



We are writing to update you on our proposals for a new reservoir in the Fens, and the upcoming survey works that will inform our design as it develops.

Our phase two consultation closed in summer 2024. We've been considering the valuable feedback received as we progress our environmental assessment work, to help us identify and assess any impacts and further develop our plans for managing the reservoirs.

Having considered the feedback, it's clear people want us to think carefully about, and provide more information on, specific issues including construction impacts, and traffic and transport. These are important issues for us too and we're now planning to hold another phase of community consultation in the autumn, where we will provide an update on our proposals and more detailed information on these issues we know are important.

We've updated the project timeline to reflect this – you can view this [here](#).

As we continue to develop our proposals further, we're now carrying out our next phase of surveys to understand more about the land we could be working on.

Surveys are vital to allow us to gather important information about the area and help us manage potential impacts, as well as informing our design. We would like to reassure you that these survey works are not a sign of construction work starting on the project, we are still developing our proposals in order to submit a planning application to the Secretary of State for Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under the Development Consent Order (DCO) process.

The surveys will be progressed by Anglian Water in accordance with the agreed approach with district councils under Anglian Water's permitted development rights and by engaging with landowners to request access for the surveys. Surveys will start in the coming weeks and continue until early autumn this year. They will involve small teams of attending various areas across the land we've identified for the main reservoir site.

Some of the surveys we will be carrying out are non-intrusive. These involve a small team conducting site visits to understand more about any environmental factors within the site that might influence our designs for the reservoir, and how it would be built. While any disruption will be low-level, you may see more people present in these areas, or slightly more traffic on the roads.

In other locations across the main reservoir site, we will also be carrying out ground investigations including boreholes and trial pits. These surveys will help us understand what land and soil factors we need to consider for construction activity, including archaeology and water quality.

Once in place, these ground investigations will be inspected and, where relevant, samples taken. This will involve a small team accessing various locations across the site with a small SUV and trailer, using standard construction equipment. When we have the information we need, we will reinstate the land that we've worked on.

To support our team while they carry out these surveys, we'll be utilising the temporary works compound we've set up on land north of Chatteris, within the proposed reservoir boundary. We have worked closely with the owner of the land on which the compound will be sited and have been in close liaison with Fenland District Council to ensure that the necessary permissions are in place.

We are in the process of reaching out to all landowners to request access for survey work. Our teams will be taking care during survey work to avoid disturbing any species or habitats within the areas in which they are working wherever possible. Please be assured during this period we will be carrying out regular road cleans where our work leads to excess mud on the roads. For any enquiries about the surveys please see the project phone number and email address at the end of this email.

This is important work to help us develop the best possible scheme, and we'd like to thank you and the wider community in advance for your cooperation.

More information about our survey work can be found [here](#).

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Staples
Stakeholder Lead – Fens Reservoir Project