

Water Scarcity Group

Tuesday 25 February 14:30 – 16:30

1. Chair's Introduction

The chair led an introduction and welcomed attendees.

2. Water Efficiency Update

MHCLG provided an update on progress to delivery Phase One of the Water Efficiency Programme and plans to commence work on Phase Two.

Action(s)

- MHCLG to schedule workshop on Phase Two.

3. Wastewater Update

Anglian Water provided an update on Wastewater, noting their assessment that wastewater capacity in Cambridge is limited, which could pose a significant challenge and potential delays to development. Anglian Water noted that they would feed this work into their AMP8 investments to support their prioritisation.

Action(s)

- Anglian Water to provide further updates to the WSG on wastewater capacity, including on the impact of phosphorus removal on the capacity of the treatment works.
- MHCLG to convene a WSG subgroup on wastewater to take this work forward and provide a forum for problem-solving.

4. Non-Household Demand Limit

Cambridge Water provided an update on the non-household advisory demand limit included in their Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP).

Action(s)

- Cambridge Water to share comms products for the NHH advisory demand limit

5. Update on Aquifers in Cambridge

Affinity Water provided an update on ongoing work to assess the aquifers in the Cambridge area.

6. PMO Update

MHCLG provided project management update. Key headlines included the third phase of consultation for the Fens reservoir, wastewater capacity being assessed, and MHCLG's commission to assess new supply options in Cambridge.

7. Water Company Updates

Cambridge Water provided an update on their Cenergist flow regulator trial. Anglian Water provided an update on the progress of the Fens Reservoir and the Grafham Pipeline Transfer. Anglian Water noted that they have appealed to the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) on the Ofwat Final Determination. Affinity Water provided an update on the Grand Union Canal dependency. They also noted that they have accepted their final determination.

Action(s)

- MHCLG to include Anglian Water in the supply options acceleration work

8. Any Other Business

The chair noted the next meeting is due to take place on the 13 March but will be rescheduled to 17 April 2025.