

Portsmouth Water Limited
**Havant Thicket Reservoir
Strategic Advisory Group**

28 February 2022

Havant Thicket Reservoir

AGENDA

10:00	Welcome and introductions	Ingrid Strawson
10:05	Apologies / Minutes	Ingrid Strawson
10:15	Project update	Ruari Maybank
10:40	Q&A	Discussion
11:00	Future water resources planning update	Southern Water
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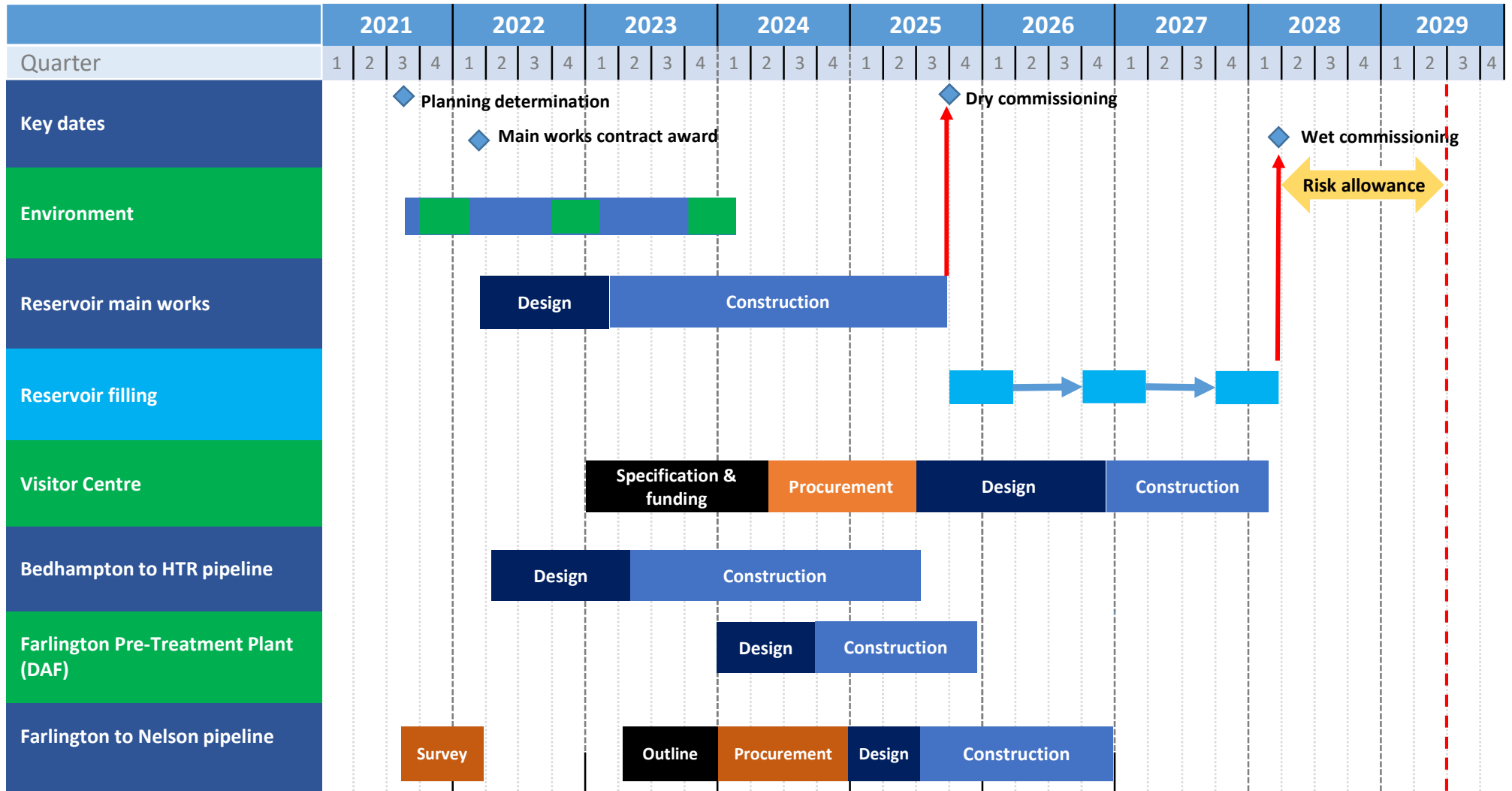
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Summary programme schedule



Havant Thicket Reservoir Recruitment to project team



Mark Tierney - Project Manager (Havant Thicket Pipeline)

Mark joins us from Clancy Group, where he was the Southern Regional Construction Manager. He has 15 years' experience in Capital Delivery for water, wastewater and sewerage treatment.



Steve Holloway – Health and Safety Manager

Steve has more than 40 years' experience in safety of life, and over 25 years of experience in health and safety management in the construction sector as both client and contractor.

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Recruitment to project team



Martin Goodman – Finance Manager

Martin is an ACCA accountant and has worked in a range of industries from Air Traffic Control at NATS, to the MOD, working on a joint venture construction project between France and the UK.

Further recruitment

We have a number of other people joining us in March including:

- Environmental Manager
- Reservoir Project Manager
- Commercial Manager.

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Biodiversity Mitigation and Compensation

- **Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)**
- **Landscape Ecological Management Plan (LEMP)**
Sets out the long-term management of habitat creation / enhancement
- **Detailed Biodiversity Mitigation and Compensation Strategy**
Currently being drafted by Atkins and will be finalised when the contractor is in place.



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80-hectares woodland site update

- Project total of 200 hectares of woodland creation / restoration
- Shortlist of two locations for 80 hectares of woodland
- Site to be selected in the summer, allowing time to finalise the land agreement.
- Landowner will commence work in the winter planting season.



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Southleigh Forest Woodland Management Plan

- Positive feedback about the plan from consultees
- Environmental sub group to review the plan before submission
- The plan will then be updated every 10 years
- The plan will be submitted to Forestry Commission to confirm that it meets UK Forestry Standard criteria.



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Havant Thicket woodland

- Forestry England have been restoring and creating new habitats in Havant Thicket
- Opening areas to let in more light
- Creating space for native trees, increasing biodiversity
- Improving habitat for reptiles, bats, dormice and birds.



What we've done so far:

- Habitat creation in Havant Thicket woodland
- Creation of forest meadows, by clearing young birch trees in previously clear-felled areas to create permanent open spaces
- Installation of hibernacula (underground chambers) and log piles, to provide shelter and hibernating sites for reptiles.



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Protecting badgers

- Badger surveys took place in 2018 and 2020 on site - only inactive and dis-used setts found
- No evidence of active setts was recorded, but habitat on site remains suitable for foraging and sett construction
- To mitigate this, we need to close a badger sett, under licence from Natural England
- The sett will only be closed, once it is confirmed it's no longer in use.



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Sapling rescue

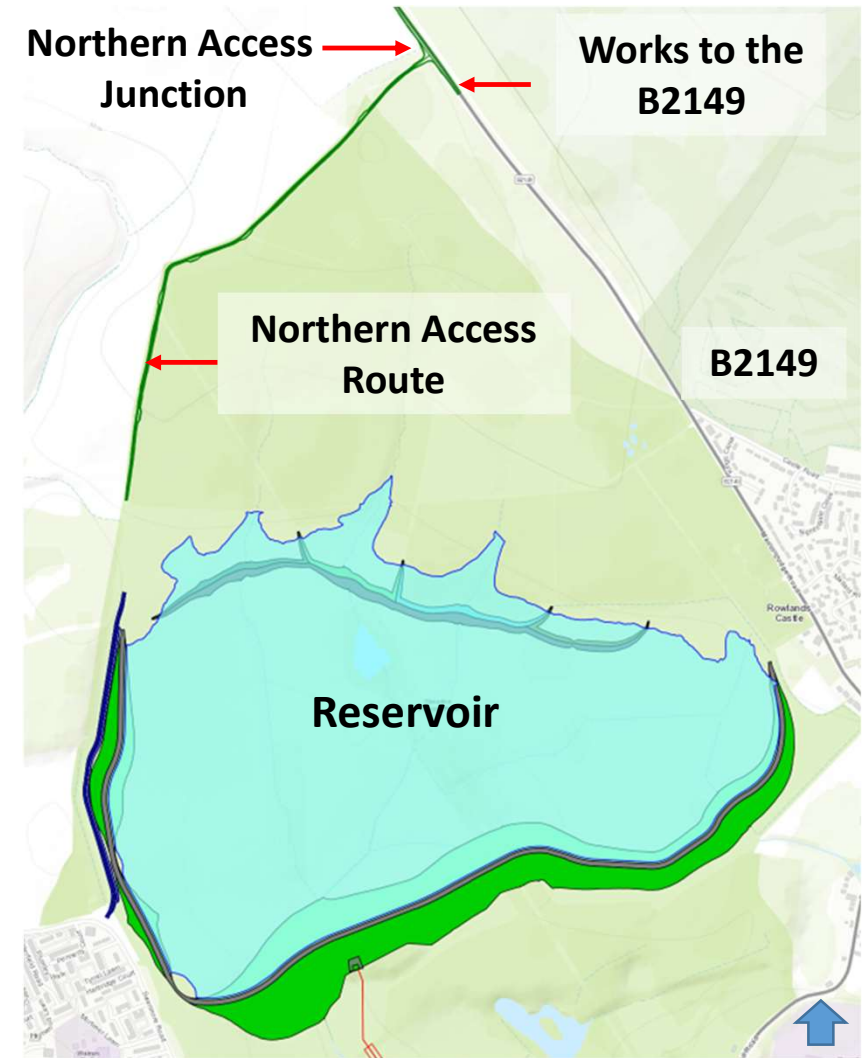
- Volunteers are relocating around 300 saplings from the Avenue
- These will be replanted in compostable pots and temporarily stored at Gipsies Plain
- Around 200 tree saplings have been grown from seeds gathered from the Avenue
- These will be grown in a sapling nursery on site.



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Northern access route update

- 19 January stakeholder online workshop
- Shared our approach and explained how environmental considerations have a key role in design development
- Thank you for all your feedback
- Report issued for comment by 1 March.



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Northern access route update

Progress since the workshop:

We've been working closely with our landscape architect, ecologist, tree specialist and drainage engineer to:

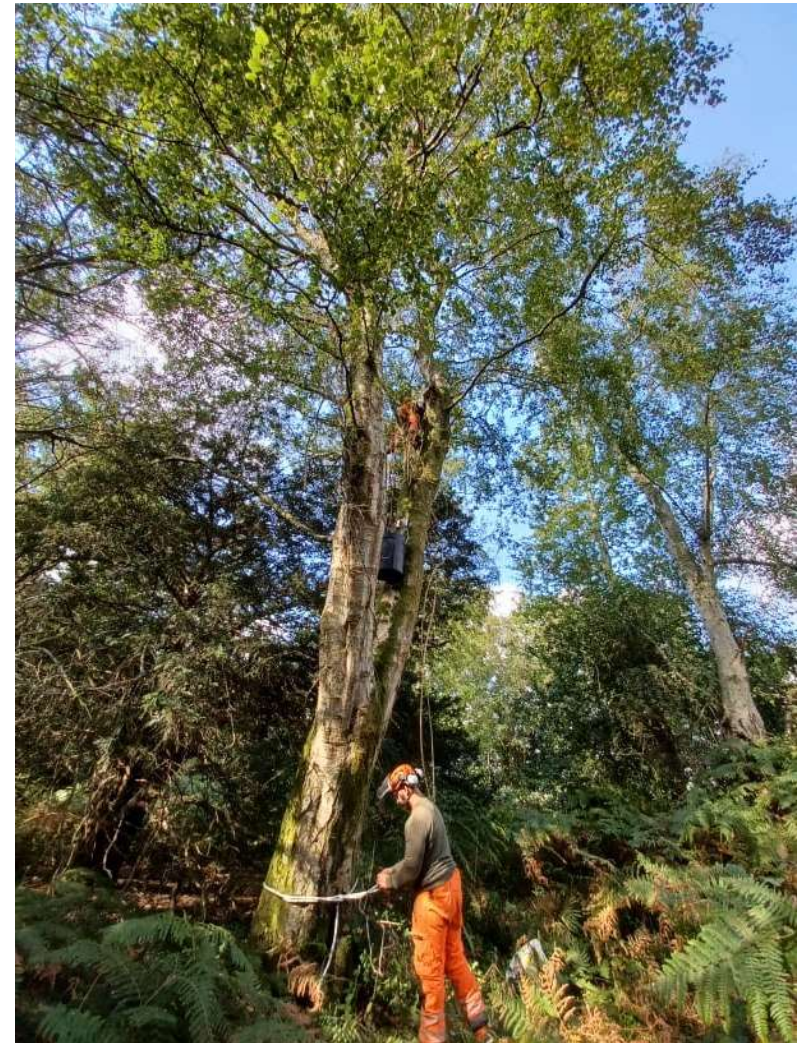
- Further reduce the impact on trees
- Retain the rural character of the woodland setting
- Determine the location and species of new planting
- Design the crossing point for multi-user access to and from Horndean.



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Tree removal works

- Tree removal on B2149 for site entrance and along the Northern Access Route track planned for April 2022.
- Work being timed to ensure no bats are disturbed
- Measures also be in place to protect birds and ensure no nests are disturbed
- Next phase of main site clearance work will be taking place in September and October 2022.



A bat box being installed in Havant Thicket prior to tree removal works on site

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New partnership with the University of Portsmouth

- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with University of Portsmouth in 2021
- Portsmouth Water will provide site visits and talks to university students and faculty members
- They will offer support for innovation and to deliver a learning legacy.



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Stakeholder Subgroups and Chairs

- **Access** - Ron Hammerton, Horndean Protection Group
- **Local Economy** - Andrew Biltcliffe, Havant Borough Council (Regeneration)
- **Environment** - John Goodspeed, Hants Ornithological Society
- **Recreation** - Cllr Jackie Branson, Hampshire County Council
- **Education** - Chris Anders and Ella Capaldi, Park Community School
- **Pipeline** - Dee Tupper, Friends of Hermitage Stream.

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Stakeholder Subgroups next steps

- **16 February** - Catch up video call with subgroup chairs to discuss progress to date and next steps, including reviewing / agreeing Terms of Reference for groups and ways of working
- **HTR project team member assigned to each group**
- **February / March** - Group chairs to have 121 session with HTR project team member assigned to their subgroup, to help shape potential work plan
- **February / March** - Group chairs to contact people who have volunteered to join the groups to arrange date / time for initial group meetings
- **April** – Initial subgroup meetings
- Portsmouth Water to offer groups option of using meeting room at West Street HQ or meeting online via MS Teams account of assigned HTR project team member.

- **Access** - Gareth Russell-Hughes
- **Local economy** - Ruari Maybank (New HTR Commercial Manager once on board)
- **Environment** - Gareth Russell-Hughes (New HTR Environment Lead once on board)
- **Recreation** - Joel Hufford (New HTR Reservoir Project Manager once on board)
- **Education** - Eleanor Shipton
- **Pipeline** - Andy Forestiero (New HTR Pipeline Project Manager once on board).

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Stakeholder Subgroups ways of working

- Group members, including chair and assigned HTR project team member, to decide how often and how to meet
- Group members to compile work plan for group, informed by HTR project timeline / key milestones
- Each group to maintain its own written record of discussions / agreed actions (e.g. by members taking it in turns to be note taker)
- Assigned HTR project team member to act as link for each group into HTR project team / Portsmouth Water
- Each group to report progress at regular intervals (schedule tbc) to main stakeholder advisory group meetings.

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