

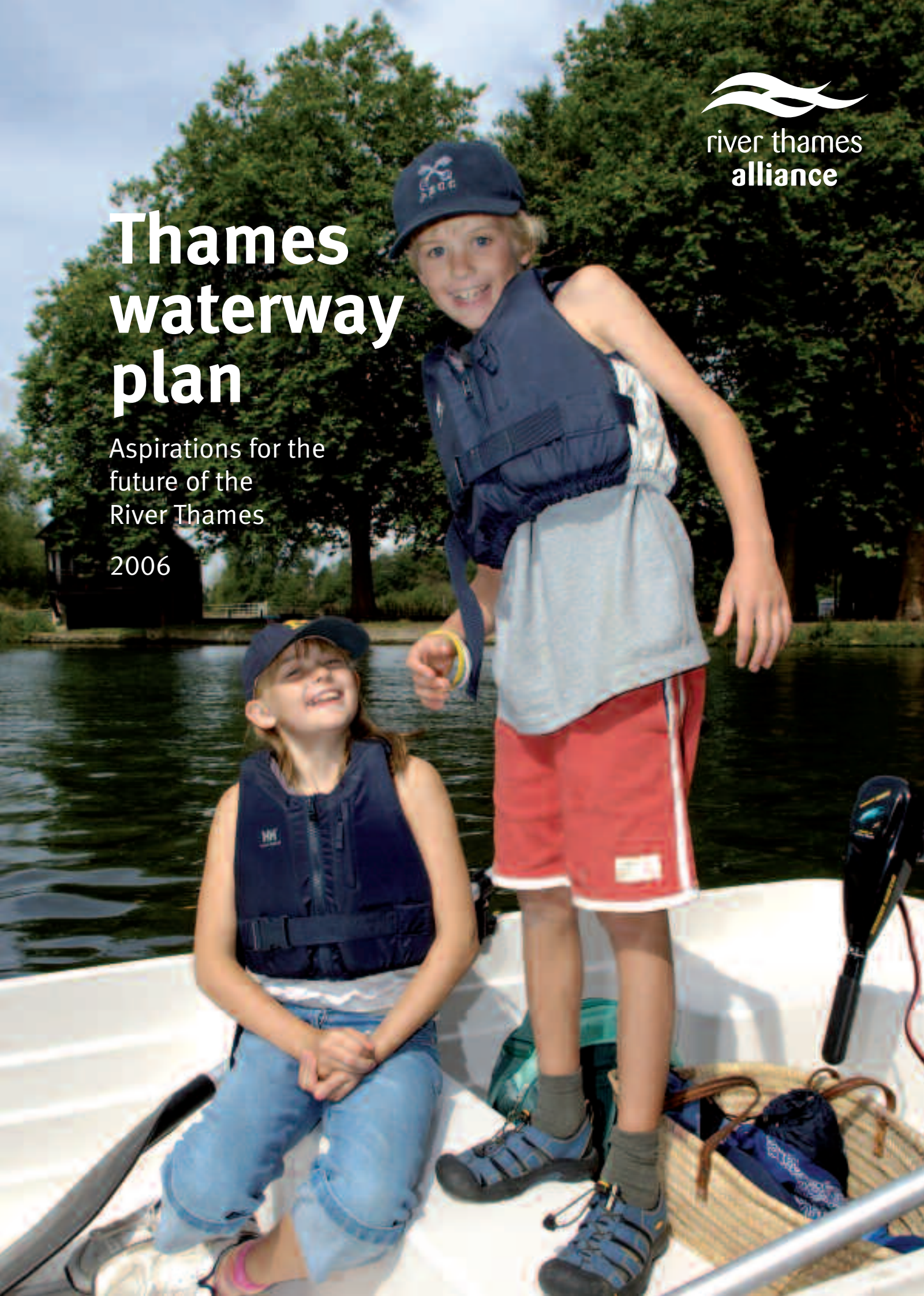


river thames
alliance

Thames waterway plan

Aspirations for the
future of the
River Thames

2006



Thames waterway plan Aspirations for the future of the River Thames

Contents

Introduction		3
Map 1	Upstream of St. John's to Buscot Lock	4
Map 2	Buscot Lock to Radcot Lock	5
Map 3	Rushey Lock	6
Map 4	Shifford Lock	7
Map 5	Pinkhill Lock to Northmoor Lock	8
Map 6	Eynsham Lock to Godstow Lock	9
Map 7	Osney Lock to Iffley Lock	10
Map 8	Sanford Lock to Culham Lock	11
Map 9	Clifton Lock to Days Lock	12
Map 10	Benson Lock	13
Map 11	Cleeve Lock to Goring Lock	14
Map 12	Whitchurch Lock to Mapledurham Lock	15
Map 13	Caversham Lock to Blakes Lock	16
Map 14	Shiplake Lock to Sonning Lock	17
Map 15	Hambledon Lock to Marsh Lock	18
Map 16	Hurley Lock to Marlow Lock	19
Map 17	Cookham Lock to Boulters Lock	20
Map 18	Bray Lock to Boveney Lock	21
Map 19	Romney Lock to Old Windsor Lock	22
Map 20	Bell Weir Lock to Chertsey Lock	23
Map 21	Sunbury Lock	24
Map 22	Molesey Lock to Teddington Lock	25
Map 23	Overview map	26

Introduction

This document is supplementary to the Thames waterway plan¹ and shows consultee aspirations from all stages of the plan's development.

The vision of the River Thames Alliance (RTA) is the healthy growth in the use of the freshwater Thames for communities, wildlife, leisure and business. We have agreed overarching objectives, policies and actions to achieve this vision, as detailed in the Thames waterway plan. It has also been important to capture specific local actions that consultees have suggested during the development of the plan. We have called these suggestions 'aspirations' as they are a mix of observations, issues that need resolving and offers of improvement.

The plan has been subject to a strategic sustainability appraisal³, which will be used to inform how and where aspirations and gaps are addressed. We have included a backdrop to the maps that shows conservation sites close to the river to highlight some of the environmental considerations. Maps showing other sustainability considerations, such as deprivation, are included in the main plan.

We have collected over 1,000 aspirations and mapped them to exact geographic locations. However, in order to present them in a manageable format, we have summarised them in this supplementary document. The maps that follow show summarised aspirations for each lock site, and each reach of the river between lock sites. They also show where there are gaps in the Waterway Standards² that need to be filled.

The maps show only non-contentious aspirations. We need to agree to a process for monitoring progress on these aspirations, capturing new ones, filtering them against the policies in the plan and a process for dealing with disagreements. This is a priority for the RTA now that the final plan has been agreed.

We will use this map format to provide a regular update on progress in delivery of the Thames waterway plan.

Legend

Locks

Major Towns

River Thames

- Non-Tidal Navigation
- Tidal Navigation
- Navigate by small craft only
- Jubilee River
- Tributaries


Canals

- Disused
- Operational

Conservation Sites

- Special Areas of Conservation
- County wildlife sites
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- Woodland Trust Sites
- Local Nature Reserves
- National Nature Reserves
- Community Forests
- Ramsar Sites
- Special Protection Areas
- Greenbelt
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Water Vole Key Areas (BBOWT)

Scale



0 0.5 1 2 3 4

Kilometers

Reach information

Key Issues: main issues noted in this reach

Reach aspirations: a summary of the aspirations collected in each reach

Conservation considerations within 1km of the River: see key for explanation of the different consideration

Waterway Standard gaps: we have agreed standards for the provision of certain facilities and the gaps highlight where the standards are not met

Lock site information

Lock aspirations: a summary of the aspirations collected at the lock site

Waterway Standard gaps: in the consultation document, the standards were grouped under seven headings and we have analysed how well the lock sites meet those standards

Red none of the items met

Amber some of the items met

Green all of the items met

¹ Thames waterway plan, River Thames Alliance January 2006. The plan provides a strategic framework for the River Thames, including policies and actions to deliver its vision.

² Waterway standards. These are agreed levels of service and provision of facilities to meet the needs of users (e.g.: We will provide toilets at every lock).

³ Strategic Sustainability Appraisal (SSA). To ensure that the plan is sustainable, it has been subject to assessment throughout its development. This means that the policies have been checked against environmental, economic and social criteria. Details of the SSA are available on the website: www.riverthamesalliance.com

Upstream of St. John's Lock

Key issues: Visitor moorings, access

Reach aspirations: Suggested improvements at Lechlade and its environs include: additional and improved visitor moorings, a footbridge, protecting the towpath from erosion, dredging, disabled parking bays, and winter boat storage with cramage. The Thames and Severn Canal could offer a through route via the Cotswold Water Park and potential for off-line moorings. The area is reported as vulnerable to blockages from trees and weeds. Somerford Keynes is noted as an opportunity to improve disabled access and Cricklade as settlement where the Thames Path should be promoted.

Conservation considerations within 1km of the River: The source of the Thames is in the Cotswolds AONB • Cotswold Water Park • North Meadow and Clattinger Farm • Upper Waterhay Meadow • Elmlea Meadows

Waterway Standard gaps: None

St. John's

Lock aspirations: Suggested improvements include: enhanced toilet and shower facilities, picnic tables, hose water pipe and visitor moorings.

Waterway Standard gaps:

- Red**
- Amber** Office, lay-by, toilets, information and seating
- Green** Drinking water and access

St. John's to Buscot

Key issues: Business opportunity

Reach aspirations: The Old Waterworks at Buscot has been identified as a potential site for development of a boatyard with chandlery and moorings. Improvements are suggested to the Thames Path signage at Buscot.

Conservation considerations within 1km of the River: None

Waterway Standard gaps: None

Buscot

Lock aspirations: Suggested improvements include: better signage and local information, improved disabled angling access, exploring a potential visitor mooring partnership with the National Trust, providing a relief rest room and upgrading the existing relief toilet and installing a public water point.

Waterway Standard gaps:

- Red** Drinking water and toilets
- Amber** Access, information and seating
- Green** Office, lay-by

Buscot to Grafton

Key issues: Visitor moorings

Reach aspirations: Suggested improvements at Kelmscott include: visitor moorings, a car park, signage to and from the Thames to highlight Kelmscott Manor. Buscot Wharf is also mentioned as an opportunity for moorings and new facilities.

Conservation considerations within 1km of the River: None

Waterway Standard gaps: Visitor Moorings

Radcot

Lock aspirations: Suggested improvements include: provision of two to three picnic tables, an electric charging point, signage for the existing canoe portage and additional permanent mooring provision for two or three boats.

Waterway Standard gaps:

- Red**
- Amber** Lay-by, toilets, access, information and seating
- Green** Office and drinking water

Grafton

Lock aspirations: Suggested improvements include: installing toilet and shower facilities, creating permanent moorings for three to four boats, an otter information board, downstream canoe portage with signage, a shelter for walkers and a relief restroom.

Waterway Standard gaps:

- Red** Seating
- Amber** Lay-by, toilets, access and information
- Green** Office and drinking water

Grafton to Radcot

Key issues: Visitor Moorings

Reach aspirations: Suggested improvements at Radcot include: visitor moorings, signage and creation of a slipway. Clanfield is noted as a settlement where the Thames Path should be promoted.

Conservation considerations within 1km of the River: Grafton Lock Meadow

Waterway Standard gaps: Visitor Moorings