Long-term Storm Overflow Reduction Requires Partnership Working

Nicole McNab
Southern Water’s Clean Rivers and Seas Task Force
Primary aim is to reduce storm overflows to ensure a healthy environment and water resilient future.

The task force is responsible for delivering pathfinder projects through an accelerated programme.
How do we tackle them?

There are four main ways to reduce storm overflows and the harm they cause:

- **Source control**
- **Infrastructure optimisation**
- **Stormwater treatment**
- **Building bigger infrastructure**
Causes of storm overflows in our region

- Too much rainwater: 64%
- Too much groundwater: 25%
- Multiple impacts: 11%

Total storm overflow releases: 19,807
Sorted by reason for release
Pathfinder projects

- Trialling solutions in a community
- Taking a holistic approach to community wastewater management
- Installing the most effective engineering solutions with the greatest added benefits.
Case study 1: SuDS in Schools

- **Issue:** Rain runoff from school roofs
- **Partnership:** Department for Education
- **Investment:** £900k match funded
- **Installed:** Raingarden planters at 43 schools, with another 50 this year
Case study 2: Tubogel

- **Issue:** Groundwater entering private pipework and flooding the network
- **Partnership:** Customers, Parish councils and local authorities
- **Investment:** £2.3 million
- **Work:** Sealed over 1.2km of private pipework and over 250 leaking joints
Case study 3: Slow-drain water butts

- **Issue:** Rain runoff from households; passive water butts aren’t enough
- **Partnership:** Customers and Parish council
- **Investment:** £20k
- **Installed:** 132 slow-drain water butts
Ask me about…

Optimising assets

Highway schemes

Misconnections

Wetlands

Innovation
Industry is embracing nature-based solutions and community schemes

- Grey solutions: 64%
- Nature-based/hybrid solutions: 34%
- Smart solutions: 2%
Clean Rivers and Seas Plan

How we intend to reduce storm overflows across our region

Prioritising green solutions over grey
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transport</th>
<th>Government estates</th>
<th>Councils &amp; local services</th>
<th>Environmental</th>
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<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
<td>Isle of Wight Council</td>
<td>Environment Agency</td>
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<td>Ministry of Justice</td>
<td>Kent County Council</td>
<td>The Rivers Trust</td>
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<td>ALSTOM</td>
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Thank you

Storm Overflows and Clean Rivers and Seas Task Force www.southernwater.co.uk/our-performance/storm-overflows

Clean Rivers and Seas Plan www.southernwater.co.uk/cleanriversandseasplan

Beachbuoy www.southernwater.co.uk/water-for-life/beachbuoy