

Draft river basin management plans consultation: consultation questions form

Implementing the plan

1. What are your views of these principles? When thinking about your answer, you may wish to consider how easy (or hard) you would find adopting the principles.

Anglian Water is the country's largest water supply and water recycling company, serving over 6 million customers in the east of England. The region we serve between the Humber and Thames estuaries encompasses a fifth of England's land area and has the lowest rainfall and some of the highest growth rates in the country. It also contains half of the country's Grade One agricultural land, and 1,500 kilometres of coastline, much of it eroding or exposed to significant flood risks. Therefore, we are acutely aware of the critical role we play in underpinning sustainable growth and increasing the resilience of our region to the impacts of climate change. We welcome the opportunity to contribute to the second cycle of draft River Basin Management Plans.

Anglian Water agrees that adopting these principles will help the water environment better prepare for climate impacts and deliver multiple benefits for people and nature. The implementation plan aligns with our purpose as a water company; to bring social and environmental prosperity to our region.

Anglian Water is pleased to see that the implementation plan encourages a collaborative, place-based approach, use evidence to make decisions, consider net zero targets and to work with natural processes. These approaches have been taken at our [wetlands at Ingoldisthorpe](#) for example, which we delivered in partnership with Norfolk Rivers Trust. At Anglian, we take account of the future risks to delivery – in particular, the effects of climate change and population growth to make sure actions perform as intended over their lifetime – which is outlined in the RBMP implementation plan. We also contribute to net zero and have our own internal road map to net zero by 2030. The net zero target will cover all the company's operational activities and those of its supply chain as well as a commitment to cut capital carbon by 70 per cent against a 2010 baseline.

Innovation is at the heart of everything we do at Anglian. We would therefore suggest adding a principle to encourage innovative solutions and risk-sharing to drive more catchment and nature-based solutions and drive innovation in river basin management.

Environmental objectives

2. Do you agree with the environmental objectives in the draft plans?

All / **Most** / Some / None

Which, if any, objectives would you like to see changed and why?

Anglian Water agrees with most of the objectives outlined by the plans.

However, we feel they could go further as there is a low level of ambition in the forthcoming iteration of the plan which might hold us back in delivering our ambitious [Get River Positive](#) pledges. In partnership with Severn Trent, we have signed up to five key commitments which form the Get River Positive plan:

- Ensure storm overflows and sewage treatment works do not harm rivers
- Create more opportunities for everyone to enjoy our region's rivers
- Support others to improve and care for rivers
- Enhance our rivers and create new habitats so wildlife can thrive
- Be open and transparent about our performance and our plans

We would therefore like to see the objectives go further and enable Get River Positive to deliver to its full potential. We would like to see the objectives in the RBMP urge government to tackle all sources of river pollution, including agricultural and highways, as was clearly outlined in Water UK's [21st Century Rivers Report](#). The RBMP states that "to achieve the environmental objectives in the plan, the whole of society needs to play its part" so we would like a more detailed description of how the responsibility on wider society be communicated and realised.

Additionally, 18 of 672 surface water bodies are predicted to be "Good" by 2027, with a further 316 as "Good" but with low confidence, so we would like to see government put in place the policies to increase certainty of outcome on many more waterbodies.

Programmes of measures

3. Are you aware of any funded measures that are missing from the programmes of measures? Yes / **No**

Please let us know what measures are missing

Anglian Water does not have anything specifically to add at this time, but plans might want to consider the growing amount of private investment that can help achieve some of the RBMP objectives. For example, Landscape Enterprise Networks, which enables Anglian Water and other private businesses to invest in sustainable land management which will benefit waterbodies.

4. Do you have any comments on the potential new measures set out in the draft plans? Please tell us about any other new measures that could be taken forward with support from partners to achieve the objectives in the plans.

Anglian Water does not have additional comments at this time.

Working at the catchment level

5. Do you have any comments on the challenges and measures suggested as priorities in your local catchment partnership's page?

Please give catchment specific examples and tell us where, by working together, more benefits can be achieved.

Anglian Water has an interest in all the management catchments in the Anglian RBMP area. We broadly agree with the challenges and measures set out by local catchment partnerships. It is clear that in our region, the water and agriculture sectors are the dominant factors for many water bodies not being in good condition, even in catchments where pollution from wastewater is not highlighted as a challenge by local stakeholders.

Through the WINEP and wider water company activity, we will seek to deliver our obligations and commitments in a collaborative way where possible, using nature and catchment-based solutions where these are overall the best approach. Activities such as working with farmers, treatment wetlands and river restoration might take place across any of the management catchments in our region. Where it does, we will seek to deliver wider outcomes for the environment and society, working with catchment partnerships.

If your response is regarding a specific catchment partnership page, please type the name below.

Updating the plans

6. Do you have any further comments on the draft river basin management plans, not covered by the previous questions?

Anglian Water does not have additional comments at this time.

About you

7. Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation or group?

When we come to analyse the results of this consultation, it would help us to know if you are responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation or group.

Please select from the following options:

- Responding as an individual
- Responding on behalf of an organisation (please specify which organisation or group and include what type it is, e.g. business, environmental group, etc)
- Other

Name of organisation or group, if you don't want to leave the organisation name, please tell us what type it is.

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If you selected other please specify.

8. Contacting you about your response

In some cases, we may wish to follow up a consultation response where there is an offer of help or provision of evidence. If you're happy for us to do so, please provide your details below.

We can also use it to let you know when we have published the Summary of consultation responses document.

Name

Lydia Dareheath

Email address

Ldareheath@anglianwater.co.uk

9. Please select which river basin district your response to this consultation applies to (you can select more than one or submit a national response by selecting 'England').

(Required)

- England (all river basin districts)
- Anglian
- Humber
- North West
- Northumbria
- Severn
- South East
- South West
- Thames

You can use the [catchment data explorer](#) to identify which river basin district your response relates to. The map on the landing page allows you to zoom in to specific locations.

10. If your response relates to a specific management catchment, please write in the box below

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You can find your local management catchment on the [catchment data explorer](#).

11. Can we publish your response? We will not publish any personal information or parts of your response that will reveal your identity.

- Yes
- No

12. Finally, it would really help us if you let us know where you found out about this consultation.

- Social media
- Internet search
- Advert in newspaper
- Government website
- Meetings/calls with the Environment Agency
- Email from the Environment Agency
- Other (please specify below)

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