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Interviewer: So, if we could start with you introducing yourself and your role at Thames Water quickly?

Rebecca Elliott: Yes. My name's Rebecca Elliott. My job title is Community Investment Projects Specialist, I think that's what it is now.

I obviously started the role in November, and my main job at the moment is to project manage, from a Thames Water point of view, the Walthamstow Wetlands, as well as another four or five community investment projects that are quite similar, like river restoration, wetland projects at Woodbury, Lost Effra with London Wildlife Trust.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: A project at the London Wetland Centre, making more wetlands and sustainable urban drainage, which is perfect for my background.

My old job title was Ecology and Heritage.

Interviewer: Ah.

Rebecca Elliott: So this site is everything.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: You've got the ecology, the birds, the fish, the freshwater invertebrates, the newts, erm, water voles. And then also the heritage aspect, the listed buildings, like the Coppermills Tower.

And all the archaeology, as well, is what I used to do. I used to consult with the council. So similar to what Kirsty kind of started off as.

Interviewer: Right, okay.

Rebecca Elliott: So if you do a pipeline project, you tend to consult with Natural England for ecology, and then Historic England for archaeology. So that's why this project, for me, was spot on, because it's just everything.

Interviewer: Interesting.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes.

Interviewer: We'll talk about and build on some of your comments there, in terms of what you value about the site, and what makes it so precious to you, later on in the interview.

I wondered if we could start with talking about why Thames Water are opening up the site? What are their motivations? What are their reasons for extending the opening to the general public?

Rebecca Elliott: I think Thames Water are always looking for projects in which we can kind of work with stakeholders and regulators, like local councils and local groups. But also, I think we just like to open up our sites to the public, because some of them are just absolutely amazing. Especially a lot of the reservoirs, they're just kind of hidden from...

Especially a site like this, you look around, it's just so busy. Everyone's just so busy about doing their day job. And then this little kind of nature reserve, in itself, it's like a little wildlife haven.

We tend to pick sites and say, “We'd love to be able to put money into this, and open it up to the public.” Sort of that conservation, access, recreation sort of heart that we have.

And this site in particular, obviously we knew it was going to take a lot of money to open to the public, but that's why we've got the HLF, we've got the council, we've got London Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency involved in this really big partnership scheme. It's a lot of money going into it, and lots of things to think about, health and safety being one of the main things. (Laughter)

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But yes, I mean, Thames Water have a lot of sites that we open as nature reserves, so Kempton, Hampton, Crossness. Obviously we've got the Farmoor reservoirs, as well.

We've got nature reserves, as well as that kind of education for children. They might not have a back garden, or they might not have access to a lot of green spaces, and we can actually engage with schools on sort of a curriculum level, teaching them about wildlife, and just enjoy it, in all of its entirety. (Laughter)

Interviewer: In terms of the role of- you spoke there about quite a complex partnership that exists in order to bring this project to fruition.

Could you talk a little bit about the different roles in that partnership, and the different agendas that those different bodies are bringing to the table?

Rebecca Elliott: Yes. There's a wider stakeholder group, as well as the people that are putting in money.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: So with Waltham Forest, they're obviously always looking for schemes in which they can work with kind of big bodies that bring money, because when you apply for Heritage Lottery Fund, you need to have really good partnership groups.

So in bringing ourselves together, we can therefore get more money from things like the Heritage Lottery Fund. And the same with Thames Water, we can't apply directly for HLF funding.

So the project management side of things is coming from the council.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And we, or Thames Water's point of view, it's mainly operational. That's kind of my role, to engage with the fisheries, with the local operators, and health and safety.

Environment Agency, the main thing that they wanted to do was increase the reed beds.

Interviewer: Okay.

Rebecca Elliott: So they've put some money into the reed beds, but not really looking at the wider site. It's mainly just the reed beds they're putting in that funding for.

They look at things like how much extra reed bed can we get over the catchment, and when they've looked at our reservoirs, they've said, “This is perfect, because actually there's not many reed beds on here. We'll give you a bit of funding, if you put in some money.”

Therefore you get these biodiversity corridors that run across London. They've already mapped that out, and they're sort of looking at that.

And London Wildlife Trust, obviously we've got a really good working relationship with them.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: We really trust them, we've got lots of sites that we've worked on historically.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And they are obviously very, very keen to manage this site, moving forward.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And then, obviously, their volunteer walks, bringing on local residents, education, and that's where they come into it. Once everyone leaves, we'll have that really strong relationship with them.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: HLF will eventually, once they've finished the job, they'll be off.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And then it'll be Thames Water and London Wildlife Trust sort of leading the Wetlands.

And then we've got the wider stakeholders, which are like Natural England. Want to make sure the site- obviously it's a legally-protected wildlife site- make sure consents are in place.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And the same with Historic England, making sure that the consents we've got in place for the Coppermills Tower are legitimate, and obviously gone through the licence process.

And then it winds its way down to all the contractors, there's like a million of them.

Interviewer: Of course.

Rebecca Elliott: Just the project management of all that type of thing is just mind-blowing, especially for Operations, that are not used to 10 contractors being on site at the same time, with different agendas.

And obviously then you've got the fisheries. They've been to this site for decades, they've fished here, and want to continue to fish. They've obviously got their own concerns about the Wetlands plans.

It's all about working with Myland, and Myland working with the fishery, and the people who come to fish, to make sure that their thoughts are brought to the table when we're making decisions.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: So it's quite a difficult process. Obviously I only started officially in November, but I've always had some involvement in it.

Interviewer: Okay.

Rebecca Elliott: Right from the beginning, I was involved in the invasive species issues.

Interviewer: Oh, okay.

Rebecca Elliott: So working with ground control, grounds maintenance, to make sure we got rid of all the giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed.

Then I got asked to do some ecological surveys, so then Kirsty would manage me to do those, to give back to the council and the London Wildlife Trust.

Interviewer: So a very intimate working of the site for a considerable amount of time.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes.

Interviewer: Let's talk a little bit about that. What is it you think that's very particular or valuable about this site?

Rebecca Elliott: I think about this site in particular, especially as someone who doesn't come from this area, when you first see the site, as soon as you drive in that kind of car park area, you're not expecting what's around the corner.

As soon as you get to the reservoirs, and there's no noise, it's like that contrast between the wildlife, the heritage, and then the background of Tottenham and Walthamstow, it's just- I love that contrast.

Because when you go- sometimes when you think about nature and wildlife sites, you picture just being in the countryside, and frolicking outdoors, in forests, and everything.

I think this site is more deserving to the local residents, because they don't know it's here.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And then suddenly, as soon as they come, they'll be like, “I can't believe this has been here all this time.” That's what makes it really special, that kind of 'Wow' factor.

That's it, the first time I saw the site was about three years ago. I just came because Kirsty said, “Come and see what we're doing,” and I turned up on site and said, “I can't believe I've never been here, of all the Thames Water sites,” because I didn't do as much work around here.

“And I can't believe, from driving through that park in Tottenham, that this was always here.”

That's what makes it special, and that's why I really wanted to get into this role. It was just because you want to share it with people. You feel quite proud of the site, and you're like, “Look at this.”

I take pictures home to my husband, show my mum. “Look at the site, isn't it amazing?”

They're just like, “It's a bit of water.” (Laughter)

And I'm like, “You don't understand, you just don't get it.” Until you get there, you just...

The fact that it's a working reservoir, as well, I love that, that you can teach people about the water cycle, about nature, but at the same time just enjoy it. You know, enjoy it on lots of different levels.

Interviewer: You've spoken very passionately there about the values that it brings, for you personally. But you've also hinted there about some of the many benefits to it being opened up to local communities.

I wonder, could we talk about that more now, and what you think are the core benefits for this space being- the extension of the opening to the more general public?

Rebecca Elliott: I think in particular there's- I mean, you do have the Tottenham Marshes. I think the difference between that site and this one is, it just feels more special. Because it's kind of a working site, it feels a bit like a secret garden, as such.

It's sort of, with the local residents just being able to walk here with their families, I like the idea that maybe they've been shopping, and then they go, “Shall we spend the afternoon in the Wetlands?” And they pop down, and they make it part of their everyday routine.

You know, it might be part of a family's routine on a Sunday, to go, “Wetlands, let's go and have a bit of cake in the shop.”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: I like the fact that that's going to be instilled in a lot of the children, and then they can share it with their families. Just that sort of- local residents, that's what it's kind of aimed at, the local community.

And things like when we bring the local artists in, it's all about keeping it local.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: There's all this talk about car parking charges, but that's not what we're trying to encourage. We're trying to encourage these people to walk from their homes to the site, through the site, and sort of go through the site, and walk back again.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Just make it part of their everyday.

And then as soon as we can get the local schools engaged, it's just one of those places where, you could learn anything here. The water cycle, birds, do a bit of pond-dipping, learn how to fish. That's just going to influence their entire life, because I didn't have anywhere like that growing up.

Especially at school, you would never- my school trips were never very exciting. I just imagine the kids eventually bringing their families, so going back home, and going, “Oh, I went to school, and they took me to this site. Let's go back.” That sort of feeling of pride about the site, that's what I like.

Interviewer: Do you think- you were talking there about the benefits. But are there barriers to people accessing those benefits? Are there things, both physical or cultural, that you think may get in the way of people enjoying or feeling comfortable on this site?

Rebecca Elliott: Sometimes I do, I have raised my concerns about this, in that especially with young parents, when they've got a couple of kids, they need some sort of feature in which to keep their children entertained.

So sometimes you might come into a site, and it might be educational, but especially for the ones with young children, they need to make sure there's something for them.

One of the things that the London Wildlife Trust and the council have been saying is, “We don't want to make it a playground. We don't want to stereotype it into, 'Let's go to the playground.'”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But I think there's ways of doing that, ways of making nature and ponds into kind of like a play area, so like little insect hotels and stuff. So little kids are going to go, “Oh, what's that?”

Stuff they haven't quite thought of yet, but I'm having those discussions with them now, because I've got a young girl, and I know if I bring her into the site, yes, she'll love to run around for a little bit, but you want to get those people coming back on a regular basis. You don't want them visiting once and going, “That was really nice.” You want it to be part of their lives.

So not just the educational, older level; you know, there's a lovely café, but you need to have a feature there that brings people back and makes it regular. Sort of regularly come back, maybe every Sunday or what have you.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: It doesn't have to be a playground. And I think the barriers, obviously, of Operations include health and safety, and they're worried about putting in features. You know, if a child falls, near a river, near a reservoir.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But there's ways of doing that. I mean, National Trust sites have that. They have ecology, kind of habitat areas, and they make little tunnels and stuff. They can make it interesting for children, but not just stop it and say, “It's just an educational site.” I think it needs to be fun, as well as a learning experience. (Laughter)

But yes, the Operations and health and safety issues, they're quite a big factor, and I think the council and maybe London Wildlife Trust didn't truly appreciate before they got to this site, because they have worked on other operational sites before, but this is a big-

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: The reservoirs, the way they feed back into the water treatment works, and back into drinking water for supply, there's things that you can and can't do, that they didn't even consider, that have made things go higher, costs and things go higher.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: All the time, they've got to think, you know, Operations might override some of the features. That's obviously a worry and a concern.

Interviewer: Okay. So they're, for you, the key barriers, in terms of people getting and enjoying the site, and repeat use, the return use is key there.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes.

Interviewer: In terms of the sort of behaviours or activities that you want to encourage on this site, I wondered if we could talk about those? And also the ones that will be discouraged.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes, obviously one of the worries that I've always said is that if I was a teenager looking for somewhere to hang out with my boyfriend, or like my mates, and have a drink, this could draw attention to the site.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And therefore, if you're putting in a lot of money into things like signage, from where I come from, a lot of the nature reserve boards are burned. They don't have that respect for the area.

But again, you kind of want to instil from a young age that this site is special, and you don't want the children and the teenagers to grow up and think of the site like that.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: It's obviously a bit of a worry of how it's all going to be policed.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Again, you don't really know until you open it, and you've got to put the right measures in place.

But I mean, there's certain areas that, if you're proud of a site, you wouldn't want to enter it, and burn it, and drink in that area, you know. That's obviously a concern.

Interviewer: Yes. And you raise the very obvious point around the challenge of policing it, when this is going to be a volunteer-led site.

Rebecca Elliott: Exactly.

Interviewer: What are your thoughts on that?

Rebecca Elliott: I think, yes, it is a concern, because in terms of, if somebody pulled a weapon out, how are those people going to be trained? Are the volunteers going to be trained? And if there is one incident like that, is that going to put off volunteers from coming here?

What do they wear? Are they going to have something to protect themselves with? Just what kind of...

You know, obviously from being here for three years, I've heard of so many different- the police is always kind of around this area. I obviously know about the incidents that happened on Ferry Lane, historically.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And I hear about issues that the fisheries get involved in, with rowdy individuals.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: That's obviously a London Wildlife Trust-led thing, and I would be interested to see how they're going to train their staff to deal with conflict.

I think we've all had training at Thames Water in how you deal with those sorts of situations, but not in a physical defence kind of thing. You don't want to have to experience that in the first place.

But that's a concern on any site, regardless of where it is. You're always going to get some incidents at some point.

Interviewer: Yes, there is a risk of that happening.

You spoke a little bit about the risks of opening up to the wider public. I wonder if you could talk about that more specifically now? So what you see as the core challenges for this project in being opened up more broadly.

Rebecca Elliott: I mean, obviously we're looking at it being sort of a local site. We do obviously want to bring people in from a long distance, so things like the car parking charges, looking at whether that's going to put off anybody from coming. I think £5 for the full day.

But then, I mean, you can come to the site, and that's something which obviously everyone's sat round a table and thought about for a lot of years, and came up with that decision, that it has to be a sustainable site.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And getting that sort of promotion of the building, and the use out of the building, and just keeping that money flowing.

So it's all good that we're putting all this money in, and in a couple of years, that money's going to run out, so it's keeping it open, and keeping it sustainable, and getting the word out to wider, about the wetlands, how's that all going to work out for the future?

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: It's all right having it, “Oh, we had a big opening event, and isn't it amazing,” and then five, ten years, fifteen years down the line, is it still going to have the same pull? And how are you going to keep up with other wetlands that are opening in the area?

If people compare this site, it's not going to be like London Wetlands Centre, which is the former Barn Elms.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But I mean, they're just completely different sites in themselves anyway, just from kind of where they are, and also the target audience.

Because they obviously have a car park that's free, and then they pay to get in; whereas this one's the opposite way around.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: So I think a lot of people have made those decisions.

The other worry is that the fisheries, and the people that come in to fish, how is that going to be maintained over a long period? Because that is something, as well, that's been going on for decades, and we don't want to push them out. We want to include them as part of the wetlands.

I think at the moment, it's very 50/50. They're either, you know, kind of can see the benefits, and that it's actually going to benefit the fish. Obviously we're going to cause a bit of disturbance, going to be closing car parks and what have you, but in the future it is going to be a benefit to them.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But then a lot of them are just completely against it. Just keeping them on board is really, really important, because at the moment, they're the voices of the wetlands. People are going to listen to them more than they're going to listen to somebody from HLF saying, “Isn't it amazing?” It's the people that use the site, and there's a little bit of negativity at the moment.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: If you start to, when it gets opened, when you're wandering round, if there's any conflict between people that have used that site for decades for fishing, and then a young family, you know...

That's something that's- it's going to be the volunteers that will be leading that. (Laughter) Wandering round, making sure everyone's happy.

We try to keep them as engaged as possible, because obviously we've got Myland, who's the lead kind of contact for Wetlands here, and it's all about, I just keep trying to tell him what's happening, so he can update them. Even just putting up signs to say, “We're going to do the dredging next week.”

And then Will Barnard, who you've interviewed before, he's on Twitter, and he's on Facebook, and people send messages like, “What's happening here?”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: It's just keeping that relationship, because that's one thing for the future we don't want to, you know- we want to keep that relationship.

Interviewer: You've spoken there about benefits and barriers, and challenges, and the different sort of behaviours.

I wonder if we could maybe talk now about- and I think you'll have a lot to say about this- about how the Wetland opening might affect our connection with water. Either existing users, or particularly new users, really, in terms of your thoughts on that.

Rebecca Elliott: I can only really see it as being positive. Because when you try and explain to somebody about the water process in education, not using kind of the open- you use that, the water cycle, kids just kind of look- even adults won't even-

Because when I started working at Thames Water, I didn't have a clue how a reservoir worked. I just thought, “A bit of water,” you know.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And just to be on site, and read the interpretation boards, and say, “Look how this actually feeds into our drinking water network. If something goes wrong on this site, actually, there's the Coppermills treatment works.”

It's just seeing that whole water cycle in its entirety. Not just educating children, educating adults as well, about it, and water use, and then the messages that Thames Water have about sustainability.

So hopefully there'll be some sort of sustainable urban drainage, and from that you learn about- you might take away and go, “Actually, I can do that in my home,” using drainage to have plant feeders and everything in the garden, which doesn't cost a lot of money.

And the main thing is that, for me, that relationship between water and wildlife. Where you have a body of water, animals just congregate to it. You've got the fish, you've got the birds, and you've got some really rare birds that come here. You've got over-wintering birds, then you've got the legally-protected Schedule 1 birds that you might have never seen before.

In the reservoirs, you have ridiculous amounts of invertebrates, which then you start learning about that food cycle, about how the fish eat the invertebrates, and then what eats the fish, the heron eat the fish, and all about the food cycle, and how the water goes into it.

There's newts on the site. We're trying to encourage water voles. There's otters in the Lea Valley, which can come down. There's a few mink in the area.

It's just, yes... Crayfish. (Laughter) But everything, just things you wouldn't even think about, that would be in that standing bit of water. Your little interpretation boards, like, “Did you know that if you literally just dip your net in there, and do a little dipping exercise, the amount of invertebrates that will come out?”

Then you start learning about how the invertebrates use water in their cycle. So you might have a mayfly, that's there for six months, and then when they grow the wings, they'll eventually go off, and breed, then die. (Laughter) And then come back.

And then that sort of cycle of all the invertebrates, and how they use the water, and that relationship, kind of, you know, continues.

Interviewer: So that sort of central connection between wildlife and water, sharing that knowledge with people, is particular there for you.

Do you think there is anything special about a water site in its experience, in its aesthetic, in terms of people's access to physical experience?

Rebecca Elliott: I mean, generally, the water sites for Thames Water tend to be very secluded, and very kind of untouched by the public. Some of this site, some of the vegetation hasn't been moved for decades, which means that the wildlife has been left undisturbed, and might have more biodiversity.

That's shown in the birds. Obviously we've got thee corridors; all our reservoirs, we consider, as Thames Water, as being highly important as a connection all the way to Lea Valley. They're part of a higher level, which is European-protected.

So the fact that they're very undisturbed, very secluded, especially in an urban area, those birds kind of congregate to those zones.

The same with newts and water voles. Wherever there's high levels of disturbance around, you find that they will be drawn to our sites, Thames Water sites, because they obviously don't like disturbance. They're very clever, and they'll just think, “There's disturbance over there, let's move over here.”

That's why we have a lot of- even plant life, a lot of the plants, if left unmanaged, tend to come up and grow. You tend to get quite unique plants on this site.

Hopefully we can maintain that, even with the public visiting.

Interviewer: I suppose that is a challenge. One of the challenges for the site is the increased visitor numbers, given that the site has developed as it has in part owing to lack of disturbance.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes.

Interviewer: Whether the increased numbers will affect that. That presumably is a challenge.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes, and it's something that's being considered.

Some of the birds that use the site, they only use specific areas for nesting, so we know that those areas, we won't generally have the public, we've steered them away from those zones. You can obviously see them, but they're not encouraged by the main path and the main route through the site.

Fishermen, for years, have been using those areas, where the very important birds nest, and they've never seen any- obviously there's birders, twitchers, that visit the site, and they have records, and they've shown that any disturbance from fisheries obviously hasn't had an impact. But things like children tend to be a lot louder.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But that's obviously not the site that we're creating, and any of the areas that are going to be quite loud will be around the marine engine house, and will be away from that.

Obviously we've had conversations with Natural England about that, and they're quite happy. We've got to get consent to do whatever work we're doing at the right times of year, and looking at vibrations and noise levels.

Those levels will be continuously monitored. There will always be people coming and doing those surveys, every few months, different seasons, and going, “Yes, we're still fine.”

And if there is a negative impact, they will do something about it. We'll go, “Actually, let's corner off this little bit here, fence it off.” You know, always thinking.

Interviewer: You spoke a little bit at the beginning, you talked about why you value the site, what you think is special about this site.

What I'd like to focus in on a little bit there is questions about identity, and whether you feel like it's shifting from a Thames Water branded reservoir / fishery to Walthamstow Wetlands.

What impact do you think that has on the identity of the area?

Rebecca Elliott: I think we are concerned, as a company, that it does kind of get a little bit rebranded. Because the Wetlands have come up with their own slogan, and a lot of the wording that we've seen hasn't even mentioned that it's a Thames Water site.

So we're kind of sitting with [Polymechanus 0:29:16], who are obviously doing a lot of the signage, to make sure that Thames Water identity is ingrained in there.

We've gone back and said, “I understand you said it's a Thames Water operational reservoir, but we need you to say-”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Sorry, “It just says it's an operational reservoir. We need it to say that it's Thames Water.”

All right, let's not put our logo on the main bit, because we obviously agreed on this Wetlands logo.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But it has to be something that's around the site. On all the signage, you might have on some of the boards, the Thames Water logo, just to reinforce that it is operational. You don't want people to come to the site and miss those key messages.

That's the main thing. One of the reasons that we've done it is for that message. We get a lot of messages across by opening up to the public, and we don't want to miss out on that opportunity.

So we've worked quite hard on that, that's one of the things we wanted to keep, as kind of the Thames Water brand will be around, and scattered around the site.

At the end of the day, the council are going to up and leave, and we don't want it just to be seen as a London Wildlife Trust site. It is a partnership scheme.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: So hopefully we've captured that. But I think when it opens, if we feel it's missing, we'll have to look at it, and we'll always have that relationship with London Wildlife Trust. Because it is operational, we will be using it every day.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And the fact we've got the fisheries, they're kind of there, we are Thames Water. They will be wearing Thames Water gear, as they always do.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And we'll always have operational people working on the site, because there's always going to be a certain project happening.

Interviewer: Of course.

Rebecca Elliott: Sometimes they have to draw down reservoirs, sometimes they have to reinforce banks. When we do that, it's again an opportunity to educate the public, this is what we're doing, a reminder that it's an operational site. “This is actually what we're doing, and how we're doing it.”

It's another opportunity to show them how we're going to clean them out, what we're going to do with the fish. Sometimes we move the fish. Things like that.

Interviewer: Do you think there is a risk there, in terms of the fact that this is a nature reserve; it is a growing number of examples of privately-owned public spaces; that this is not a public park?

Do you think there are challenges in translating that difference in identity and purpose?

Rebecca Elliott: Yes. I think a lot of people, especially when we talked about commuting routes, a lot of people might end up using it, or try to use it, as a way to get from one side to the other really quickly.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: That's not the message we want, and obviously we've tried to put things in place for that.

At the same time, we want people to use it on a regular basis. We don't want to change it into a playground, because that's not our vision.

But it is a challenge, in getting that right balance. We don't want to scare people off from coming by going, “It's wildlife, you know, keep quiet. It's operational, keep quiet, keep out of here.”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: It's just really difficult getting that balance, of what is health and safety, and what is a little bit over the top.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And trying to steer them into different areas that aren't going to affect the wildlife, not going to kind of incorporate the fisheries, and the other- that's not something, we don't want to be just like, we only want to encourage a lot of people that might be into nature, might be more, you know, that kind of affluent level, you don't want to just focus on those people, focus on volunteers that have a lot of time on their hands.

You want to focus on maybe the people that have like five children, that just want to find somewhere to go, and to enjoy, and to love, like low-income families.

How do we encourage everybody? It's a massive challenge, and hopefully we're going to strike the right balance.

But as I say, once it's opened, you can monitor those levels, and look at where people are coming from, look at where they've travelled from, how far, what type of family background, and things like that. And then maybe try and tailor it, put on different little events.

Interviewer: Okay. Because that is a challenge, isn't it, with something that is- maybe not accurately so now, but nature reserves have traditionally been understood as the preserve of sort of the middle-class.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes.

Interviewer: And there is a risk of, certainly where we are in north London, that that actually does not appeal to the local community at all.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes, it frightens them, because they think, “Oh, am I going to have to be a certain level? Do I have to know about nature to come here?”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But we want to teach people, but you don't want to be on them, like, “I want to educate you.” We have to let them learn for themselves, and be kind of happy and comfortable to come up and maybe ask people, “What's this species of flower here?” or things like that.

It is a worry for me. One of the things I've been saying is that- obviously I come from an ecology background, I know that the people at all the events that I go on and run, they all seem to be the same type of people.

You get your retired kind of generations, and then you might get your students, who are just interested in learning anything.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Very rarely, on some of the events that I've been on, do you get kind of a family, a mum and dad and the kids.

There's ways of spinning it, and I think trying to make it fun, but not trying to make it a play park, it's just trying to stick to that right balance.

I think some of the National Trust sites have it spot on. Always picking on events like, “Oh, it's Hallowe'en. Let's have a little treasure hunt,” to make it fun. Obviously health and safety, but also, at the same time, you've got them on the site to do this Hallowe'en treasure hunt, but then at the same time, you say, “He's a bat.” You might come and show them, or you might do a bat walk for Hallowe'en.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Just try and tie it in with Christmas themes, Valentine's themes.

That's what always gets me. I always look in my National Trust calendar and go, “What looks fun?”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And then, when you're on there, when they get you there, then they start to educate you in a different way.

I'm confident that London Wildlife Trust will be able to do that. I think they've... Especially because a lot of the people who end up being the volunteers, and end up, like, whoever becomes the Wetland Manager is probably going to be local. They went to encourage local people, they don't want to encourage... Yes.

So when I go to the Wetlands Centre, I can see the types of family that go there. It's always the same kind, and especially with the surrounding areas so affluent, the Wetlands Centre, you kind of want that to be the opposite here, don't you?

But there's something for everybody.

Interviewer: So we've spoken about benefits, we've spoken about barriers, we've spoken about challenges. We've spoken about identity.

Could we talk about the role in regeneration? So both Woodbury Down and here are in rapidly-changing spaces of London.

I wondered if you could reflect on t heir role in the sort of place-making that is going on, in terms of regeneration in the area?

Rebecca Elliott: Yes. I mean, I've only really- well, obviously I've come from the north. I'm not familiar with what the local area was like, say, ten years ago, but I can see that there's been a massive change. Even in the eight years that I've lived and worked in London, there's a big push on kind of the wildlife sites, the cycling routes connecting habitat and wildlife.

I just love the fact that we've got Woodbury, which just looks amazing. And then you've got this bigger version in the Wetlands, and you've got the commuting routes. It's all just about joining neighbours together, and enjoying their own backgrounds, and back gardens.

It'll be interesting to see what the next step is. You know, all the things, even to do all the routes down the road, I think the local councils are very much into putting money in to this area. I definitely can see the changes that have happened, and hopefully this will have a positive impact.

But again, I'm not local to the area. (Laughter) I can't sort of reflect on what it used to look like decades ago.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But I'd like to think that everything that's happening is positive.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And making this part of London kind of special, and exciting for visitors.

And tourists, because at the moment, I think I probably consider, maybe consider myself a tourist. When I used to come to London when I was younger, it was holiday for me.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And the places I'd visit, I'd never think to visit north London.

But if there's an attraction, then it gets you into those areas. And then you start having a knock-on impact on local businesses.

So using all the London Underground, and... Yes, I like to think it's going to be positive. (Laughter)

Interviewer: Could you talk about the opportunity for people to get involved in the site? We've touched on it, and spoken about volunteers.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes.

Interviewer: I wonder if you could reflect on the different ways that people can get involved in the site, can share a voice, have any sort of routes or pathways to influence the way that it grows and evolves?

Rebecca Elliott: Obviously you've got your main route through the volunteers. You can get involved through London Wildlife Trust to do anything from replanting, Himalayan balsam pulling, and you hopefully feel like you're actually growing that experience. Get involved in walks, bring your family along.

There's also- I think the site is going to have its own website, and there will definitely be feedback routes through there.

Social media, I mean, the fisheries has its own Twitter, it has its own Facebook. I like to think that the Wetlands will have all that.

So if they have a say, like, “I don't think this is working,” I want the local residents to feel like they have that opportunity to say that, and people will take notice of that, and people will respond to that.

So there definitely needs to be somebody in place, looking at that social media. Because they might even be taking pictures, going, “Oh my god, have you seen that on the site?”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And then literally, the impact that that can have on people's perceptions is quite extreme, and very quick.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And then suddenly you've got all these people commenting, “Yes, I didn't like that,” or what have you.

But they need to make sure that there is a route back to the Wetlands, where that will be fed back, and will be listened to, will be responded to, “Yes, we're looking into this.”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Or even if it's a positive thing, “Oh yes, that really worked so well.” Lots of people saying, “That's great.” Brilliant, let's fund that, and put it on again next year.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Because that's one important thing that the London Wildlife Trust will have to do. They'll have a budget, and they'll have a programme of events, and they'll need to know what's working and not working. So it's a two-way process.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: They just don't want to feed stuff out just to tick-boxes, they want to please people, and make people happy.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: If something isn't working, that route to feeding it back is really important.

Interviewer: Yes. So they're the routes to participating.

I suppose one of the things that we're quite interested in is the fact that it's an interesting identity that it has, as a privately-owned public space, that people can share their voice, and they have some pathways to participate. But this is never going to be taken over by a friends' group, this is never going to be owned by the general public.

Do you think there will be an impact upon people, in terms of their experience, that this is a privately-owned site?

Rebecca Elliott: I mean, it's obviously going to be quite different from working in- say for example, if you have your own little gardening group, and they have their conversations about what they're going to do with that little space.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: It's going to be very different, in that they have to consult with Operations on everything that they do, because sometimes they might not even think that planting something might have an impact on an operational issue.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: So they need to be trained, to know the impact of what they do on the wider public.

For example, London Wildlife Trust didn't realise that you couldn't use a certain chemical in the reservoirs, because they'd done it before at a different site, and thought it was fine.

Actually, you need a permit to use a certain chemical for planting, and they didn't understand that impact that they would have on drinking water.

Interviewer: Okay.

Rebecca Elliott: So there are a number of health and safety issues that the volunteers will need to be aware of.

Again, it's just a process of Operations, fisheries, everybody talking to each other. It's very different from a friends' group, 'friends of' group, in which they feel they own, and they can just make their own decisions, can't they, generally?

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But even events like, “Can we run an event on this day?” They can't just run an event, they have to make sure that it's not going to impact anything else that's happening.

They might be drawing own that reservoir that particular month. Even thought you've booked it six months in advance, actually, we're scheduled to do this.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And the same with Operations. They need to tell the volunteers if there's going to be something happening, so keeping that communication open.

Interviewer: That's presumably a new culture to both sides.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes, it is. Ops are notoriously quite difficult to communicate anyway. I know ways in which to get to them to get the answer; I need them to be open to the Wetlands experience.

Because a lot of the managers have been around for decades, and they go, “I'm not really a massive fan of this Wetlands, I'm not going to answer any emails.” And then the only way I can get a response from them is to literally turn up on site.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But again, we're just trying to educate them, to say, “This isn't going away. (Laughter) This is going to be part of your day job, and you need to make time for it. So you need to be having a conversation with these people on a regular basis.”

Interviewer: Right.

Rebecca Elliott: And that's something they're not- they just like to work in a silo, they like to just...

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: They have their little programme of events, they talk about it in little groups, but they don't like to tell anyone else it's happening.

So even last week, I spent- since I've started, I've been trying to get an issue out of them about water levels. “How does this water level process work? Is there a way in which we can influence if they go up and down?”

It took them months to get this no-response, “We don't know.”

And then suddenly, last week the water levels went down. And then I realised that it's because Operations cleaned out a tunnel just over the road, and didn't tell anybody.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: I said, “I told you, it's really, really important about these water levels, they cannot move.” You know, when we put the reed beds in.

And they went, “Oh, we didn't think to tell you, because we didn't think it would impact.”

“Just tell us anyway. Just tell us that there's some work happening, and then we'll decide if we think it's going to be an issue.”

It's just constantly making sure that that relationship is, you know, communicating.

Interviewer: That's tough.

Rebecca Elliott: It will be. (Laughter)

Interviewer: And understanding your role within the wider process, because we all tend to focus on our individual jobs, rather than the knock-on effect-

Rebecca Elliott: Yes.

Interviewer: And how we form part of a network. It's a real challenge.

I think that's quite interesting, for the increasing number- and this is a particularly complex and large-scale example- but it's interesting for the increasing number of privately-owned sites that are being opened to the public.

These new processes and ways of working are having to be developed.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes. And I can't think of any site that we own that really has such issues.

I mean, we've got- it's Kirsty's role to manage relationships between stakeholders, and we have someone called Kempton Railway Society, Kempton Great Engines Trust, and they work on Kempton Water Treatment Works.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And managing that relationship is so difficult, because they're always getting new people in as site operators.

Interviewer: Okay.

Rebecca Elliott: So as soon as you build that relationship up, it's all working really, really well, and the next thing, a new graduate comes in and takes over.

You have to sit down with them and say, “I know it's a pain in the bum for you, but you have to make time in the day to deal with these people, because they have a lease on our site, and they have a right to be here. They're asking you a question, and they shouldn't have to ask you five times, ten times, without getting a response.”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: So I can see that relationship's difficult at Kempton, and I know it's going to be difficult here. Because Kirsty started this sort of process, there's been three site managers, and this is the third one.

Every time we're starting from scratch, telling them about the Wetlands process, telling them that, “We understand that your operational side of the business is really important. However, we're not going away, we need you to work with us.”

And I think we've built that relationship with James Townsend now, but the concern is- and I said this to him last week, when he looked really stressed- I said, “Please don't leave, because I don't want to start again.”

Interviewer: Yes. (Laughter)

Rebecca Elliott: We've got regular conference calls, and it's working at the moment, it's working. Even he kind of slips, even though he knows it's important, because he's so busy.

Sometimes a \_\_\_[0:46:36] will go unnoticed, and next thing you're like, “Oh, did you get that quote for me on 23rd December, that was in my diary, that you said you were going to do,” it's like, “Oh, I didn't see that,” and that person didn't turn up, and didn't respond. So then you're just like constantly chasing.

The concern for me- obviously I'm going to be leaving, handing on back to Kirsty- is, our job is to be that kind of ear, the voice between Operations and the London Wildlife Trust, but we need to close it, and make it kind of...

Interviewer: And build that bond between them directly.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes, there shouldn't need to be somebody holding hands, going, “Can you have a chat,” you know. Chinese whispers sometimes, as well.

Interviewer: Of course.

Rebecca Elliott: If I get told something by Ops that's quite technical, and if I feed it back to them in my diluted way, that might be a massive issue. So you really need to build that relationship, and have it sustainable.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And that'll be interesting, to see how that- (Laughter) when I step back from it.

Interviewer: Right, okay.

So, benefits, challenges...

Yes, let's talk a bit about that, if you think that local people, local communities, will have any sense of- or should have any sort of sense of responsibility in and off the site?

Rebecca Elliott: Yes. I mean, with a beautiful site like this, when they enter the site, you want them to feel that they don't want to trash the place. Again, we're talking about the teenagers, you want to instil that this is a beautiful place from a young age, and therefore grow up with it, and have it as part of their own heritage.

Things like just, if they come for a picnic, just to have a respect for the site, an understanding of nature, of, just fling your can over there, actually that's going to cause an issue with wildlife.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: It's all about how do you kind of instil that on people. Because even, we were sat out earlier, we just watched somebody wind the window down and fling out all the food along the road, and you just think- you know, you don't want that on your site, you want people to respect the site.

And again, it's all about education. Maybe sort of, lots of ways in which that can actually negatively impact the environment. Just try and flip it back, and use it as an educational tool.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: I mean, there's lots of places where you go on holiday that you wouldn't even think about kind of throwing stuff about, or even picking flowers.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Children will naturally go up to a wildflower meadow, like, “Oh, look at this,” and pick it.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But again, educating them that, you know, it's not good to pick that particular flower, because it's rare.

But you don't want to have fencing up around it, you just want to strike that balance of people being interested in nature, but enjoying it for what it is. And if they want to pick things, there's other areas where you can have a little pick at some twigs, or some other kind of less rare species that might grow.

And that's, again, why you need something for those children, so they're not bored.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: You need something to fill their time. Because all I keep picturing is in the daytime, what type of people are you going to get in the daytime? And I just keep thinking you're going to get maybe mums walking through with a pushchair and a toddler.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And you know, got the café, lovely, that's great. But then they need something for that toddler to trash. (Laughter) Just to keep them, to capture them.

You want them to come back, you don't want them to come and go, “It's actually a bit dull, isn't it,” you know.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Or there's lots of signs saying, “Don't do this, don't do that.” You want them to turn up to site and not do it, because it's just instilled in them that it is a wildlife site, but there are other things to do, and not get bored with...

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: You need some sort of interaction. That's what I feel is missing at the moment.

Interviewer: Okay.

I was going to ask you about the consultation, but I don't know if you were involved in the consultations at all.

Rebecca Elliott: No, not really. Because obviously there was- that was run by the council, and, yes, I didn't have any involvement in that. I think that was quite a while ago now.

Interviewer: Yes, okay.

Rebecca Elliott: Hopefully Kirsty's answered those ones. (Laughter)

Interviewer: I think you've spoken to me a little bit about people that will benefit. Because what I'm trying to get at is, people that will benefit, and then the people that potentially won't benefit from the opening of the site.

You've already given me a sense of that in terms of barriers, so unless there's anything else you want to add in terms of people that you hope will enjoy the site, but there's a chance that actually, they won't be involved in this site, and they won't-

Rebecca Elliott: Again, it's sort of the main people are sort of those less educated, sort of lower-income families. That's one of the areas that we don't want to exclude.

We don't want to exclude the fishermen, we don't want them to leave. Obviously there are plenty of other sites in which they can fish; we want them to come back.

But again, we don't want maybe people that are coming to be watching birds, that have used the site as a sanctuary, to then go, “God, it's dead loud over there now. Can't go over there.” We don't want to exclude them.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: So I mean, hopefully there will be times in the day which then become kind of the regular kind of 'twitching hour'.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: They're kind of up and early anyway, aren't they? (Laughter)

Interviewer: You never see them around, yes.

Rebecca Elliott: You never see them, do you?

Interviewer: Stealth birders.

Rebecca Elliott: But obviously, to encourage the birders to come back, I think using their records, and making sure they're involved in that process. Because at the moment, a lot of the birding records- that we don't pay for, obviously we get surveys done- we just don't really use.

Interviewer: No.

Rebecca Elliott: And it would be brilliant to have a log book, in which all those little spottings are found, and then maybe a little bird newsletter.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Because then, obviously, the fisheries have the little Twitter pages, but they don't have newsletters.

Interviewer: No.

Rebecca Elliott: I love newsletters. Just little things like, “Look what we found this week.”

Interviewer: Yes, capturing local knowledge, and local-

Rebecca Elliott: It's so important.

Interviewer: There's a real potential here, isn't there?

Rebecca Elliott: It's like, I could go and do a survey of water voles for two days out of the full year, never see anything, and say, “Oh, there's no water voles in here. There's no latrines, there’s nothing, no feeding stations.”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And then, a fisherman can say, “well, actually, I sat down there for like- I've actually put in 100 hours, and I actually have seen water voles.”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: That is really important, and they need to know that there is a way of us capturing that data, and to have a site log book somewhere that they know. Probably in the volunteer hub when they're walking, because that's where they're going to be based, London Wildlife Trust.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: If they see anything, even if they think it's a really silly sighting, like, “Oh, I saw a stag beetle,” actually that's really important, because it's a locally-important species.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And just anything. Grass snakes, one of the fishermen was saying, “I saw a grass snake.”

And I was saying, “Well, you didn't tell me that before.”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: “Because I've not seen grass snakes here, and obviously surveys have happened at Coppermills, and we've never seen grass snakes. We haven't got that on record. That's really important, where did you see it?”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And then maybe we can go, “Oh, grass snakes like this bit of the site,” and then build it into a feature, and then that obviously creates an education tool.

Interviewer: So is there time for that to happen at the moment?

Rebecca Elliott: (Laughter) Not that I know of. I mean, David Mooney will probably have that all in his head, because it's something that- all nature reserves generally have log books.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: But it's something, again, that you can just bring it up, and just say, a reminder of how important those things are.

Especially things like invasive species, if they suddenly see a bit of hogweed growing up, “As soon as you see it, let us know.” Because actually, we might not have visited that bit of the site for ages, and that can be fed back into the management plan.

Interviewer: And of course, in terms of them feeling their continued ownership, and the importance of their voice, that would be really quite powerful, for people to feel like, “We know you've been here for years, we know you know the site better than most of us. Your knowledge is valuable.”

Rebecca Elliott: Yes, tell us what you know.

Interviewer: I can imagine it would be a very powerful way for them to become ambassadors for the site.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes, absolutely. It would be really good to have a sign, maybe near the volunteer hub, that says that. Kind of like, “We value your information.”

Any time, even like a drop-box system, where if you find something, you scribble on a bit of paper, put it in, and then maybe on that board, they can say, “Look what was seen on site this week.”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And then note down all the birds, all the butterflies, all the little things.

I mean, things like invertebrates and butterflies, that knowledge is kept with a high level of people. In the ecology world, if you know about butterflies, that's kind of so specialised, it's like that sort of information is getting lost now.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: So if that can be captured, that's amazing.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: You know, you're going to get a lot of local residents that have that knowledge.

Interviewer: Yes. And they’re an incredible resource.

Rebecca Elliott: Definitely.

Interviewer: From a conservation perspective.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes.

Interviewer: Okay. I'm aware of time-

Rebecca Elliott: I don't know, what time is it now?

Interviewer: I'm just worried that you're going to get caught, let's just make sure...

Rebecca Elliott: It's not too bad, it's twenty-five past. That's fine.

Interviewer: Okay. One more question, then.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes.

Interviewer: And then if I've missed anything off, I'll give you a bell, is that okay? And then we can-

Rebecca Elliott: Yes, that's fine, no problem.

Interviewer: Whether you feel that the opening up of the site will affect connectivity between different communities locally. You have spoken a little bit about it being part of everybody's day-to-day, and embedding it in that way.

But I wonder whether you think the site has a function in bringing connection, in all its different sort of understandings?

Rebecca Elliott: I think one of the most important things is, when we looked at- or Kirsty and the team had looked at- is opening up those reservoirs. There's gates there, all the way through over to here.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: So generally, if people, I don't know- if you were living over there, you might not have even considered coming through this route, because it's such a long way to get round and back up again.

So hopefully- there is obviously that barrier between the road, and people that live on that side, you know. It is quite a long distance for them, especially if they don't have a car.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And they are walking. So just by opening up that route to that route, and then we've got the cycle route which connects all that to the Woodbury, and all those other neighbourhoods.

That is one of the main drivers, it's opening and connecting not just people, but wildlife, and wildlife can travel, by creating these habitats, habitat corridors.

Hopefully it's all going to be monitored, like where people come from.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And then, if we find only a certain type of person, or you know, if we're not connecting in the right way, and maybe we might look at opening up different routes, again, that will hopefully be sat with London Wildlife Trust, with support from Operations, should they need looking at fence lines.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Again, it's keeping that communication between Ops and London Wildlife Trust, to know that it's always going to be developed. It's not just, “We've opened, we're set in stone, this is us.”

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: We're always going to be changing, we're always going to be moving, and looking to the future.

Because everything, I mean, even things like climate change is going to change the site dramatically. I think in about 40 years, any site that Thames Water looks at that has water on them, it will significantly change.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: These reservoirs might dry up a little bit. The rivers might dry up, and that's going to change stuff.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And that impacts connectivity of wildlife, and potentially of people as well. So it's always moving forward.

Interviewer: That's really interesting, actually. Nobody else has brought that up. (Laughter) That's very interesting.

Rebecca Elliott: Well, climate change can impact on the buildings. Things like wind.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes. So people just think of climate change as just warming, but it's not. Increase of water over winter. Wetter winters, drier summers.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: The impact on our buildings. Thames Water own this listed ferry boat in- obviously this is locally listed.

Interviewer: Does Thames Water own the \_\_\_[1:00:30]? I didn't know that.

Rebecca Elliott: Yes, we're listed. And I have a picture of it somewhere, I'm trying to find out where it is. A historic picture.

And obviously the Coppermills Tower is listed, so we need to look at the integrity of that.

Interviewer: Yes.

Rebecca Elliott: And if it's open, like a feature, the weathering and damage from whatever's going to happen with the climate, which will be hopefully in my lifetime, I will end up seeing that change. Not just on the water, but on the buildings.

Interviewer: Yes.Brilliant. Thank you so much for your time.