

section 4 asset serviceability

- 63. The asset maintenance programme represents around half of the total capital investment programme. The maintenance programme comprises a very large number of relatively small investments and so the activities to be carried out cannot be fully described in this summary plan.
- 64. We monitor a number of key measures, in conjunction with Ofwat, to establish trends in asset serviceability, such as water main bursts and sewer collapses. The current assessment is that water assets are 'stable' or 'improving' and we intend to maintain stable serviceability during AMP4. The current assessment of sewerage infrastructure is 'deteriorating' and that for sewerage non-infrastructure is 'marginal.' We intend to have stable serviceability for all sewerage assets by 2007/08 as summarised in figure 9. Tables 4 and 6 in appendix 2 summarise the key quality performance targets for our water and wastewater service respectively which are based on the serviceability targets detailed.

figure 9 – serviceability outputs

	Sub-service:			
	Water infrastructure	Water non-infrastructure	Sewerage infrastructure	Sewerage non-infrastructure
JR04 final serviceability assessment	Stable	Improving	Deteriorating	Marginal
AMP4 serviceability output	Stable during 2005-10	Stable during 2005-10	Stable by 2007-08 (JR08)	Stable by 2007-08 (JR08)

- 65. However it must be noted that stable serviceability, which is principally a measure of service levels experienced by customers, does not necessarily mean stable asset condition. Indeed the funding for capital maintenance allowed by Ofwat in the final determination is less than we had included in our Business Plan and considerably less than required to maintain asset condition. It is therefore inevitable that asset condition grades will continue to worsen in AMP4. Nevertheless, we believe that improving asset management and operational capability during AMP4 will ensure stable serviceability despite this adverse trend of asset condition.
- 66. We acknowledge the impact of maintenance costs on customer bills and the need to ensure value for money. We will therefore work together with Ofwat and the industry to further develop the Common Framework for Capital Maintenance to provide improved forecasting of real maintenance needs for given service levels to customers. We anticipate further increases in maintenance needs beyond 2010.
- 67. Within the overall maintenance programme we will mitigate the effect of odours from sewerage service installations where required by the local Environmental Health Officer. It is often difficult to pinpoint the actual odour source within a

sewage treatment works and mitigation investment such as covering parts of the treatment works can be extremely expensive. We will therefore work together with Ofwat and the industry on a code of practice for sewerage odours to ensure consistency of approach and value for money.

- 68. Should new odour nuisance problems emerge we will reassess priority within our capital maintenance programme. The AMP4 Change Protocol also permits logging up for urgent additional odour schemes.
- 69. A defined aspect of the odour control programme will be the provision of appropriate chemical dosing or scrubbing equipment at 51 sewage pumping stations to control odour and sewage septicity. Appropriate works will also be undertaken at high priority sewage treatment sites to control odour from sewage treatment and sludge disposal operations.
- 70. A significant number of maintenance activities are planned. Figure 10 identifies the key activities that have a minimum value of £100,000 or where the project value is a significant proportion of the asset value. It therefore should be noted that this is not an exhaustive list of planned activities during the AMP4 period.

figure 10 – summary of outputs – capital maintenance

Capital Maintenance key outputs	Total activity planned
Water Service	
Length of aqueducts refurbished (km)	64
Number of refurbished or new treatment works	61
Length of main renewed (km)	896
Length of main relined (km)	56
Length of new mains (km)	970
Number of refurbished or new pumping stations	44
Number of refurbished or new service reservoirs	29
Number of household meters renewed	286,000
Sewerage Service	
Length of critical sewers replaced (km)	42
Length of critical sewers renovated (km)	77
Length of non critical sewers replaced (km)	62
Length of non critical sewers renovated (km)	62
Number of refurbished or new treatment works	210
Number of refurbished or new sludge treatment works	27
Number of refurbished or new pumping stations	211
Number of refurbished or new sea outfalls	1
Odour control at pumping stations	51