



Your Welsh Water



We invest on your behalf

At Welsh Water, we provide water and wastewater services to over **3 million people** across most of Wales and some adjoining parts of England.

We don't have any shareholders which means that every penny we make goes back to improving our services, supporting our vulnerable customers and protecting the environment, now and for years to come.

**Our vision is simple:
To earn the trust of our
customers, every day.**

Every pound we receive through customers' bills is crucial in helping us maintain our essential water and wastewater services. Our 2025-30 Business Plan outlines our planned investment in things like infrastructure, environment and our people which, together with increased customer support and improved service delivery, all help determine how the bills are calculated. Visit [dwrcymru/plans.com](https://www.dwrcymru/plans.com) to find out more.



Over the next 12 months, here is how each pound of the expenditure funded from customer bills will be spent.



Investment

We will invest **£780 million** in 2025-6 to improve services and invest for the future. That will amount to around **£4 billion** over the next five years – **68%** more than in the last five years. This includes a record **£2.5 billion** to protect and improve the environment.



Operations and maintenance

This is the cost of providing water and wastewater services, including maintaining our **27,000km** of water mains, **36,000km** of sewers, plus our treatment works and pumping stations.



Our people

14% of our costs in 2025 will be on our people. We're planning to recruit an extra **2,000** people through our supply chain, so that we are well equipped to deliver this ambitious programme of investment, providing more jobs to support the Welsh economy.



Tax and finance costs

3% of our costs goes to paying taxes like business rates and National Insurance, plus environmental permits. Like any other business we also have to borrow to finance investment, which adds another **10p** in the pound.



Support for vulnerable customers

In 2025-6 we'll be allocating **£14 million** to support our social tariffs, providing financial help to up to **150,000** of our vulnerable customers over the next 5 years.



We provide help when you need it the most

Tailored financial support

We supply services to over 1.3 million households throughout Wales and parts of England. Ensuring bills are affordable for everyone is a top priority.

With plans in place to increase the number of customers we support from 145,000 to 190,000 we want to make sure that customers feel comfortable reaching out for support when they need it the most. We have a highly specialist and supportive team of customer advisors here to help provide a tailored package that suits you.

www.dwrcymru.com/support

Saving water and money

Customers can also benefit from the free water saving products or leaky loo services offered through our Cartref scheme.

Free shower heads, tap aerators, leaky loo strips or shower timers can be accessed through **www.dwrcymru.com/getwaterfit**, helping you to save water, energy and money.

Water lost through leaks can be costly, and our Cartref scheme provides free access to a professional plumber for free leaky loo repairs.

www.dwrcymru.com/cartref

And for those customers not yet on a water meter, you could save water and money by only paying for the water you use. In most cases fitting is free and if you change your mind, you can change back to an unmetered bill within two years. **www.dwrcymru.com/watermeter**

We run a progressive metering programme where we install new meters on unmeasured properties. You don't need to do anything and we will not change the way you are billed. The meters installed will help identify leaks to be fixed and you will be able to see how much you could save by switching to metered billing.

Extra support

WaterSure Wales

If you have a water meter fitted, you may be able to lower your bill through our WaterSure Wales tariff. To qualify you must receive certain benefits **and** have three or more children under the age of 19 living at your home who you claim Child Benefit for; **or** you or a member of your household has a medical condition that requires significant use of extra water.

Visit dwrcymru.com/watersurewales

HelpU

For those customers on a low income who struggle to pay for their water and sewerage bills, we have a tariff called HelpU. If you are in receipt of means-tested benefits we may be able to reduce your bill.

Visit dwrcymru.com/support

Cymuned

Our Cymuned fund supports working households with a household income of up to £50,000 but are in a negative budget each month. Details of eligibility and how customers can apply can be found at dwrcymru.com/support

Surface water

If we include a charge on your bill for sewerage and it includes an amount towards the overall cost of looking after all the surface water that enters our network, but none of the rainwater falling on your property enters the public sewer, you may be able to claim a discount. To apply for this, visit dwrcymru.com/surfacewater

Help if you fall behind

Water Direct Debt Support scheme

If you receive benefits, paying directly through the Department for Work and Pensions could reduce your bill by £25 per year.

Customer Assistance Fund

This fund helps customers in severe financial hardship. If you're eligible, you could pay in more manageable instalments, and we may be able to help reduce or cancel your debt.

Call us to talk through your options

0800 052 0145.

Go online for more information
dwrcymru.com/money

Switch to direct debit

Avoid one big bill by spreading payments throughout the year. You can now do this online through registering with 'My Account'. Visit dwrcymru.com/myaccount or give us a call and we can talk you through it.

Priority Services

There are lots of reasons you might want a little extra support. Perhaps you're a parent with a young baby, a dialysis patient, have sight or hearing difficulties, are elderly or living with a disability. Whatever your circumstances, joining our priority services means we can help to make life a little easier. We will provide you with an alternative water supply if your supply is interrupted and we will inform you of progress. We can also give reassurance against bogus callers.

You can apply for yourself, your friends or family at dwrcymru.com/priorityservices or call us on **0800 052 0145.**

Our promise to you

We work really hard to deliver a great service, but sometimes things go wrong.

Water companies must meet certain standards. As a company that's owned on behalf of our customers, we go as far as possible to get things right first time, every time. Here's an outline of our promise to you and what you may be entitled to if something goes wrong.

Unless stated otherwise, these payments will be automatically made to you, you don't have to claim them. If you owe more than six weeks' charges on your water/sewerage bill, we will credit your account instead. There are terms and conditions which means that we're not able to make a payment in certain circumstances, such as where severe weather conditions, industrial action or the actions of a third party have made it impossible for us to meet our guaranteed service standards.

Your water

Planned interruptions

We will give you at least 48 hours' notice if we have to carry out planned work that interrupts your supply for over four hours.

If we don't do this, we will give household customers £20 and business customers £50 within 20 working days.

We will restore your supply by the time stated on the notice. **If we don't do this, we will give household customers £30 and business customers £75 within 20 working days.**

We will give you further compensation for every additional 12 hours the water supply remains interrupted. **We will give household customers £30 and business customers £75 (per 12 hours) within 20 working days.**

Unplanned interruptions

We will restore your supply within 12 hours of knowing about the problem. **If we don't do this, we will give household customers £30 and business customers £75 within 20 working days.**

For every further 12 hours the water supply remains interrupted, you will also be compensated. **We will give household customers £30 and business customers £75 (per 12 hours) within 20 working days. If we weren't aware that your supply had been interrupted, you will need to make a claim by phone on 0800 052 0130 or in writing within three months of the event.**

Drought order (not including hosepipe restrictions)

We will compensate you if your water supply is interrupted due to drought. **We will give household customers £10 per day or part day (up to the limit of last year's average household bill) and business customers £50 per day or part day (up to the limit of last year's water charges for the premises or up to £500 if you were not liable for last year's charges).**

Water quality

If you telephone us about an unusual taste or smell to your water, or to tell us you think someone is ill as a result of drinking the water, we will get back to you within four hours unless we are already dealing with the problem in your area. **If we don't do this, you can claim £20.**

If we take a water sample as a result of your call, we will give you the result within 10 working days. **If we don't do this, you can claim £20. These payments must be claimed within three months of the incident.**

Call **0800 052 0130** and ask for a compensation claim form. If you owe us more than six weeks' charges on your water/sewerage bill, we will credit your account. To find out about the water quality in your area, visit dwrcymru.com or call **0800 052 0130**.

Water pressure

We will ensure that your water pressure is at the correct level. Minimum pressure is seven metres static head, equivalent to a flow of nine litres per minute. Where we are aware that your water pressure has dropped below this level for an hour or longer twice in a four-week period, we will give you compensation, unless the drop is due to essential work or drought. **We will give you £25 within 20 working days (only one payment can be made a year). If we weren't aware that you were affected, you will need to make a claim by phone on 0800 052 0130 or in writing within three months of the second occasion.**

Fitting meters

We aim to fit your meter within three months of receiving your application.

If we are able to fit a meter but we don't, and the circumstances are within our control, we will give you £20 per month or part thereof within 10 working days of installation or we will apply an Assessed Measured Charge up to the date of installation.

Your wastewater

Internal sewage flooding

If you have suffered internal sewage flooding from our sewers (when sewage enters a building or your home or integral garage).

We will give you a payment equivalent to your annual sewerage bill (a minimum of £150 and a maximum of £1,000 per incident) within 20 working days. In addition to this payment, if your home has been flooded internally by one of our sewers you will also automatically receive £100 goodwill payment for the disturbance the sewage flooding has caused.

External sewage flooding

If sewage enters your land or property preventing you from accessing your home; causes your garden to be extensively flooded, effectively leading to its destruction; or your outbuildings/non-integral garages being flooded from our sewers. **We will give you a payment equivalent to half of your annual sewerage bill (a minimum of £75 and a maximum of £500 per incident) within 20 working days.**

If our asset has been affected by 3rd party flows e.g. rivers/culverts the above payments may not be applicable.

Your service

Appointments

If we need to offer you an appointment, it will either be morning (8am-12pm) or afternoon (12pm-6pm) from Monday to Friday, or from 8am-12pm on Saturdays. If you ask us, we can offer a two hour appointment slot. **If we miss an appointment, or don't give 24 hours' notice to cancel or change it, we will give you £20 within 10 working days.**

Complaints & queries

If you write or telephone with a complaint about our service or with a query about your bill we will aim to reply to you within five working days of receiving it. **If we don't respond within 10 working days, we will give customers £20 within 10 working days.**

Payment arrangement

If you write to change your payment arrangement or frequency, we will respond within five working days of receiving your request. **If we don't do this, we will give you £20 within 10 working days.**

Charges & refunds

You can see how we calculate our water and sewerage charges online at dwrwymru.com/advice

If you think we've calculated your bill incorrectly, please contact us and we will investigate it.

Other matters

Incorrect summons or judgments

If we incorrectly issue a county court claim against you for a debt for which you are not liable and for which you have previously informed us that you are not liable, we will correct the situation and withdraw the fees and costs. **If we have done this, we will give you £100. If you owe us over six weeks' charges on your water/sewerage bill, we will credit your account.**

Credit references

If we incorrectly register a default against you with a credit reference agency we will correct the situation. **If we have done this, we will give you £100. If you owe us over six weeks' charges on your water/sewerage bill, we will credit your account.**

Penalty payments

If we fail to make any of these payments within the stated time, then we will automatically give you a penalty payment. **We will give household customers £20 and business customers £50.**

Are you a landlord?

If you let out a property where services are supplied by us, there are Welsh Government regulations that apply to you.

You must:

- Tell us about a change of tenancy at any of your properties within 21 days of the change
- Provide tenancy details including full name, address, date of birth (where you hold it) and the dates any new tenants have been occupying the property.

You can give us this information:

- Through our website dwrwymru.com
- Online at landlordtap.com
- By calling us on **0800 052 5842**

If you don't let us know these details, you could become responsible for charges.

How we use your personal data

We know how important it is to you that we look after your personal data. We are committed to handling your personal data in a responsible and honest and transparent way, and in a way which respects your data protection rights.

Most of our processing of your personal data is necessary for the performance of one of our legal obligations or statutory entitlements as a statutory water and sewerage undertaker (e.g. supplying clean water; removing waste water; managing our network; encouraging water efficiency; raising and collecting our charges; reducing debt; and our duty to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of our employees).

Where our processing is not necessary to comply with a legal obligation/statutory entitlement we generally rely on our legitimate interests to run our business efficiently and improve our services (e.g. carrying out customer satisfaction surveys and ways in which you can increase water efficiency). You have a right to object to processing carried out on the basis of legitimate interests, based on your particular circumstances. This is not an absolute right, and we will consider your circumstances on a case by case basis, and whether our legitimate grounds for processing are compelling enough to override your right to object.

In limited circumstances we require consent from you to process your personal data. In these circumstances we will ensure we get your explicit consent and tell you how you can withdraw your consent if you change your mind.

In some circumstances we may rely on substantial public interest to use your personal data to protect you from harm or safeguard your interests (where we think that we need to, or where you tell us that you need assistance) by registering you on our Priority Services Register (PSR). This enables us to provide you with the support you need and so that we can ensure you receive priority assistance in the event of an interruption to your supply or other operational emergency.

Including your personal data on our PSR also means that we may share your personal data with organisations in your area whose role also involves keeping you safe or safeguarding your interests, such as other utility providers, emergency services, local authorities and health services so that they can also help you during an emergency. We may add you to the PSR because another organisation has let us know about your additional needs.

We rely on the Digital Economy Act 2017 to receive personal data of customers from local authorities who are likely to be in water poverty so that we can automatically add you to our social tariffs (and provide you with access to any of our other financial assistance schemes). We also collect this information directly from customers

We collect, hold, use and share your personal data for a number of reasons. These are just a few of the reasons given in the privacy notice:

- Administering your account, collecting payments and recovering outstanding amounts due to us (which may involve consulting your records held at credit reference agencies and sharing your data with credit reference agencies about your accounts regardless of their payment status (i.e. both accounts in arrears and which are up to date). Improving our services to you (e.g. customer satisfaction surveys), and enabling us to provide you with a service to meet your needs;
- Complying with our regulatory requirements, such as reporting to Ofwat or providing information that Ofwat requires;
- Collecting your details directly from you or a third party (e.g. credit reference agencies, landlords, Landlord Top Limited, government departments, local authorities, other utilities or organisations in your area);
- Sharing your personal data with law enforcement agencies to help prevent and detect crime; government departments, local authorities and regulators for the exercise of their functions or where we are legally required to do so; with Landlord Top Limited, if you are a tenant or a landlord, for the purposes of all billing requirements including debt collection, tracing and enforcement (where appropriate).

Where we engage a third party to assist us with, or carry out our activities on our behalf, and/or to improve our services to you, we will agree appropriate controls in these circumstances.

If we, or our trusted partners handle your personal data outside the EEA, we will put in place appropriate safeguards.

For more information on this please see our Privacy Notice - How we use your Personal Data, and our "Data sharing and trace searches with Credit Reference Agencies" both are available at this link: ([corporate.dwrcymru.com/en/legal-privacy/data-protection](https://www.dwr.gov.uk/en/legal-privacy/data-protection)) and the Credit Reference Information Notice available at this link ([experian.co.uk/crain](https://www.experian.co.uk/crain)). Further information is also available on our website;

Data subject rights requests

You have certain rights in relation to your personal data and can make Data Subject Rights Requests in relation to the personal data we hold on you (e.g. request access to your personal data; request erasure of your personal data). If you would like to make a Data Subject Rights Request please email us at: DataSubjectRightsRequest@dwrcymru.com; or write to us at: Customer Services, Data Subject Rights Request Team, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, Linea, Fartran Road, St Mellons, Cardiff, CF3 0LT.

Open water

If you are a business customer, using more than 50 million litres of water at a single site per year in our area of appointment, we will share information about you with Market Operator Services Limited (MOSL) which facilitates the Open Water Programme. You can find out more information about how MOSL uses your information at: [mosl.co.uk/privacy-policies](https://www.mosl.co.uk/privacy-policies)

How to contact us

For more information on how we use your personal data please see our 'Privacy Notice - How we use your Personal Data' leaflet which is available on our website, or call us and we can send you a copy in the post. If you want more information about our Privacy Notice or have any comments or observations about it or about the way we handle your personal data please either email us at: DataProtectionOfficer@dwrcymru.com; or write to us at: Data Protection Officer, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, Linea, Fartran Road, St Mellons, CF3 0LT.

You can also contact the Information Commissioner's Office via [ico.org.uk](https://www.ico.org.uk) or **0303 123 1113** for information, advice or to make a complaint.

Get in touch

Online at: dwrcymru.com

- Live chat
- Pay your bill
- Sign up for online billing with 'My Account'
- Change your details
- Switch to Direct Debit
- Sign up to 'In Your Area' to get up to date information on any interruption to service in your area

If you find it difficult to read online or if English isn't your first language, the Recite Me facility on our website can help you to access information more easily.

Clean water

0800 052 0130 (24 hour)

Wastewater

0800 085 3968 (24 hour)

Pay your bill

0800 028 5209

(24 hour automated payment line)

Questions about your account

0800 052 0145

(Mon-Fri 8am-6pm, Sat 9am-1pm)

Want to talk to us in Welsh?

0800 052 6058

(Mon-Fri 8am-6pm, Sat 9am-1pm)

If English or Welsh isn't your first language and you need to talk to us in another language, we've partnered with Language Line who are able to support us and our customers in more than 200 languages.

My Account

More and more people are opting for paperless billing and registering for 'My Account' online. With this online service you can: update your account details, view your bill and make payments, set up a direct debit, submit meter readings and get updates about work in your area.

Just visit dwrcymru.com/paperless.

It's really simple and quick to register, you just need your account number and an email address.

Hearing or speech difficulties

If you use a text phone you can access our Text Relay Service (via the Next Generation Text Service). This is a free service that allows you to speak or type and it's converted into text. Phone or textphone us on 18001 followed by the relevant number.

Visual difficulties

This booklet is available in large print, audio and Braille, as well as coloured background.

Bogus callers

All our staff carry an identity card. If you're in any doubt about the identity of someone who visits your home or phones you, call our helpline on **0800 281 141**.

If the person becomes in any way pushy, then call the police immediately.

Community Fund

The Community Fund is a chance for communities to boost fundraising efforts for good causes in their area. If you live in an area where work is taking place – and you're fundraising for projects to benefit the community – you could receive funding from Welsh Water up to a value of £1,000. Visit dwrcymru.com/communityfund

Latest news



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[@dwrcymru](https://twitter.com/dwrcymru)

