

Anglian Water update



Important information about a new pipeline
to improve your water supply

June 2021

Improving your service and supply

We are facing four interlinked challenges to water supplies within the East of England. These are climate change, environmental protection, population growth and the risk of drought. We want to act now to ensure the long-term availability of water for all customers in the future.

Climate change

The East of England has below average rainfall for the UK. The area is classified as under severe water stress and climate change projections suggest there will be lower summer rainfall and hotter temperatures.

Environmental protection

We will be taking less water from the environment, such as rivers and boreholes. We aim to reduce the amount we take by 84 million litres a day.

Population growth

Our region is experiencing high levels of population growth with a predicted increase of 20% over the next 25 years. This will create an additional demand and pressure on our water resources.

Drought

Since the 2011-2012 drought we have been investing in our network to reduce the risk of water shortages.

Our 25-year Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) assesses the impacts of these challenges and sets out how we will manage water across our region.

We consulted widely during 2018 and 2019 and have support from our customers and regulators for our plans in the WRMP.

Improving local water supplies

As part of our plans, we will be building up to 500km of new, interconnected pipelines - longer than the track being laid across the country for HS2 - one of the biggest infrastructure programmes for a generation. The new pipelines will help us move water more freely around the region and divert it from areas of water surplus in north Lincolnshire, to the south and east of the region, where it isn't readily available. The new pipelines will also strengthen local resilience by reducing the number of homes and businesses which rely on a single water source.

For more information, please visit
our new water pipelines web pages
anglianwater.co.uk/spa



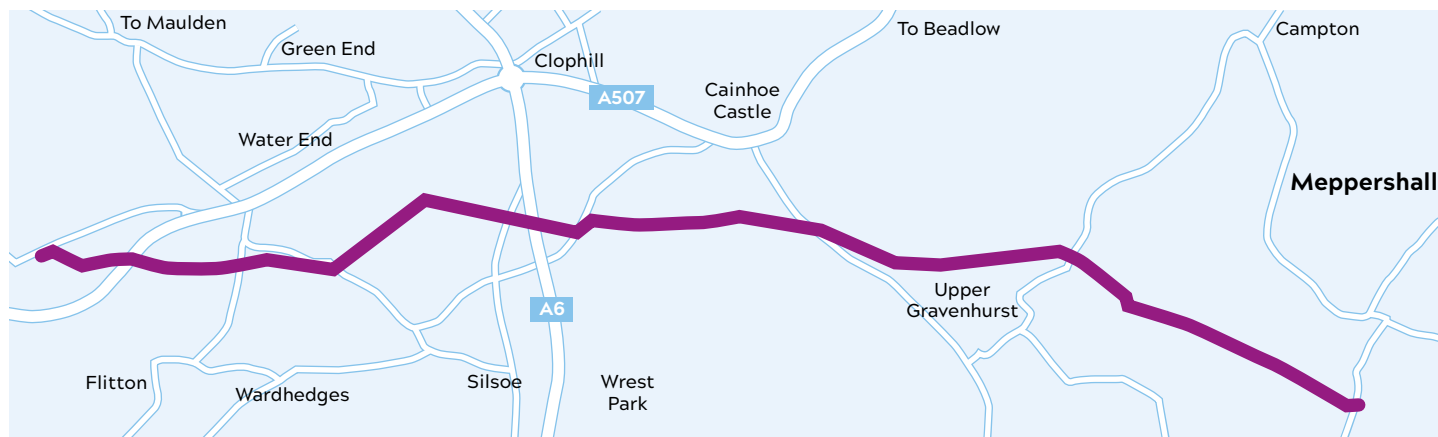
A new water pipeline

The new 9km pipeline, known as the Meppershall pipeline, will connect into our existing water network. It will help us reduce the amount of water we take from the ground, and reduce the number of homes and businesses relying on a single water supply.

This pipeline is an example of the investment we are making in our resources while minimising the impact on the environment.

More information about all the new pipelines can be found on our website - anglianwater.co.uk/spa

Preferred route for the Meppershall pipeline



Click [here](#) to see an interactive route of the map

We've been planning this route for a while. We have listened to customers and stakeholders, including landowners, about their concerns and reviewed findings from environmental and archaeological surveys. As a result, we have made some changes to the original route.

We have worked hard to make sure this, our preferred route, minimises the impact on the environment and we will continue to work with local communities and landowners while we finish the design and as we construct the pipeline.

While we have legal powers to lay new pipelines, we are working with the local planning authority (Central Bedfordshire Council) to agree the best way forward. We have developed our preferred route and want to share it with you.

A more detailed map can be found by visiting our website anglianwater.co.uk/spa and following the link to Meppershall pipeline.



What happens next?

We are currently planning the final design and construction of the pipeline and are working closely with the local planning authority to agree timetables and arrangements for any planning approvals.

We will be continuing our ground investigation activities throughout summer 2021 to understand drainage, soil and ground conditions. The information we gather will help us plan access and efficient ways of working.

Our teams undertaking these works will follow the current COVID-19 working guidelines.

Subject to agreement with the local planning authority, we will start pre-construction and enabling works, such as measures to protect wildlife during the construction phase and the limited removal of hedgerows later in 2021.

The construction start date will be dependent on many factors, including the weather. We are aiming to start work towards the end of 2021 and continue into spring 2022. Commissioning of the pipeline, which includes thorough cleaning and testing before it can become operational, can take up to a year, which will then be followed by reinstatement.

The land will be reinstated to its original state and with additional improvements in some areas where we can.



Impact on communities

Once construction gets under way, we will work hard to keep the impact on communities along the route, and the environment, to a minimum. Further information about our approach to community engagement can be found in our Statement of Community Involvement on our website anglianwater.co.uk/spa

Register can help a wide range of people, from those with sight, hearing, or mobility difficulties, to parents with babies under 12 months old. We offer a wide range of support, from sending out bills in other formats, to providing support in an operational event such as if your water supply is interrupted. Also, once on the register you can stay on it for as long as you like.

If you need practical support

You can sign up for free to our Priority Services Register. The Priority Services

You can sign up by calling our dedicated Priority Services Team on 0800 141 2934, or by completing the online application at anglianwater.co.uk/priority

Phase of work	Types of activity	Approximate timetable
Engaging with customers and stakeholders about the preferred route	Sharing the route, listening to feedback	June 2021
Environmental investigations	Archaeological surveys and ecological monitoring	Ongoing
Ground investigations and archaeological trial pits	Digging trenches and boreholes to understand conditions below the surface	In progress and ongoing until mid 2021
Discussions with local planning authority	Discuss whether any consent may be required for the scheme	Summer 2021
Enabling works (pre-construction)	Ecological protection for legally protected species. Some vegetation removal to aid site access	Autumn 2021
Construction	Site compounds set-up Enabling works Pipeline installation (methods described below)	Late 2021 - mid 2022
Commissioning	Cleaning the pipeline and connecting to network	From mid 2022
Reinstatement after installation	Restoration of access routes and fencing Reinstatement of road surfaces Reinstatement of drainage Replacement of vegetation Replacement of topsoil	From mid 2022

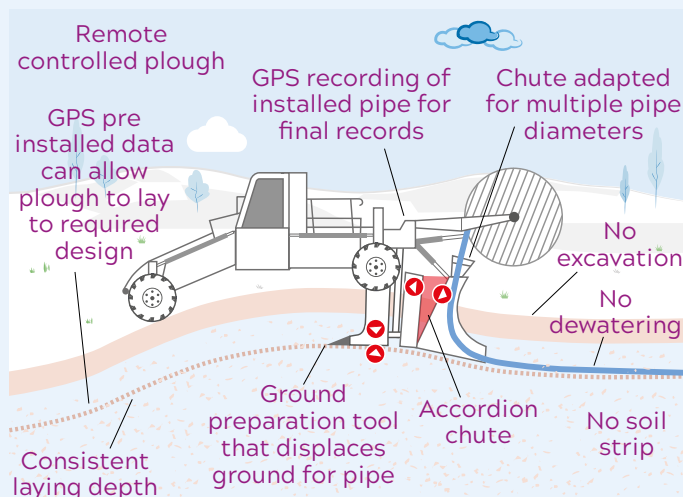
Techniques we will use

Pipe plough

For much of the pipeline route, we are planning to use a 'pipe plough'. This specialist machine cuts a narrow trench after the topsoil has been removed and lays the pipe at the same time so there is no need for digging or refilling. This reduces the overall impact on the land, causing less disruption to the environment. This method also requires a smaller working area (approx. 15 metres on this route) and puts the pipe

in the ground quicker than conventional methods, without the need for any open excavations.

Prior to the commencement of any pipeline installation, land drainage will be discussed with landowners and our land drainage contractor.

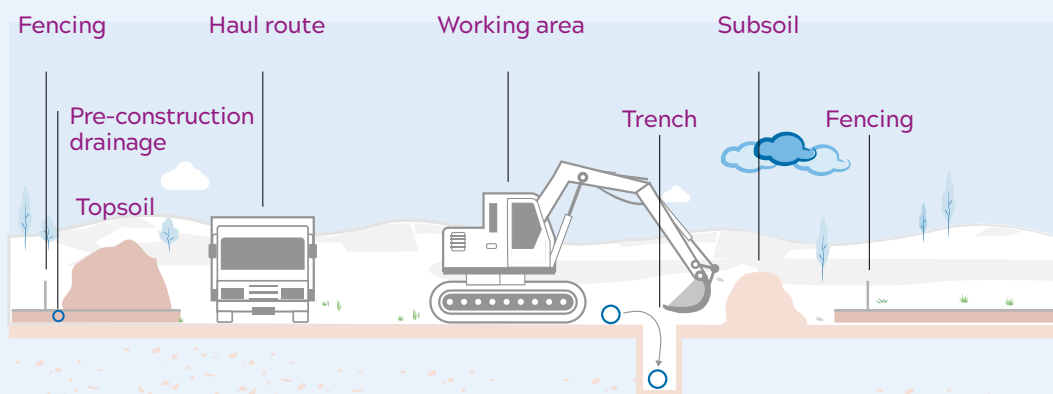


Open cut trenches

There will be parts of the pipeline where we will have to use traditional methods. The most common method to lay pipe is an open cut trench.

This is when a trench is dug open by a digger, the pipe is laid and then covered over.

The working area may be wider than 15 metres when using this method.

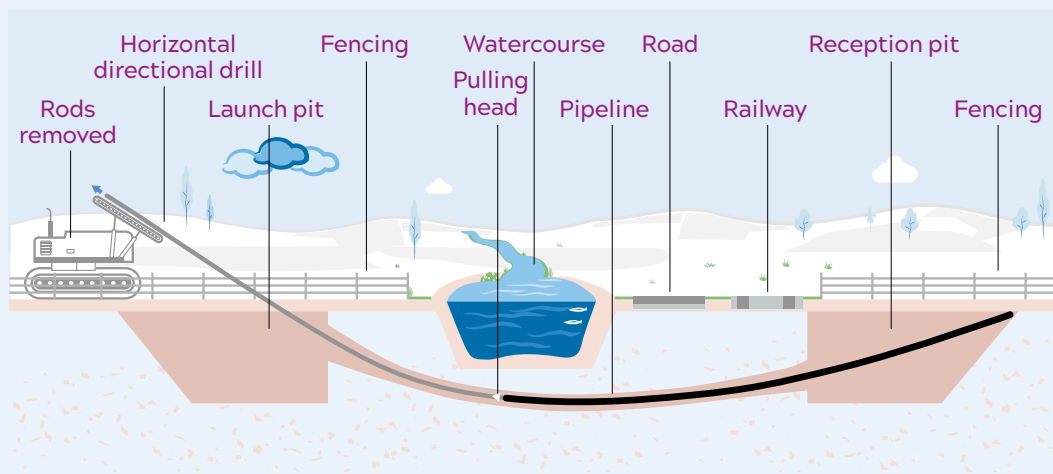


Trenchless

Where we need to minimise disruption to the surface - such as when we want to cross major roads, rivers, and railway lines - we will use trenchless techniques.

We also plan to use trenchless techniques when we are working close to sensitive areas such as Wrest Park and local wildlife sites.

Trenchless techniques will be used to lay the pipe underneath main rivers



and roads. This involves directionally drilling or auger boring, where a machine will

drill or bore a hole through the ground from one side of an obstruction to the other. The

pipe is then pulled through the hole. The working area may be more than 15 metres.



For more information about our approach please see our website anglianwater.co.uk/spa and leave your comments between 21 June - 12 July 2021.

What do you think?



Meppershall pipeline feedback survey

Due to COVID-19 and the uncertainty of holding physical meetings or events, we have added some pages to our website which contain all the information that you would expect to see at an event that we might ordinarily hold in a village hall or community centre.

We would like to hear from you. Please visit anglianwater.co.uk/spa and give us your feedback in our survey online between 21 June - 5 July 2021.

We understand that some people might not have access to the internet or be able to submit their comments online. We would still like to hear from you - you can get in touch in other ways - please see below.

We would like to hear your views

You can reply to the questions below by:



Visiting anglianwater.co.uk/spa or scanning the QR code on the right



Sending an email to strategicpipelines@anglianwater.co.uk



Posting to Strategic Pipeline Alliance, 3rd Floor, Worldwide House, Thorpewood, Peterborough, Cambridge, PE3 6SB



All postal surveys must be received by 12 July 2021 so we can take your views into account before we finalise our plans.

Please tell us about the following:

1. Can you see how this scheme will improve water supplies in the area?

☐

Yes

☐

No

☐

Don't know

2. Is there anything you would like to make us aware of in relation to this scheme?

.....

.....

3. Is there anything you would like more information on?

.....

.....

NB - Please provide your contact details below so that we can reply

Contact email address (preferred):

.....

Postal address:

.....

Telephone:

4. Overall, how do you feel about this pipeline?

On a scale of 1-5 with 1 being 'concerned' and 5 being 'happy'

1

2

3

4

5

Please explain your answer

.....

.....

.....

5. Are you a (tick box)

☐

Landowner?

☐

Local business?

☐

Domestic customer?

☐

Elected representative (parish, district, county)?

☐

Technical stakeholder / representative or an organisation? (please state)

☐

Other? (please state)

Please provide some information about yourself. This will only be used to help us understand who has answered the questionnaire and better understand local feelings and will not be used for any other purpose. We will not be able to identify you using this information alone.

What is your postcode?

(please provide the numbers in your postcode such as PE33 7xx)

What is your age? (tick box)

☐

17 and under

☐

18-29

☐

30-44

☐

45-59

☐

60+

The information you provide in your response will be processed and retained by Anglian Water and its appointed contractors until the scheme is complete. We will not use it for any other purpose.

To read Anglian Water's Customer Privacy Notice, please visit anglianwater.co.uk/about-us/legal/privacy-notice/

