

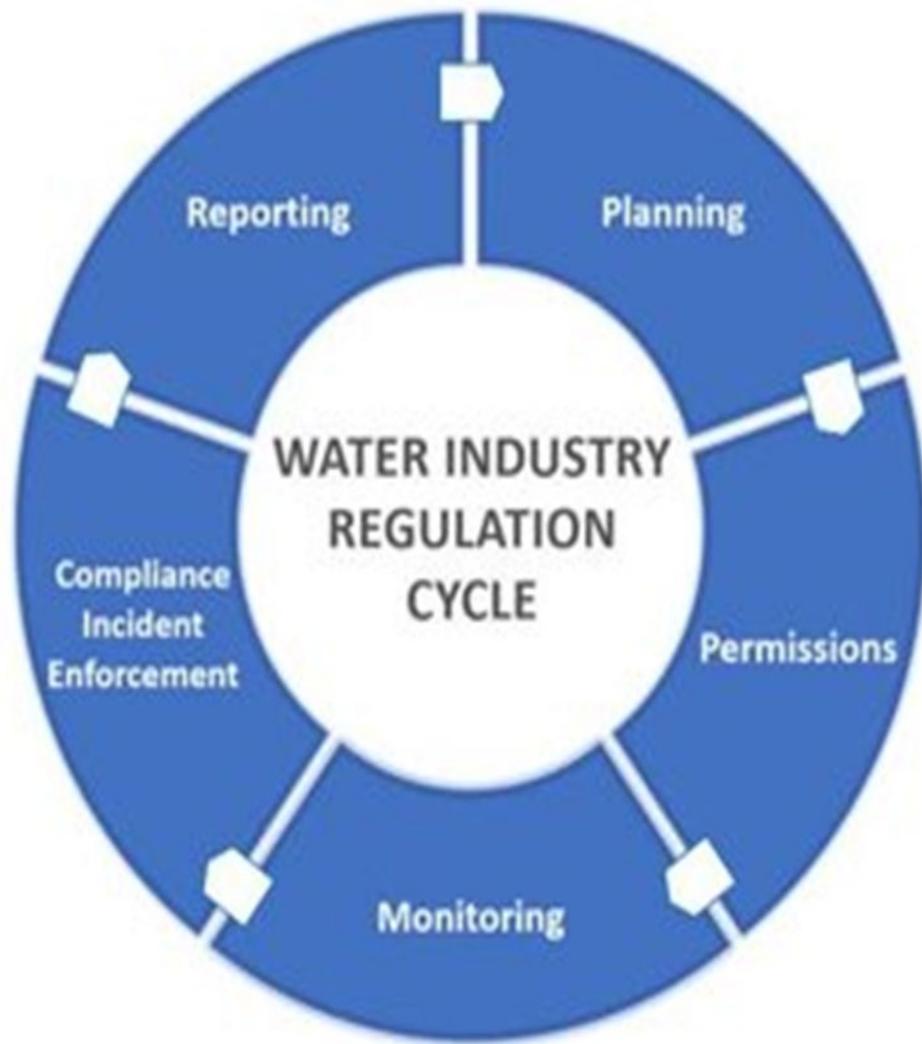


Colin Chiverton

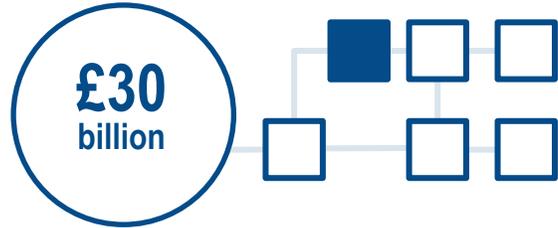
Area Environment Manager

Thames Area

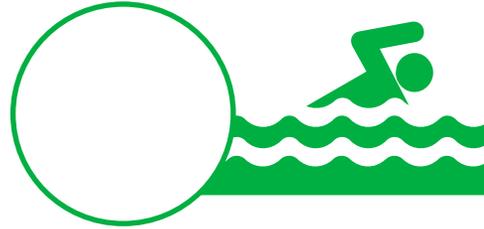
**Environment
Agency**



Current State of Environment



Investment in reducing impact of wastewater on environment.

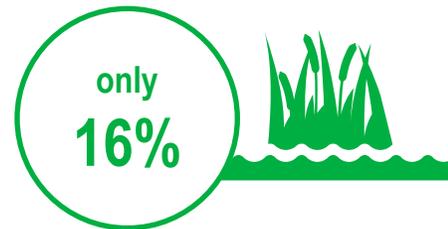


Improvements to ammonia, DO and compliant bathing waters



WFD elements at good or high status

This is not enough and more needs to be done.



Of WFD waterbodies at Good overall ecological status



There remain significant challenges to the water environment

Water Framework Directive - Approach

- The WFD requires a holistic, ecosystem approach to managing the water environment, incorporating quality, resources and physical characteristics



- It puts ecology at the centre of how we manage and protect the water environment

Water Framework Directive - Objectives

- Prevent deterioration;
- Improve the condition of waters to a specified level (subject to certain specific exemptions);
- cessation/reduction of pollution from priority substances and priority hazardous substances (surface waters);
- prevention or limitation of input of pollutants (groundwaters)
- reversing significant trends in pollutants (groundwaters)

Example WFD Ecological Status in the Cotswolds – 2022 classification

WFD Element	Coln (near source)	Evenlode (near source)
Ecological Status (Overall)	Moderate	Poor
Fish	Good	Poor – Physical Modification
Invertebrates	High	High
Macrophytes	Moderate – Physical Modification	Moderate – Agriculture and Water Industry
Ammonia	High	High
Dissolved Oxygen	Good	Moderate - Various
Phosphate	High	Poor – Water Industry

Water Industry Planning for Water Quality

WINEP PROCESS

SETTING THE FRAMEWORK

Framework set by;

- Defra
- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- Ofwat.

IDENTIFYING RISKS AND ISSUES

Risks and issues identified collaboratively by;

- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- Water Companies
- Partners.

PROPOSING SOLUTIONS

Water companies propose actions, developed with partners and the Environment Agency, to address risks and issues

ASSESSING PROPOSALS

The Environment Agency and Natural England assess proposals and finalises the WINEP

PRICE REVIEW

Water companies include WINEP actions in their business plans.

Ofwat assesses business plans and makes decisions on funding.

DELIVERY

Water companies responsible for delivering the WINEP.

Alterations to WINEP managed by the Environment Agency.

WFD Improvement/No deterioration

WFD Improvement

- Qualifying waterbodies will need to be improved to meet their objectives in the River Basin Management Plan
- WFD requirement for phosphorous will help prioritise Environment Act requirements

WFD No Deterioration

- Where a deterioration has been identified it must be restored back to its previous status
- Where growth within the existing permitted headroom is likely to lead to a deterioration
- Elements in lowest class should be prevented from any further deterioration



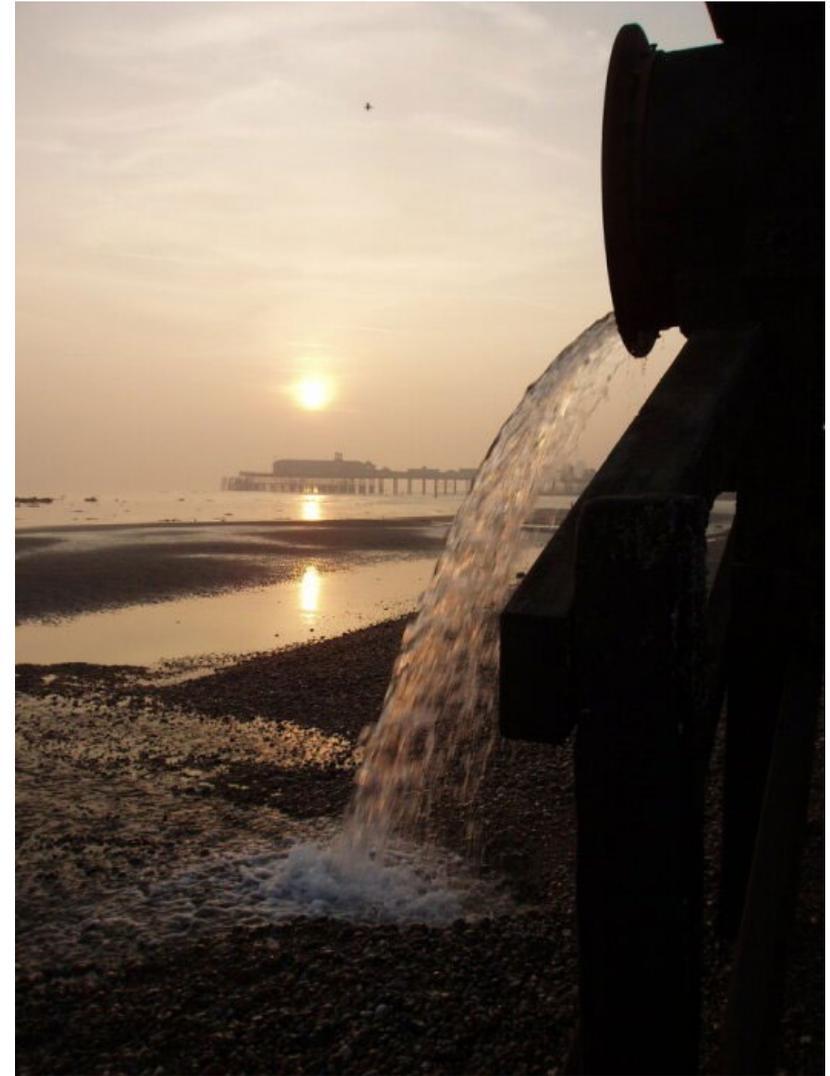
Storm Overflow Discharge Reduction Plan

Investigations into ecological impacts of permitted storm overflows

- Completed by 2027
- Expansion of current Storm Overflow Assessment Framework
- Methodology currently under consultation

Improvements to discharges to ensure no adverse ecological impact

- Must be achieved for most at least 75% of storm overflows discharging into or near 'high priority' by 2035.
- 100% of storm overflows discharging into or near 'high priority sites' by 2045.
- All remaining storm overflows sites by 2050.



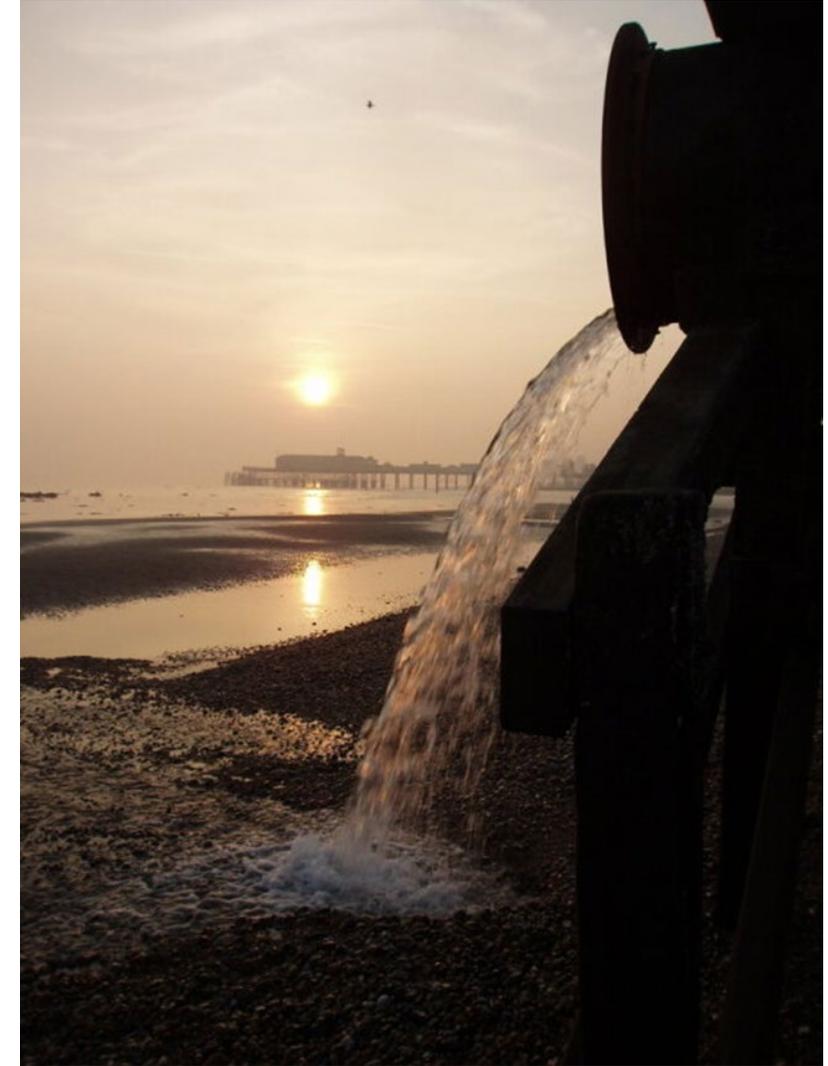
Storm Overflow Discharge Reduction Plan

Storm overflows will not be permitted to discharge above an average of 10 rainfall events per year by 2050.

- To better ensure overflows only operate in times of unusually heavy rainfall.
- This target must be achieved for at least 75% 'high priority sites' by 2035 and for 100% of 'high priority sites' by 2045

Water companies must significantly reduce harmful pathogens from storm overflows discharging near designated bathing waters.

- By applying disinfection; or
- Reducing the frequency of discharges to meet Environment Agency spill standards by 2035.



Environment Act Phosphorous

- Reduce Phosphorus load discharge by 80% by 2035 using a 2020 baseline
- Interim target by 2025
- Will mean significantly tighter Phosphorus permits at the majority of Sewage Treatment Works



Drainage and Wastewater Management Plans

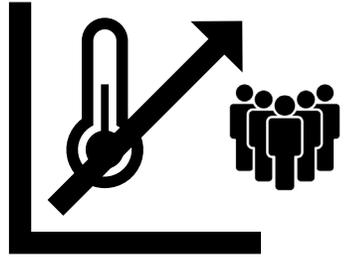
The Duty under Section 79, Environment Act (2021)

(2) A drainage and sewerage management plan is a plan for how the **sewerage undertaker will manage and develop its drainage system and sewerage system** so as to be able, and **continue to be able**, to meet its obligations under this Part (referring to Section 94 WIA 1991)

(3) ... must address in particular:



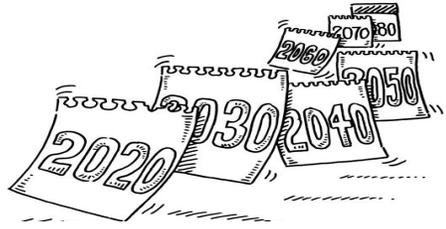
CAPACITY



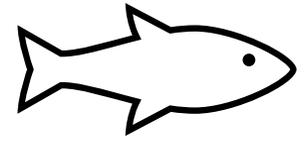
CURRENT & FUTURE DEMANDS



RESILIENCE MEASURES UNDERTAKE R INTENDS TO TAKE



SEQUENCE & TIMING



ENV. RISKS & HOW RISKS ARE MITIGATED

Local Plans & Planning Applications

- Most EA input into planning is for Flood Risk
- Non – statutory consultee for water quality
- We strategically input into Local Plans
- Encourage and review Water Cycle Studies
- Raise objections and recommend conditions if required



Thanks for listening