



Public meeting for Bognor Regis, Littlehampton & the Villages

9 April 2026

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Today's agenda

1 Welcome

2 Introduction from Alison Griffiths MP

3 Introduction from Lawrence Gosden

3 Reducing storm overflows

3 Improving bathing waters

6 Q&A

Introduction

Alison Griffiths MP

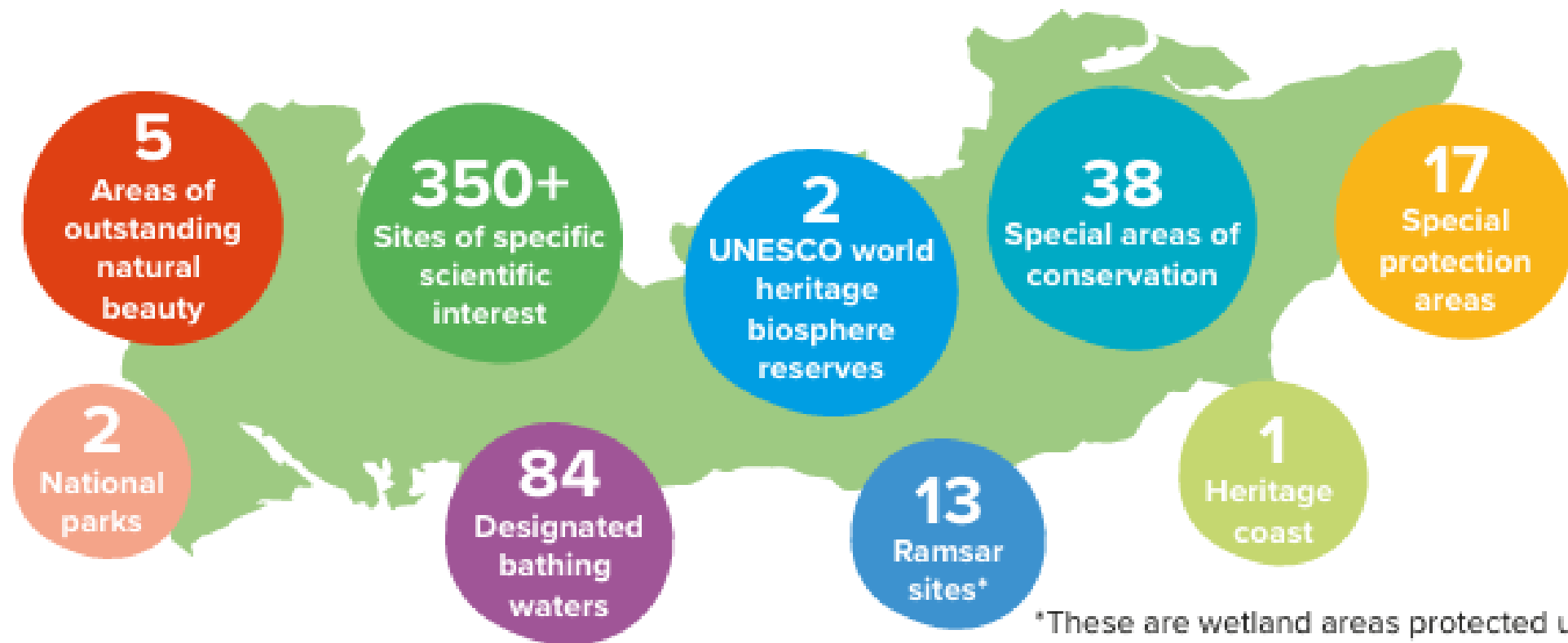
Member of Parliament for Bognor Regis
and Littlehampton



Introduction

Lawrence Gosden
Chief Executive Officer

Southern Water has 4.7 million customers who live in 2 million homes and work in 96,000 businesses across the region, which also includes...



*These are wetland areas protected under the UNESCO Ramsar Convention, 1971

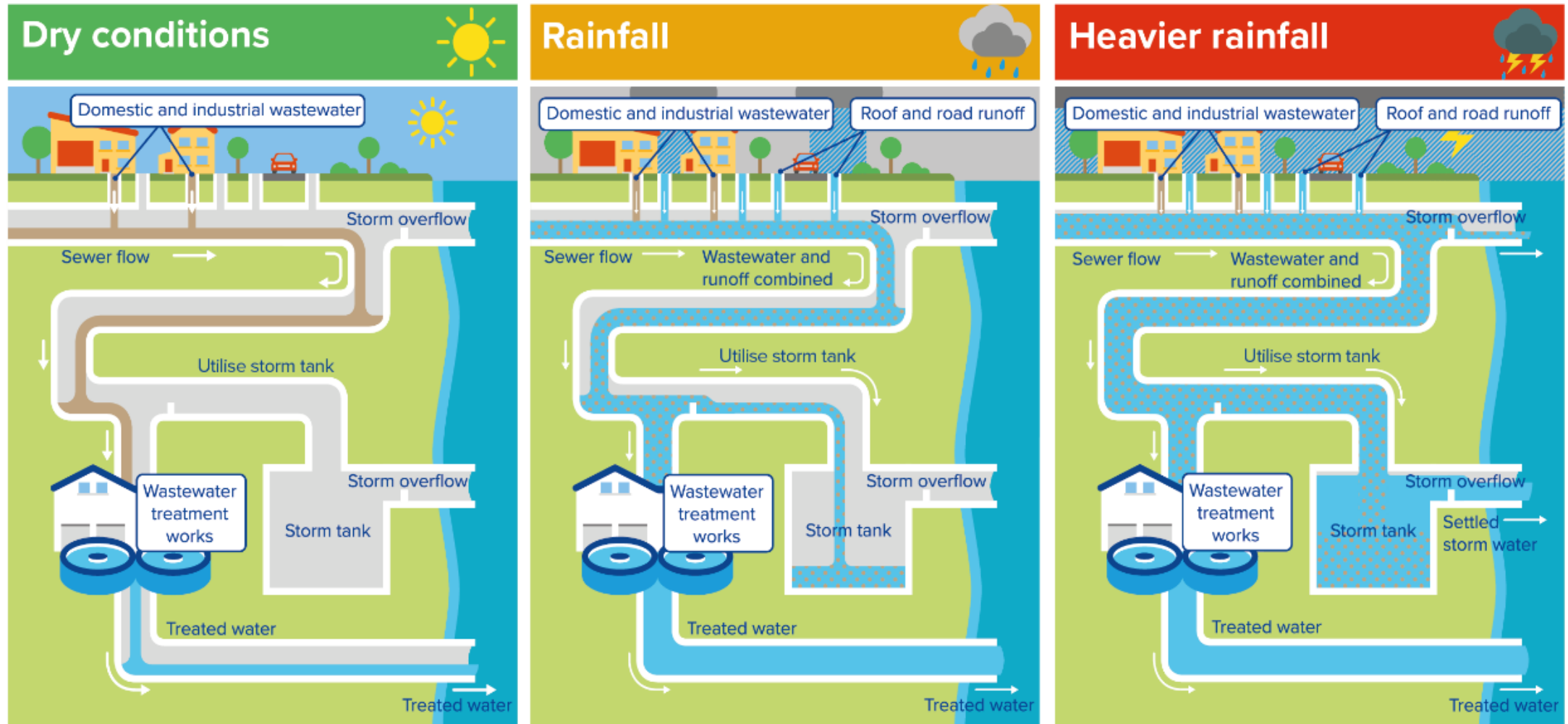
Reducing storm overflows

John Penicud

Managing Director – Wastewater



How storm overflows work





from
Southern
Water. 

We still need to reduce them



Extreme weather events



Less permeable land

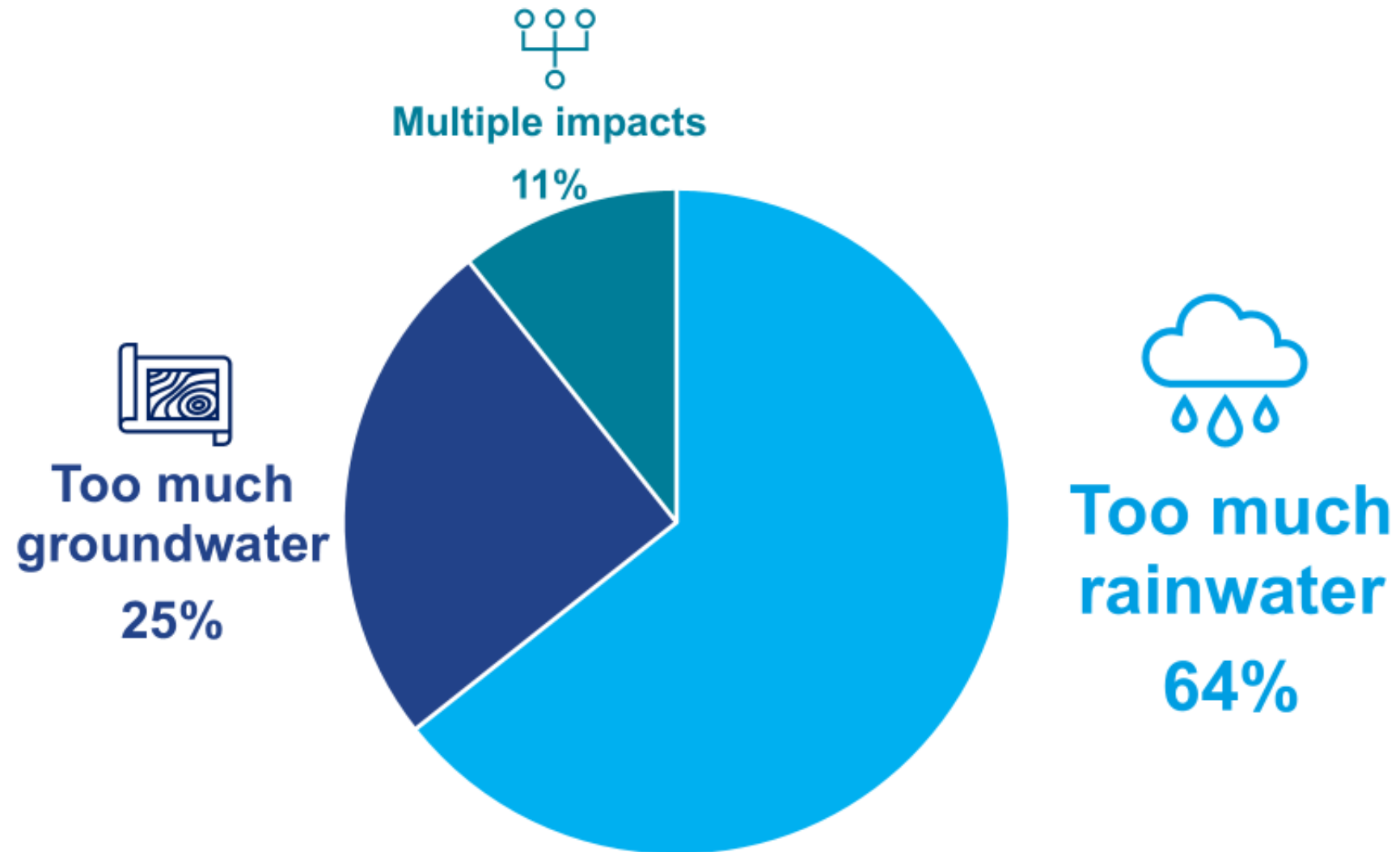


Customer feedback.



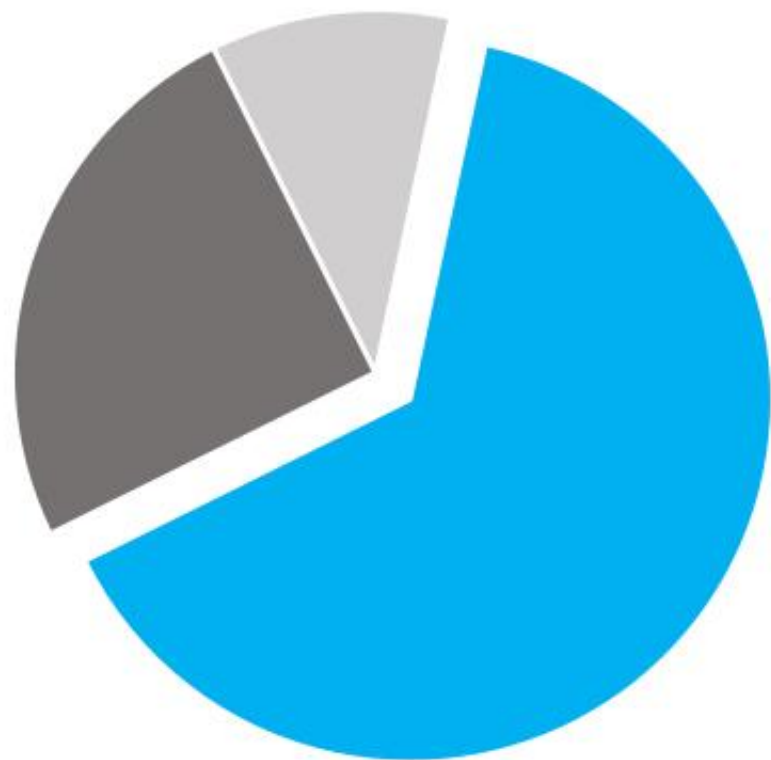
The government's Storm
Overflow Reduction Plan

Understanding the causes of storm overflows





from
Southern
Water.



Too much
rainwater

64%

Challenge 1: Too much rainwater in the system

After detailed surveying of the area, we choose the solution that will give the most effective results

- Optimising infrastructure, both our own and public assets
- Fixing surface water connections
- Installing sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) on homes
- Installing SuDS on businesses and community buildings
- Highway schemes



**WATER
for LIFE**

from
Southern
Water.



from
Southern
Water. 



Too much
groundwater
25%

Challenge 2: Groundwater getting into the sewer system

What is groundwater infiltration?



Reducing groundwater infiltration

1

Relining our pipework to prevent excess groundwater entering the sewer system.



2

Sealing private pipework to prevent excess groundwater entering the sewer system.



3

Monitoring with temperature sensors, boreholes and pipe cameras.



4

Constructing wetlands to soak up, hold and pre-treat excess water.



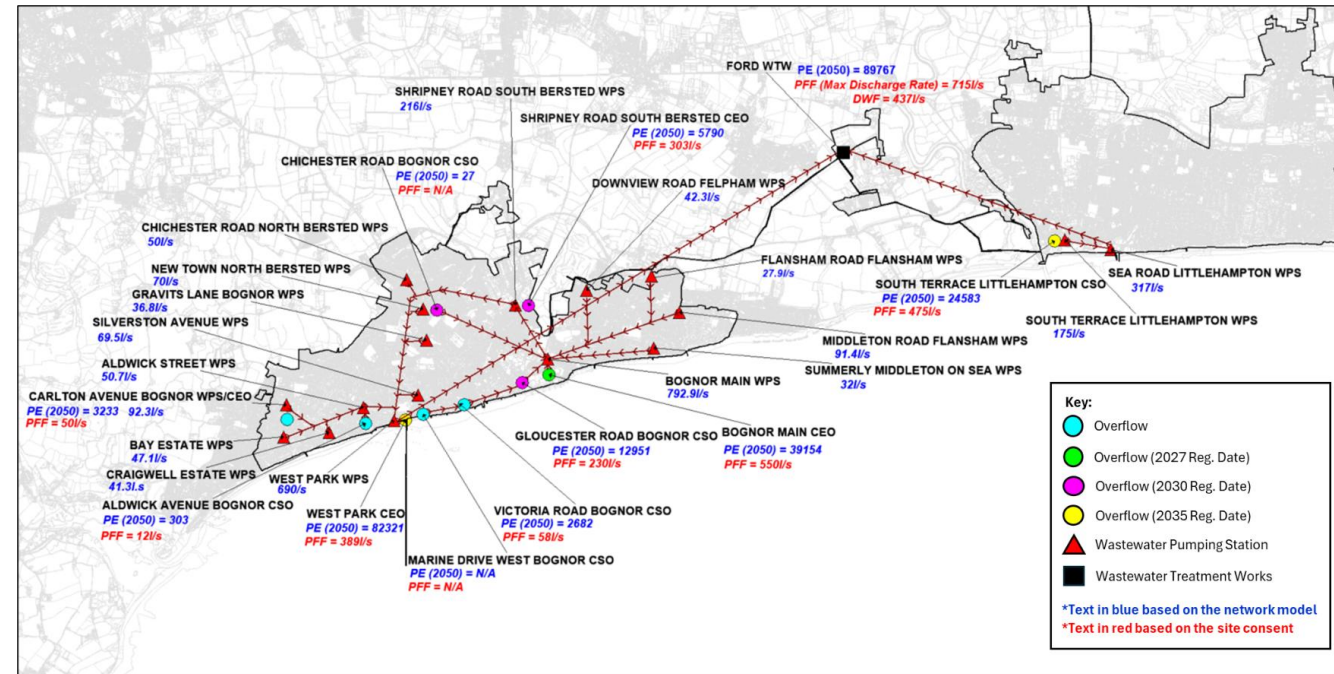
Bognor Overview and History



- Overflows in the area that we are working on:
 - Bognor Main* (2027 regulatory date)
 - Gloucester Road, Shripney Road (2030 regulatory date)
 - South Terrace Littlehampton, West Park, Lidsey WTW, Marshall Close Barnham (2035 reg date)
- Current performance – spill history and future standards

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2028	2030	2035
Bognor Main	11	6	18	30	20	10	<10*	<10*	<10*
Lidsey SSO	126	86	78	164	227	157	-	50	<10
Marshall Close	84	14	57	137	124	71	-	40	<10
Gloucester Rd	3	4	5	10	7	3	-	5	5
Shripney Rd	0	0	4	10	3	0	-	2	2
South Terrace	52	41	55	94	124	32	-	-	<10
West Park	72	37	72	135	136	62	-	-	<10

Targets are a 10-year rolling average.



* No more than 2 spills May-September for Bognor Main

What's happening in Bognor?

The problem

A large amount of impermeable area is connected to the combined sewer network, and the **surface water run-off** and **groundwater** is filling up the network, leading to **storm overflow releases**



from Southern Water.

What's happening in Bognor?



The solution

£7.4 million investment in the next year will allow us to.....

- Optimize multiple Pumping Stations
- Work on Storm Tank optimization
- Sewer Sealing in the area
- Separating Surface water gulleys
- Household separation of over 100 properties across Bognor Regis
- Separation work at Butlins
 - Currently all surface water connects to the combined sewer
 - 3 hectares worth of impermeable surface removed from the combined sewer
- Bognor Regis Train Station
- Bognor Regis Town FC
- Installation of SUDs at x3 Schools and University

What's happening in Lidsey?



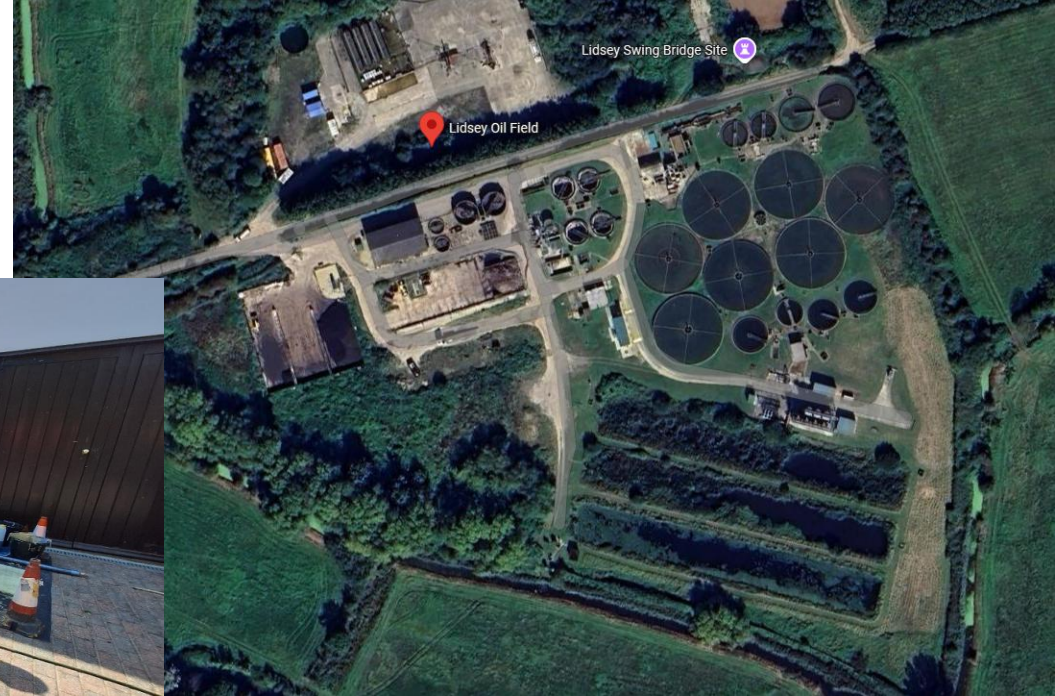
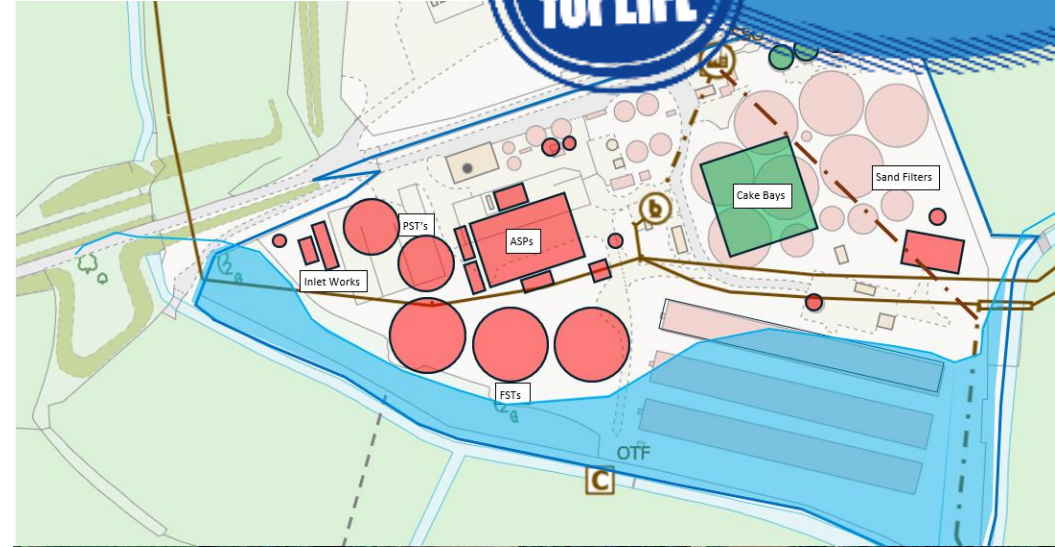
The problem

Groundwater is filling up the network, leading to storm overflow releases even in dry weather.

The solution

£50million investment over the next 4 years to.

- Significantly increase the size of the Lidsey Wastewater Treatment works from 129l/s to 278l/s.
 - Sept 2026 Enabling works
 - Jan 2027 – Construction start on site
 - Jul 2029 – New works commissioned
- Sewer sealing works
 - Already underway in Barnham



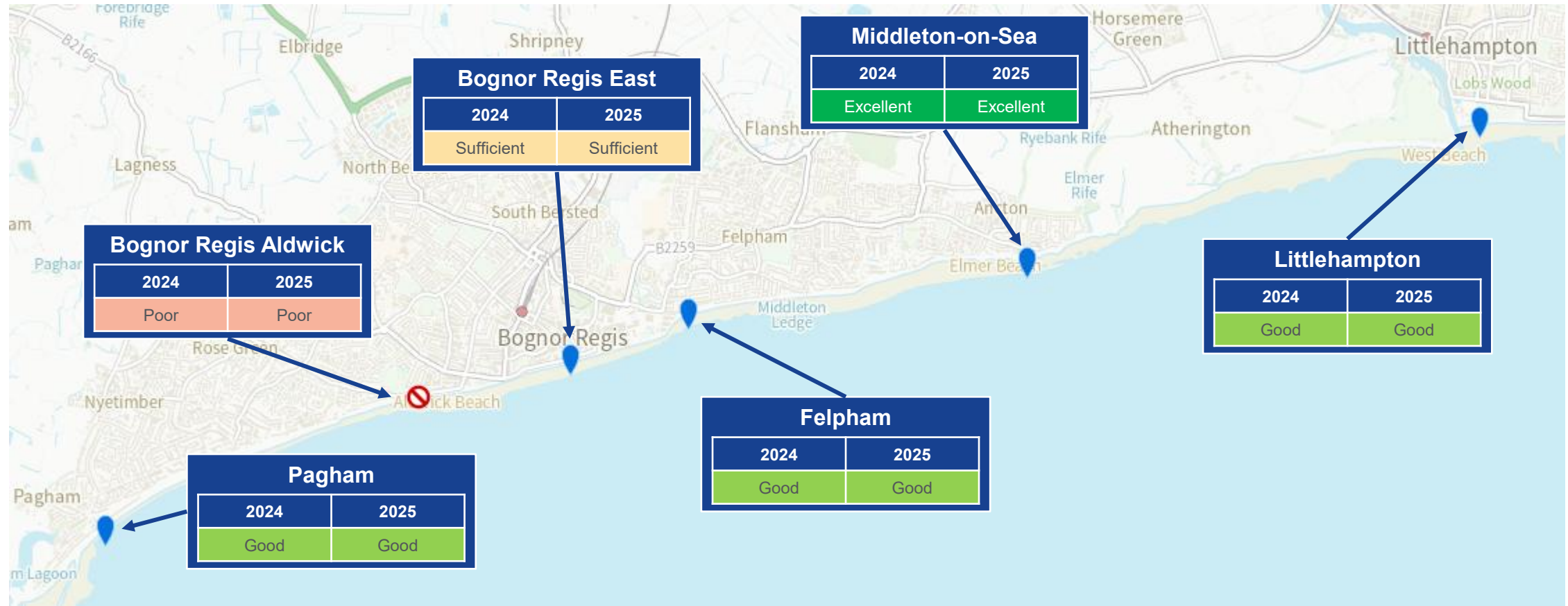
Improving bathing waters

Phil Cresswell-Nash

Bathing Water Partnership Manager



Classifications



Bognor Aldwick has seen a 90% improvement of high (95%ile) concentration samples since 2022

What can impact bathing water quality?

There are a variety of issues which have the potential to impact water quality. For us, these include:

- Leaking assets
- Blockages
- Illegal connections
- Storm overflow releases.

Other sources of pollution **outside of our control** include:

- Road, farming and industrial surface water run-off
- Waste from other water and beach users
- Seabirds also have an impact.

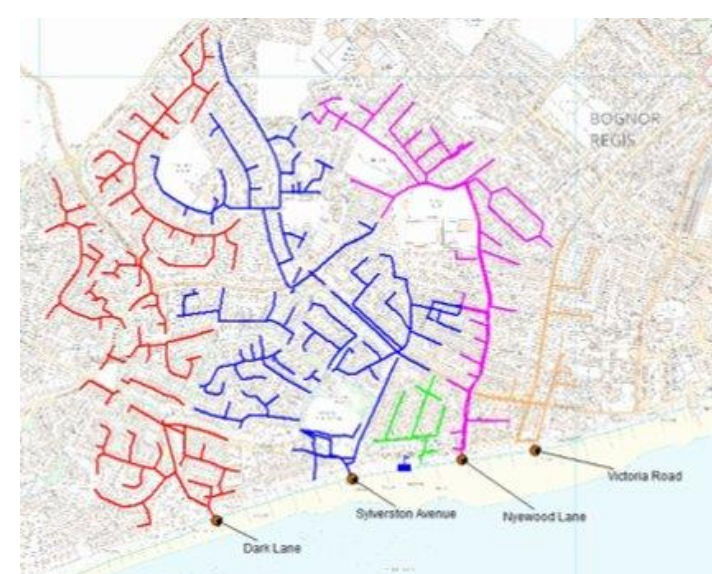


Our approach

- Improvement plans developed, focusing on areas of concern
- Find and resolve the source of pollution locally
- 5 sub-catchments investigated
- 106 surface water manholes inspected
- 184 samples collected from Inland and coastal locations
- Updates shared at Partnership and community groups

Improvements include

- Year-on-year surface water quality improvements—reduction in contaminations from outfalls
- 21 illegally connected properties resolved
- 4 Defective Sewers fixed in Nelson Rd, Pevensey Rd and Dark Lane.
- Drainage concerns addressed at Chipley Court
- Bognor Pier: defective pipework found and escalated



Next steps

- Continued investigations in Bognor Aldwick
- Bathing Water Community engagement
- Investigations begin in Bognor Regis East
- Shadow sampling along Bognor Aldwick coastline and inland watercourse
- Bognor Regis Pier checks continue

Partnerships

- Yellow Fish Campaign – Bognor Aldwick:** Delivered across 41 drains with 20 coastal signs installed between April and December 2026. The campaign generated **846 QR-code scans**, helped reduce overnight van and camper-van parking, and showed strong community engagement. **Next step:** exploring a permanent drain marker due to the project's success.
- Community Group Formation:** Set up a local community group to share regular updates, create a space for dialogue, and offer residents opportunities to meet the team and ask questions.
- Boating Education Pilot:** Developed a new boating-focused flyer, with Bognor selected as the pilot location. The material supports boat users with guidance on safe blackwater disposal and explains the work underway to protect and improve local bathing waters.



Q&A

