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**WRE's board members and funders**

WRE's operating costs are funded by membership fees: 70% water companies, 30% other organisations

2

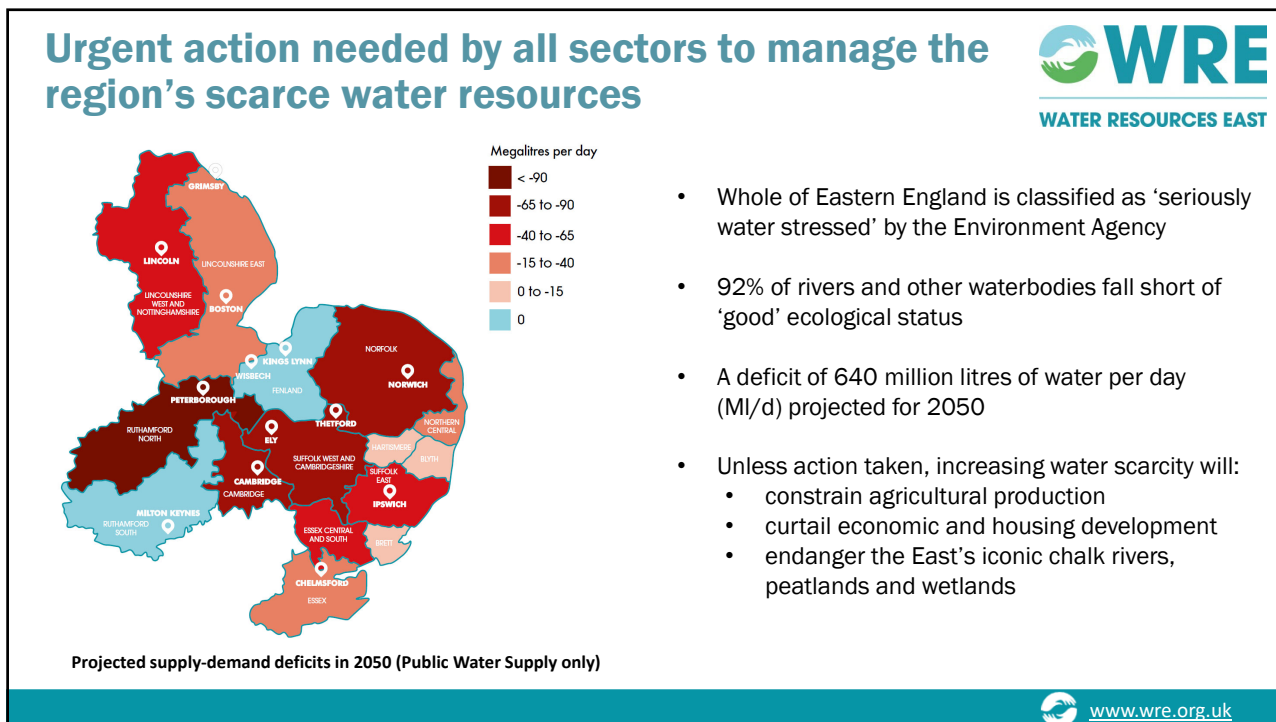




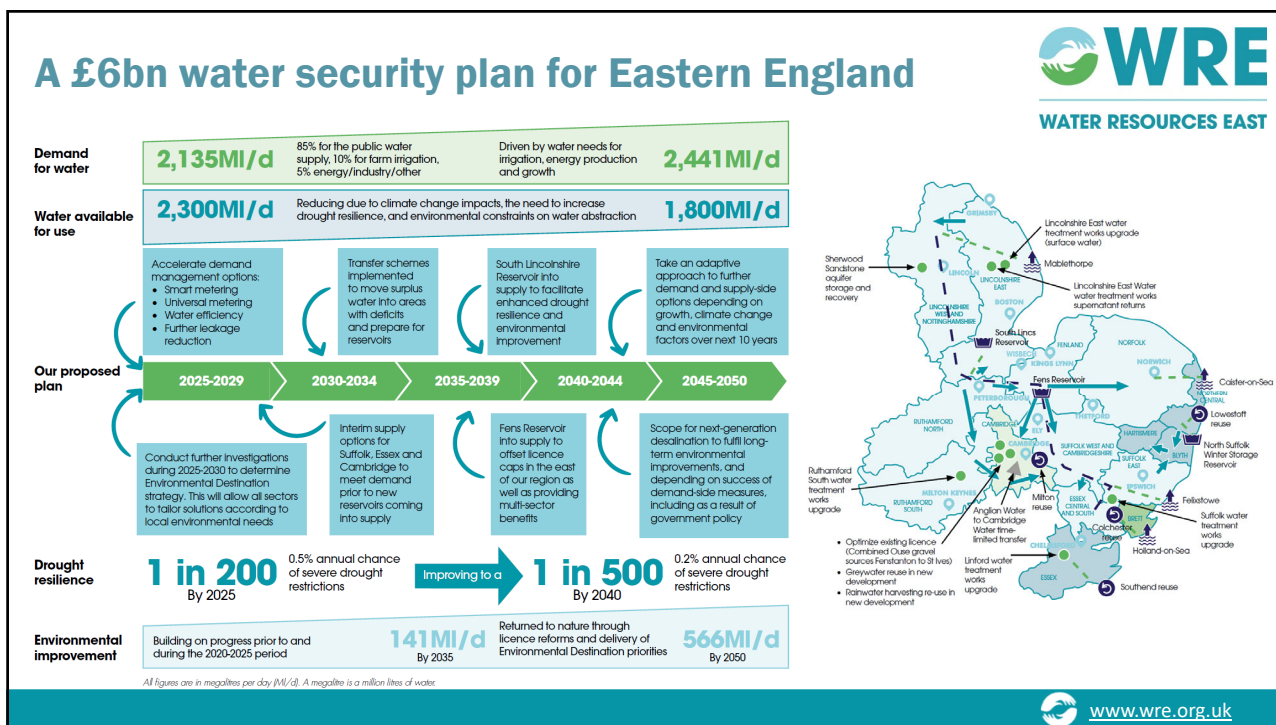
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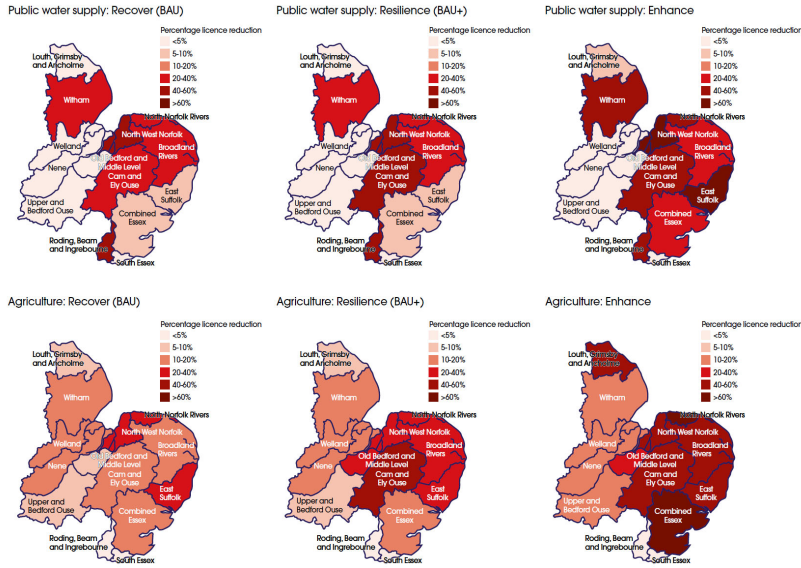
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# Some areas could lose 60%+ of licenced volumes



Potential returns of water to the environment for Public Water Supply (top row) and agriculture (bottom row) by 2050:

- **'Business As Usual':** to meet existing legal requirements, excluding 'uneconomic' waterbodies
- **BAU+:** extra protection for internationally designated habitats
- **Enhance:** including 'uneconomic' waterbodies plus extra protection for UK designated habitats, chalk rivers, headwaters and wetlands



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## Media coverage



BBC Look East



BBC Look North and Lincolnshire

- [BBC Radio Cambridgeshire](#) Timing 1:07:30
- [ADA Gazette](#) (winter edition)
- [Eastern Promise Podcast](#)
- [Eastern Daily Press](#) (about regional plan)
- [Farmers Weekly](#) (January 2023)
- [Eastern Daily Press](#) (Norfolk Farming Conference)
- [East Anglian Daily Times](#) (Fresh4Cs conference)
- [British Farmer and Grower Magazine](#) (February 2023)
- [Crop It Like It's Hot](#) podcast (April 2023)



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## Webinars, meetings and conference talks

Month	Event
November 2022	<a href="#">National launch webinar 17.11.2022</a> Cambridgeshire Development Forum 18.11.2022 Greater Cambridge planning meeting 21.11.2022 <a href="#">WRE launch webinar 22.11.2022</a> Norfolk Farming Conference 30.11.22
December	Bedfordshire LNP AGM 1.12.2022 Mardlers 6.12.2022 Welland Valley Partnership 6.12.2022 Natural Cambridgeshire 14.12.2022 Lincs NFU Water Group 15.12.2022
January 2023	<a href="#">WRE non-household water efficiency webinar 12.01.23</a> NFU Water Conference 30.1.23
February	Witham catchment partnership 02.02.23 <a href="#">Fresh4Cs Conference 03.02.23</a> <a href="#">Cambridge Forum for the Construction Industry 06.02.23</a> Cranfield AgriTechE Conference 08.02.23 Bedford Group of IDBs 09.02.23 <a href="#">Hydrogen Week UK 13-19.02.23</a> ESWAG AGM 20.02.2022

Month	Event
March	Great Ouse ADA Branch AGM 7.03.2023 Welland catchment partnership 14.03.23 FPC Futures & Careers 2023 16.03.2023 Waterwise conference 21.03.2023 Water for Tomorrow conference 22.03.2023 Keep Our Rivers Flowing summit 29.03.23
Later	Fenland SOIL Workshop 17-18.04.23 Flood & Water Live 5-6.07.2023

Norfolk Farming Conference highlights water supply worries

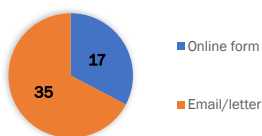


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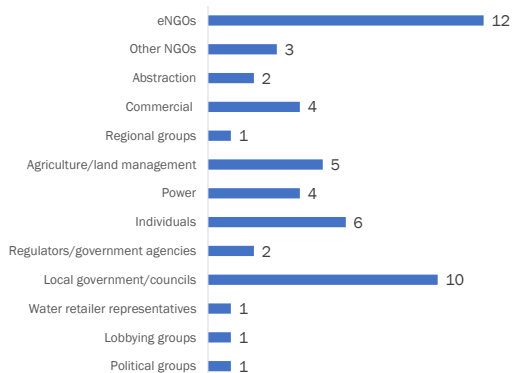
## Key statistics

### Emerging Plan, 52 responses overall

Method of response

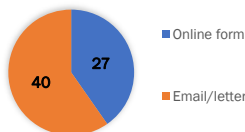


Respondent sector

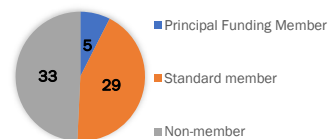


### Draft Plan, 65 responses overall (still waiting for feedback from Ofwat & RAPID)

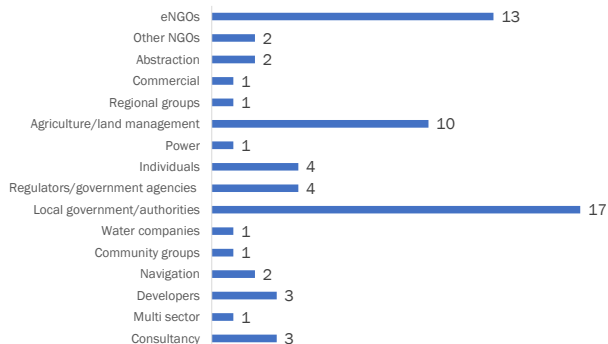
Method of response



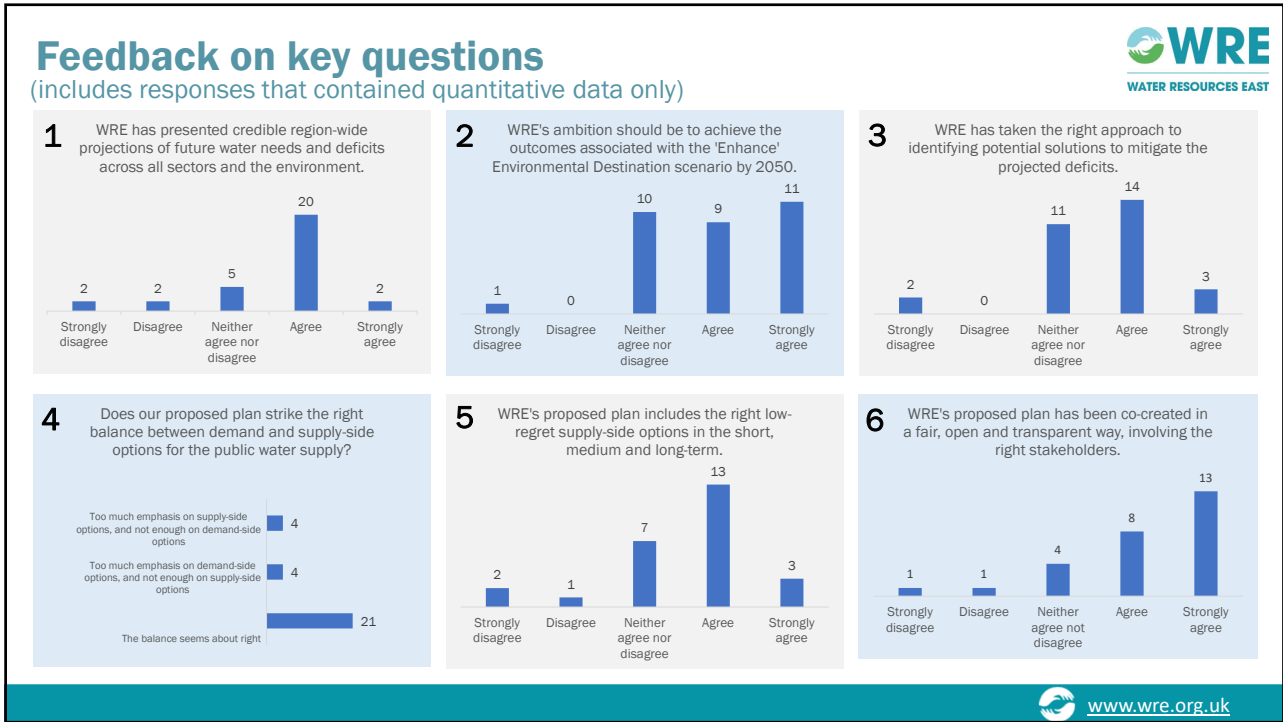
Respondent type



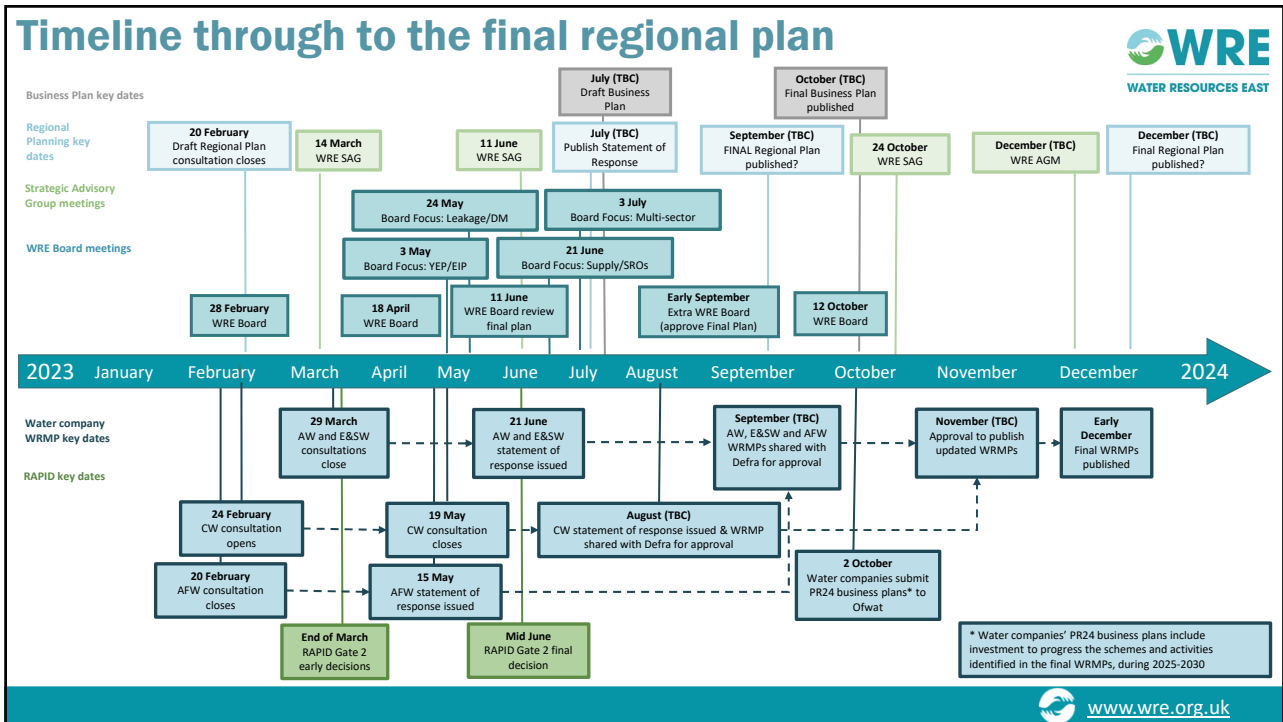
Respondent sector



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## Toward multi-sector, catchment scale planning




**WRE's Regional Water Resources Plan**

Norfolk Water Strategy Programme	Water for Tomorrow	Essex Water Strategy	Granta Chalk Streams Project	Bedford to Milton Keynes Waterway	Future Fens: Integrated Adaptation
<p>Working with The Nature Conservancy, Norfolk councils and Anglian Water to unlock delivery of nature-based solutions at scale to address water-related challenges.</p>	<p>Collaboration with Environment Agency, The Rivers Trust and partners in France to develop catchment-scale water resource management tools and approaches.</p>	<p>Supporting Essex County Council and partners to deliver integrated water management approaches to flooding and drainage, nature restoration, and community engagement.</p>	<p>The role that nature-based solutions and land-use change can play in recharging aquifers and addressing local water challenges.</p>	<p>Partnership with Environment Agency to explore the water and flood risk benefits of linking the Grand Union Canal and the River Great Ouse.</p>	<p>Working with partners to deliver an integrated water management approach to economic regeneration and climate adaptation in the Fens region.</p>
<p><b>Key sectors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Industry</li> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Housing development</li> <li>• Public water supply</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key sectors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Industry</li> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Public water supply</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key sectors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Industry</li> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Housing development</li> <li>• Public water supply</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key sectors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key sectors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Navigation</li> <li>• Public water supply</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key sectors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Industry</li> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Housing development</li> <li>• Navigation</li> <li>• Public water supply</li> </ul>

● Water resources

● Water quality


● Flood risk management

 [www.wre.org.uk](http://www.wre.org.uk)

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## New strategic reservoirs in Lincolnshire & the Fens





**Proposed location for Fens Reservoir**



**Landscaping proposals (illustrative)**


**Key:**

- ⊕ Watersports Centre
- ⊕ Visitor Centre
- ⊕ Footpath improvements
- ⊕ New cycleway provision
- ⊕ Sustainable transport opportunities
- ⊕ Renewable energy opportunities
- ⊕ Sailing / watersports
- ⊕ Biodiversity opportunities
- ⊕ Water treatment works
- ⊕ Wetland habitat areas within reservoir
- ⊕ Multi-use recreation routes
- ⊕ Opportunities for cycle / footpath connections
- ⊕ Opportunities for green / blue infrastructure enhancement

**Proposed reservoir in the Fens: indicative community and environmental opportunities for consultation**



**Indicative community and environmental benefits**

 [www.wre.org.uk](http://www.wre.org.uk)

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## WRE's role in drought management



- WRE has been asked to organise a new *Drought Group* to facilitate opportunities to share water across sectors and protect the environment during periods of dry weather and drought.
- *Intended audience:*
  - Water companies, abstractor groups, representatives from farming, energy, navigation, food & drink, leisure industries, internal drainage boards, regulators
- *Proposed format – monthly Teams calls:*
  - The current water situation and future outlook
    - Building on existing monthly calls hosted by the Environment Agency
  - Areas of potential water availability and opportunities for water sharing
    - Mapping exercise between water companies and other sector representatives to identify specific areas of water availability and opportunities to share water and support environmental needs



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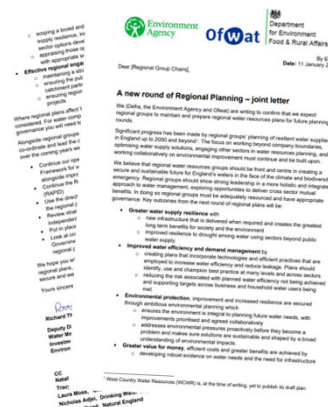
## Letter from Defra: a second round of regional planning



- Joint letter received from Defra, the EA and Ofwat confirming there will be a second round of regional planning through to 2029.
- Read the full letter [here](#).

**“We believe that regional water resources groups should be front and centre in creating a secure and sustainable future for England’s waters in the face of the climate and biodiversity emergency.**

**“Regional groups should show strong leadership in a more holistic and integrated approach to water management, exploring opportunities to deliver cross sector mutual benefits.”**



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**WRE**  
WATER RESOURCES EAST

# Thank you for listening

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