A warm welcome: meet the United Utilities team



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Introducing United Utilities

Providing our services

- 7 million customers and over 200,000 businesses
- 86 water treatment works
- **43,000** km of water pipes
- **79,000** km of wastewater pipes enough to go around the Earth twice!
- 584 wastewater treatment works

Focus on the North West's five counties

Building our plan for Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside (inc. Halton), delivering outcomes for people in the places where they live.











Who owns us and what is their role?

- Listed company, owned by thousands of shareholders
- Investors include pension funds, individual shareholders and employees
- Provide funds so we can invest to improve services for customers and the environment
- Since privatisation, this model has supported over £20bn of investment in services to customers and the environment
- In the 2020–25 period shareholders are funding £140m of affordability schemes

Building a plan for the North West

7.3 million people and200,000 businesses

Industrial heritage and Victorian infrastructure

Rainy, hilly region so water stored mainly in **reservoirs**

12% of households affected by water poverty

29 designated bathing waters

34% of land in the region has environmental protection

Annual water runoff **28% more** than rest of country

54% of sewer system is combined, with **2,200 storm overflows**









Challenges facing our region

1 million more people over the next 25 years

More severe rainfall events

Differing levels of prosperity across the region's communities

Environmental requirements driving unprecedented levels of investment over next 30 years

This is what you told us is important

We've spoken to 95,000 customers and these are the areas you've said matter most and we should be addressing



Great quality water now and in the future



Improvements in the natural environment, in particular storm overflows and river water quality



Reduce the amount of leakage



Support vulnerable customers



Ensure the North West is a great place to live and work



Spend money wisely and efficiently



So we're proposing to deliver on things that matter to you

£13.7bn plan 1.4 million customers **Largest for over 100 years** Improved water quality 7x increase 60% spill reduction (decade to 2030) £3.1bn investment In value of the environmental programme 500km of rivers 2 million people Safeguarding water supplies Protecting and enhancing rivers across the region 30,000 jobs Halving the chance

7,000 new roles

£525m affordability support

Helping one in six customers

of a hosepipe ban



We've adapted our plan based on your feedback

Your feedback was Our earlier plans In our submitted plan, here's what we're proposing... that you wanted... were... **Reduced leakage** Renew **695km** of pipes Renewing **950km** of pipes **£500m** affordability support £525m affordability support Help with bills package Helping one in six households Installing 900,000 smart meters, Reduced water usage Install **670,000** smart meters more allocated for businesses Targeting the biggest spills reduction in **Reduced spills** 60% reduction **England,** accelerated long-term target Internal sewer flooding £247 million in rainfall management, **Reduced flooding** incidents – 30% reduction **32% reduction** in sewer flooding incidents Support **22,500 jobs** from **Job opportunities** An additional 7,000 jobs created for the region 2020 through our plan

Our proposals are an important step towards 2050

Safeguarding services now and for the future



Promoting water efficiency

Reducing water quality contacts

Reducing internal flooding incidents

Reducing storm overflow spills

Reducing carbon emissions

Targets in our 2025–30 business plan

13%

130 litres (per person, per day)

26%

32%

60% reduction (decade to 2030)

43%

Targets in our long-term plans to 2050

50%

110 litres (per person, per day)

50%

50%

No more than

spills per year

Carbon net zero

Addressing your priorities in Cheshire – our proposed plan



Stronger

- 19,900 people supported with affordability help, this will double by 2030
- 34,000 customers supported through Priority Services
- Employing 1,500 people across Cheshire, with more green jobs created
- Improving 65km of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct to ensure resilient water supplies

Greener





- Collaborating to promote sustainable farming practices and protect drinking water quality
- Partnering to reduce flood risk, with local authorities e.g. as in Northwich flood defence scheme

Healthier



- Two additional water treatment works to deliver great quality water into the future
- Delivering additional water from borehole supplies across Cheshire to maintain supplies in dry weather

Affordability is important

Average cost to you would be around £1.52 per day by 2030. Bill increases are linked to new requirements and services.

Average annual bill today:

£417

Average annual bill by 2030:

£556

Before inflation

Approx. £22 bill increase each year (before inflation)

or £1.83 per month

74% of all customers support our plan, but 43% were concerned about affordability

Doubling our support package: £525 million

One in six customers supported

£200 million funded by shareholders

590,000

households to be supported with affordability help



What happens next?

The plan we have submitted will be reviewed by water industry regulators:

- Ofwat
 Efficiency, stretch, ambition and value for money
- Drinking Water Inspectorate
 Quality and safety of drinking water supply
- Environment Agency and Natural England
 Delivery of environmental requirements and objectives
- Consumer Council for Water
 Customer experience, service, support and value for money

Interim view from regulators in May / June 2024 A final decision is made by Ofwat in December 2024

The new five-year regulatory period begins in April 2025

But we're not waiting...

In summary...

We're delivering on what matters

We're delivering a step change in customer and environmental outcomes

We're delivering significant growth and investment in the North West

County based approach – holding ourselves to account



We have shared our business plan across the North West:

- Over 550,000 customer communications
- Engaged with over 400 local stakeholders
- Roadshows
- Community group presentations county specific
- See for yourself

It matters!



Find out more

Hear more about how we're delivering our plans for Cheshire in future sessions like this

