

Anglian Water update



To make the East of England resilient to the risks of drought and to secure water supplies for future generations.

August 2021

A new water pipeline in your area

We're future proofing your water supply

Our region is drier than any other part of the UK and is also one of the fastest growing. We are building a network of new water pipelines to make sure our region is resilient to the risks of drought and to secure water supplies for future generations. The new series of interconnecting pipes will allow us to move water more freely around the region to keep up with demand.

We shared the route of a new 12.5km pipeline back in March 2021 and now want to provide a further update as pre-construction work is due to begin soon.

The new pipeline and an upgraded pumping station will increase reliability for communities in the area and reduce the number of homes and businesses which currently rely on a single pipeline for all their water needs.

The preferred pipeline route

This pipeline will start **northeast of Little Melton - to the east of the Norwich Southern Bypass** and will end **at the existing High Oak reservoir, in Wymondham**. This pipeline is part of a wider network of interconnecting pipelines across the region.

It will connect into our existing water network to ensure we can continue to meet demand from population growth in the area, and to replace the supply from local ground water sources, which are subject to environmental restrictions from April 2022.

We have worked closely with landowners and have listened to customers and stakeholders to confirm our route and will continue to do so.



What have we done so far?

In March this year we sent out a newsletter to update communities along the route and asked for feedback via our online survey.

Between April and May this year we completed our ground investigation surveys which indicated the best route for the pipeline.

In April 2021, we submitted a request for an Environmental Impact Assessment screening opinion to South Norfolk Council requesting confirmation that the pipeline can be installed using statutory permitted development powers that we have as a water company. We will also be applying for planning permission for the construction of the pumping station in the next few weeks.

Throughout our work on this pipeline we have engaged with the affected landowners and have used their feedback to inform our processes moving forward.

What's next?

We have started preparing areas along the route of the pipeline so that the main work of laying water pipes can begin.

This is known as 'enabling' or 'pre-construction' work and includes setting up compounds where staff and equipment



will be based and creating access for our teams to work. The work will include the removal of some hedgerows and soil.

We will also be putting up fencing and signage and making sure we protect electricity cables and gas pipes. You may also see some temporary traffic management systems where we will be laying the pipe under the roads. These activities will take place along the whole of the route.

Pipelaying is expected to start in the late summer.

Working north to south

We will start our work at the north end of the route, northeast of Little Melton - to the east of the Norwich Southern Bypass and will end at the existing High Oak Water Treatment Works, in Wymondham.

Phase of work	Types of activity	Approximate timetable
Engaging with customers and stakeholders about the preferred route	Sharing the route, listening to feedback	March 2021 and ongoing
Environmental investigations	Archaeological surveys and ecological monitoring	Ongoing during 2021
Ground investigations and archaeological trial pits	Digging trenches and boreholes to understand conditions below the surface may be required for the scheme	Completed April 2021
Submission and discussions with local planning authority	Making submission and discussing any consents that may be required for the scheme	Submitted April 2021
Enabling works (works needed prior to the start of construction)	Ecological mitigation for legally protected species Limited vegetation removal to aid access	August 2021
Construction	Site compounds set-up Construction of pipes Construction of pumping stations, water storage tanks Temporary storage lagoons (to store water that will be used to test the pipeline after construction)	August 2021 until March 2022
Commissioning (testing the pipeline prior to becoming operational)	Cleaning the pipeline and connecting to existing network	February 2022
Reinstatement after installation (the land will be reinstated to its original state with additional improvements in some areas, where we can)	Replacement of topsoil Restoration of access routes and fencing Reinstatement of road surfaces Reinstatement of drainage Replacement of vegetation	From March 2022

****These dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances****

Impact on communities

We will work hard to keep the impact on you, the communities along the route, and the environment, to a minimum.

Visit our dedicated webpages to keep up to date with our work. The link is here: anglianwater.co.uk/spa

For more information about our commitment to working with communities, please see our Statement of Community Involvement, which sets out our approach to engaging with people and organisations. It is available on our webpages.

If you need practical support

You can sign up for free to our Priority Services Register. The Priority Services Register can help a wide range of people, from those with sight, hearing, or mobility difficulties, to parents with babies under 12 months old. And we offer a wide range of support, from sending out bills in other formats, to providing support in an operational event such as if your water supply is interrupted. Also, once on the register you can stay on it for as long as you like.

You can sign up by calling our dedicated Priority Services Team on **0800 141 2934**, or by completing the online application at anglianwater.co.uk/priority

Roadworks

To allow our teams to complete the work safely, temporary traffic management systems will be used in some areas.

This will include the use of temporary two-way traffic lights and a small number of temporary road closures.

Further details about this work are available on Anglian Water's In Your Area pages:

inyourarea.digdat.co.uk/AnglianWater



Site compound and laydown areas

There will be one main compound for this pipeline route. This main compound will include offices and toilets, storage for materials, fuel, construction materials, waste containers, plant/equipment and car parking as required. This will be sited very close to High Oak Water Treatment Works at Wymondham.

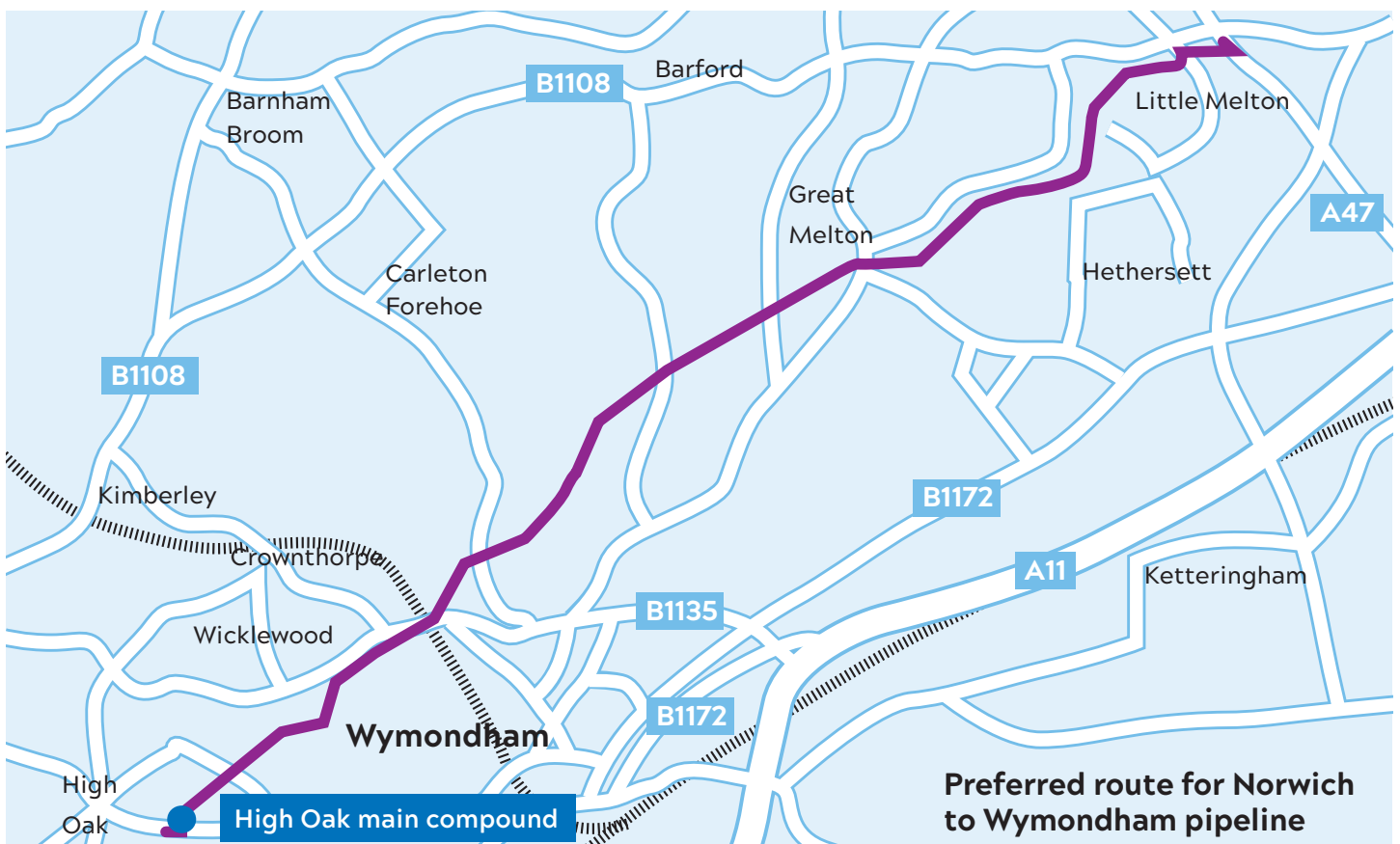
There will be some smaller areas, known as laydown areas, which will be used to store sections of pipe and other construction materials and equipment which may include welfare cabins. These have been strategically placed along the route. The main compound and laydown areas will have secure perimeter fences and working sites will have some security or safety lighting which will be used as required.

Removal of some vegetation

Sections of hedgerows, including some trees, will be removed to allow access.

All of the hedgerows we remove will be replaced, except in some small areas where the operational teams will need continued access to the new pipeline.

Our activities will be assessed for the potential impact on the environment, farming, people and communities both in terms of potential positive and negative impacts. We will consider the scale and duration of the activity as well the sensitivity of the location.



Construction techniques

As you can imagine, there is a lot of work involved in installing a new 12.5km pipeline. We will continue to work with local authorities, parish councils, landowners and all contractors to deliver the scheme with minimal disruption until the pipeline is operational.

We are always looking at better, more efficient ways to deliver this complex programme of works and how to cause less impact to our landowners and communities. One of the ways to make this happen is to use a 'pipe plough' which is a specialist machine that cuts through the ground and lays pipe at the same time.

One of the main benefits of this technique is that there are no open excavations during installation. This means it causes less disturbance to the ground which is better for landowners. It also reduces our working area, is safer for our workers, is quicker and more efficient and reduces our impact on the environment.

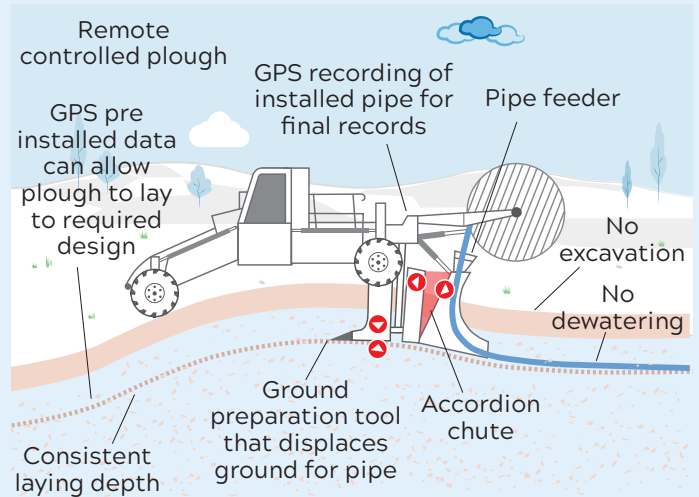
There will be some areas where we won't be able to use the pipe plough e.g. roads, railways and other structures where we must not disrupt the surface. In these cases, we will use traditional techniques such as open cut and trenchless techniques.

Our working area will generally be 15 metres wide, but this will be narrower for crossing sensitive hedgerows, tree lines and watercourses.

Prior to the works commencing, we will initially strip the topsoil (approx. 12 metres wide) and it is anticipated that this will be reinstated in March 2022. The pipe that we will be laying on this route is a 315mm diameter plastic pipe to a minimum depth of 900mm.

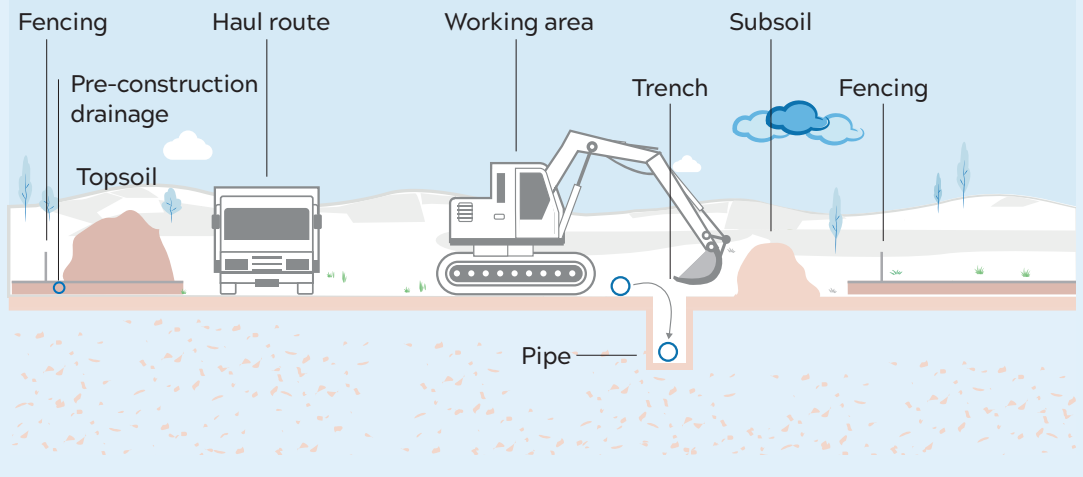
Pipe plough

The pipe plough technique can be used where a smaller diameter pipeline is laid e.g. 315mm. The plough cuts through the land and lays the pipe at the same time without having any open excavations.



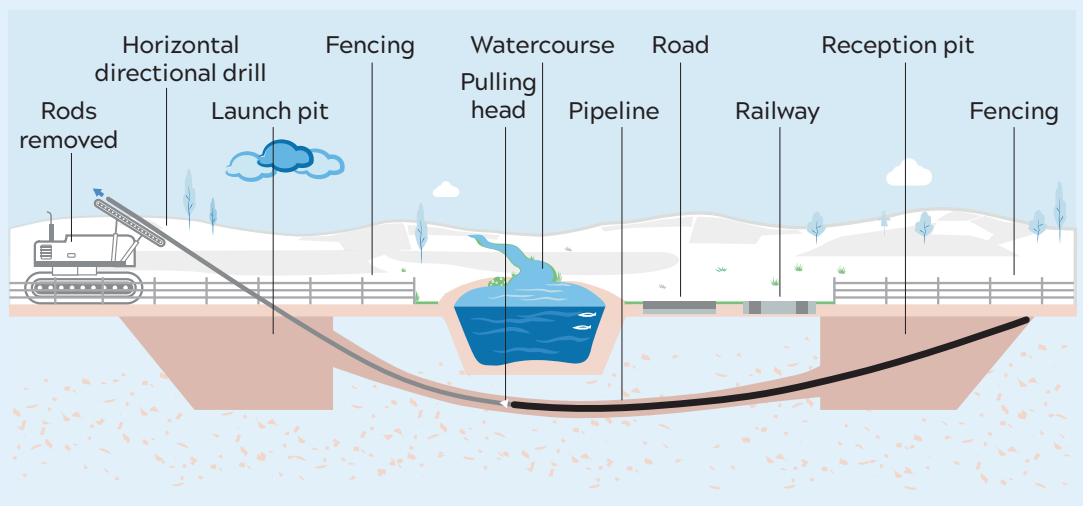
Open cut trenches

Open cut trenching will be used for most of the pipeline route that goes through open ground, such as farmland. The trench will be excavated using a digger and the pipe and any supporting equipment or material is laid and then covered over with the material that was dug out.



Trenchless

Trenchless techniques will be used to lay the pipe underneath main rivers and roads. This involves directionally drilling or auger boring, when a machine will drill or bore a hole through the ground from one side of the obstruction to the other. The pipe is then pushed through the hole.





Improving water supplies across the region

We will be building up to 500km of new, interconnecting pipelines, in one of the biggest infrastructure programmes for a generation.

The new pipelines will help us move water more freely around the region, so that we are able to divert it from areas of water surplus in north Lincolnshire to the south and east of the region, where it isn't as readily available.

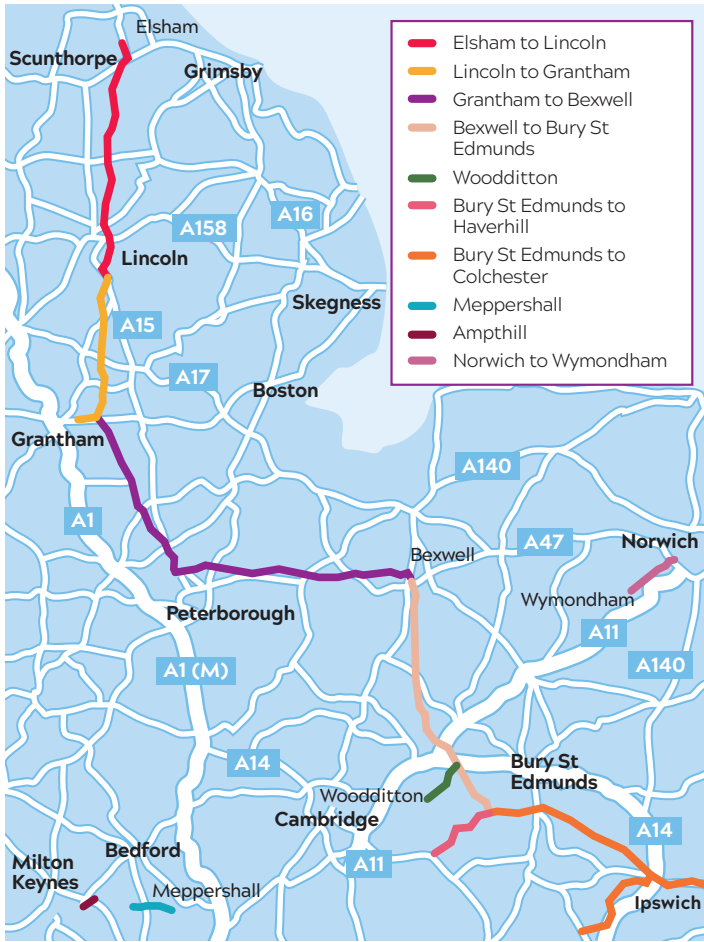
We are building the pipeline in separate phases so will be able to strengthen local resilience and reduce the number of homes and businesses which rely on a single water source.

Our challenges

We are facing four interlinked challenges to water supplies in East Anglia. These are climate change, environmental protection, population growth and the risk of drought. We want to act now to ensure the long-term availability of water for all customers in the future.

Climate change

The East of England has below average rainfall for the UK. The area is classified as under severe water stress and climate change projections suggest there will be lower summer rainfall and hotter temperatures.



Environmental protection

We will be taking less water from the environment, such as rivers and boreholes. We aim to reduce the amount we take by 84 million litres a day.

Population growth

Our region is experiencing high levels of population growth with a predicted increase of 20 per cent over the next 25 years. This will create an additional demand and pressure on our water resources.

Drought

Since the 2011-2012 drought we have been investing in our network to reduce the risk of water shortages.

Any questions



You can visit our dedicated webpage, anglianwater.co.uk/spa, call us on **03457 145145** stating reference number **57742249**



Email us at StrategicPipelines@anglianwater.co.uk



Alternatively, you can write to us at Strategic Pipeline Alliance, 3rd Floor, World Wide House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough, Cambridge, PE3 6SB.