

APPENDIX A

Hobson's Brook Corridor 10 Year Vision – Public Consultation Report

1. Purpose

To outline the feedback from the consultation and analyse the responses giving an indication and recommendation of the amendments and or additions required for the Hobson's Brook Corridor 10 Year Vision.

2. Consultation Method

A number of media options were undertaken to encourage and ensure the general public were able to interact and give feedback on the 'Vision'. Key stakeholders were kept up to date on the consultation. The consultation ran from Wednesday 22nd November until Tuesday 9th January 2018.

- a) Electronic consultation leaflet made available on Cambridge City Council consultation webpage (01/11/17).

3. Responses

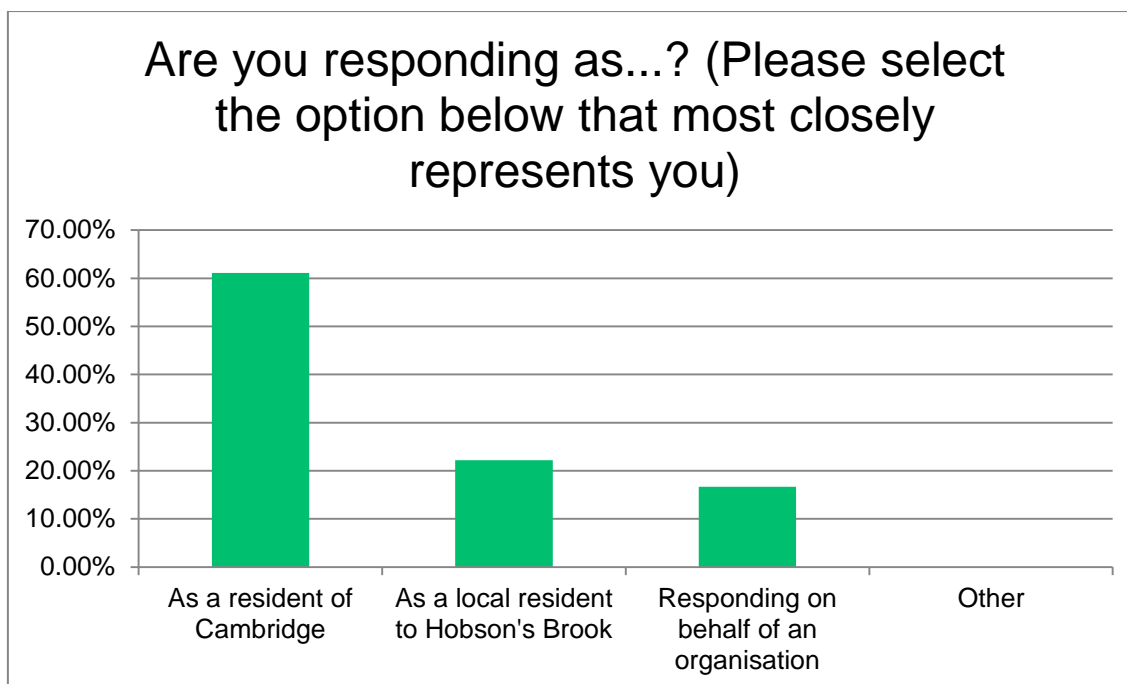
Wider Public Consultation, November/December 2017

From the various consultation media and response to the wider public consultation there were 20 responses received. All but two of these used the online consultation questions:

Question 1 responses

To the question asking, '**Are you responding as**' there were 18 responses received as below:

- As a resident of Cambridge - 11 people or 61% of the respondents indicated they were a resident of Cambridge
- As a local resident to Hobson's Brook – 4 people or 22% of the respondents said they were a local resident to Hobson's Brook.
- Responding on behalf of an organisation – 3 person or 17% of the respondents said they were responding on behalf of an organisation
- Organisations stated included - Highways Cambridgeshire County Council, Trumpington Residents' Association and Bentley and Newton Roads Residents Association (BENERA).



Question 2 responses

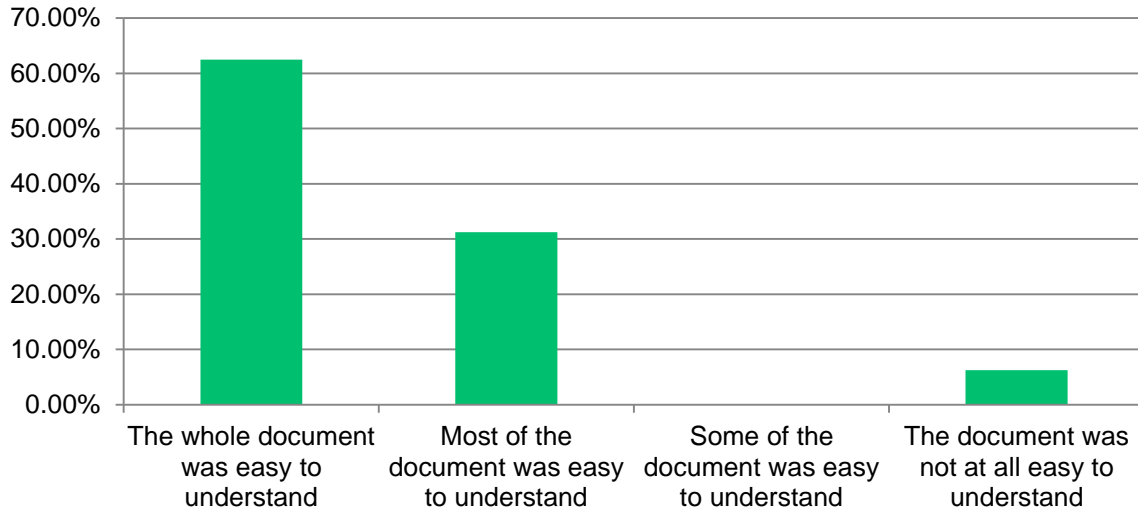
To the question asking, **'Please tell us whether the 'Vision' document was easy or difficult to understand.'** there were 16 responses received:

- 10 or 63% of respondents said the whole document was easy to understand
- 5 or 31% of respondents said most of the document was easy to understand
- 0 respondents said some of the document was easy to understand
- 1 or 6% of respondents said the document was not at all easy to understand

Comments on this question when asked to, **'tell us what, if anything, you didn't understand in the 'Vision' document'** included,

1. some technical details in the tables The evasive recording of legal issues concerning ownership and responsibility The status of the Hobson Conduit Conservators, and their effectiveness, which is not transparent BENERA welcomes those aspects of the document which will serve to archive the current extremely fragile situation of the watercourse corridor. It is not easy to understand how the Vision will be adequately funded
2. What, and precisely where, is Addenbrookes Ditch? What is CamEO?

Please tell us whether the 'Vision' document was easy or difficult to understand.

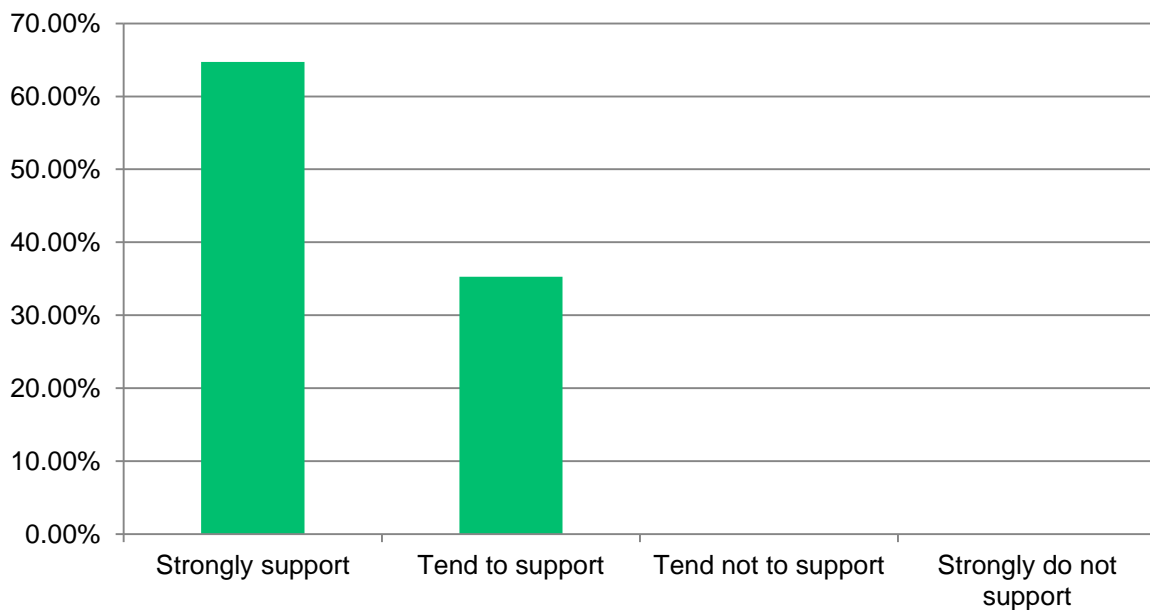


Question 3 responses

To the question asking, 'overall do you support the 10 year 'Vision' for Hobson's Brook Corridor.' there were 17 responses received:

- 11 or 65% of respondents said they strongly supported the 'Vision'
- 6 or 35% of respondents said they tended to support the 'Vision'
- No respondents said they tended not to support the 'Vision'
- No respondents said they strongly do not to support the 'Vision'

Overall do you support the 10 year 'Vision' for Hobson's Brook Corridor?



Question 4 responses

To the question asking, 'To what extent do you agree or disagree with the general content and principles, as outlined in the Vision.' there were 16 responses received:

Answer Choices	Strongly Agree –	Tend to Agree –	Tend to Disagree –	Strongly Disagree –	Don't Know –	Total –
Physical Description 'the Vision'	40% 6	53% 8	0% 0	0% 0	7% 1	15
Flood risk and Drought	38% 6	44% 7	6% 1	0% 0	13% 2	16
Ecology	50.00% 8	44.00% 7	0% 0	0% 0	6% 1	16
Landscape, Trees and Amenity	44% 7	44% 7	6% 1	0% 0	6% 1	12
Water Body Quality	47% 7	40% 6	0% 0	% 0	13% 2	15
Education, Public Engagement and Access	31% 5	56% 9	6% 1	0.00% 0	6% 1	16
Achieving 'the Vision'	53% 8	33% 5	0.00% 0	7% 1	7% 1	15
Next Steps (Chapter 6)	31% 4	54% 7	0.00% 0	8% 1	8% 1	13

Question 5 responses

To the question asking, 'Of the potential projects for the next 10 years within the draft 'Vision' please indicate which ones you think would be a positive contribution, please list these and give any comments you may have.' The following comments were received:

1. Restoration/repair of historic man-made features; de-silting and maintenance of banks; constructive management of trees and vegetation
2. All would make a positive contribution. Priority should be given to: 1. The underground sections of the Brook. 2. The Memorial Bridge to Brooklands Avenue

- section, both to prevent flooding and enhance public amenity. 3. The Brooklands Avenue to Lensfield Road section to reduce weed and algal growth, increase flow, and restore historic bridges and railings. (The University and the owners of Brookside properties should be encouraged to make a positive contribution.)
3. Ongoing maintenance is important, as is the preservation and if possible, enhancement of wildlife.
 4. All seem to have merit, particularly if volunteers (I am already one) can be used to minimise cost.
 5. All of them. I think the whole system from beginning to end is wonderful. History, ecology, beauty; something for everyone - resident, tourist. All of it should be looked after.
 6. Education, public engagement and access, ecology.
 7. All
 8. Augmenting water supplies in times of drought. As this summer's drought was the worst since 1976, are there any up to date facts regarding the effects of this summer's drought on the flora and fauna?
 9. All of the projects listed have merit. Those aimed at protecting the long-term integrity of the water course are the most important.

Question 6 responses

To the question asking, '**Of the potential projects for the next 10 years within the draft 'Vision' please indicate which ones you think would be a negative contribution, please list these and give any comments you may have.**' The following comments were received;

1. We note that despite being a major and very active residents' association representing an area immediately adjacent to arguably the best preserved section of the Brook, we are not included amongst the 'stakeholders'.
2. Addenbrookes Road to Guided Bus - not a negative contribution in itself but a large cost involved.
3. Limiting cycle access. With SO MANY cyclists in Cambridge there should be a dual cycle & walking path; or at least shared.
4. Any over urbanisation of the Brook.

Question 7 responses

To the question asking, '**If you have any further comments on the draft vision (or potential projects) please provide them below;**'

There were 8 comments for more details on the responses please see Further Comments.

Separate written responses

Two written responses were sent in separately to the questionnaire; these were supportive of the overall aims of the document and only recommended minor adjustments to specific sections within the report.

5. Discussion and general summary:

The results of this survey will be presented to Key Stakeholders and Community Services Scrutiny Committee to enable consideration and response to feedback in the production of the 'Vision'. It is intended that this 'Vision' subject to minor alterations as suggested through the consultation will then be approved. The 'Vision' can then be used as an evidence base to inform future local plan creation and inform decisions regarding planning applications as well as an evidence base for prioritising projects coming forward for key stakeholders and especially the Hobson's Conduit Trust.

Response Overview:

- 100% of respondents supported the Vision.
- A number of suggested improvements for the Vision were suggested in the comments sections –these will be considered and relevant amendments made to the 'Vision'.

6. Stakeholders contacted directly for comment:

The University of Cambridge
Clare College
Emmanuel College
Christs College
Environment Agency
Trumpington Farm Company
Cambridge Water
Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire Wildlife Trust
Cam Valley Forum
Cambridge Past Present & Future
Addenbrooke's Hospital
Addrenbrooke's Biomedical Campus
Cambridgeshire County Council
Highways Authority
Cambridge University Botanic Garden
CamEO
Anglian Water
Benson Road Residents Association
ACRA
Federation of Cambridge Residents Association (for circulation to other residents groups)
Cambridge City Council Ward Councillors

7. Recommendations:

Considering the public consultation responses received it is suggested that the 'Vision' goes forward as a recommendation of approval and adoption by Community Services Scrutiny Committee and the Council. It is also recommended that a Steering Group is set up with key partners to appraise and prioritise the potential projects coming forward, with a view to agreeing a Hobson's Conduit Improvement Delivery Plan for 2018 to 2028.

Further Comments

(Please note to protect peoples data the responses have been anonymised/redacted where appropriate)

Comments on Question 7, 'If you have any further comments on the draft vision (or potential projects) please provide them below;'

1. Major stakeholders such as the University, and the relevant Colleges should be encouraged to make a practical and material contribution. No consideration seems to be given to the Vicar's Brook from its diversion from Hobson's Brook, close to Clare Woods, until its discharge into the Cam. It is hard to dissociate the management of these two streams, particularly with reference to flood control.

2. Sadly the 'Vision' is contradictory for the Corridor section where my association's members live (between Long Rd and Brooklands Ave), which the document describes as 'bucolic, sheltered and tranquil'. Yet the Vision fails to mention the Council's vandalistic construction of a footbridge from Accordia which will destroy the environment of the Brook corridor in this section. How do we know this will happen? Because the Vision document unwittingly confirms it for us. The 'Vision' itself comments (pp.41f) on the incremental changes to whole habitats to be expected from the footfall from new bridges further south, and the expectation that wildlife will 'vacate the Brook permanently' (42). This contradictory approach means my association has no confidence in the City Council's plans for the Brook.
3. We are particularly concerned about the impact of the possible further expansion of the Campus which has been proposed by South Cambridgeshire District Council as a modification to the Local Plan Submission, which is currently being examined by the Inspectors. If approved, the extension of the Campus to the foot of White Hill and even closer to the boundary of Nine Wells Local Nature Reserve would have a significant negative impact on both. Our concern is underlined by the fact that the development of the Campus is not identified as a pressure in section 3.7 of the draft vision and we ask that this is remedied in the final document. there should be reference in section 3.7 to the further pressure on the upper reaches of the Brook likely to result from the decision to introduce four-track operation on the railway line from Greater Shelford Junction into Cambridge, in the context of East West Rail and the Oxford/Cambridge corridor. Additional pressure may also arise from the Greater Cambridge Partnership's South Cambridge Public Transport Study which could well lead to a dedicated busway, light rail or other rapid mass transit system from the south into the Campus or to join the railway line at or near the mooted Cambridge South rail station serving the Campus. This would be likely to have an impact on the strip of Green Belt between Nine Wells LNR and the railway line which affords much needed protection to the Brook and the LNR. We also recommend that the document should address measures to restore species lost to the Nine Wells LNR as a result of the 1970s drought, for which the proposed augmentation scheme, though highly desirable, may not be sufficient on its own.
4. Hobson's Brook is a vital 'green' lung in the city and every effort should be made to ensure it fulfils that role in the future
5. Hobson's Brook (between Long Rd & Botanic gardens) is my FAVOURITE walk! It's like going into a fairy glen (& the water is crystal clear.) I would love to be able to walk / cycle the whole path - from beginning to end. (When a friend explained the history - starting at nine-wells & going into the conduits with water for Cambridge - it made it even more special.)
6. I am concerned about what pollutants are being discharged from Clay Farm development. I register that water will be going through 2+ treatment steps, but who will ensure that Countryside Properties are actually fulfilling their duties in this regard?
7. Page 5 of the Vision document states that it "will also be used to inform future local plan creation and be used as an evidence base to help make informed decisions regarding planning applications". However, the vision outlined here, and the steps required to deliver it, fail to reflect the importance of the Brook in the local context and will do nothing to protect it from further development pressures. I notice, for example, that there is no mention of the proposed 'Phase 3' extension to the Biomedical Campus (modification to the emerging Local Plan) which will bring dense institutional and commercial development to within 40m of the Nine Wells LNR perimeter. It was noted that when South Cambs District Council ran the public consultation for inclusion of this modification in the joint Local Plan, there was no response from Cambridge City Council's Biodiversity Officer who is the de facto manager of the Nine Wells LNR. Did no-one think to invite his opinion; or was it deemed impolitic for him to offer one? It is very difficult to see how Cambridge City Council can both advocate for extensive new development around the Biomedical

Campus and be an authentic champion for Nine Wells and Hobson's Brook - it is not possible to be both poacher and gamekeeper in this context. Surely any worthwhile Vision for the Brook would make a specific statement about how to protect it from the impact of that specific development, and also continued development pressures to come? I also find it implausible that the projects related to Nine Wells LNR will all be completed as zero cost. Why are these three projects dependent on volunteer labour for their success when every other initiative will receive financial support? Again, this raises questions about the wider plan for Nine Wells, given the development pressures. I would hope that your Vision might include expanding the Nine Wells LNR to enhance biodiversity, but your document, as it currently stands, leaves me unsure what future you anticipate for the reserve. Finally, I am concerned by the list of stakeholders you identify. You have taken the trouble to identify Addenbrooke's Hospital and the Biomedical Campus as separate entities, yet there is minimal mention of relevant Residents Associations along the length of the Brook - Trumpington RA, Queen Edith's Community Forum and Accordia RA all seem like significant omissions. I hope that the final Vision document will be able to address these shortcomings.

Additional comments received not outside of consultation webpages

8. The Greater Cambridge Planning Service welcomes and supports the development of the 10 Year Vision for the Hobson's Brook Corridor. It is recognised that the Hobson's Brook Corridor is in a location that is undergoing significant growth as part of the planned development of the Greater Cambridge area. With this growth comes the opportunity for new development to provide enhancement to or to contribute funding towards the enhancement of Hobson's Brook. Development in the area has and will continue to be required to mitigate any impacts on the Brook in line with the requirements contained within emerging water management policies in the Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Local Plans, which take an integrated approach to water management. The approaches outlined in the Vision document will form an important consideration for developers and their consultancy teams in informing the approach taken to landscape and drainage design considerations as part of development proposals.
9. In light of the planned growth taking place in this area, it is considered that a useful addition to the document would be a map showing the site allocations located within the Hobson's Brook Corridor, both in the City and in South Cambridgeshire. It is also recommended that section 3.6.1 (development) be updated to include reference to the proposed allocation of land to the South of Cambridge Biomedical Campus (policy E1/B in the emerging South Cambridgeshire Local Plan), and we would be happy to help develop appropriate wording. Given the requirements of this emerging allocation, which includes measures to mitigate any impact on the chalk springs at Nine Wells and Hobson's Brook and Conduit, there may be possibilities for this development to enhance or provide funding to enhance Hobson's Brook in line with the projects outlined in section 5 of the Vision document. It may also be helpful to make reference to the work on flooding and drainage that has been carried out by Peter Brett Associates in relation to land south of Cambridge Biomedical Campus¹, which could be added to sections 3.3 and 7 of the Vision document.
10. On the whole, the projects listed in Section 5 of the document are supported. It is, however, noted that the railings along Brookside / Botanic Gardens are mentioned at 2.3.2 as one of the associated Listed structures but (unlike say the bridges) are not

¹ Peter Brett Associates (October 2016). Extension to Bio-Medical Campus, Cambridge. Flood Modelling and Drainage Strategy Report. Available online at: https://www.scambs.gov.uk/sites/default/files/3_flood_modelling_drainage_strategy_report.pdf

included in the actions/ maintenance proposals. There is a statement in 3.5 page 38 that “*As with the section further south, the important issue along this section of Hobson’s Brook is maintenance of the channel, banks, railings, bridges and the vegetation in order to sustain this unique feature.*” Also in 4.4 page 46 that, “*Historic features such as bridges and railing should be maintained and restored.*” Therefore, there is a need to amend the 5.1 Projects to include railings.

11. Further comments on the document are as follows:

- The Suffolk Archaeology report mentioned at page 12 could be fully referenced with those at back of document;
- The 19th century fountain (2.3.2) in the Market Square was not erected on the former site of the Conduit Head – the latter was in a position closer to the Guildhall / Town hall;
- Section 3.2.2 (Climate) – note that the climate projections referenced within this section are currently in the process of being updated by DEFRA, with new projections (UKCP2018) due to be published this year;
- Page 38 (Bateman Street to Lensfield Road) – at end of para “The architecture of the villas....” Amend “triangular area has been railed off to accommodate Hobson’s Fountain which was relocated from Market Hill in 1856.” - this should refer to the *Conduit Head structure* rather than the *fountain*;
- Section 3.7 (page 41) – suggest that the second sentence of the first paragraph be amended to read “This is a dynamic and changing landscape with significant change to land use and the encroaching urban edge as part of the planned growth of Greater Cambridge.”
- 4.4 Landscape, Trees and Amenity (page 45-46) – amend the first sentence of the second paragraph to read “Further urban encroachment should be managed and discouraged....”
- As Hobson’s Brook rises from Nine Well’s, which is located in South Cambridgeshire, it is considered that the document could contain further references to the importance of the Brook to South Cambridgeshire, as well as its importance to the City.

12. Sect 1 – needs to be clear whether Vicar’s Brook is included. Although mentioned at the start of the document, there is no subsequent discussion of Vicar’s Brook or of potential projects there. This seems like a missed opportunity, especially as Vicar’s Brook is a more natural channel than Hobson’s Conduit and provides a direct connection to the river Cam. Note that the EA data for Hobson’s Brook quoted in the vision includes Vicar’s Brook rather than Hobson’s Conduit.

13. Sect 1.2 Geography – initial map should include new developments and ponds. It currently gives a misleading impression of the brook corridor.

14. Sect 3.2.1 the Atkins flood modelling data would be much easier to understand as a map.

15. Sect 3.5 should mention black poplar (and where it is). Projects section could include planting more black poplars, maybe cuttings from the existing one (though if it’s female there might be less objection to male trees).

16. Sect 4.2.1 mentions allowing water to flood other areas to protect the allotments. There should be a designated area for this, and associated project to

improve floodplain connection. This could tie in with offline reedbed creation projects, the field to the north of Long Road could be used. There should also be protection from future development in this area so it can continue to act as flood storage.

17. Sect 4.2 Augmentation. An augmentation scheme is an admission of failure and symptomatic of our unsustainable use of our local aquifer. Attempts should be made to reduce demands on the aquifer and gradually restore more natural flows, even if augmentation is required in the short term. This would be more sustainable in the long term.
18. Sect 4.4 Waterbody quality. Rather than creating weirs it would be better to create varied flow with leaky dams or woody debris, which would not impede fish passage and would not significantly impound water.
19. Fig 28 p48. This appears to show a gravel dam, which is liable to impound water, be washed away, or lead to a section where flow is entirely below the top of the gravel. It would be better to use a diagram showing the gravel section keyed into a change in bed level.
20. Sect 5 Projects
 - a. Should include a protected area around Nine Wells.
 - b. Should include costs for volunteer projects even if these will be covered by the City Council. There will be costs relating to organising and recruiting volunteers, H&S provision, transport etc.
 - c. Nuttalls pond weed is probably less of a concern than the other non-native invasive species.
 - d. Any desilt projects should be on a rolling programme.
 - e. Any lily collection would be better in an offline pond and not too near to the water violet.
 - f. Could be worth a project to investigate the division of flows between Vicar's Brook and Hobson's Conduit and whether this is optimal.
 - g. There are many potential projects for Vicar's Brook, which should be included here.

Sect 6.2 Key Stakeholders – should read Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire.

APPENDIX B

Proposed Modifications Table

Comments	Modifications Proposed
Ownership and governance	Noted. This is a highly complex legal area which this document does not look to define in detail. Its purpose is to set out a framework of potential projects and priorities in order to assist in the preservation and enhancement of this corridor.
Missing Stakeholders	Those that were flagged as missing or erroneous will be added/amended in Section 6.2 Key Stakeholders .
Further Comments Point 1	Noted. The increase in awareness of its condition will help aid in future discussions with major landowners and stakeholders.
Further Comments Point 2	Noted. Adjustments will be made to Section 3.7 Pressures to further clarify that there are other planned developments.
Further Comments Point 3	Noted. Adjustments will be made to Section 3.7 Pressures . Reference to the emerging local plan and allocated development areas will be included.
Further Comments Point 4	Noted.
Further Comments Point 5	Noted.
Further Comments Point 6	Noted. Countryside properties are monitoring discharges from the new developments and quarterly reports are produced independently on water quality. This information is reviewed by the Council.
Further Comments Point 7	Noted. Adjustments will be made to Section 3.7 Pressures . Reference to the emerging local plan and allocated development areas will be included. Planned developments will be subject to separate considerations and mitigation measures.
Further Comments Point 8 & 9	Noted. Adjustments will be made to Section 3.7 Pressures . Reference to the emerging local plan and allocated development areas will be included. Agreed, that planned developments will be subject to separate considerations and mitigation measures. The 'Vision' sets out priorities for mitigation and funding.
Further Comments Point 10	Noted. Adjustments will be made to Section 5.1 Projects to reflect this omission.
Further Comments Point 11	Recommended minor alterations and typos will be corrected as suggested in the sections listed in Point 11.
Further Comments Point 12	Noted. The Vision does have a greater focus on Hobson's Brook, this is especially true given the need for greater investment therefore it is seen as a priority focus area

	from the Councils and Trusts perspective.
Further Comments Point 13	Noted. We will explore options to update this map in Section 1.2 Geography Fig1 to reflect where new developments have been built.
Further Comments Point 14	Noted. This information was produced externally; it is not available as a map.
Further Comments Point 15	Noted. Section 3.5 Landscape, Trees & Amenity will refer back to a tree plan included as an appendix.
Further Comments Point 16	Noted. The field to the north of Long Road does not offer flood storage as flows remain in channel at this location during flood events.
Further Comments Point 17	Noted. Water demand issues are beyond the scope of this document.
Further Comments Point 18	Section 4.4 Waterbody Quality bullet point 2 will be amended to reference leaky dams.
Further Comments Point 19	Noted. The sketch in Fig 28 will be amended to demonstrate that impoundment isn't proposed.
Further Comments Point 20	<p>a. This is outside the scope of the document.</p> <p>b. Noted. An estimated volunteer cost will be provided in Section 5.1 Projects.</p> <p>c. Noted.</p> <p>d. Noted.</p> <p>e. Noted.</p> <p>f. Noted. It is difficult to ensure sufficient flows to the Conduit Head at certain times therefore any alteration of flows into Hobson's Brook will impact on the ability of the underground courses to run.</p>

APPENDIX C

Plan 1

Map showing Extent of Hobson's Brook Corridor

