Anglian Water 13G. ACCEPTABILITY TESTING: OUTLINE BUSINESS PLAN















Acceptability Testing: Outline Business Plan

Final Quantitative Data





Contents









Climate change





Background

 Anglian Water, the largest geographical water and water recycling company in England and Wales, has commissioned Accent to undertake research on the acceptability of their plans to customers



Phase 3 of Acceptability Testing sought customers' views on the outline **Business Plan which sets** out AW's plans for the next five years. It's important to ensure that this plan matches the expectations of Anglian Water's customers.



Acceptability Testing: Outline BP

- Outline Business Plan tested with HH and NHH customers
 - 1,619 interviews with HH customers
 - 1,002 in the AW dual supply area
 - 200 in the E&SW waste water supply area
 - 217 in the Cambridge Water waste water supply area
 - 200 in the Hartlepool Water supply area
 - Half conducted by telephone and half online via a commercial panel
 - 500 with NHH customers
 - All telephone from sample provided
 - Average interview length = 35 minutes

- Quotas were set to ensure that the overall dataset was representative of AW/HW customers (age, SEG and gender)
- HH data weighted to latest Census data for age, SEG and gender for the supply areas.



The big questions



BP acceptability: uninformed vs informed







- Acceptability increases by 6% once informed
- Who finds the plan most acceptable?
 - Hartlepool Water customers (significantly more likely to say very acceptable than other regions both uninformed and informed)
- Who is most likely to find the plan unacceptable?
 - Eco Economisers & Protective Provincials (significantly more likely than all other segments to say very unacceptable both uninformed and informed)



BP acceptability: uninformed vs informed





Acceptability increases by 7% once informed

- Businesses with high annual water consumption or large bills significantly more likely to say very unacceptable than those with low consumption or small bills (uninformed)
- 'Energy or Water Supply & Service' sector significantly more likely to say very unacceptable than 'Wholesale and Retail Trade' and 'Government, Health & Education' sectors (uninformed)



A taste of what drives acceptability

All looks good and setting the bar quite high.

Always trusted them and what they have done to be acceptable.

All good stuff - hope they are attaining to environment needs and that there is no wasting of water. Pleased they are doing work to address this and reach performance targets. I have a problem with the incentive scheme. I think that if a company should be incentivised by improving it should be by efficiency to increase profitable without increasing customer bills. Should reduce cost and improve performance. It's in customer interest for company to not meet targets so bills are decreased and surely that is ridiculous. Although I can't compare or gauge how stretching these goals are when compared to competitors as I'm not an industry observer, I do believe all the goals identified to be worthwhile and with significant tangible value. I think these plans are honourable and should press ahead.

Anglian Water is committed to address the most important issues & provide the best service



And what drives unacceptability

Although I understand the problems facing the company regarding increasing housing and climate change my primary concern is the cost of my water and sewage bills.

Anglian should have been investing more for years instead of making huge profits

Anglian Water are a profit making business so their prime motivator is profit. Can we be sure that bill increases are purely for improvements and investments for things like climate change.

Anglian Water seems to want to do a lot. Do they have the resources for it all?



BP affordability: uninformed vs informed



Perceived affordability increases by 7%

There are some significant differences

affordable than Anglia, Cambridge,

Hartlepool region more likely to say very

Family First and Tech Savvies most likely

once informed

by region and segment:

Essex & Suffolk water

to say very affordable



BP affordability: uninformed vs informed





- Very affordable
- Affordable
- Neither affordable nor unaffordable
- No very affordable
- Not at all affordable
- Don't know

- Perceived affordability increases by 8% once informed
- There are some significant differences by sector and spend:
 - 'IT & Communication' sector more likely to say not very affordable than 'Manufacturing', 'Wholesale & Retail Trade' and 'Finance & Insurance Activities' sectors (uninformed)
 - Businesses with large bills more likely to say not at all affordable (uninformed) and unaffordable/very unaffordable (informed) compared to those with small and medium sized bills



BP RORE acceptability: uninformed BP RORE affordability: informed





- Uninformed acceptability of +/-£20 per annum stands at 74%
- A further 14% reported this was neither acceptable nor unacceptable
 - Informed affordability stands at 60% with a further 24% stating it is neither affordable nor unaffordable



BP RORE acceptability: uninformed BP RORE affordability: informed





- Uninformed acceptability of +/-£20 per annum stands at 59%
- A further 20% reported this was neither acceptable nor unacceptable
 - Informed affordability stands at 65% with a further 24% stating it is neither acceptable nor unacceptable



Customers understand the impact of inflation on bills

More than 95% of customers say that they understand the impact of inflation on bills:





Responding to Climate Change



Overall, customers prefer costs to be reflected in bills as work is undertaken However, there are preferences between regions and segments



- Anglian and Cambridge regions significantly more likely than Essex & Suffolk to prefer costs to be reflected in bills as work is undertaken
- Hartlepool region significantly more likely than Cambridge to prefer bill increase over a longer period

NHH:

- 46% over next five years
- 50%: cost reflected over longer period



Majority of customers want the work to be completed over the next five years



NHH customers:

 75% want work to be completed over the next five years

Base: Anglian Water 1,002; Hartlepool Water 200; Cambridge Water 217; Essex &

¹⁷ Suffolk Water 200





Intergenerational Bill Response



The options presented to customers



- Green line a potential increase of £21 over 5 years from 2020 to 2025 that would allow Anglian Water to implement all of the investments set out in their Business Plan. From 2026 to 2030 customers' bills would stay at £433 as all the required investments have been made and paid for over the previous 5 years
- Red line a potential increase of £10 over the period 2020-2025 that would allow some but not all investments to be made or some of the cost of these investments to be applied to customers' bills at a later date. After 10 years customers bills will have risen from £422 to £433 to pay for the investments needed.
- Blue line no potential bill increases over the period 2020-2025 but investment would be deferred which could make them more costly. After 10 years customers bills will have risen from £412 to £433 to pay for the investments needed to support increase of £10



On balance HH customers prefer to have all investments made and paid for over AMP7



- Green line a potential increase of £21 over 5 years
- Red line a potential increase of £10 over 5 years
- Blue line no potential bill increases over the 5 years



- Cambridge region
 significantly more likely
 than Anglian and Essex
 & Suffolk to support
 increase of £21
- Anglian region significantly more likely than Hartlepool to support increase of £10



²⁰ Q23 region. Base: Anglian Water 1,002; Hartlepool Water 200; Cambridge Water 217; Essex & Suffolk Water 200

And this is reflected in the views of NHH customers



- Green line a potential increase of £21 over the period 2020-2025
- Red line a potential increase of £10 over the period 2020-2025
- Blue line no potential bill increases over the period 2020-2025



% participants

- More than half support an increase of £21; this is unanimous across all business sizes
- Only two sectors support a £10 increase (findings NS):
 - Agriculture, forestry & fishing
 - Transport & storage
- Organisations with higher annual water consumption prefer a £10 increase (findings NS)



Customer priorities



least important



2

3

5

most important

- Water mains bursts rated as most important service area; this was unanimous across all segments and regions with some significant differences:
 - Careful Budgeters more likely than Family First to rate this as most important
 - Essex & Suffolk Region significantly more likely than Anglian, Hartlepool and Cambridge water to rate as most important



Service areas



24 O18, Base: Total 500

Properties at risk of low pressure

Sewer collapses 5 10 35 Unplanned asset outages 28 22 12 10 Water Treatment Works and Water 21 21 19 **Recycling Centre Compliance** External sewer flooding 24 9 16

37

2

12

3

24

Service areas

Water mains bursts

least important

12

Water mains bursts rated as most important service area

most important

12

12

9

8

11

13

12

5.20

4.09

2.91

3.07

3.41

2.30

5

31

54

This was unanimous across all business sizes and sectors, except for 'IT & Communication' sector who prioritised Water Treatment Works and Water Recycling **Centre Compliance**





Vulnerable customers



support for customers in vulnerable circumstances 5

make the most of data to help them identify customers in vulnerable circumstances

provide targeted and effective support which is flexible to the needs of the individual and not a onesize-fits-all approach

build partnerships to help identify and target customers in vulnerable circumstances

promote the support they can offer to customers, including through partnerships

use an independent panel of vulnerability experts to challenge them



Customers across all regions consider support for customers in vulnerable circumstances to be highest priority

Family First is the only segment not to judge this measure as most important, and instead prioritise targeted and effective support which is flexible



Vulnerable customers

support for customers in vulnerable circumstances 4 17 provide targeted and effective support which is flexible to the needs of the individual and not a one-

build partnerships to help identify and target

size-fits-all approach

make the most of data to help them identify customers in vulnerable circumstances

promote the support they can offer to customers, including through partnerships

use an independent panel of vulnerability experts to challenge their approaches



Businesses of all sizes and across all sectors consider support for customers in vulnerable circumstances to be highest priority

'Production & construction' business sectors significantly more likely than
'Services' to rate this measure as medium importance



26 Q21. Base: Total 500

Performance Commitments



Understanding of **water measures**



The majority of customers understand what each of the measures are:





Understanding of **water recycling** measures





- Family First segment significantly more likely than the Economisers to understand internal sewer flooding
- However, Family First segment least likely to understand external sewer flooding, risk of sewer flooding in a storm and embodied carbon
- Cambridge region significantly more likely than Anglian to understand external sewer flooding
- Anglian region significantly more likely than Essex and Suffolk region to understand operational carbon



Understanding of **customer service** measures



Tech-savvies more likely to understand measure than Protective Provincials



HH

Whether **water** targets are sufficiently stretching



Yes No Don't Know

Hartlepool region significantly more likely than Anglian to say that targets are sufficiently stretching for 6 of the measures:

ALL HH

- Abstraction incentive mechanism
- Unplanned outage
- Percentage of population supplied by single supply system
- Properties at risk of low pressure
- Compliance risk index
- Water supply interruptions



³¹ Q32, 36, 40, 44, 48, 52, 56, 60, 64, 68, 72, 76. Base: Total 276

Whether **water** targets are sufficiently stretching

9% 8% Risk of severe restrictions in a drought 82% 7% 11% Leakage 82% 9% 10% % of population supplied by a single supply system 81% **12%** 11% Water supply interruptions 77% 10% 12% Properties at risk of persistent low pressure 77% Treatment works compliance **12%** 11% 77% Per capita consumption 14% 11% 75% Abstraction Incentive Mechanism 70% 10% Unplanned outage 70% 14% Compliance risk index 70% 10% 12% **Reactive Mains Bursts** 70% 18% 11% Mains bursts 22% 67%

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't Know

HH: those who understood the measure

HH customers who understood measures were significantly more likely than NHH to say 'don't know' for 7 of the measures:

• Leakage

- Percentage of population supplied by single supply system
- Water supply interruptions
- Treatment works compliance
- Unplanned outage
- Reactive mains bursts
- Mains bursts

Q32, 36, 40, 44, 48, 52, 56, 60, 64, 68, 72, 76. Base: Risk of severe restrictions in a drought 268; Leakage 243; % of population supplied by a single supply system 267; Water supply interruptions 241; Properties at risk of persistent low pressure 268; Treatment works compliance 245; Per capita consumption 268; Abstraction Incentive Mechanism 250; Unplanned outage 265; Compliance risk index 223; Reactive Mains Bursts 245; Mains bursts 246



Whether **water recycling** targets are sufficiently stretching



Yes No Don't Know Not stated

Tech-savvies and Comfortable and Caring significantly more likely than Family First and Protective Provincials to say that targets are sufficiently stretching for:

- risk of sewer flooding in a storm
- operational carbon
- embodied carbon
- internal sewer flooding



ALL HH

³³ Q80, 84, 88, 92, 96, 100, 104, 108, 112, 116. Base: Total 331

Whether **water recycling** targets are sufficiently stretching

HH: those who understood the measure



- HH customers who understood the measure were significantly more likely than NHH to say target for operational carbon is not sufficiently stretching
- HH customers significantly more likely than NHH to say 'don't know' for 6 of the measures:
 - WINEP
 - Bathing waters attaining excellent status
 - Pollution incidents
 - Embodied carbon
 - Sewer collapses
 - External sewer flooding



Q80, 84, 88, 92, 96, 100, 104, 108, 112, 116. Base: WINEP 316; Bathing Waters Attaining Excellent Status 321; Pollution incidents 324; Natural Capital 307; Embodied carbon 312; Operational carbon 325; Sewer collapses 306; Risk of sewer flooding in a storm 319; External Sewer Flooding 320; Internal sewer flooding 314

Whether **customer service** targets are sufficiently stretching





- Hartlepool region significantly more likely than Anglian, Essex and Suffolk Water to say sufficiently stretching for D-MeX experience and panel assessment
- Anglian and Hartlepool regions more likely than Essex & Suffolk Water to say stretching for managing void properties and non-household retailer satisfaction
- Comfortable and Caring significantly more likely than Family First to say stretching for supporting customers in vulnerable circumstances – PSR, and also significantly more likely than Economisers and Family First to say stretching for supporting customers in vulnerable circumstances – panel assessment


Whether **customer service** targets are sufficiently stretching

HH: those who understood the measure

Managing void properties	74%	12% 14%
Non-household Retailer Satisfaction	73%	8% 19%
Supporting customers in vulnerable circumstances – PSR	71%	11% 19%
Supporting customers in vulnerable circumstances – Panel Assessment	70%	<mark>9%</mark> 21%
Developer services measure of experience (D-MeX)	68% 1	2% 20%
Customer measure of experience (CMEX)	64% 109	6 27%

HH customers
significantly more likely
than NHH to say that
they don't know
whether targets are
sufficiently stretching
for all measures

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't Know

Q120, 124, 128, 128b, 132, 136. Base: Managing void properties 408; Non-household Retailer Satisfaction 405; Supporting customers in vulnerable circumstances – PSR 409; ³⁶ Supporting Customers In Vulnerable Circumstances – Panel Assessment 402; Developer services measure of experience (D-MeX) 409; Customer measure of experience (CMEX) 390

Importance of **water** measures





Proactive Provincials significantly more likely than Tech-Savvies to rate as **high** importance

Hartlepool significantly more likely than Anglian to rate as **high** importance

Anglian region significantly more likely than Hartlepool to rate as **high** importance

Family First significantly more likely than Tech-Savvies to rate as **high** importance

Hartlepool region significantly more likely than Anglian to rate as **high** importance



Importance of **recycling** measures







Importance of **retail** measures







Understanding of water measures



The majority of customers understand what each of the measures are:



Businesses with low annual water consumption significantly more likely than those with high consumption to understand measure

Accent

40 Q24, 28, 32, 36, 40, 44, 48, 52, 56, 60, 64, 68, 70. Base: Total 96

Understanding of **water recycling** measures





41 Q72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110. Base: Total 103





Understanding of **customer service** measures



Accent

42 Q112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 120b, 122b, 124, 126, 128, 130. Base: Total 99

Whether **water measure** targets are sufficiently stretching



■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't Know

Businesses with small bills more likely than those with medium sized bills to say targets stretching for properties at risk of persistent low pressure

ALL NHH

- Those with large bills significantly more likely than those with small and medium bills to say targets are not stretching for leakage and treatment works compliance
- Businesses with less than 4 employees significantly more likely than those with 50-249 employees to say targets are stretching for reactive mains bursts



Whether **water measure** targets are sufficiently stretching



■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't Know

NHH: those who understood the measure

- NHH customers who understood measures were significantly more likely than HH to say that targets are sufficiently stretching for 5 of the measures:
 - % of population supplied by a single supply system
 - Properties at risk of persistent low pressure
 - Compliance risk index
 - Water supply interruptions
 - Treatment works compliance

Q26, 30, 34, 38, 42, 46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 68, 70. Base: Abstraction Incentive Mechanism 90; Risk of severe restrictions in a drought 94; Per capita consumption 95; Unplanned outage 95; Percentage of population supplied by a single supply system 96; Properties at risk of persistent low pressure 96; Compliance risk index 99; Water supply interruptions 102; Leakage 103; Mains bursts 101; Reactive Mains Bursts 101; Treatment works compliance 103

32

4



Whether **water recycling** targets are sufficiently stretching



Businesses with low water consumption significantly more likely than those with high consumption to say targets are sufficiently stretching for embodied carbon

ALL NHH

 'Services' sector significantly more likely than 'Production & Construction' to say targets for bathing water attaining excellent status are stretching



Whether **water recycling** targets are sufficiently stretching

NHH: those who understood the measure



- NHH customers significantly more likely than HH to say that targets are sufficiently stretching for 4 of the measures:
 - Operational carbon
 - Embodied carbon
 - Bathing waters attaining excellent status
 - WINEP



46 Q80, 84, 88, 92, 96, 100, 104, 108, 112, 116. Base: Internal sewer flooding 101; External Sewer Flooding 102; Risk of sewer flooding in a storm 101; Operational carbon 102; Embodied carbon 99; Sewer collapses 99; Pollution incidents 99; Bathing Waters Attaining Excellent Status 98; Natural Capital 98; WINEP 96

Whether **customer service** targets are sufficiently stretching





ALL NHH

Whether **customer service** targets are sufficiently stretching

NHH: those who understood the measure



NHH customers significantly more likely than HH to say that targets are sufficiently stretching for 3 of the measures:

- CMEX
- Supporting customers in vulnerable circumstances
 – PSR
- Supporting customers in vulnerable circumstances
 – Panel Assessment



Accent

48 Q120, 124, 128, 128b, 132, 136. Base: Customer measure of experience (CMEX) 95; Developer services measure of experience (D-MeX) 98; Supporting customers in vulnerable circumstances – PSR 99; Supporting Customers In Vulnerable Circumstances – Panel Assessment 97; Managing void properties 98; Non-household Retailer Satisfaction 98

Importance of **water** measures



Low importance Medium importance High importance Mains bursts Leakage 79 **Reactive Mains Bursts** 71 Compliance risk index Risk of severe restrictions in a drought 5 Treatment works compliance Water supply interruptions 10 Unplanned outage 17 Abstraction Incentive Mechanism 10 Properties at risk of persistent low pressure 17 44 Percentage of population supplied by a single... 17 44 Per capita consumption 6 44

'Wholesale & Retail Trade' sectors more likely than 'Finance and Insurance Activities' to rate as **high** importance. Also businesses with small bills more likely to rate as **high** importance compared to those with medium sized bills

High water consumption companies significantly more likely than low consumption companies to rate as **low** importance



Importance of **recycling** measures







Importance of **retail** measures













UNIFORMED BP acceptability





53 Q16segment. Base: Tech-Savvies 451; Comfortable & Caring 525; Economisers 116; Family First 193; Careful Budgeters 152; Protective Provincials: 182 Q16region. Base: Anglian Water 1,002; Hartlepool Water 200; Cambridge Water 217; Essex & Suffolk Water 200



INFORMED BP acceptability





UNINFORMED BP affordability



13

41

19

<u>3</u> 4

2

Cambridge

Water



Q16as. Base: Tech-Savvies 451; Comfortable & Caring 525; Economisers 116; Family First 193; 55 Careful Budgeters 152; Protective Provincials: 182

Water Q16ar. Base: Anglian Water 1,002; Hartlepool Water 200; Cambridge Water 217; Essex & Suffolk Water 200

8

2

36

Accent

10

7

Essex &

Suffolk Water

INFORMED BP affordability





Q141r. Base: Tech-Savvies 451; Comfortable & Caring 525; Economisers 116; Family First 193; Careful Budgeters 152; Protective Provincials: 182

Q141s. Base: Anglian Water 1,002; Hartlepool Water 200; Cambridge Water 217; Essex & Suffolk Water 200

Accent

Customer preference for cost impact



Cost is reflected in bills as it's being undertaken over the next five years Cost is reflected in bills for a longer period than the work will take to complete Don't mind Don't know Tech-savvies 49 39 Comfortable and caring 46 39 Eco economisers 37 46 Family first 51 39 Careful budgeters 39 37 16 Protective provincials 52 34 % participants

Q17 segment. Base: Tech-Savvies 451; Comfortable & Caring 525; Economisers 116; Family First 193; Careful Budgeters 152; Protective Provincials: 182

 Family First segment significantly more likely than Protective Provincials to prefer a bill increase over a longer period

Careful Budgeters significantly more likely than protective provincials to say don't mind



Complete work over next five years vs defer

■ Complete work over next five years ■ Defer some of the work ■ Don't mind ■ Don't know



Q19 segment. Base: Tech-Savvies 451; Comfortable & Caring 525; Economisers 58 116; Family First 193; Careful Budgeters 152; Protective Provincials: 182

Completing work over the next five years is preferred by all segments

HH

 Although still the minority, Eco
 Economisers are most
 likely to say they'd prefer
 work to be deferred to
 later years. Differences
 NS



Customer preference for cost impact



- Cost is reflected in bills as it's being undertaken over the next five years
- Cost is reflected in bills for a longer period than the work will take to complete
- Don't mind
- Don't know



- Overall, NHH customers prefer costs to be reflected in bills for a longer period
- Businesses with 4 to 49 employees significantly more likely than those with <4 employees to prefer a bill increase over 5 years
- Businesses with <4 or 250+ employees more likely than those with 4 to 49 employees to say 'don't mind'









- Three in four NHH customers prefer work to be completed over the next five years
- This preference is unanimous across all business sizes and sectors (except 'Energy or Water Supply & Service' who had no particular preference)
- Although still the minority, 'Production & Construction' businesses significantly more likely than 'Services' to prefer some work to be deferred



Customer preference for investment impact

- Green line a potential increase of £21 over 5 years
- Red line a potential increase of £10 over 5 years
- Blue line no potential bill increases over 5 years



Family First and **Comfortable and Caring** segments significantly more likely than other segments to support £21 increase

HH

Tech-savvies, Eco **Economisers and Protective Provincials** significantly more likely than Family First to support £10 increase



Q23 segment. Base: Tech-Savvies 451; Comfortable & Caring 525; Economisers 116; Family First 193; Careful Budgeters 152; 61 **Protective Provincials: 182**



64% agree/strongly agree that AW cares about the communities it serves. A further 25% are neutral. Less than 10% disagree





'Energy or Water Service & Supply' sectors significantly more likely to disagree strongly that Anglian Water cares about the community it serves than those working in 'Wholesale & Retail Trade' and 'Other Service Activities'



Nearly 60% agree/strongly agree that AW cares about communities it serves. A further 31% are neutral. Less than 10% disagree





- Hartlepool Water & Cambridge Water customers significantly more likely to think Anglian Water cares about the community it serves than customers living in the AW dual supply region
- Comfortable & Caring, Family First and Careful Budgeters significantly more likely to strongly agree than Protective Provincials
- Eco Economisers significantly more likely than all other segments to disagree/strongly disagree

