

Water Scarcity Group

Thursday 10 July 10:00 – 12:00

1. Cambridge Growth Company Evidence Base

Buro Happold provided an update on their work to develop an evidence base to support the Cambridge Growth Company's ambition to unlock sustainable growth in Cambridge. They shared an overview of the work they have done on water and infrastructure, noting how they are aligning this work with the work of the Water Scarcity Group.

2. Wastewater

MHCLG and Anglian Water provided an update on work to assess wastewater capacity against growth in the Greater Cambridge local plan.

Action(s)

- Anglian Water to return to the WSG with a further update, including a funding update once the Competition Market Authority process has concluded.

3. Supply-Demand Balance (AtkinsRealis)

Atkins Realis presented an overview of their work to assess the water supply-demand balance in Cambridge. They outlined the aim of the work, which will support the local planning authority's emerging local plan. The final outputs of their work will include a report setting out the water supply situation in the Cambridge area and an interactive tool to assess the water supply-demand balance over time.

Action(s):

- MHCLG to keep the WSG updated on the Supply-Demand Balance work.

4. Water Credits Scheme

MHCLG provided an update on work to develop a water credits scheme in Cambridge. It was noted that further updates on the development of a water credits scheme would be shared with the WSG in due course.

5. Project Management Update

MHCLG provided a project management update, including updates on the delivery of the Water Efficiency Programme, Agriculture AWRMPs, and work to identify short-term supply options.

6. Cambridge Water Update

Cambridge Water provided an update on the impact of recent hot weather, which has led to increased water demand. They also provided an update on the Grafham Pipeline Transfer, noting ongoing work on landowner engagement.

Action(s)

- Cambridge Water to return to WSG with updates on the Grafham Pipeline Transfer.

7. Any Other Business

Defra provided an update on the Water Delivery Taskforce, which is focused on addressing water supply and wastewater capacity challenges to unblock growth, and the Cunliffe Review, noting that the interim findings have been published.

The next WSG meeting is planned for 21 August, 14:30 to 16:30.