spring

Accelerating
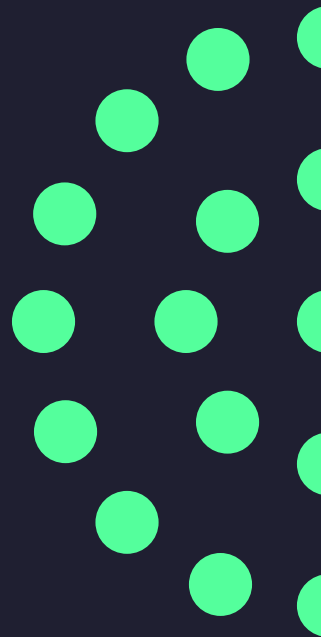Water Sector
Transformation

Spring, an overview.

Agenda

Why:
What we said and agreed

Progress to date:
Spring mission and journey

Testing and functionality:
Detail process for testing and building functionality

Current functionality:
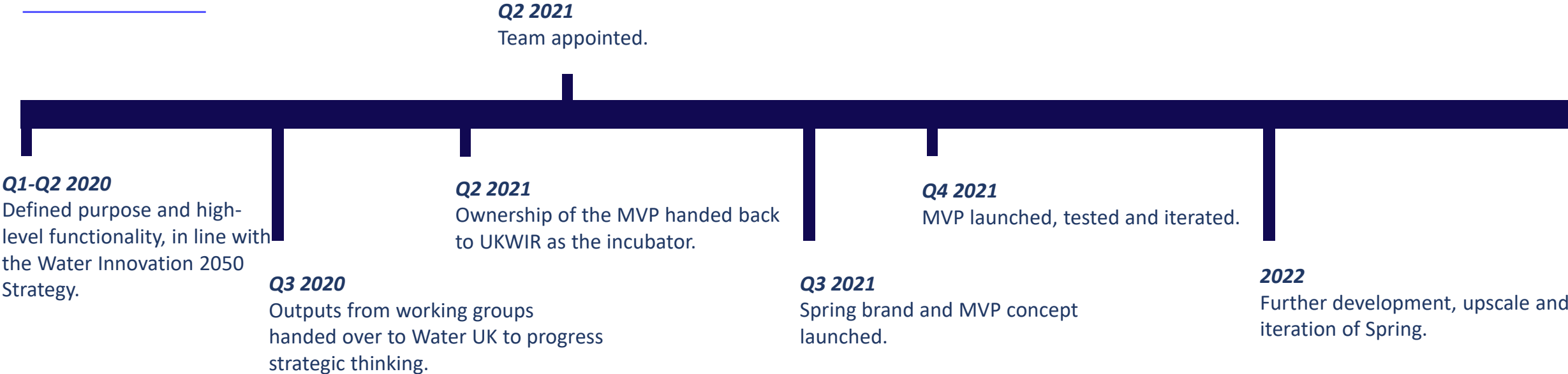Description of current functionality and what it will deliver

"Spring will be an innovation accelerator that will drive collaboration within and beyond the sector to drive transformational innovation."

Spring is dedicated to accelerating water sector transformation through innovation and collaboration.
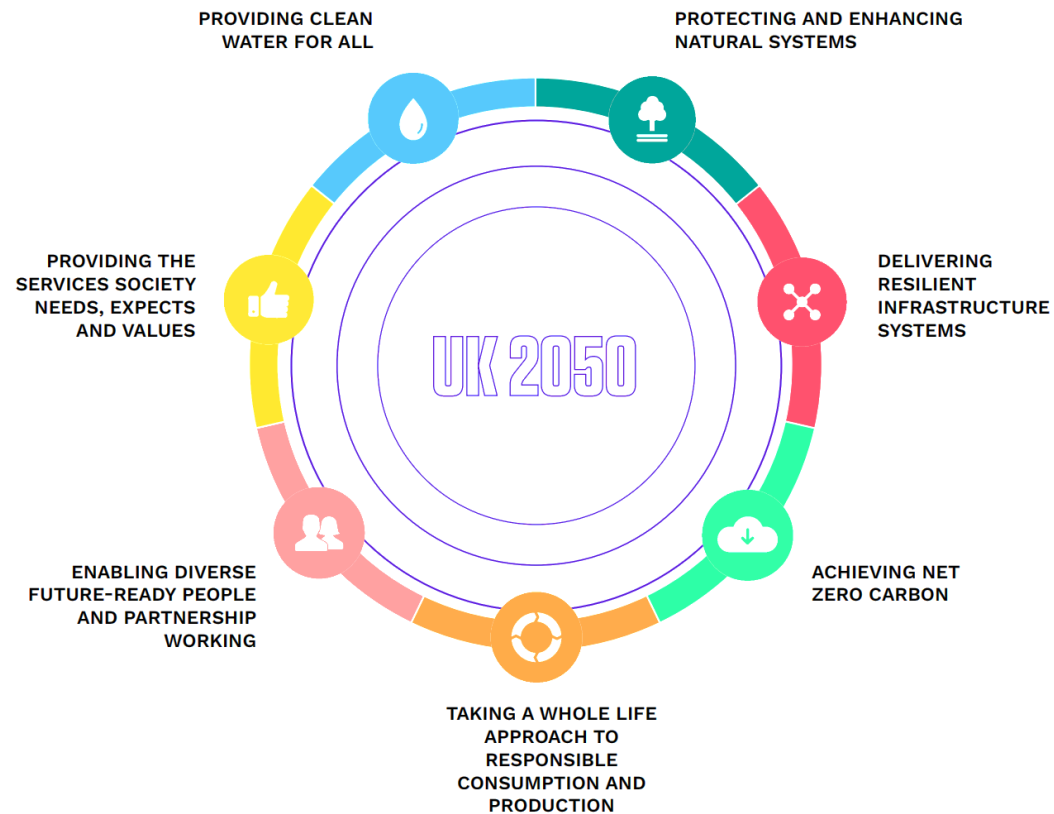
Our Mission

We will connect, integrate and augment existing excellence within and outside the water sector, injecting innovation into the industry through learnings and best practices.

Spring journey

Q2 2021
Team appointed.

Q1-Q2 2020
Defined purpose and high-level functionality, in line with the Water Innovation 2050 Strategy.

Q3 2020
Outputs from working groups handed over to Water UK to progress strategic thinking.

Q2 2021
Ownership of the MVP handed back to UKWIR as the incubator.

Q3 2021
Spring brand and MVP concept launched.

Q4 2021
MVP launched, tested and iterated.

2022
Further development, upscale and iteration of Spring.

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"Spring sets out to deliver transformational change aligned to the strategy and Ofwat's strategic innovation themes. It will specifically drive testing new ways of conducting core activities to deliver wider public value."

The Water 2050 and Ofwat strategic innovation themes

PROVIDING CLEAN WATER FOR ALL

PROTECTING AND ENHANCING NATURAL SYSTEMS

PROVIDING THE SERVICES SOCIETY NEEDS, EXPECTS AND VALUES

DELIVERING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS

ENABLING DIVERSE FUTURE-READY PEOPLE AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

ACHIEVING NET ZERO CARBON

TAKING A WHOLE LIFE APPROACH TO RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

UK 2050

1. Responding and adapting to climate change, including how to meet the sector's ambition of net-zero emissions.

2. Restoring and improving the ecological status of our water environments, protecting current and future customers from the impacts of extreme weather and pollution.

3. Understanding long-term operational resilience and infrastructure risks to customers and the environment, finding solutions to mitigate these in sustainable and efficient ways.

4. Testing new ways of conducting core activities to deliver wider public value.

5. Exploring the opportunities associated with open data, stimulating innovation and collaboration, for example, encouraging new business models and service offerings that benefit customers, including those in vulnerable circumstances.

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# How they translate to priority innovation challenges

Broad Challenge

How might we redesign drinking water supply to be low impact and sustainable, maintaining excellent service while reducing the materials, energy and chemicals used in building, owning and operating water systems?

How might we develop and implement improved ways of monitoring water from catchment to tap?

Net positive - natural capital, net zero carbon and minimal waste

How do we monitor our assets in order to respond correctly to rapidly changing environments and unpredicted events?

How do we measure the current condition of our assets, accurately predict their deterioration and know when and how to intervene?

How can we decarbonise energy and transport emissions through avoidance, efficiency and alternatives to fossil fuels?

How might we sustainably eliminate leakage across water company networks and customers' pipes?

How might we better engage with our customers to change how they think and feel about water and to embed behaviours that show that customers value water as a scarce resource and treat it as such?

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We have engaged with 80+ organisations to refine the service offering to meet the needs of Spring users.
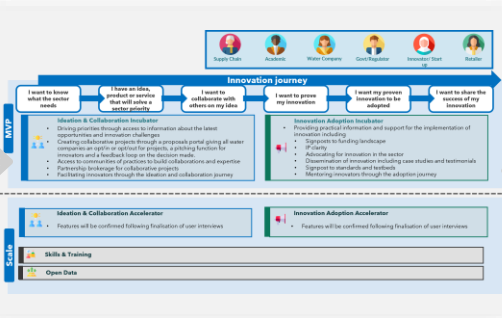
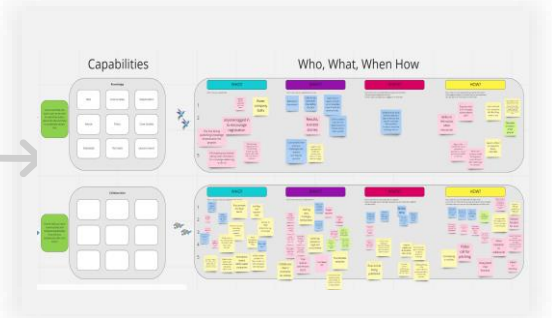Built on the functions created in the sector Innovation Strategy…..

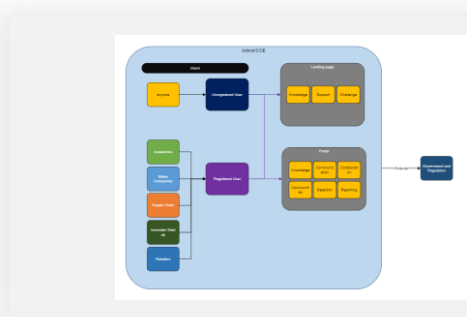…we engaged with 80+ organisations to understand the needs of the users….
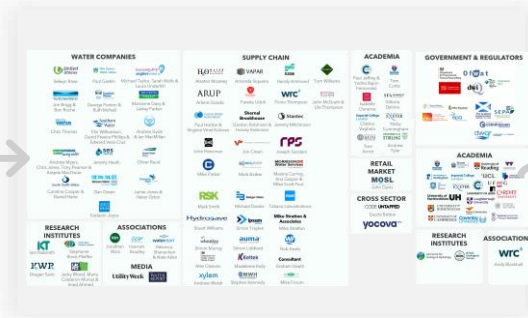
…we then created a customer journey offering for Spring….

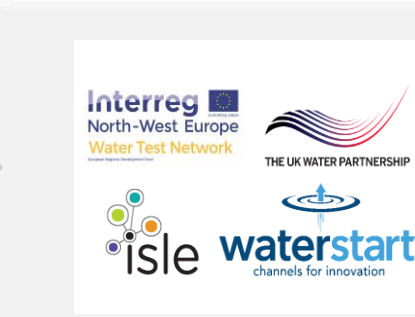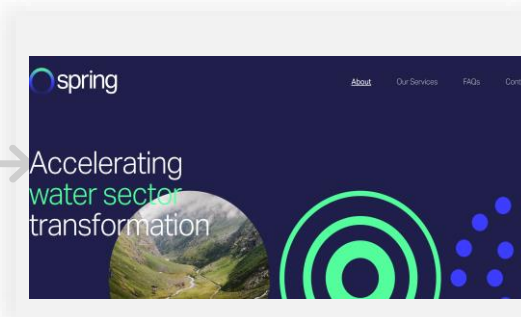…and defined and validated user requirements….

…we are working to engage a technology partner to deliver the Spring innovation and collaboration platform….

…and we are engaging with other key bodies in the sector to bring our core services to life….

…and we now have an online presence summarizing our concept and services.

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The Spring service offering

Our services have been co-created with the users of Spring to ensure we are meeting the needs of key stakeholders and providing services across the end-to-end innovation journey.

Ideation & Collaboration Incubator

- **Identification of opportunities and challenges** – Driving strategic priorities by sharing information about the latest opportunities and challenges
- **Creating opportunities for collaborative projects** – By giving water companies sight of supplier applications and an opt in/out for projects, innovators will be able to pitch directly to water companies and receive constructive feedback
- **Community library** – Access to – and information – on communities of knowledge and practices to foster collaborations and expertise across the industry
- **Partnership Brokerage** – Connecting problem owners and problem solvers to partner on solutions to our critical challenges
- **White space identification** – Helping all types of innovators through the ideation and collaboration journey and discovering untapped opportunities to collaborate

Innovation Adoption Incubator

- **Demystifying the sector** – Signposts to accessible funding, standards and testbeds and providing clarity on IP rights and protections
- **Changing the narrative** – Advocating for innovation in the sector and promoting the UK as being leaders in open innovation
- **Knowledge transfer** – Sharing innovation including case studies and testimonials, removing institutional barriers to knowledge sharing and creating sector knowledge
- **Innovation fast-tracking** – Mentoring innovators through the adoption journey, creating innovation baselines and identifying cross-sector areas of best practice

Skills & Training	Open data

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Spring next steps

Spring will officially launch as a minimal viable product in December with services to test and iterate with users. The Spring team is working hard on the next steps to ensure the business is ready to operate.

Service Development

- Build the service offering
- Engage technical partner
- Technical development of the platform

Organisation Design

- Set up the Spring business entity
- Recruitment of roles for the MVP
- Administrative set up

Funding

- Finalise conversations with funding partners
- Submit a bid to the Water Breakthrough Challenge
- Build future revenue streams and services

Branding & Comms

- Launch in Dec
- Conferences & webinars promoting launch
- Press articles and user spotlights

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"Spring will provide access to skills and training; promote diversity of thought through openness and collaboration; provide opportunities for community outreach and engagement; and provide virtual access to the water sector for **all** types of innovators. "

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Questions?