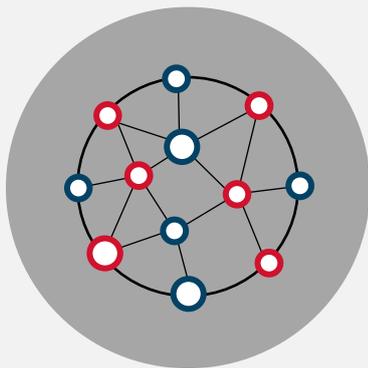




Water First

The UK Water Partnership



*Pooling **knowledge and resources** to address global water challenges*



*Supporting research excellence and promoting **collaborative innovation***



*Tapping into the **\$500 billion global water market***

We are here to provide **leadership and a unified approach**

The UK Water Partnership was established in 2015 to provide a strategic vision for the development and growth of the UK water industry. The Partnership brings together diverse water industry and related organisations in a single coherent alliance, promoting mutual understanding, cooperation and coordination.

Our planet is facing an unprecedented combination of water security and resilience challenges. We are supporting the development of sustainable solutions and ensuring that the UK's experts, innovators and entrepreneurs are at the forefront of the global response.



THE UK WATER PARTNERSHIP



The UK Partnership was established in 2015, borne out of the ***'Tapping the Potential'*** report – inspired by a clear, ambitious yet achievable vision: to see the UK establish itself as an innovation powerhouse in the global water sector, driving sustainable growth in our water economy and creating thousands of jobs across the country. It was created to act as an overarching body to improve understanding of the UK water sector and foster sector growth in the UK and overseas. Since then, we have delivered a number of nationally important strategic initiatives on the road to achieving this vision.

We enable collaboration and networking

The Partnership brings together a diverse water industry and related organisations in a single coherent alliance, promoting mutual understanding, cooperation and coordination. Our members include water utility companies, consultants, academia, industry, research and development organisations, and government agencies

We provide thought leadership

In collaboration with our members, we produce actionable thought leadership focusing on strategic water challenges and identifying the pathways and funding mechanisms needed to address them.

We showcase UK capability

The Partnership is focused on catalysing the growth of the water economy and our role in convening and showcasing UK capability is central to ensuring that the UK's experts, innovators and utilities are at the forefront of the response to global water issues.

“Membership of the UKWP provides a real opportunity to share and support best practice that enables the water sector to drive the “race to net zero”, deliver strategies to support climate adaptation and promote opportunities for the blue/green growth agendas”

**Prof Andrew Tyler,
Scotland Hydro Nation Chair**

“Being part of a group of industry thought leaders collaborating together to tackle some of the challenges currently facing the water sector has been invaluable.”

**Louise Elliott,
WSP**

“The extensive network provided by members of the UK Water Partnership supports our aim to work with global practitioners across the water sector. This ensures our science addresses the most pressing issues and that the full benefits of our research are realised.”

**Prof Alan Jenkins,
UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology**

A word from our Chair, Sarah Hendry CBE



I am delighted to be part of the UK Water Partnership as chair. The need for the partnership is more urgent every year. The most recent report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reinforces the demand for action to address UK and global impacts of climate change on the availability and management of water. Drought and river water quality are live topics of unprecedented public interest.

The hard questions and pressure for action mean that an effective mechanism for connecting people to drive innovative solutions is essential. The UK Water Partnership is unique in its potential to make this happen.

Our vision

To catalyse the growth of the water economy both in the UK and internationally through convening and showcasing UK capability and ensuring that the UK's experts, innovators, academics and utilities are at the forefront of the response to global water challenges.

Our purpose

1. To improve understanding, cooperation and coordination across the diverse range of stakeholders in the water community, allowing the UK to respond more effectively to the challenges of global water security and the need for resilience in a changing environment.
2. To more effectively deliver and implement research outputs and innovation to enable the UK to win a greater share of the global water market.
3. To build more sustainable and resilient global networks and demonstrate UK capability and expertise to contribute to economic growth of the UK.
4. To lead thought leadership and innovation in addressing unique challenges, creating value and driving commercial growth in the water sector.

Our values

Respect: We are approachable and treat everyone with respect. We make colleagues, members and other stakeholders feel welcome and included in the UKWP. We create a working environment which encourages members to be themselves and can be confident that their views are valued.

Collaboration: We think and act as a team, speaking with one voice and working together to do the very best for the UK water sector. We support each other, knowing that together we will achieve far more than we can individually.

Thought Leadership: We aspire to be leaders, as an organisation and as individuals. We are forward-thinking and proactive in dealing with the things that matter to the UKWP and its members. We aim to set an inspiring agenda, nationally and locally, on the key issues of the UK water sector including championing positive behaviour change with regards to water consumption in line with Ofwat's key objectives.

Integrity: We are passionate about our work and committed to doing the very best for the UKWP and its members. We are courageous about doing the right thing and meriting the trust of members, colleagues and others we work with.

Professionalism: We continually build our knowledge and expertise. We set ourselves high standards in our work, aiming to match "best in class" among membership organisations. We are business-like and take responsibility for giving our members excellent service and value.

Diversity: We recognise the value of diversity to our organisation, including diversity of background and sectorial expertise, in gathering a breath of thought at meetings and within initiatives.



Our impact

Since being formed, the UK Water Partnership (UKWP) has delivered impact in a number of areas including but not limited to research, actionable thought leadership, and strategic initiatives.

Research & thought leadership

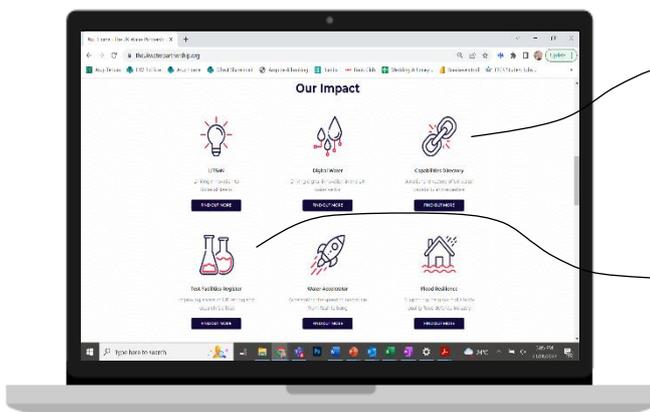


With the support of our members, we have produced strategic research and actionable thought leadership in a number of key areas including:

- Digital Water
- Water Resilience
- Net-Zero Water
- Linking Innovation to Societal Needs
- Droughts and Floods

The nature and intent of these publications varies from capturing the scale of the global market opportunity for UK plc and showcasing UK capability to influencing key policy- and decision-makers in local and national government.

Strategic initiatives



Capabilities Directory

We worked with the Department for Business and Trade to develop a UK water capabilities directory to help UK-based organisations improve their access to UK and international markets



Test Facilities Register

We produced a searchable register of testing and demonstration facilities in the UK, improving access to facilities and accelerating the speed of innovation from ideation to deployment



Events & conferences

We also host, participate in, and represent our members at industry events and conferences.

Our objectives

Our business objectives are the high-level priorities for ensuring the UKWP continues to be a thriving, influential membership body that serves members’ interests effectively.

Business Objectives			
1. Maximise the number and breadth of membership		2. Deliver excellent value to members from their membership	
<i>The UKWP’s influence depends on the size and diversity of our membership. Member numbers underpin our income to invest in member services.</i>		<i>To retain and recruit members, we need to provide excellent services and ensure members make use of them and understand the value they get from membership.</i>	
<p>Retention: keep members for longer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership involvement in strategic initiatives • Managed client relationships through appointed relationship managers 	<p>Membership offer and pricing: ensure our offer and prices for membership are good value for money</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing of member companies through UKWP social media & capabilities directory • Marketing of membership capability at events and conferences • Marketing of member companies through UKWP strategic initiative publications (capability capture) • Presentation opportunities at UKWP meetings • Enabling UK capability to inform UK Government engagement with counterparts overseas, creating market opportunities and supporting the growth of export partnerships. • Maintain interesting and relevant range of workstreams, continuing with Digital Water, Water Resilience and Circular Economy workstreams • Introducing new interesting and relevant workstreams • Leadership & contribution opportunities for members in UKWP workstreams • Additional transparency on UKWP financial income/ spend
<p>Recruitment: use cost-effective means to bring in new members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase presence at industry events and conferences • Hosting UKWP branded event(s) • Comms and marketing activity/ campaigns • AdDBTional website functionality (e.g news story button and capabilities directory) • Bi-monthly interviews with UKWP Board for comms material • Increased influence of UKWP ambassadors 	<p>Influence: ability for members to strategically influence industry initiatives and direction of travel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future initiative topics driven by membership discussion • Direction of existing initiatives driven by membership discussion • Providing links for membership to Government departments (e.g. Defra & DBT)
<p>Representation: maintain broad range of types/sizes of business in membership, and engage representative cross-section in UKWP activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target broader representation from related sectors (e.g food & agriculture, and energy) through involvement and alignment with current/ future initiatives • Consideration of new membership pricing structure to capture wider range of stakeholders 	<p>Networking: create opportunities for members to engage with like-minded people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Networking opportunity through Delivery Group & Leadership council meetings • Networking opportunity through events and conferences • Networking opportunity through social media (e.g LinkedIn)

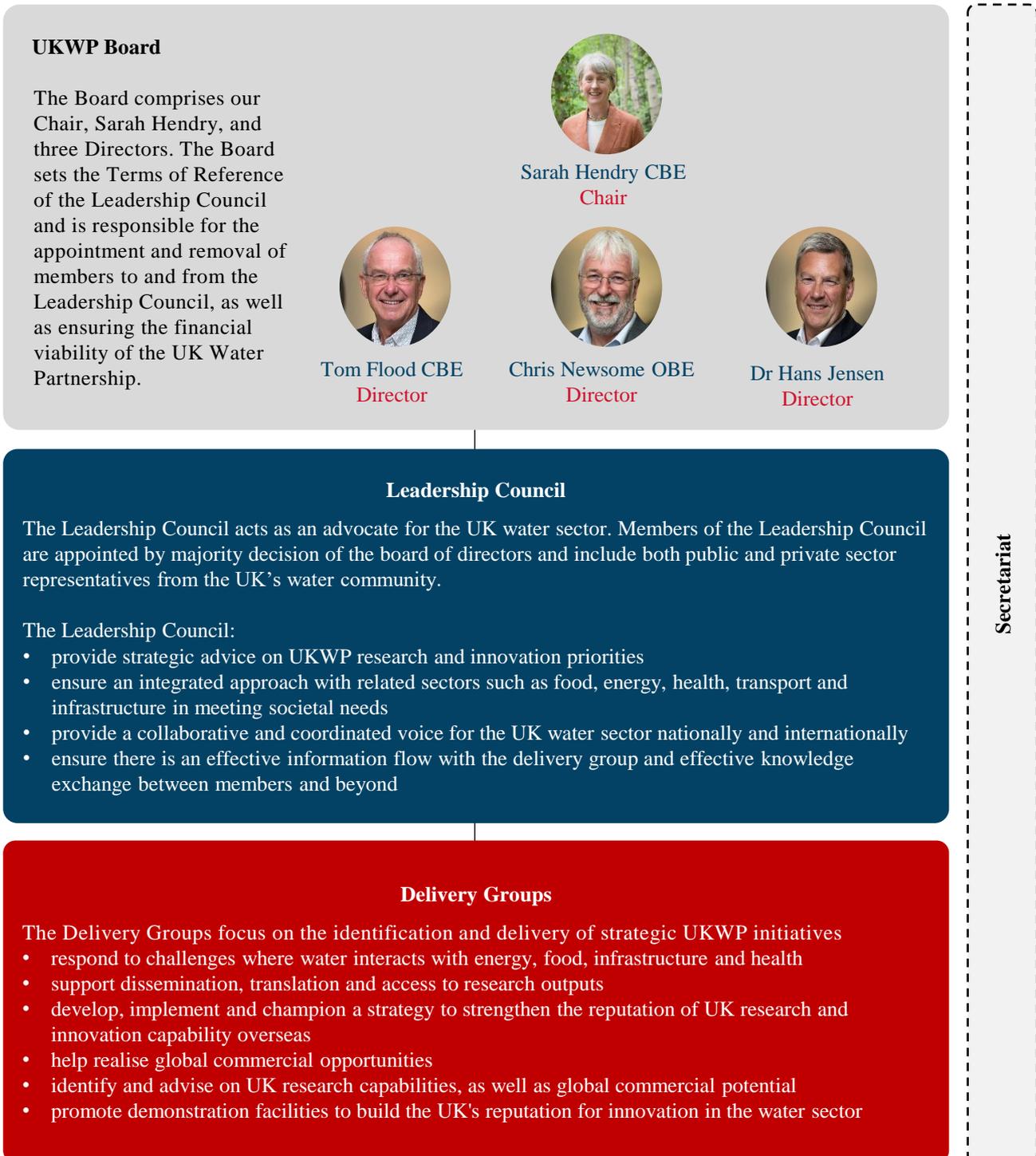
Our enablers

Our business enablers are the crucial activities which enable us to deliver on our business objectives.

Business Enablers	
1. Engagement with government and policy makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with DBT & other government departments
2. Image and brand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well recognised by non-membership organisations of UK water sector Brand clearly distinguished from other industry bodies (e.g British Water) Website https://www.theukwaterpartnership.org/
3. Strong finances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular quarterly reporting pack Existing membership retained & new members recruited Invoices paid promptly Continue with three rounds of meetings Reserves policy
4. Engaged members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain attractive member offer and working environment Embed culture of learning and development Develop & implement diversity and inclusion plan Support from initiative leads Presenters at meeting

How we operate

The organogram below shows how the partnership is structured and describes the respective roles and responsibilities of the Chair and Board of Directors, Leadership Council, and supporting Delivery Groups.



The Leadership Council and Delivery Group meets not less than three times a year.

A secretariat, provided by Arup, has provided support to the UKWP since its inception in 2015, and operates the bank account for the partnership under arrangements covered by a written protocol from the Board.

How we operate

The UKWP is a public-private not-for-profit company limited by guarantee with its operations funded by financial contributions from its members. Private sector contributions are used to carry out core operational activities such as administration, marketing and promotion, as well as planning and hosting events that help promote the UK water economy both at home and overseas. The Partnership is indebted to its members, not just for their continued financial support, but also for their substantial gifts of time and for their willingness to co-design our emerging products and services.



Our workstreams

Each Autumn, UKWP members vote on the challenge areas they feel should be a workstream focus of the partnership for the next year. Since 2015, the UKWP has been working alongside clients, collaborators, and government to drive strategic sector initiatives. The UKWP’s legacy workstreams, which are still ongoing, include:

- Circular Economy,
- Digital Water,
- Water Resilience, and
- Net Zero.

Following the UKWP Autumn Event 2022, three more workstreams were agreed to be a focus for the UKWP in the future. A scoping exercise and longer-term approach will be carried out for the following three new initiatives:

- Greenhouse gases,
- Public value of water, and
- Water resilient places.

If you wish to get involved in any of the new initiatives or the legacy workstreams, please contact the relevant person as listed below:

	Workstream	Sponsor	Workstream Leader(s) & Organisation	
Legacy workstreams	Circular Economy	Tom Flood	Louise Elliott	WSP
	Digital Water	Chris Newsome	Tony Conway	Conway Water Consulting
	Water Resilience	Hans Jensen	Martin Shouler	Arup
			Andrew Ball	HR Wallingford
Net Zero	Tom Flood	-	-	
New initiatives	Greenhouse Gases	Chris Newsome	Andrew Tyler	University of Stirling & Hydro Nation Chair
			Amy Pickard	UKCEH
			Martin Shouler	Arup
			Ashleigh Fletcher	University of Strathclyde
	Public Value of Water	Hans Jensen & Tom Flood	Jeremy Galpin & Helene Hewitt	Costain
	Water Resilient Places	Hans Jensen & Tom Flood	Deryck Irving	University of Stirling & Hydro Nation Chair
Charlie Stratford			UKCEH	

Our workstreams

Circular Economy (Current Workstream)

Background:

- In 2018, the UKWP held an industry workshop to explore the barriers, enablers, and challenges around circular economy initiatives, which helped to identify the development of a better understanding of the Circular Water Economy and the production of a roadmap for the UK's Circular Water Economy as next steps.
- Circular Economy principles include how an organisation can become a more efficient one and how organisations can collaborate together on new opportunities to create circular economy value, requiring data, innovative business concepts, and new technology.
- The Circular Water Economy links with the Net Zero, Resilience, and Digital work themes.

Future Aims:

- The proposed outcomes of the Circular Water Economy work theme include the development of a shared understanding of Circular Water Economy principles and the value of water in the circular economy, the creation of Knowledge Product(s) to showcase the UK's Circular Water Economy experience and capability, a promotion/influence campaign to disseminate and promote Knowledge Product(s), and engagement with key industry stakeholders to develop routes to market for organisations working in this area.
- The next steps include investigating the appetite for the Circular Water Economy work theme at future UKWP meetings, including any offer of resources to support the work theme, and convening an interim UKWP Working Group to explore activities for the Circular Water Economy Work Theme, including appointing a Steering Group to direct the work.
- Follow-up meetings were held from October to December 2022, and three working groups were established to define language, develop a marketplace platform, and look at priority materials.



Our workstreams

Digital Water (Current Workstream)

Background:

- In May 2020, the UKWP digital water workstream published a White Paper and Call to Action to capitalise on commercial opportunities for UK plc.
- The plan included focused research, increased collaboration, and proactive marketing of UK digital water expertise.
- The plan included an action plan to help UK plc win its share of the \$30 billion digital revolution in water.
- The UKWP has been supporting the Fourth Era project since its launch, utilising digital twin technology to better manage water at the landscape scale.
- The Fourth Era project focuses on climate adaptation and green recovery, with themes such as carbon sequestration, healthy waters, urban sponging, and energy recovery.
- The project is implemented in the 100 nation chair programme, utilising technologies such as synthetic aperture radar, soil moisture measurement, and high resolution imaging for water quality monitoring.
- The UKWP has been instrumental in the UK-India Digital Working Group convening in December 2022 to explore further collaboration opportunities in digital water, highlighting the importance of working together to address global water challenges.

Future Aims:

- Address challenges in water management and utilise opportunities in green recovery and promoting biodiversity.
- Continue to support Fourth Era project and other initiatives that utilise digital technology to better manage water resources.
- Collaborate with UK water industry and global partners to advance UK digital water expertise and leadership.



Our workstreams

Water Resilience (Current Workstream)

Background:

- Supported by Arup, HR Wallingford and wider contributors in the steering group, the UKWP published a Water Resilience White Paper in February 2022, examining the contribution of water resilience to shaping the industry and the water economy.
- The paper highlights some of the emerging commercial opportunities for the UK and is a live document that will be updated with new exemplar case studies of UK expertise in Water Resilience.
- Since the paper's publication, the Water Resilience workstream has established new focuses, including supporting DBT through the Water Resilience (Capability Capture) Paper and organising a Water Resilience showcase to support FCDO and DBT in overseas activity.
- The workstream is also pursuing water and nutrient neutrality and its links to water resilience, as well as assisting the Water Resilient Places scoping stream.

Future Aims:

- The UKWP will continue to update the paper with new exemplar case studies at scheduled intervals.
- The UKWP is currently organising a Water Resilience showcase to support FCDO and DBT in overseas activity.

Net Zero (Current Workstream)

Background:

- The UKWP has a dedicated workstream focused on achieving net zero carbon emissions.
- The group has convened various stakeholders, including the water industry and other sectors, to share ideas and build partnerships towards achieving this goal.
- The UKWP is not only addressing carbon emissions within the water industry but is also considering the wider impacts and benefits of reducing carbon, such as cost savings and job creation in the emerging low carbon economy.
- The UKWP is also considering the role of the circular economy in achieving net zero.
- Scottish Water and the UKWP are working closely together to achieve net zero emissions.
- The net zero workstream has established thought leadership that has been brought forward into a new circular economy workstream.
- The UKWP is working to establish links with other organisations to create a clear path towards achieving net zero emissions.

Future Aims:

- The UKWP aims to continue working towards achieving net zero carbon emissions.
- The group will continue to consider the role of the circular economy in achieving this goal.
- The UKWP will continue to work with Scottish Water and other stakeholders to achieve net zero emissions.

Our workstreams

Greenhouse Gases (New Initiative)

Background:

- The Greenhouse Gases workstream is a collaborative effort led by the Hydro Nation Chair (HNC) Programme and Arup, with the support of Chris Newsome, a director of the UKWP.
- The primary objective is to identify and quantify all major sources of GHG emissions across the water cycle, including methane and nitrous oxide
- Current attempts to quantify emissions often underestimate the magnitude of emissions and do not fully account for the impact of more potent GHGs.
- It is proposed to use the catchment as a measurement framework to identify upstream and downstream emissions in addition to those produced directly during water and wastewater treatment.
- This is a cross-sector challenge, and hence, there is a need to establish a working framework of interested and involved partners.
- Scottish Water has set ambitious targets to achieve net-zero across its operation by 2040, including process emissions by 2030. These targets are translatable across the wider water sector. The collaboration of the HNC Programme, Arup, and the UKWP provides an opportunity for increased engagement of the community and enhanced reach to facilitate a transformational work-package in this area.

Future Aims:

- The workstream will begin as a year-long programme to engage stakeholders from across the water industry, academia, and the third sector to establish a community of interested parties and identify available resources to contribute to a wider network working on GHG emissions in the water sector.
- The aim is to draft and submit a Network Grant to the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) around the GHG theme, providing a long-term, funded programme of engagement across this community.



Our workstreams

Public Value of Water (New Initiative)

Background:

- The importance of the value of water in the UK is accelerating, and its public profile is continuing to increase as water supply and environmental challenges accelerate due to climate change.
- The workstream aims to improve long-term approach to infrastructure investment decisions that integrate wider sustainability considerations, alongside economic and social outcomes.
- This approach will improve trust with the public by better reflecting the views of citizens and communicating how the water industry is providing clean, resilient, and sustainable water supplies for the future. To improve this requires companies to work together to respond to the challenge of creating a comparable process, that is robust, and sufficiently broad, and integrates environmental and social impacts into business case methodologies. The workstream enables UKWP members to work collaboratively to achieve this.
- The project builds on existing work carried out by UKWP and aims to establish a comparable process that is robust, sufficiently broad, and integrates environmental and social impacts into business case methodologies.

Future Aims:

- The workstream aims to conduct a desktop research study, resulting in a report published to UKWP members in May 2023.
- The survey will include a survey of UKWP members, to establish the current level of understanding and usage of the Greenbook wellbeing guidance.
- An initial investigation into sources of potential innovation funding has been started with the objective of securing £50,000 of funding by October.
- The workstream aims to publish two to three case studies and hold two events to share outputs of the research.



Our workstreams

Water Resilient Places (New Initiative)

Background:

- The workstream has been set up in response to the concept of ‘Resilient Place’ becoming increasingly prominent in government and agency policy agendas across the UK and more widely.
- The Future Water Resilient Places workstream will be led by a steering group comprising of Deryck Irving from Hydro Nation Chair, Charlie Stratford from UKCEH, the Department for Business and Trade, Tom Flood and Hans Jensen as directors of the UKWP, and potentially with support from the Welsh Government.
- The workstream aims to address the concept of Resilient Place from a water sector perspective, with a focus on developing water-resilient solutions for new places.

Future Aims:

- The workstream will first aim to develop an agreed and shared understanding of what Resilient Place means from a water sector perspective. This will be done by building on the UKWP’s work on resilience and government and regulator policy frameworks.
- Following this, the workstream will explore and develop place-based synergies and collaborations with key sectors such as professional institutions, practitioner forums, and policy makers across the UK.
- Ultimately, the workstream aims to produce a thought leadership digital resource and associated policy resources will be co-developed with key sectors.



For more information about the UK Water Partnership

www.theukwaterpartnership.org

Or contact us:

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