



Collaborating for the UK Water Sector

Statement of Intent

The water sector of the UK is facing a range of challenges from the impacts of climate change, environmental concerns to regulatory and infrastructure issues. These challenges require better coordination across the whole of the water value chain to address issues such as the response to climate change, ageing infrastructure, water quality, pollution, customer expectation and population growth as well as the need to attract and retain talent.

Although, the sector is well served by a number of industry associations which serve the whole of the water value chain, the organisations below consider that they can be more effective through increased collaboration in order to best delineate the solutions to issues that face the sector and to agree and deliver what is required.

Areas of collaboration include:

- Thought Leadership;
- Research;
- Development;
- Innovation;
- Application.

Collaboration will take the form of the following:

1. Sharing of work programmes in order to explore areas of mutual interest.
2. Coordination on 'One Voice' statements in areas of common interest.
3. Participation in an annual joint 'water collaboration summit' to share knowledge and experience and to agree and deliver programs of work.
4. Explore opportunities to promote UK water expertise internationally.
5. Connecting resources and sharing knowledge to review, update and build upon the UK 2050 Water Innovation Strategy to ensure it remains current and valid.

This collaboration will help the UK water sector deliver a reliable supply of safe, clean water while protecting the environment and adapting to changing conditions.

Signed,

Sarah Hendry, The UK Water Partnership

Mark Fletcher, British Water

Steve Kaye, UK Water Industry Research

Anita Payne, Water Industry Forum

Paul Horton, Future Water Association

Carly Perry, Spring



Collaborating for the UK Water Sector

Notes

1. The UK Water Partnership (UKWP) was established in 2015 to provide a strategic vision for the development and growth of the UK water industry. It brings together a diverse water sector and related organisations in a single coherent alliance, promoting mutual understanding, cooperation, and coordination.
2. British Water was established in 1993 and represents the interests of UK water and wastewater supply chain companies together with wider stakeholders across the sector through our UK, International, Technical and Water Industry Forums.
3. UK Water Industry Research (UKWIR) is a Not-for-Profit Organisation set up in 1993, facilitating, managing & delivering a strategic programme of research projects for our members, the Water Companies of the UK and Ireland, to address the key challenges they face.
4. Water Industry Forum operates as a neutral and independent subsidiary of British Water, tackling challenges facing the UK water sector through thought leadership and facilitated collaborative working, that enables multiple stakeholders to come together to share ideas and develop solutions.
5. Future Water is a not-for-profit organisation, with over thirty years in the sector supporting members, engaging with Government and being a critical friend to the regulators. Our aim is to shape the future of water.
6. Spring was founded in 2021 following a drive from the economic regulator and all water companies to provide transparency around the innovation ambitions of the water sector and to reduce duplication of efforts to solve those ambitions.