

DataCollection.FinishTime	08/01/2026 11:36
RESPT	Online Response form
Q4	West Hendred Parish Council
Q5	Local government (county and district councils, parish and town councils and local partnerships)
Q6	Social media
Q7 Please provide us with your comments on our Indicative Master Plan for the reservoir site, described on pages 24 to 33 of our Statutory Consultation Brochure.	You have outlined the reasons why it is needed and noting ongoing spend of £2.5bn on water leakage mitigation from 2025 to 2030. And also note three core themes of A Reservoir, a Space for Nature and a Place for People. All are equally important to us as a Parish. As a major piece of infrastructure development it is vital you take learning of best practice from recent projects such as Thames Tideway, Crossrail and HS2 to minimise disruption to the neighbourhood (people and nature) and procure as efficiently as possible. On our Parish Council we have someone who worked at a senior engineering level on Crossrail from design through to construction completion. We also have experts in the Parish on Environment and Water Management. We will be expecting Best Practice in every aspect of this project.
Q8 To guide our future design work, we've developed draft Design Principles which can be found on pages 30 to 31 of our Statutory Consultation Brochure, and in our draft Design Principles document. Please provide us with your comments on our draft Design Principles.	We note the design is, at this stage, at a low level of detail. However the Parish has highlighted several concerns which must be addressed. These are : 1. Safety Risk Management during construction and operation (the threat of a breach of the dam is a concern); 2. Water Quality - stagnant water may develop undesirable algae and become unhealthy; 3. Managing Groundwater Levels - these may rise and a robust mitigation must be designed; 4. Converting the Space for Nature and Place for People into reality and not be compromised due to financial pressure; 5. Demonstrate Value for Money to bill payers.
Q9 Please provide us with your comments on our current design proposals for the infrastructure needed to operate the reservoir, as well as utility diversions and renewable energy, described on pages 40 to 63 of our Statutory Consultation Brochure.	We welcome the use of rail for bringing materials to site. However, during the rail infrastructure build we anticipate the need to use the A417 for construction traffic. The road is already over capacity during the morning and afternoon rush hours and your mitigation plan is needed so disruption is minimised. Please confirm once the rail sidings are built the plans for delivery to site will not include the A417 as a route. Why is there a need to take yet more farmland for solar energy? This should be limited to the reservoir itself. Has ground source heat from the reservoir been considered?
Q10 Please provide us with your comments on our current proposals for the reservoir's environmental features, described on pages 64 to 76 of our Statutory Consultation Brochure.	The principle of a Space for Nature and Place for People underwrites this. Maintaining water quality in the reservoir is obviously essential and we have commented on stagnant water in the previous section. We note additional land take to address the Space for Nature. Can we have your assurance that a thorough Environmental Audit is being undertaken to understand what should be kept and incorporated into the landscape.

<p>Q11 Please provide us with your comments on our current proposals for access to and around the reservoir site, described on pages 78 to 83 of our Statutory Consultation Brochure.</p>	<p>We have mentioned previously the traffic congestion on the A417. How much of that traffic can be taken by the new Hanney to Steventon road to relieve congestion?</p>
<p>Q12 Please provide us with your comments on our current proposals for amenity and recreation facilities on the reservoir site, described on pages 84 to 91 of our Statutory Consultation Brochure.</p>	<p>The proposals are encouraging and must not be scaled back if financial pressure is applied to the project.</p>
<p>Q13 Please provide us with your comments on how we propose to build the new reservoir, described on pages 92 to 99 of our Statutory Consultation Brochure.</p>	<p>The COCP must incorporate lessons learned from the recent major infrastructure projects Crossrail, Thames Tideway, HS2. We would expect the same rigour to be applied to control construction activities to ensure Environmental standards are maintained. Of particular concern would be the Lorry Management Plan and its effect on the congestion on the A417. We would like to review this document with particular regard to the A417 use.</p>
<p>Q14 Please provide us with your comments on the preliminary environmental information, summarised on pages 100 to 113 of our Statutory Consultation Brochure, contained in our Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report and the PEI Non-Technical Summary.</p>	<p>Please confirm that a rigorous environmental survey will be undertaken that covers the enlarged land take now being considered.</p>
<p>Q15 Please provide us with your comments on our draft sustainability priorities and objectives, described in our draft report on Delivering a Sustainable Legacy for People and Nature.</p>	
<p>Q16 Please provide us with any other comments you would like to make about our proposals.</p>	<p>We have responded to aspects that affect our Parish and residents. We have expertise on major infrastructure projects (Crossrail), environment and water management and we will be expecting best practice to be adopted in all aspects of the project. We are of course concerned with the overall cost and would expect a rigorous analysis to demonstrate the reservoir is best value for</p>

	those who will eventually pay i.e. our residents. There is little mention of the Southern Pipeline which will need to go through some sensitive areas near or in our Parish. We expect to comment on those details when they become available.
Q17	
Q17.Codes	No comments