



CREATING A MORE SUSTAINABLE WATER SECTOR CONFERENCE 2026

AGENDA

Thursday 19 March 2026, 09.15 - 16.15
Manchester

9.15 REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS

10.00-10.05 WELCOME

Dane Beauchamp, Head of Programmes, British Water

10.05-10.10 INTRODUCTIONS

Stephen Kennedy, Head of Digital and Innovation, MWH Treatment Ltd

10.10-10.35 KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Julia Buckley MP, Vice-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Water

10.35-11.35 MANCHESTER: WORKING WITH CATCHMENTS – NATURE-LED SOLUTIONS TO FLOODING, POLLUTION AND WATER QUALITY

Chair: Andrea Gysin, Head of Water, Zora Ecosystems

Shy Bayly, Area Engagement Lead - Greater Manchester, United Utilities

Sarah Parkington, Delivery Manager (Roch Valley Flood & Climate Resilience), Rochdale Borough Council & Paul O'Hare, Senior Lecturer in Urban Geography & Development, Manchester Metropolitan University

Additional speaker TBA

11.35-12.05 NETWORKING BREAK

12.05-13.05 MAINSTREAMING NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS PART 2

Chair: David Elliott, Director, Ferns Natural Capital

Dr Jo Jolly, Director for Environment, Ofwat

Mark Smith, Director – Water Sector, RSK

Amina Aboobakar, Director of Strategy & Stewardship, The Rivers Trust



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13.05-14.05 NETWORKING LUNCH

14.05-15.05 SCALING BLUE-GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE: FROM PILOTS TO MAINSTREAM PRACTICE

Chair: Jo Bradley, Director of Operations, UK, Stormwater Shepherds UK

Paul Morris, Director - Head of North Studio, Civic

Dirk Binns, Project Manager, MWH Treatment Ltd

Nick Schreiner, Water Resource Engineer and Senior Technical Manager, Biomatrix

15.05-16.05 INNOVATING FOR IMPACT: TECHNOLOGY DRIVING A MORE SUSTAINABLE WATER SECTOR

Chair: Sally Russell, Divisional General Manager, Mott MacDonald

Pete Vale, Carbon & Circular Economy Architect, Severn Trent

Richard Clarke, Programme Manager – Engineering Innovation, United Utilities

Phil Tomlinson, Chief Revenue Officer, FIDO Tech

16.05-16.15 CLOSING REMARKS AND SEND OFF

Stephen Kennedy, Head of Digital and Innovation, MWH Treatment Ltd

Dane Beauchamp, Head of Programmes, British Water