

Investing to improve water quality

To create a more resilient region, we've committed to improving the health of rivers, lakes and waterways, helping to make the North West stronger, greener and healthier.

That commitment includes major investment in our wastewater network and treatment infrastructure to reduce the frequency of storm overflow operations.



Improving your environment



As part of our long-term Action Plan for Windermere, we're proposing to invest a further £156 million to help improve and protect water quality – bringing our planned investment in Windermere to around £200 million.

This would see improvements to all the wastewater treatment sites and the six storm overflows that discharge to Windermere, enabling even higher treatment standards, further reducing the amount of phosphorus entering the lake and the number of spills to an average of ten a year.

Building on decades of investment

Over the last two decades, we have invested millions of pounds upgrading our wastewater treatment sites, pumping stations and sewers in and around Windermere.



Over the last five years we have:

- Introduced larger capacity pipes to cope with extra development
- Upgraded wastewater treatment works and utilised the latest treatment technology
- Halved the amount of phosphorus entering Windermere from our sites since 2015
- Increased capacity of the sewer to Tower Wood, which had reduced the spill numbers from over 200 to less than 30, further reducing impact on the environment and water quality



Starting at Ambleside

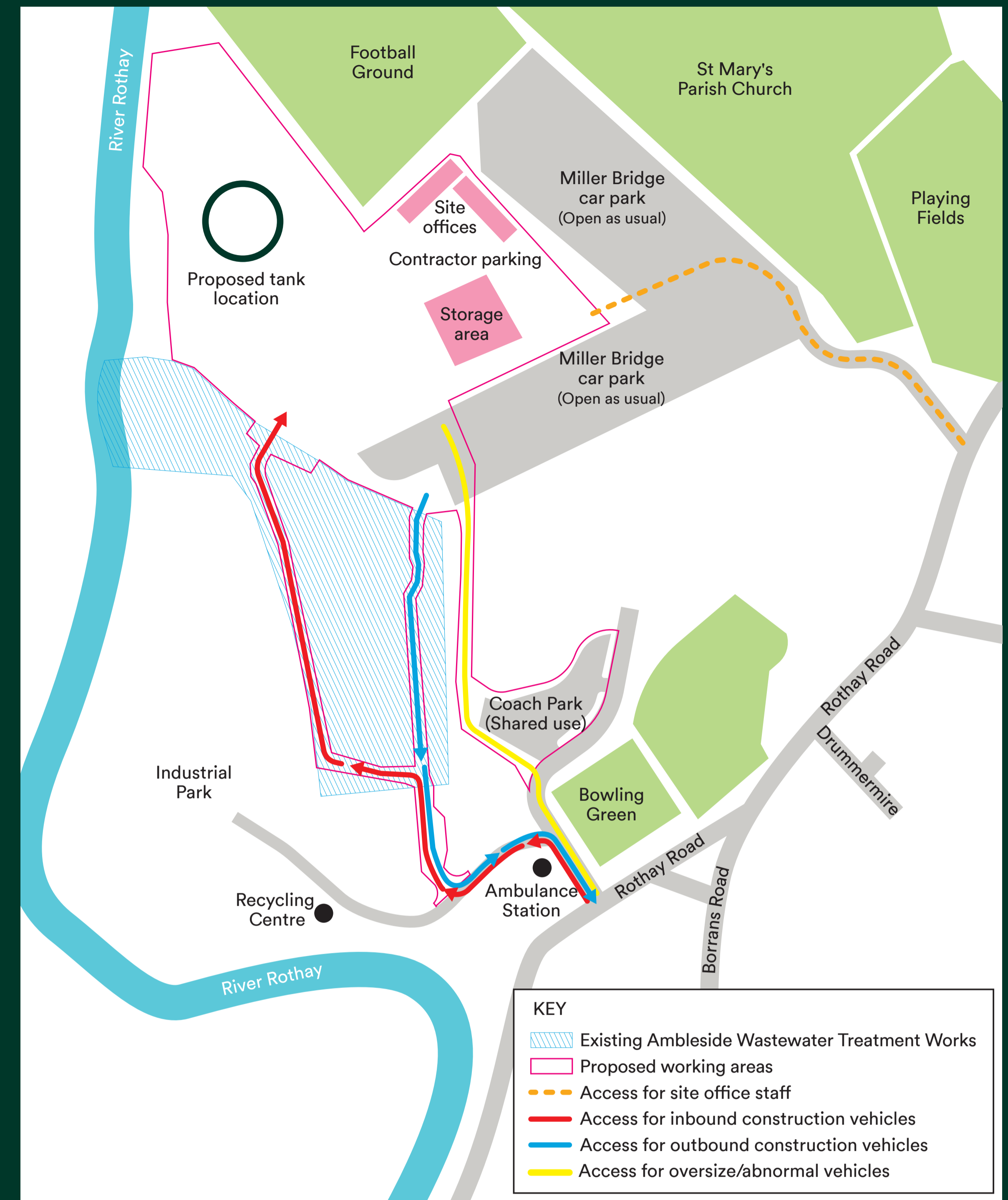
Ambleside is one of our flagship projects to improve water quality in Windermere. We're starting work now to prepare the way for new underground storage to complement the existing treatment infrastructure and help to further reduce stormwater spills to the lake.

We're proposing to build a new 25 metre diameter storage tank which can hold around 4,500m³ – that's roughly the same as two Olympic sized swimming pools.

What we're doing now

Over the next few months, we'll continue to develop and model the optimal solution for the site, including:

- running **ground investigations** to understand the local geology and rock formation so we can identify the tools and methods we'll need to use
- conducting **wildlife and ecology surveys** – to understand and identify areas where we need to keep construction to a minimum
- undertaking **sound pollution monitoring** to understand current noise levels and identify any future requirements



Proposed timeline (*subject to change)

- Ongoing until Spring 2025 Preparation works
- December 2024 Planning submitted
- Summer 2025 Main construction work begins
- 2028 Planned completion expected

Carrying out the project considerately and safely

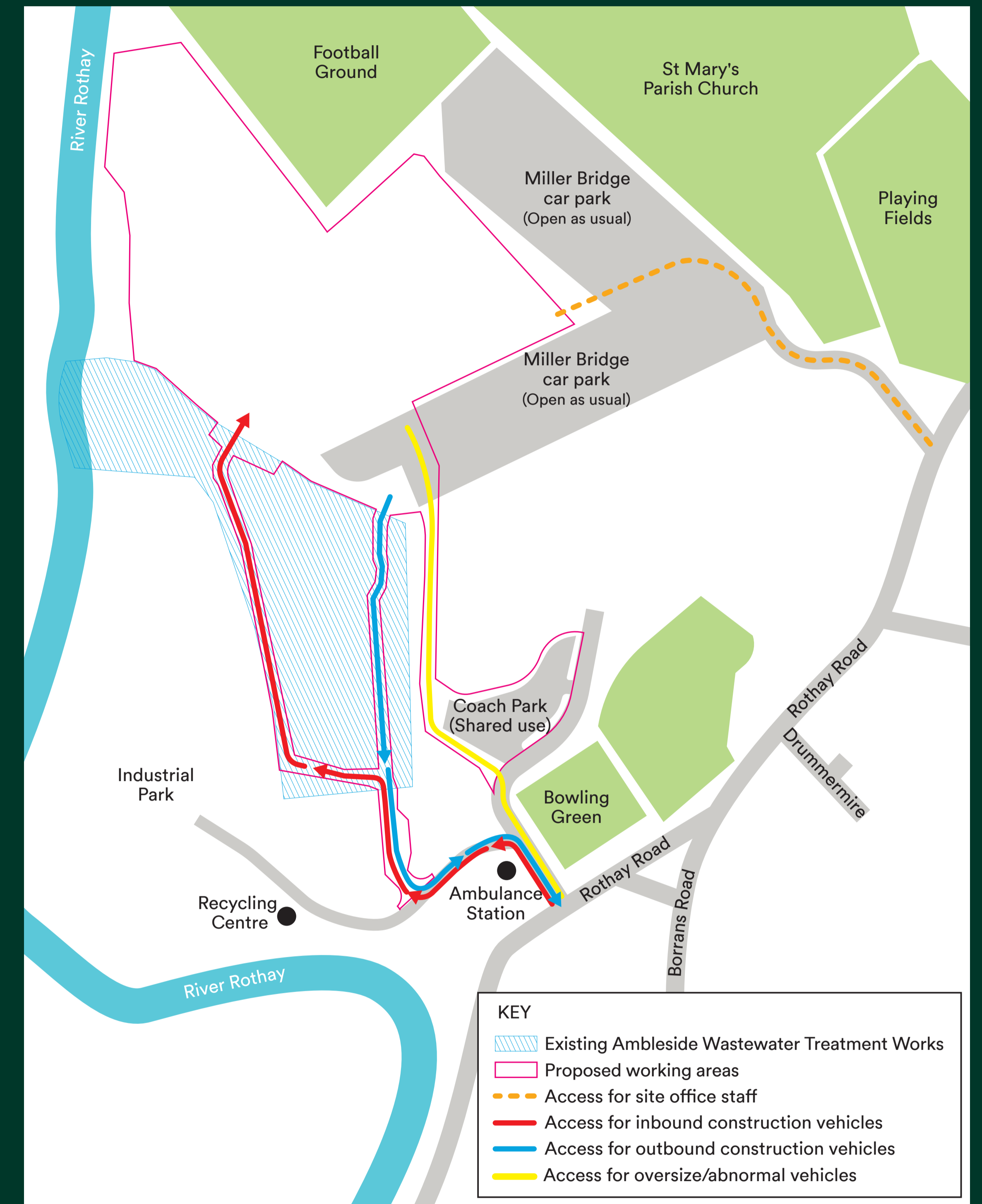
We understand that construction activity can be disruptive and our teams will do all they can to minimise impacts for the local community, road and car park users throughout the project.



Construction traffic

There will be an increase in construction vehicles travelling to, and from the site. A traffic management and access plan will operate during the main construction period.

- Miller Bridge car park will remain in use as normal throughout our work
- Inbound construction traffic will access from Borrans Road via the A593 and use the existing entrance to Ambleside WwTW. One-way system in place through the working area
- Outbound traffic will also be directed to join Borrans Road and head away from site, avoiding impacts to Ambleside town centre
- Designated route for oversized/abnormal vehicles with a holding area. Entry/exit via the Miller Bridge car park with priority given to car park users
- General staff vehicles will access the site offices via the main Miller Bridge car park entrance/exit route



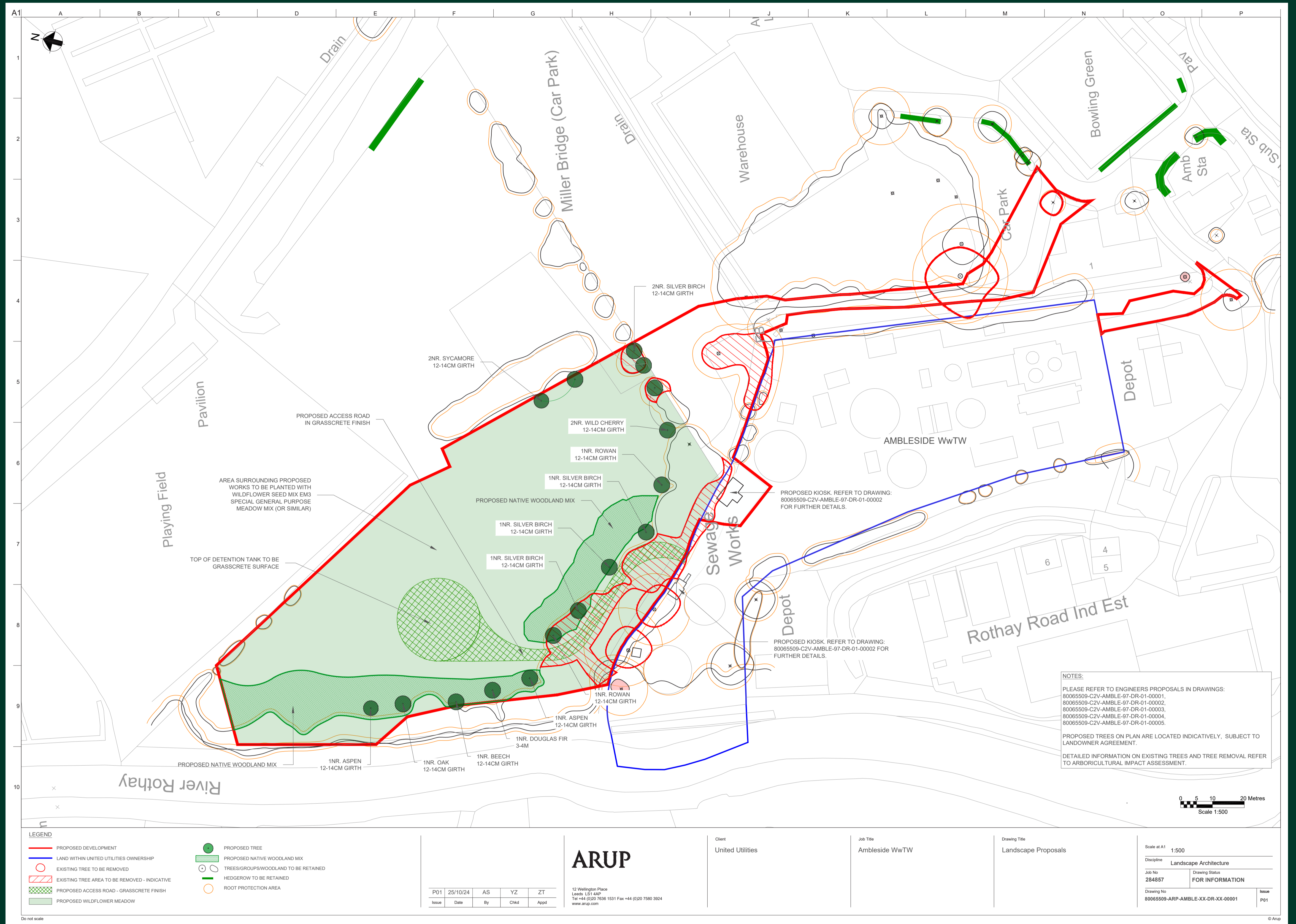
Restoring nature

Once the project is complete we'll be replanting woodland areas.

You can see our proposals on the map.



For every tree we remove, we'll be planting more, making Cumbria greener.



Water for the North West