

Climate Change and Challenges for the Water Industry

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Water UK

Climate Change Impact

- Reduction in water resources
- Increased demand
- Water quality problems
- Flooding
- Environmental impacts

Impact on Resources

- Lower quantity and quality of summer surface water sources
- Reduction in groundwater reserves
- Salt-water intrusion

Impact on Assets

- Soil movement – dams, pipe work
- Construction of new assets
- Abandonment of existing assets

Impact on Operations

- Water treatment works – raw water quality
- Wastewater treatment works – odour
- Sewerage networks – CSOs

Impact on Water Quality

- Pests and pathogens
- Farming – pesticide and fertilizer usage
- Flooding of urban areas

Environmental Challenges

- De-designation of sites
- Ecological corridors
- Key habitats – wetlands, coastal zones

Long-term Planning

- Update existing tools and models
- Build climate change into business planning
- Prepare for climate change to maintain high quality service

The Way Forward

- Hybrid adaptation–mitigation strategy
- Joined up government
- Water UK Climate Change Network