

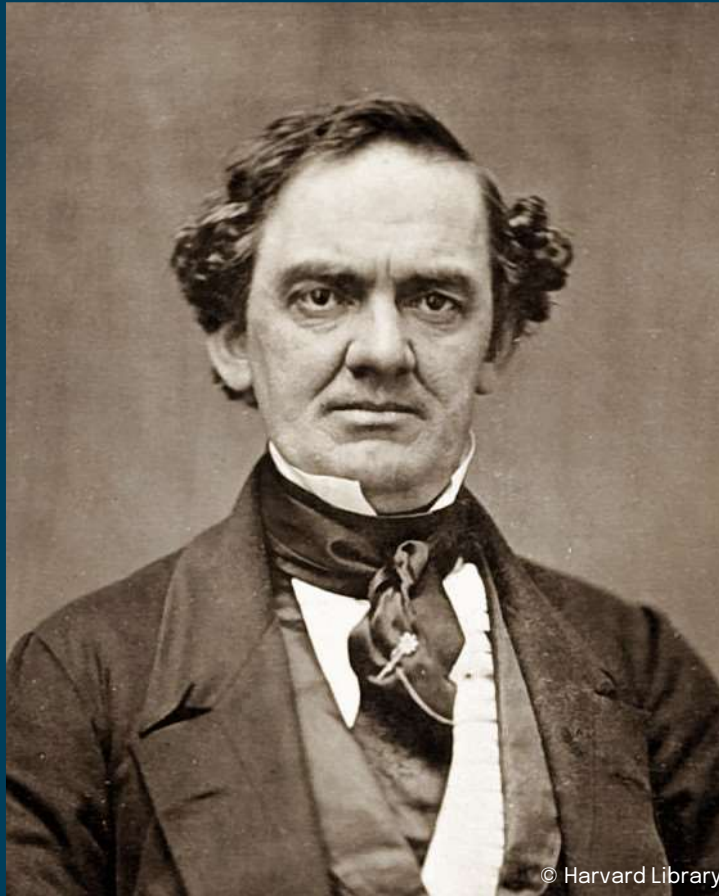


# Upcoming challenges with the storm overflow assessment framework

Richard Body

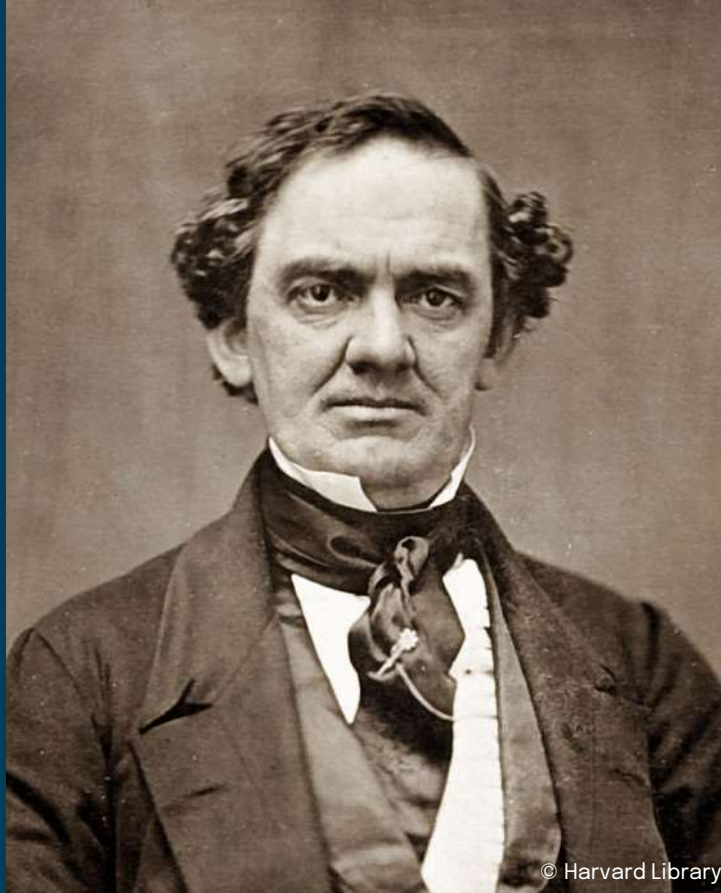
8 December 2023





“There’s no such thing as bad  
publicity”

P.T. Barnum (allegedly) (1810–1891)



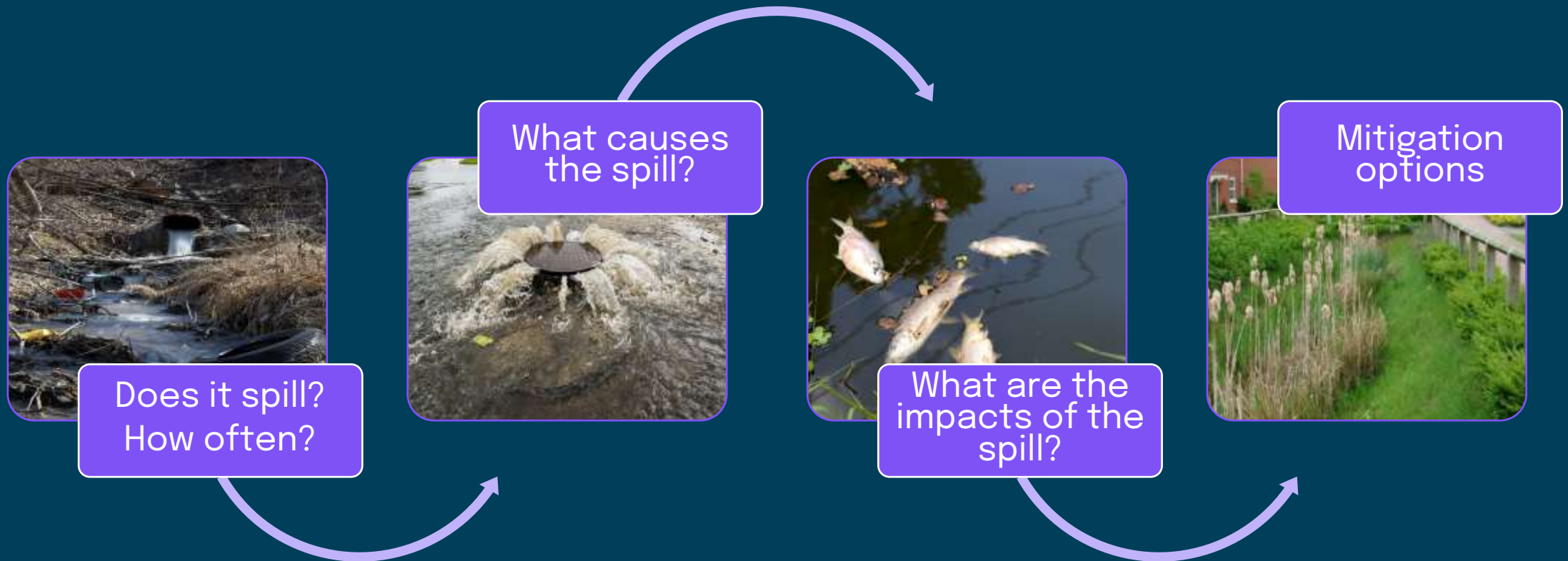
“Wanna bet?”

The UK Water industry

# SOAF\* – where are we now

SOAF is the mechanism by which we establish if an overflow causes ‘harm’ and how we mitigate that ‘harm’.

It’s a well-defined framework



\*Storm overflow assessment framework

# What is harm?

Harm is defined by a change in water quality where harm is assessed in terms of:

- Invertebrates and aesthetics
- BOD
- Dissolved Oxygen
- Ammonia

Water quality Score	Water quality impact classification
0 – 5	No impact
6 – 9	Very low
10 – 19	Low
20 – 29	Moderate
30 – 39	High
40 or more	Severe

# What's changing?

Harm criteria remains the same  
SOAF thresholds

Likelihood for greater WQ modelling

Regulatory Pressures

- Storm Overflow Reduction Plan
- Environment Act drivers

Our climate

- Seasonal changes in rainfall

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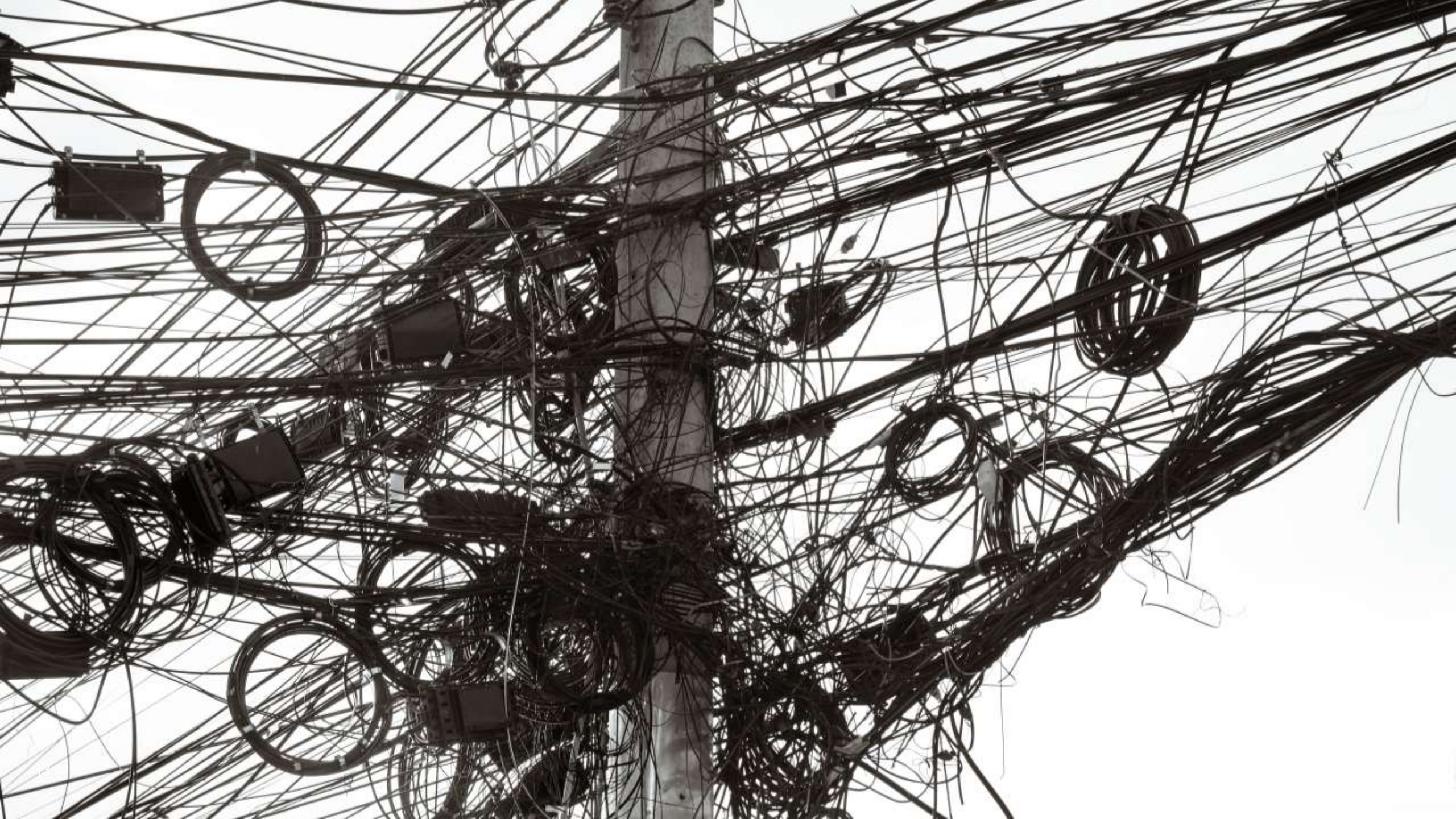
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5. Education





 planet  
possible



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# Tackling Storm Overflows - Saving Our Rivers?



Dr Karen Murrell is our expert in Storm Overflows

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