



The Leakage Public Interest Commitment

Protecting our
Precious Water
Sources

We have come a long way over the past few years

2019

The Water UK Board agreed the first ever ambitious, voluntary, cross-industry long-term goal on leakage

Today

The commitment across industry CEOs is as strong as ever. We are all agreed on maximum ambition, working collaboratively, and doing things differently

2022

We will have a Leakage Routemap to guide cross-industry action – including gaps in knowledge and innovation, and to support discussions on policies, priorities and with stakeholders

Leakage remains a big priority – especially for innovation

Companies will need to be bold

- Leakage will be a big issue for PR24. It's one of the three factors in ensuring we meet demand in the 2030s - and as part of the asset health debate
- The routemap has identified some big challenges ahead. It will not be easy, so we have to be creative, increase collaboration – and be bold!

For example....

- Anglian, Portsmouth, South West, Affinity (plus Jacobs, Skanska, Imperial, Airbus, Microsoft and Sheffield University) won £7.5M in Ofwat's first Water Breakthrough Challenge.
- We will use AI to improve resilience to climate change by predicting vulnerabilities around leakage, interruptions, and pressure issues

We want to build on the UK's reputation as a leader

- Our work on the routemap has involved us talking to a number of international partners across the World. They have told us the UK has always been seen as an international leader on leakage, and willing to push boundaries.
- We want to build on that. The innovation work, and a new national strategy in the form of a routemap, will demonstrate our purpose and ambition.
- Aquatec Netherlands, the SWAN Forum and the Global Leakage Summit 2022 will be important opportunities to take this forward – both for grabbing new ideas, and for demonstrating our own direction.

And we want your help!

- Reflecting the expectations of our customers, and the importance of leakage to meeting future demand, the challenge and ambition before us is immense.
- That means collaboration is essential, and many of you have been involved in work on the routemap to date. We would love to keep hearing your ideas and to keep working together on strategies, innovations and priorities.
- That collaboration will need to include Government and regulators too, who are essential for enabling progress, as well as the supply chain, academics and lots more!