

# ABINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Town Infrastructure committee</b>
<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>12 January 2023</b>
<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>11</b>

## Consultation on water supply

Information received from Thames Water

### **Today marks the start of a public consultation on the future of our water supply**

Substantial water shortages face the whole of the south east of England. The extreme heat and lack of water we had over this summer make it clear that this situation is likely to get worse. We have worked closely with Water Resources South East (WRSE) and our neighbouring water companies - Affinity Water, Portsmouth Water, SES Water, South East Water and Southern Water - to plan ahead and build future resilience for the benefit of our customers now and in the future, and the environment.

Our draft Water Resources Management Plan 2024 sets out the predicted water supply shortages and how we intend to provide a secure water supply for our growing population; protect against the growing risk of drought; and improve the environment over the next 50 years. Our plan sets out ambitious reductions in leakage, actions to reduce the amount of water we all use and investment in new infrastructure including a new river abstraction in west London, a new reservoir in Oxfordshire, and water transfers between regions and across the South East.

### **We want to hear what you think**

We're consulting on our draft plan until 21 March 2023. You can read a summary of our draft plan, and the detailed technical reports, and have your say on our dedicated consultation website [www.thames-wrmp.co.uk](http://www.thames-wrmp.co.uk). Tell us what you think, your feedback will help us to refine our draft plan. We'll carefully consider all the responses we receive and in June 2023 we'll publish a report setting out how we have taken the comments into account in revising our draft plan.

Throughout the consultation we're holding information events across our area including in Cirencester, Abingdon, Richmond and Steventon to give you the chance to talk to us about our draft plan and give us your feedback. Details of where we will be and when are on our website [www.thames-wrmp.co.uk/events](http://www.thames-wrmp.co.uk/events).

WRSE is also consulting on the draft regional plan and the other SE water companies are carrying out statutory consultations on their individual dWRMP24s. These are separate consultations, which explain how each company will secure supplies for their customers. Links to each company's website, where you can find out more, are set out below.