



# DRAFT REGIONAL PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Autumn 2022



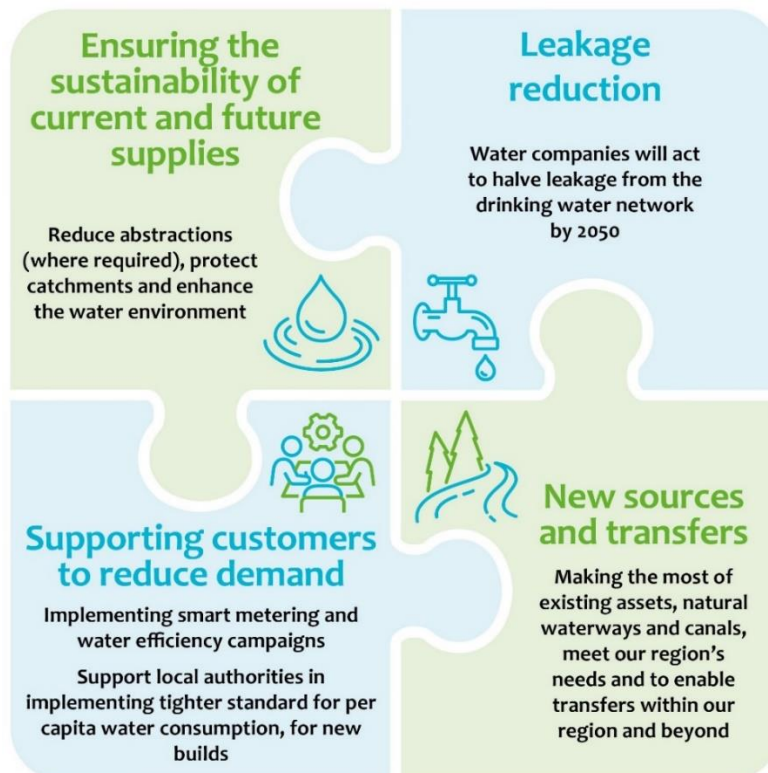


# Executive Summary

Managing water resources sustainably is key to ensure future generations will have a plentiful, sustainable supply of water. Our supplies are under pressure from the impacts of climate change, rising demand linked to population growth as well as the need to protect the water environment from over abstraction. Water Resources West members believe that working together with other regions, industry sectors, regulators and other stakeholders, we can identify and progress actions that are needed now, for a sustainable future. Hence, we have built a plan over a 60 year horizon, to meet the needs of customers and the environment.

To meet the needs of the public water sector, we have an ambitious strategy for securing sustainable supplies for the future. We know that sustainability starts with a reduction in use and therefore, by 2050, we are committed to reduce leakage by 50% and support households to reduce their consumption to 110 litres per person per day. Our projections show that by 2050, despite the ambitious demand policies that would be implemented, our region will need an additional 221 million litres per day (Ml/d), to meet public water supply needs and 97 Ml/d to meet the needs of other sectors. Actions included in this draft plan will help increase our public water supply resilience to extreme droughts and help us meet future demand in our region. We estimate that this plan will cost £9.7bn but will bring over £2 billion net benefits to the region. The net benefit stems from resilient public water supplies, environmental improvements and economic gains from transfers bringing investment to the region, the estimated benefits of which outweigh the costs.

## Our strategy for sustainable water supplies



We are now consulting on our draft plan, including the outcome of the second inter-regional reconciliation process, between 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023. We will use the feedback received to support the development of our final regional plan.



## How to respond to this consultation

**Please read this plan and share your views.** We have provided a few questions related to several important aspects of our plan:

1. Are you satisfied with our demand management approach? (See Section 7.1)
2. Do you think the supply options included in our preferred plan are good value, given that many of them target improvements to existing assets? (See Section 7.1)
3. Are you satisfied with the range of catchment options we included as part of our environmental destination? (See Section 7.2)
4. Are you satisfied that the strategic choices we have made in developing this plan were robustly informed by stakeholder and customer feedback? (see Section 6)
5. What is your view on the pace of the delivery of our drought resilience and environmental improvements?
6. Do you think the transfers we selected in our plan have been sufficiently explained with regards to their risks and benefits? (see Section 7.3)
7. Do you have any views on how our plan can further develop to meet the needs of other abstracting sectors?
8. Do you have any other comments on ways to improve our plan?

**Please send your feedback to: [waterresourceswest@outlook.com](mailto:waterresourceswest@outlook.com) by 22/02/2023.**

With thanks from the abstractors represented in Water Resources West



### Note

This regional plan, including accompanying regional planning data tables, has been prepared by the core water company members following the agreed methodologies. These have been subject to governance and assurance within each of the companies, with the level of assurance proportionate to the risks. Where companies determined that risks were higher, they sought external assurance. The core member companies are: Dŵr Cymru Cyfyngedig (here referred to as Welsh Water), Hafren Dyfrdwy Cyfyngedig, United Utilities Water Limited, South Staffordshire Water plc, and Severn Trent Water Limited.

The plan has been reviewed by all Water Resources West members represented in its governance structure.

External assurance has been provided by Jacobs on Water Resources West's use of the company assured data. Jacobs concluded that there is alignment between the draft WRW plan and the companies' draft Water Resources Management Plans and we consider the WRW plan has been developed in accordance with the National Framework and relevant guidance and policy (see Appendix I).

When reading tables and charts in this document, the totals may not add up due to rounding.

Terms that appear grey in the document are clickable and lead to the Glossary, where a full explanation is provided. Cover photo by [Humphrey Muleba](#) on [Unsplash](#).