

8 What is suggested for the Green Bridge area?

Replacing the Green Bridge

Many things affect the height of flood flows in the Green Bridge area. The Green Bridge is prone to blockage during high flows and cannot be practically raised enough to reduce the risk. The sewer under the river bed acts as a weir and keeps the bed artificially high. The island is prominent, prone to blockage and reduces the channel efficiency. To provide protection against high flows, a number of measures are required in this area.

- A new bridge built just downstream of the weir, where water levels are lower. The new bridge will have ramped access and allow better accessibility for all.
- To retain continuity with the old bridge, the green 'diamond' style of the barrier could be retained. Natural materials such as timber and granite might also be used.
- The sewer and bed levels will be lowered to increase natural channel capacity. However, the amount we can lower the sewer is limited by the levels of the existing network. Also, any excessive lowering of the bed might lead to undermining of the surrounding walls and embankments.



Reviving a riverside space

There are opportunities to create a more attractive and accessible area, with new seating, paths and better planting. It would allow views of the bridge and enhance the setting and quality of the immediate area.

The two sketches above show how this site might be developed. A more structured seating area with surfaced paths would allow better accessibility for all, whilst the use of boulders - some of which may be removed from the channel during widening - could create an informal, natural playscape.

