

Water Scarcity Group

Wednesday 28 May 14:30 – 16:30

1. Water Efficiency Programme

MHCLG provided an update on the Water Efficiency Programme, which aims to generate water savings in households and non-households in Cambridge to enable short-term sustainable growth up to 2032.

Actions(s)

- MOSL to provide contact information for university group looking at ESG ratings.
- MHCLG to assess options to extend the scope of the water efficiency programme.

2. Short-Term Supply Options

WSP provided an update on commissioned work to identify and assess small-scale supply options in the Cambridge Water Resource Zone. WSP provided an overview of their work to date, which has included stakeholder assessment with water companies and the Environment Agency. It was noted that they are working to conclude the project by the end of the month.

Action(s)

- MHCLG and Defra to join up outside of the WSG to consider next steps following the conclusion of WSP's work.

3. Project Management Update (MHCLG)

MHCLG provided a project management update, including updates on the Fens Reservoir, delivery of the Water Efficiency Programme and work to assess wastewater capacity.

Action(s)

- Defra to provide an update on smart farming trials ahead of next WSG meeting.

4. Cambridge Water Update

Cambridge Water provided updates on their smart metering rollout, which is being rolled out this summer, their Cenergist retrofit trial, which is focused on installing household water efficiency devices, and their work to address leakage. They also provided an overview of the coordination role they are taking on for the Grafham Pipeline Transfer dependency projects, which will focus on interdependencies and cross-cutting considerations between the projects.

Action(s)

- Cambridge Water to return to WSG with outcomes of the Cenergist trial when completed.
- Cambridge Water to provide future updates on Grafham dependency projects.

5. Anglian Water Update

Anglian Water provided an update on the Fens Reservoir, noting that they are undertaking further work to assess water quality and are preparing for the next stage of consultation. Anglian Water also provided an update on their meeting with Affinity Water to assess spare capacity of the Grand Union Canal scheme. Anglian Water also flagged to the group that the judicial review period for the relocation of the Cambridge Wastewater Treatment Plant has now ended, and no challenges have been received.

6. Any Other Business

The next WSG meeting is planned for 10 July, 10:00 to 12:00.