

Our plan for the future – Buckinghamshire

Stakeholder Engagement October 2024



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An introduction from Mark Thurston – CEO – Anglian Water

I became CEO of Anglian Water in August 2024. In the weeks since I joined, I've immersed myself in getting to grips with the scale and complexity of this business.

We're the biggest water company by geographic area, covering nearly a quarter of the UK and serving seven million customers. Our region stretches from the Humber Bank in the north to the Thames Estuary in the south and is home to major infrastructure projects including East West Rail.

Importantly, 75% of the land in our region is used for agriculture and it is home to many water-intensive businesses. This is relevant in Buckinghamshire, which is home to varied industries including pharmaceuticals, electronics, waste disposal, transport and civil engineering.

The Government's growth agenda and predicted population growth, against a backdrop of the impacts of climate change, mean that investment in Buckinghamshire – and across our wider region – is of fundamental importance. We outline our investment plans in our AMP8 Business Plan, which covers the 2025-2030 delivery period. This is currently going through the determination process with Ofwat.

As we gear up for AMP8, we also have our minds further into the future, with much of the required investment needing us to think way beyond a five-year timeframe. Coming from an engineering background, it's clear to me there is so much to deliver, in line with our long-term ambitions and our Purpose; to bring environmental and social prosperity to the region we serve through our commitment to Love Every Drop.

Over £500 million investment in the west of our region

Our capital investment programme includes significant investment in the west of our region. Our overall business plan is worth £10 billion, with over £500 million across Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland. In Buckinghamshire specifically, we plan to invest over £130 million. Our investment plans will support growth in the region – with a clear focus on environmental improvements, in line with Buckinghamshire County Council's vision of a thriving county where “growth is delivered sustainably... and environmental enhancement is achieved to support high quality of life for communities”.

Having worked on many, significant infrastructure programmes, I understand the concerns about the scale and pace of work required to be successful. This is why it's so important we're engaging with you early on our plans, so we can take on board your views, suggestions and knowledge.

I truly believe that by working together, we can drive growth, while delivering benefits for the people, the economy and for the wider environment across the whole of Buckinghamshire and beyond.

Mark



About Anglian Water

Since privatisation – in 1989 – Anglian Water has invested **£16.9 billion** in improving services in our region.

Our Purpose is to bring environmental and social prosperity to the region we serve through our commitment to **Love Every Drop.**



We are geographically the
largest water and sewerage company

in England and Wales



Serving **7 million**
customers across the East
of England and Hartlepool



88% of our customers
have a water meter fitted

We employ around
6,000 people,



and work alongside a further

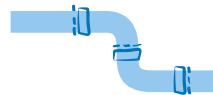
**3,000 alliance partners
and contractors**

We operate and maintain

**38,006km of
water mains**



Laid end to end, this is further than
a trip to Sydney and back!



And we operate and maintain

76,355km of sewers

Laid end to end this is almost twice
around the earth's circumference

We pump less water into supply every day now than we did in 1989,
despite supplying **26% more properties**



The region we serve

Buckinghamshire has a population of over 553,000* and the region has experienced growth of 9.5% between the 2011 and 2021 censuses. This is higher than the average increase in England (6.6%) and the East of England (8.3%).

With easy access to the Midlands, London and the South East – and with further transport projects in the county – this is a key area for growth-related investment. Key industries in Buckinghamshire include pharmaceuticals, computer/electronics, waste disposal, transport and civil engineering, some of which are water-intensive.

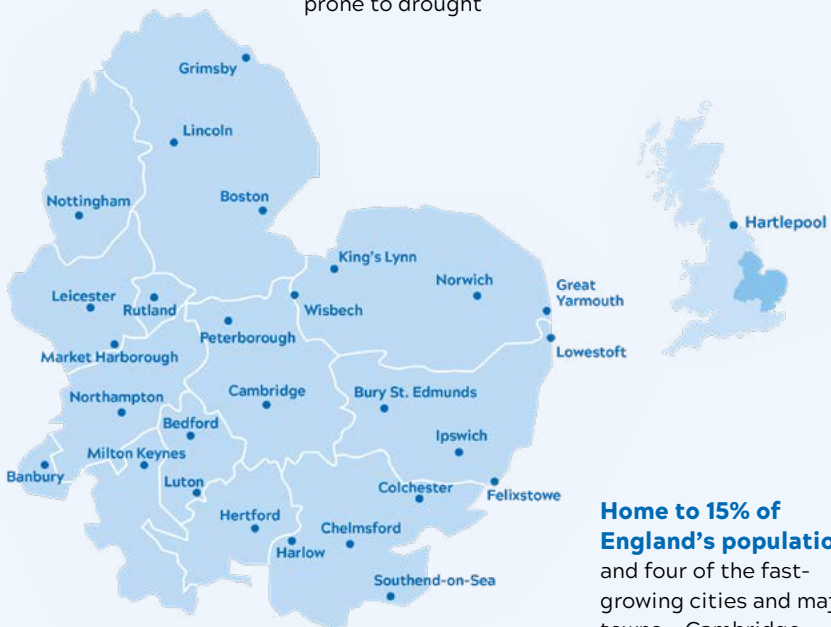
14 diverse counties

in our region, all with differing environmental, social and economic needs

28% of land is below sea level, putting us at risk of flooding whilst hotter than average temperatures make us prone to drought

Lowest rainfall

at 2.14mm per day, versus the national average of 2.85mm



75% of land in the East of England is used for agriculture, higher than any other region

Businesses in the East are particularly water intensive, e.g. food processing

Home to 15% of England's population

and four of the fast-growing cities and major towns – Cambridge, Peterborough, Milton Keynes and Northampton – this means that by 2043, 700,000 more people will live here

What our AMP8 plan will deliver for Eastern England

Our proposed AMP8 business plan is worth c.£10 billion. This is currently going through the determination process with Ofwat. We expect to receive our Final Determination at the end of 2024.



Working in partnership to deliver

Our leading alliancing model has a proven track record of successfully delivering major infrastructure programmes. The Strategic Pipeline Alliance is specifically working on our interconnector programme, while our @one Alliance is coming up to 20 years of working as an integrated part of Anglian Water. It is currently delivering around 50% of Anglian Water's capital delivery projects. This alliancing model is key to delivering our AMP8 growth plans, enabling us to scale up our workforce and pull in specialist skills and knowledge from our range of partners.

The @one Alliance is a partnership consisting of eight companies who each provide specialised knowledge allowing the @one Alliance to deliver complex delivery projects in the most efficient way, reducing the cost to Anglian Water's customers.

@one

 **Barhale**

SKANSKA

 **binnies**
an RSK company

SWECO 

Balfour Beatty

 **MWH.**
TREATMENT

MMB
MOTT MACDONALD
BENTLEY

love every drop
anglianwater 

What does this mean for Buckinghamshire?

Anglian Water plans to deliver investment of over £130 million in Buckinghamshire during 2025-30. See the following pages for more detail of what's included.

What does this mean from a planning perspective?

Due to the level of proposed investment, there will be more planning applications across the west of our region than ever before – potentially up to a c.248% increase. This is why early engagement is so important to us, as we seek to establish how best to work together.

Collaboration is particularly important, when we take into account the sizeable growth we're seeing, the increasing population and the need for housing and services to keep up with this growing demand from customers and businesses.



The positives A lot of lessons learnt throughout this period AMP7...



Current investment: Cotton Valley Water Recycling Centre

Cotton Valley Water Recycling Centre serves the urban area of Milton Keynes. Its sewer network catchment extends into West Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire and Central Bedfordshire.

With Milton Keynes being one of top three fastest-growing cities in the UK, it's crucial that we work collaboratively. This will help ensure that water recycling services can keep up with the demand of a growing population and associated housing growth in the city and wider Buckinghamshire.

Cotton Valley has a significant volume of permitted flow capacity headroom. In working collaboratively with Milton Keynes Council, we have been able to confirm that their existing planned and proposed increase in housing numbers can be served via Cotton Valley, without the need to add new treatment lines to the facility.

Through forward planning and collaboration, we are in a strong position, where we won't need to ask billpayers to fund additional capacity to accommodate growth. Perhaps more importantly, this also means we won't be pouring more concrete in order to serve the continued growth of Milton Keynes – which helps keep down the associated greenhouse gas emissions.



Future investment in Buckinghamshire

Our planned investments cover a range of key priorities – from spill reduction schemes to Water Recycling improvements and process emission reduction. This table outlines some of the key planned investments.

Constituency	Level of investment*	Service provider
Buckingham	Over £59 million to include: £37 million on new filters and creating one wetland area to improve river quality. £2 million to reduce storm overflow spills.	Thames Water is part provider for both Water and Water Recycling.
Milton Keynes (North) – Bucks	Over £69 million to include: £36 million to improve treatment at six Water Recycling Centres, £2 million to create a wetland to improve river water quality. £15 million to reduce process emissions (part of pathway towards net zero).	
Milton Keynes (South) – Bucks	Over £2.5 million on a new pumping station to support growth.	



Treatment wetland (Ingoldisthorpe)

Bringing broader benefits for the area

With the scale of work in our plan, this will bring wider benefits to the west of our region. This will include the potential for up to 100 new roles – including apprenticeships – creating employment opportunities for local people.

Protecting the environment

Our Water Industry National Environment Plan includes £6 billion of investment. In the west of the region this will include investing in reducing phosphorous from water recycling centres, to prevent nutrient pollution and protect fish and plant life.

Our planned investments include the creation of five new treatment wetlands – at Dunston, Preston Capes, Weston by Welland plus two in Buckinghamshire. These will operate as natural treatment plants for millions of litres of water, improving river water quality, while

increasing biodiversity by providing new habitats for wildlife.

We're also investing to reduce process emissions – with a specific focus on reducing nitrous oxide and methane, to support our net zero ambitions. And we will continue to invest in further reducing storm spills by improving storm overflow performance and increasing storm tank capacity.

Continued community involvement @one

We have an active programme of community engagement, which includes participation in local careers fairs – in particular in relation to our @one Alliance career opportunities. We also visit local schools to help inspire young minds.



Milton Keynes Jobs Fair

How we can work together

Working together, we can drive growth and build social and environmental prosperity.

It's essential we build the right level of engagement and strong working relationships, to successfully deliver on our plans. The way we work is underpinned by our values.

Together we...

Do the
right
thing

Are always
exploring

Build
trust

We want to engage with you throughout the planning process, to ensure we're listening to your ideas, learning from your knowledge and hearing any concerns.

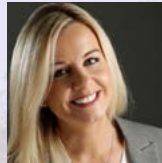
How to get in touch with any thoughts, questions or suggestions



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We also have a dedicated mailbox for local planning authority engagement – so if you're not sure who you need to talk to, please drop us a line.

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