

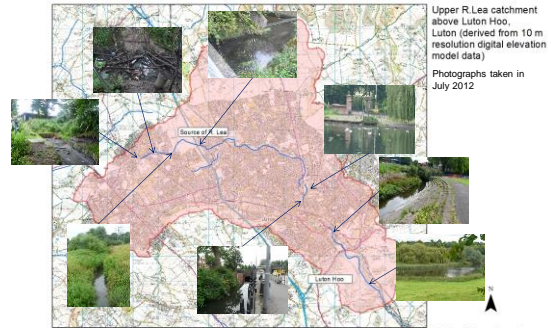
Improving the River Lea in Luton for the local economy, society and environment

Tim Brewer & Hayley Shaw
 Jim Harris, Paul Burgess, Tim Farewell, Andy Gill, Jenny Mant, Sue White
 + Luton Borough Council and the Environment Agency



www.cranfield.ac.uk

The context



Upper R. Lea catchment above Luton Hoo, Luton (derived from 10 m resolution digital elevation model data)
 Photographs taken in July 2012

Cartana Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database rights 2012

www.cranfield.ac.uk

Aim

- to develop tools, methods and protocols for designing and implementing a PES scheme in a complex urban setting
- via a case study for the river Lea from its source through Luton
- to address many of the strategic objectives of Luton Borough Council and the regional office of the Environment Agency
- they will become the key custodians of the PES scheme developed during the study



www.cranfield.ac.uk

Resources utilised



Historical assessment from maps and aerial photographs

MSc thesis project

www.cranfield.ac.uk

Achievements to date

Our vision: Life for the Lea in Luton

Business, Wildlife, Visitors



www.cranfield.ac.uk

Vision summary



www.cranfield.ac.uk

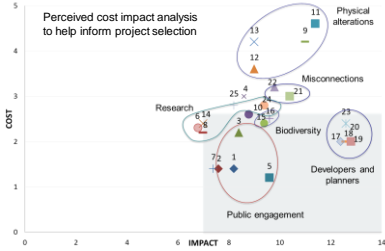
Where next?

Trial eco-plumber concept to resolve misconnections



Potential projects arising from workshop discussions

Project Name	Priority	Lead	Status
Physical alterations	11		
Misconnections	12		
Biodiversity	17, 18, 19		
Developers and planners	5		
Public engagement	7, 8		
Research	6, 14		



Embedding vision within development planning

www.cranfield.ac.uk

Challenges faced



- Ensuring broad spectrum stakeholder participation in workshops
- Identifying the right people within organisations who are able to provide inputs into PES projects
- Framing viable options within the context of local authority planning and budgetary constraints
- Engaging local businesses, but in a better position to do that now than earlier in the project
- Selecting initiatives to take forward that can be framed as PES projects

www.cranfield.ac.uk

Summary



- The project partners have worked well together
- All workshops have been well attended indicating a strong desire to see positive outcomes from the work
- It is only now that potential implementation options are becoming apparent
- Vision 'buy in' is seen as being critical to successful catchment scale implementation of a series of PES projects that will develop over the next 10 – 20 years

www.cranfield.ac.uk

It CAN be done!!!



A visionary mayor (Lee Myung Bak) and Professor (Kee Yeon Hwang) in Seoul, South Korea © www.infrastructurist.com