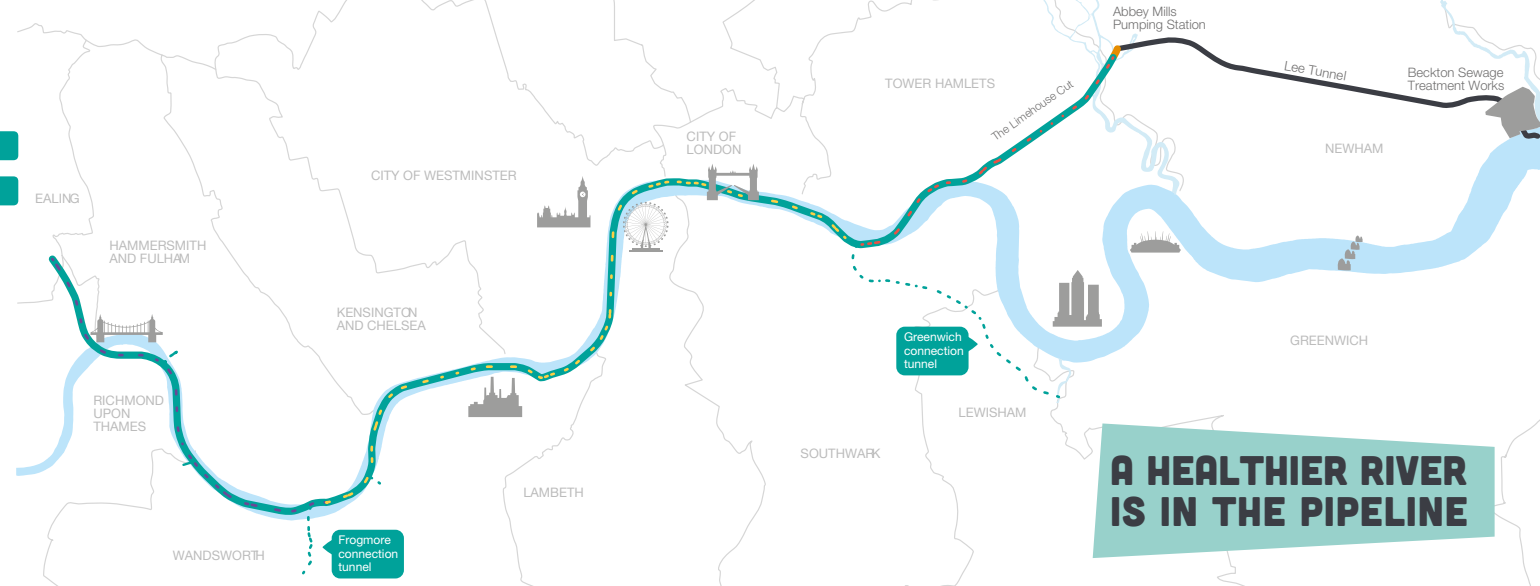


TIDEWAY: PROJECT FACTS



London relies on a 150-year-old sewer system built for a population less than half its current size – as a result, tens of millions of tonnes of sewage spills into the Thames every year. Tideway is addressing this.

The tunnel is 25km (15.5mi) long, stretching from Acton in west London to Abbey Mills Pumping Station in the east.

The tunnel is built on a gradient so flows travel west to east. At its deepest, it is 67m underground (33m at its shallowest).

The internal diameter of the tunnel is 7.2m – which is as wide as three London buses side by side.

More than 3.5m tonnes of the spoil excavated from the tunnels was removed by barge (more than 90% of the total).

Using barges on the river instead of HGVs on the road reduced CO2 emissions by 90 per cent and prevented more than 600,000 HGV journeys.

The tunnel has been designed to reduce sewage spills into the River Thames by more than 95% when the tunnel is finished in 2025.

Tideway's tunnelling machines have transited beneath 21 bridges in London.

Four giant tunnelling machines were used to excavate the main super sewer, [each named after inspirational women](#) with a connection to the local area.

Two smaller tunnelling machines were used to create connection tunnels in Greenwich and Wandsworth.

21 shafts were built across the project – some in order to launch tunnelling machines, most to channel sewage flows into the super sewer.

Once the project is finished, nine all-new public spaces will be left – seven of which are built out into the River Thames, including at Blackfriars, Chelsea and Putney.

When complete, the Super Sewer (and the Lee Tunnel combined) will have a storage capacity of 1.6m cubic metres, or around 600 Olympic-size pools.

The project is being paid for through Thames Water customer bills, with a maximum cost of between £20-25 per year.

LINKS:

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#SUPERSEWER