



ANNUAL CONFERENCE
BETTER TOGETHER: FROM AMBITION TO ACTION

Tuesday 1 December 2026,
Peterborough

9.00 REGISTRATIONS & NETWORKING

09.40-10.05 ANGLIAN WATER, BRITISH WATER & CONFERENCE CHAIR WELCOME

Anna Kummelstedt, Policy & Regulation Lead, British Water

Katrina Cullen, WIF Board Young Professional & Integrated Water Management Lead,
United Utilities

Stephen Slessor, Chair, British Water

Jason Tucker, Director of Commercial Operations, Anglian Water

10.05-10.25 MORNING KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Emma Hardy MP, Minister of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

10.25-10.35 INTRO TO BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Attendees will have the chance to attend 2 deep dive breakout sessions which will help inform positive sector change.

ASSET HEALTH

How do we shift from ambition to action, and what needs to change to improve how we understand, manage and invest in asset health?

Facilitated by: Arcadis & Severn Trent

NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

How do we unlock NBS at scale, and what will it take to make nature-based solutions a more routine part of water sector delivery?

Facilitated by: David Elliott, Director, Ferns Natural Capital Strategy & Anglian Water



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SKILLS, CAPABILITY & CAPACITY

How do we build the capability to deliver, and what practical action is needed now to address future skills and capacity gaps?

Facilitated by: Rebecca Daniels, Talent Acquisition Lead, Southern Water & Sarah Fane, Water Regulation & Advisory Director, AECOM

INDUSTRIAL WATER

How do we unlock smarter industrial water use, and what would enable greater efficiency, reuse and collaboration between industry and the water sector?

Facilitated by: Barbara Froner, Programme Manager – Wastewater Compliance Transformation, Northumbrian Water

MAJOR PROJECTS

What will unlock better major project delivery, and how can clients and the supply chain work differently to improve pace, certainty and outcomes?

Facilitated by: Katherine Nichols, Catalyst & Affinity Water

10.40-11.10 BREAK OUT 1

Asset Health
Nature-Based Solutions
Skills, Capability & Capacity
Industrial Water
Major Projects

11.10-11.40 MORNING NETWORKING BREAK

11.45-12.15 BREAK OUT 2

Asset Health
Nature-Based Solutions
Skills, Capability & Capacity
Industrial Water
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12.20-12.40 FROM DISCUSSION TO ACTION: KEY PRIORITIES FROM THE BREAKOUTS

12.40-13.30 BETTER TOGETHER : THE STRATEGIC VIEW

Government, regulatory and key industry leaders will share their priorities and expectations shaping the sector's future.

Chair: Lila Thompson, CEO, British Water

Marcus Rink, Chief Inspector, Drinking Water Inspectorate

Mike Keil, CEO, CCW

John Leyland, Executive Director of Environment & Business, Environment Agency

David Henderson, CEO, Water UK

13.30-14.30 NETWORKING LUNCH

14.30-15.10 BUILDING SUPPLY CHAIN SUSTAINABILITY

This panel will explore the need for supply chain mapping, more widespread use of project 13 and sustainable procurement, to ensure areas of risk and resilience are better understood.

Chair: Charlotte Watson, Supplier Engagement Manager, Anglian Water

Mark Thompson, Procurement and Supply Chain Director, Kier

Paula Gray, Supply Chain and Procurement Director, Mott MacDonald

TBC, AVK

Ady Rhodes, Founder & Managing Director, Comtech Designs



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15.10-15.50 SAFER TOGETHER: BUILDING A HEALTHIER, SAFER WATER SECTOR

Creating a safer and healthier water sector is a shared responsibility. This panel will explore how water companies, contractors and suppliers can work together to strengthen safety culture, support wellbeing and share learning across organisational boundaries.

Chair: Emma Staples, Director of Corporate Affairs, Anglian Water

Chris Stirling, Head of Health & Safety – Commercial Operations, Anglian Water

Michael Justice, SHEQ Director, @one Alliance

Tania Flasck, Director of Water Operations, Southern Water & WIF Non-Executive Director

Will Barnett, Head of Design and Build in Water and Environment, Jacobs

15.50-16.00 CLOSING REMARKS

Anna Kummelstedt, Policy & Regulation Lead, British Water

Katrina Cullen, WIF Board Young Professional & Integrated Water Management Lead,
United Utilities

16.00-16.30 NETWORKING DRINKS



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