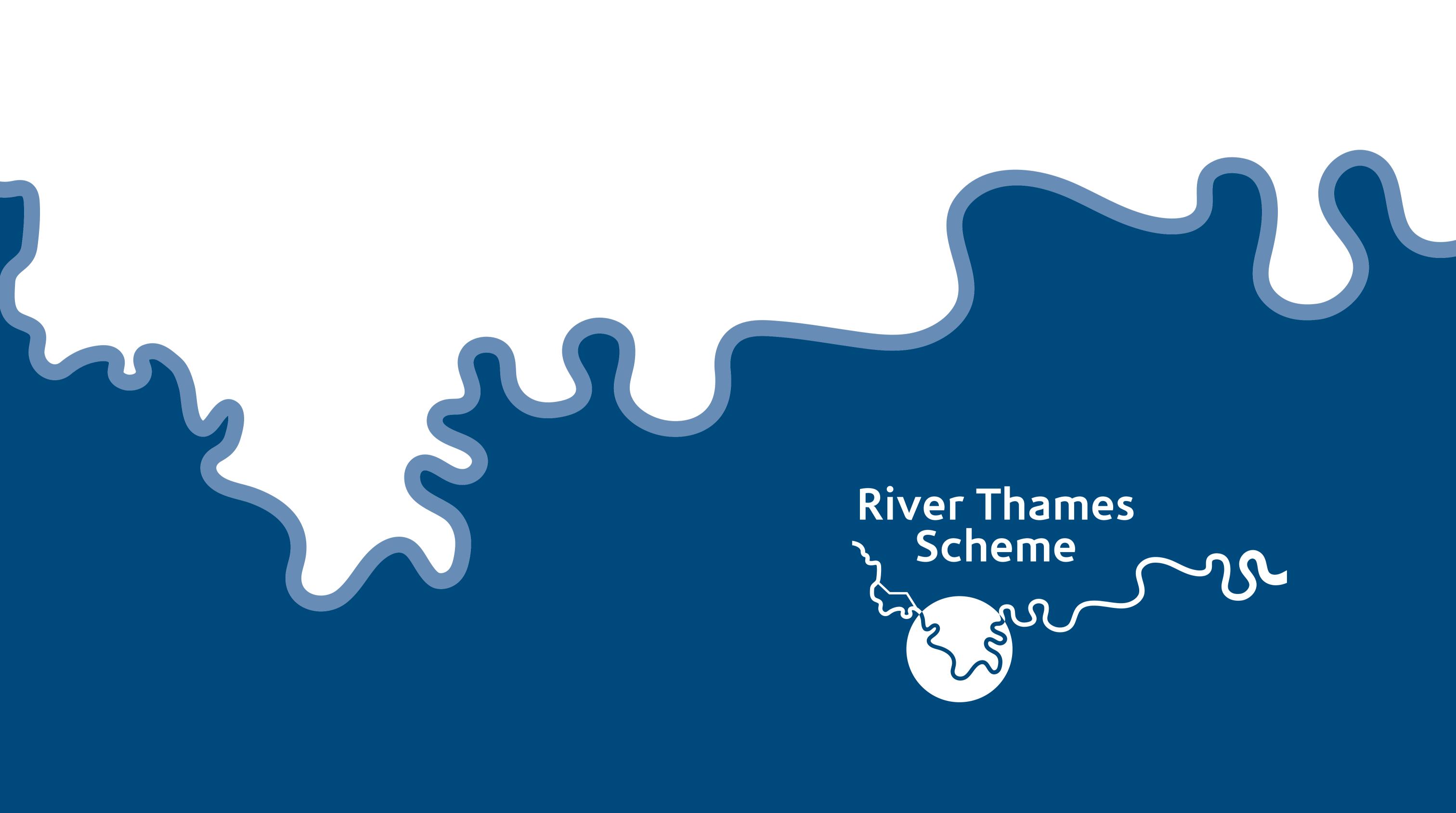
Create a network of high quality habitat and achieve biodiversity gain.



Facilitate sustainable and inclusive economic growth.



Enable delivery and design that contribute to EA, SCC and Partner climate goals relating to carbon use.



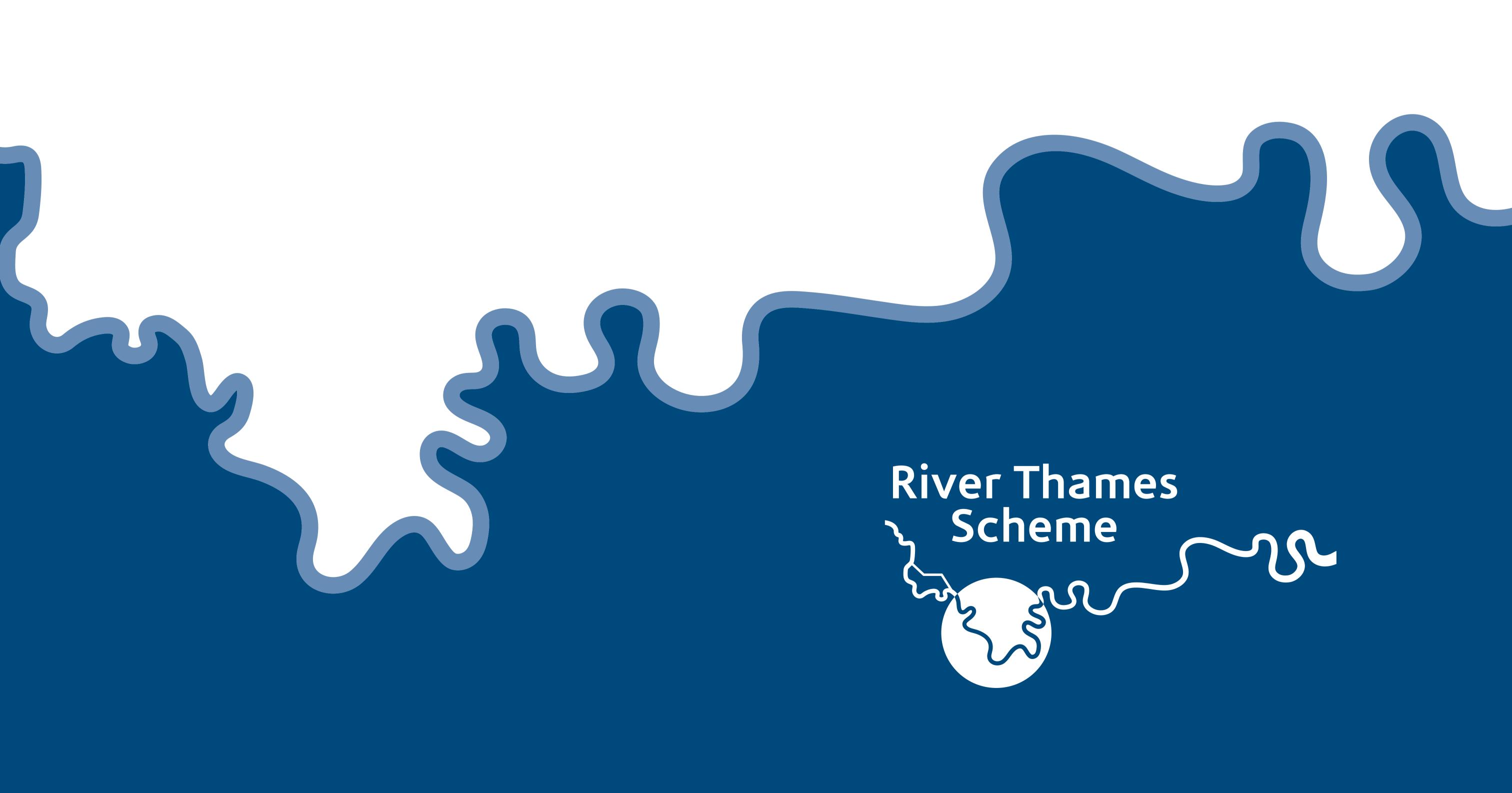
Scheme Overview

The River Thames Scheme will reduce the risk of flooding to thousands of homes, businesses and vital infrastructure while unlocking the economic, health and environmental benefits of the river between Egham and Teddington and responding to the challenges of climate change and nature recovery.

The Scheme includes a new flood channel in two sections, passing through the boroughs of Runnymede and Spelthorne in Surrey. The Scheme also includes bed lowering of the River Thames downstream of the Desborough Cut and increases in capacity at Sunbury, Molesey and Teddington weirs.

The Scheme will create new areas of green and blue open space with recreational facilities, a nature recovery network and provide sustainable travel connections to link communities together.





The options appraisal

The Ferris Meadow Lake Options Appraisal Report examined the seven options presented at statutory consultation, in addition to two further options included as a result of feedback received during statutory consultation.

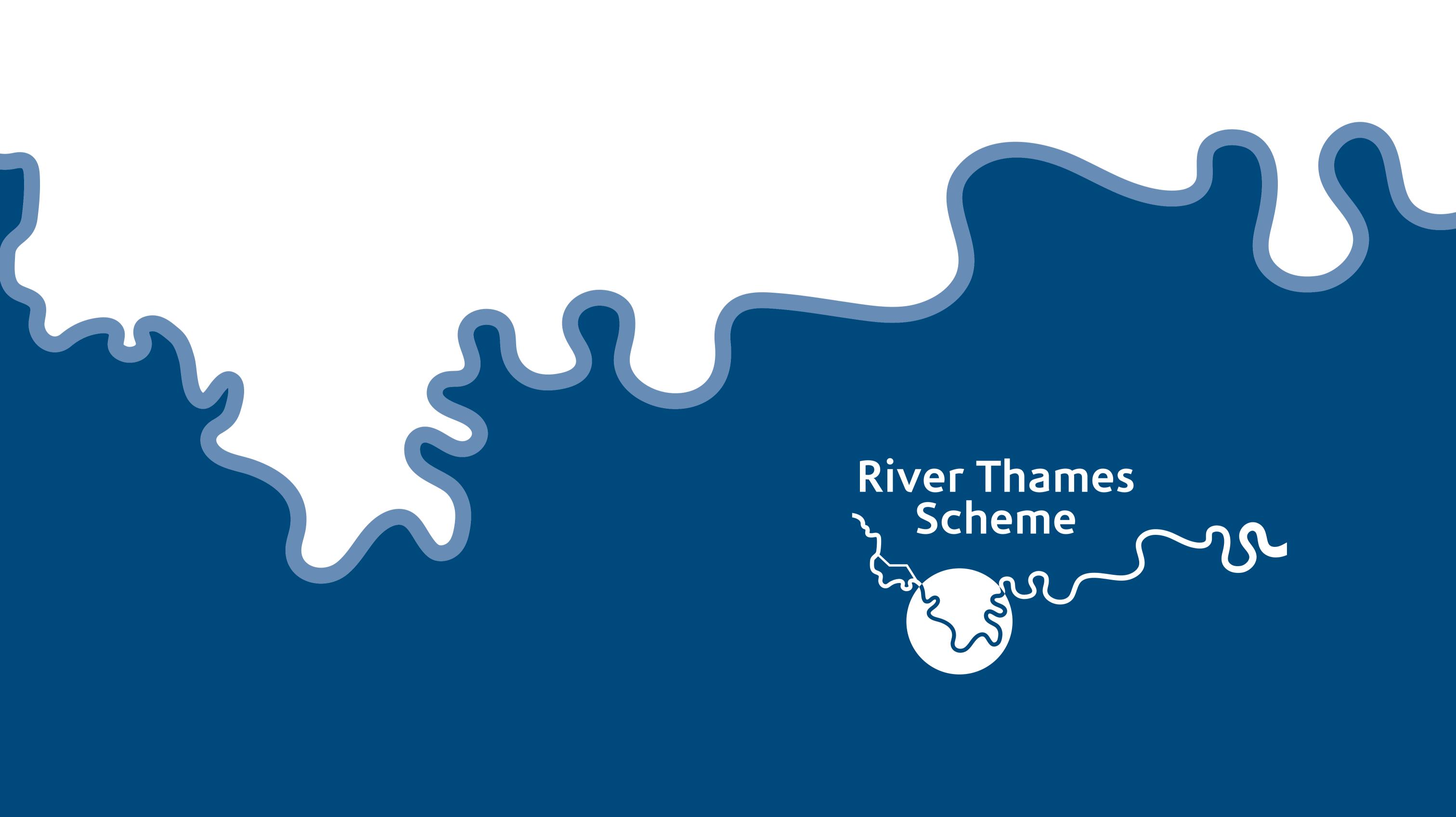
The appraisal was carried out by a team of experienced River Thames Scheme specialists, involving detailed consideration of each of the options against the following criteria:

- Technical and Feasibility Appraisal
- Environmental Appraisal
- Environmental Design Principles (EDP) Appraisal
- Planning Policy and Legislative Appraisal
- Construction Costs
- Land Costs

The appraisal report also includes an assessment of the water quality impacts of each of the Ferris Meadow Lake options.

The findings of these assessments were used to determine the overall performance of each of the Ferris Meadow Lake options and inform the selection of the preferred option of the Scheme.

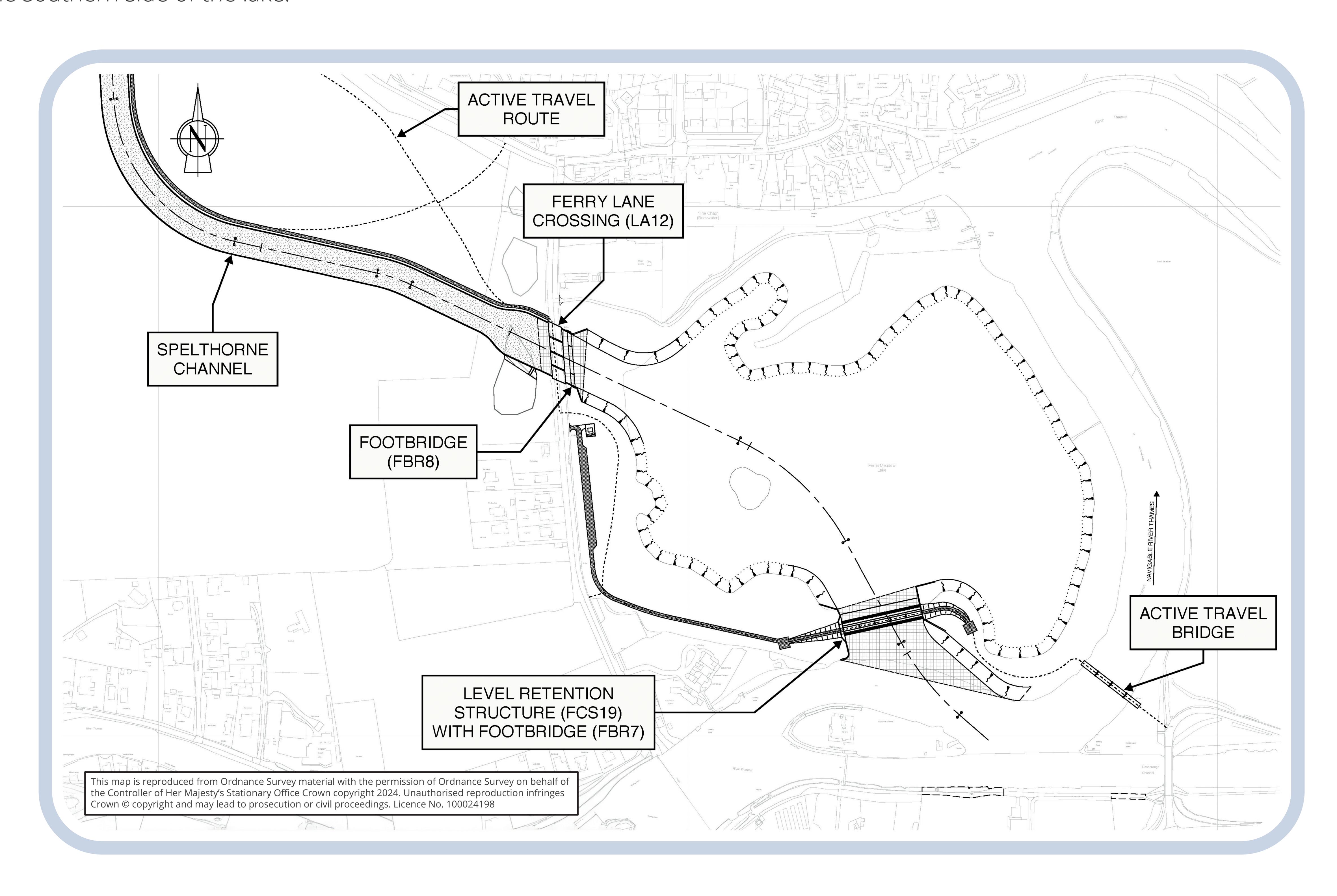
Detailed information about the performance of all the options against the criteria can be found in the Ferris Meadow Lake Options Appraisal published as part of this consultation.



The preferred option

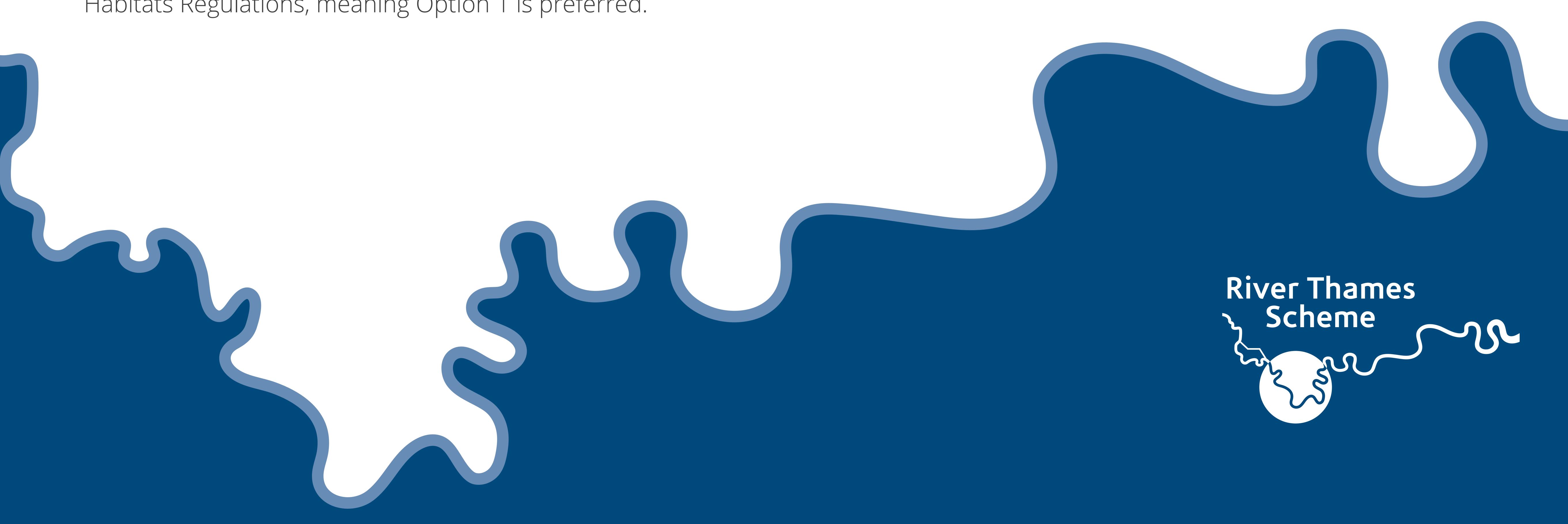
Based on our appraisal of the options at Ferris Meadow Lake, and consideration of the feedback received during statutory consultation, Option 1 has been identified as the preferred option for the Scheme.

The Option 1 design would involve the Spelthorne Channel passing into Ferris Meadow Lake under a new bridge at Ferry Lane. The channel would pass through the lake before discharging into the River Thames via a flow control structure with a footbridge, at the southern side of the lake.



Why Option 1 is the preferred option

- Option 1 continues to allow for safe swimming in Ferris Meadow Lake.
- Option 1 performed best against the Technical and Feasibility Appraisal and Construction Costs criteria.
- Option 1, along with Option 7, performed the best overall in the Environmental Appraisal. However, Option 7 identifies a risk to biodiversity, which could lead to non-compliance with the Habitats Regulations, meaning Option 1 is preferred.
- Option 1 and 7 performed the best in the Planning Policy and Legislative Appraisal. However, Option 7's potential non-compliance with the Habitats Regulations presents a significant risk for the Scheme, whereas Option 1 only presents minor challenges in relation to compliance with national and local planning policy.
- Option 1 performed very well with regards to the Environmental Design Principles and the Land Costs appraisals.



We want your feedback!

Thank you for visiting the River Thames Scheme supplementary consultation.

Please get involved and share your feedback on the proposed option design for Ferris Meadow Lake and our Ferris Meadow Lake Options Appraisal Report. You can share your thoughts with us by completing our feedback form either online or by post, or by sending us and email or letter.

You have until 23:59 on Monday 7 October to submit your feedback.

Your feedback is important to us, and it will be carefully considered to help develop the Scheme design that we submit in our application for development consent.

River Thames Scheme FUTURE TIMELINE



