



United Supply Chain



Newsletter | April 2026 (Edition 2)

Hello United Supply Chain community, welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter brought to you by the United Utilities Commercial team.

It was fantastic to see so many members of our supply chain at our Partner Event in Blackpool back in March. Collaboration and supplier relationships were at the heart of the day, and we were proud to showcase our United Supply Chain and what this means for us as partners.

We were also delighted to be accompanied by British Water and Slave-Free Alliance, who hosted stands highlighting a strong year of collaboration with UU. If you couldn't attend, you can see a snapshot of what went on [here](#).

As we move into year 2 of AMP8, joint contribution remains critical to delivering our ambitious programme and supporting the region to thrive. Supplier relationship management remains a top priority. In this edition, we are pleased to share a special Capital Delivery update alongside our usual quarterly updates featuring a spotlight on our engagement with British Water this year!

We are always keen to improve our United Supply Chain, and our Voice of the Supplier survey is a great opportunity to share your thoughts. This survey is now live until **29th May**, please click the [link](#) to complete.

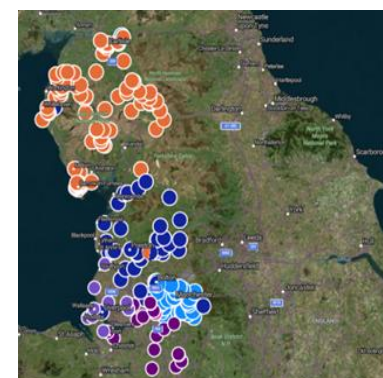
John Welch, Commercial Director and Helen Kowe, Head of Commercial Strategy



Capital Programme Update

Our **BIG North West Upgrade** is well underway, In Year 1 of AMP8, 178 construction contracts were awarded. Over the next 12 months we forecast awarding 360 contracts. These contracts are broken down by programme in the table below, and in the locations shown on the map below. If you would like to know more about these projects, please contact the USC mailbox; Unitedsupplychain@uuplc.co.uk

Programme	Forecast Contract Awards
Better Rivers	138
Enterprise	50
Wastewater	74
Water & Investigations	89
Diversions	9



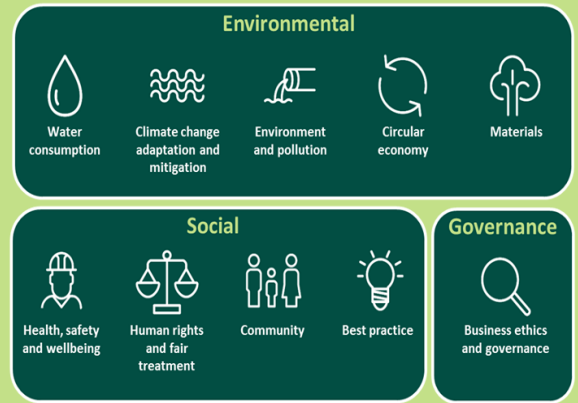
Strategic procurement activities

United Utilities are exploring opportunities to bulk procure critical equipment and material to help mitigate delivery risk. Indicative categories (to be confirmed) include; pumps (including MBR feed pumps, RAS/SAS, recycle, permeate, sludge, wash-water booster, cake), Penstocks, stop logs & frames, digestors, fine screens, Anaerobic, Anoxic and RAS Mixers, Diffusers and air pipework, pre-cast concrete, piling & FRC.

Responsible Sourcing Principles

The sourcing of responsibly-certified products and materials with lower environmental footprints underpins our Materials principle. Upskilling our staff and supply chain in this area is critical to mitigating risks in our network. As such, we recently held a training session focused on the Responsible Sourcing of Materials in partnership with SCSS. It was great to see **over 55 attendees from UU and our supply chain** come together to learn more on responsible sourcing and how to embed within procurement processes.

To learn more about our RSPs, explore our case studies and find out how to submit one visit our [corporate website](#).



Innovation Space

UU is advancing the use of cement-free pre-cast concrete! Developed through an Innovate UK programme to reduce embodied carbon in construction, the product (LowCast) uses industrial by-products such as fly ash and slag to reduce the carbon footprint (around 80%) of concrete assets such as manhole rings and pipes. LowCast has undergone successful lab and factory trials and is now being installed at pilot sites on the Better Rivers programme including Chorley WwTW, Thurtle Cottages. LowCast represents a major step forward in decarbonising construction materials and demonstrates how innovation and collaboration can accelerate lower-carbon infrastructure.



Got an Innovation Idea—or a Challenge We Could Help Solve?



We're keen to hear from suppliers who can help us deliver our capital programme **more efficiently** or with a **lower carbon impact**. Whether you want to **share an idea** or highlight a **challenge you think innovation could fix**, just scan the QR code to tell us more. Our **Engineering Innovation & Carbon team** will review your submission and get back to you.

Let's drive smarter, greener solutions—together.

Health and Safety Spotlight

Reminder: Monthly Data Submissions – A requirement for all UU partners

Each month, we rely on our partners to provide essential information that supports both internal reporting and external regulatory commitments. To meet these obligations, all monthly data **must be submitted by the 3rd day of the following month**. There are **two dedicated forms** in use: **(a) Capital Delivery, Property, and Better Rivers, (b) Network and Customer**.

We need all partners to ensure that the required data is submitted on time, every month, without exception. To help avoid delays:

- Please ensure the relevant team members know which form they are required to complete.
- Build the submission date into your monthly processes or team routines.
- Allow sufficient time to gather and verify the information before submission.
- If the responsible person is unavailable, please ensure a nominated colleague can complete the return on their behalf.

If you need any clarification, support, or guidance regarding the submission process, please contact the Health and Safety Team at: healthsafety@uuplc.co.uk



It has been an exciting year of collaboration with British Water, the leading UK membership body representing the interests of businesses working in the supply chain of water and wastewater. United Utilities has already been involved in several British Water hosted events this year, here are some highlights from some recent events...



Ian Riley presented at UK Forum

*"I **love** these events, always come away with great **connections**, a sense of **community** and some great **reminders!**" (Helen Kowe)*

*"I really **enjoyed** presenting at the British Water Forum on AMP8 priorities. There's a real sense of **momentum** building across the sector, and it's clear that AMP8, alongside the wider national infrastructure programme, opens the door to **so much opportunity!**" (Ian Riley)*



Helen Kowe attended Women on Water Conference

We are excited to continue this involvement throughout the year with upcoming speaking opportunities from United Utilities at British Water events! United Utilities are continuing to strengthen their relationship with British Water focusing on collaboration and innovation with United Supply Chain in mind.

Industry & Supply Chain Engagement

This quarter our Commercial team attended Manchester Airport Group's Meet the Buyer event with our stall under the wing of a Concorde! The team had various conversations with a wide – range of supply chain representatives to understand how we can work together in a collaborative manner.

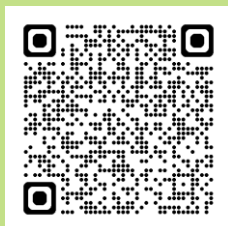
Our Strategy team attended an inspiring event hosted by Accenture in collaboration with United Utilities, Breaking the Sound Barrier, the premier of a film which created a space for honest, necessary conversations about women's voices in the workplace. The event was powerful and showed true commitment to inclusion and belonging, the team got a viewing of an inspiring documentary created by Beckie Taylor and were part of an engaging Q&A with the panel of documentary participants and UU's own Mikaela King who opened the event and shared her powerful story and an insight into her career and how she joined Technology Services.



Upcoming Opportunities

Have you checked out our pipeline of upcoming procurements? We have a range of exciting tenders planned across all our Commercial categories in the coming months. Scan the QR code to explore!

If you are interested in any of the opportunities, please contact suppliers@uuplc.co.uk



Coming Next Quarter

- Our next newsletter will be issued in July, if you would like to feature, please get in touch.
- Don't miss out on upcoming In – Person Modern Slavery Workshop hosted by SCSS, learn.supplychainschool.co.uk/local/resourcelib/catalogitem.php?id=11054



Contact Us

✉ If you have any information, engagement opportunities or ideas to enhance USC, please contact the USC team below
UnitedSupplyChain@uuplc.co.uk

➡ Receiving this newsletter is just one benefit of joining USC. Click [here](#) find out more and how to sign up!