

Anglian Water Update

November 2022



We're future-proofing your water supply

To make the East of England resilient to the risks of drought and to secure water supplies for future generations.

A new water pipeline in your area

We're building a new network of water mains across our region to help prevent water shortages. The new network will be hundreds of kilometres long and will make sure our region is resilient to the risks of drought by allowing us to move water more freely around the region.

In March 2021, we shared the route for a new 70km clean drinking water pipeline and we now want to provide you with a further update, as our pre-construction work is due to begin soon.

The new pipeline will increase reliability of supply for communities in the area and reduce the number of homes and businesses which currently rely on a single pipeline for all their water needs. It will ensure we can continue to meet demand from population growth in the area, and to replace the supply from local ground water sources, which are subject to environmental restrictions from December 2024.

The preferred pipeline route

The pipeline will run north to south, linking the existing reservoirs at Bexwell, near Downham Market in Norfolk, and Rede, to the south of Bury St Edmunds.

There will be three new pipeline 'spurs' which will connect into infrastructure at the Isleham and Gazeley water treatment works and the Woodditton water tower.



In addition to the underground pipeline, we will be constructing several new above ground structures: this will include four pumping stations and one water storage tank. This pipeline will eventually join up with other new pipelines within the region – all of which are at various stages of the planning process.

We have worked closely with landowners and have listened to our customers and stakeholders to confirm our route and will continue to do so.

Please see the map in this newsletter, or alternatively, to view an interactive map of the route or visit our dedicated webpages at anglianwater.co.uk/spa

What have we done so far?

In March 2021 we held a virtual engagement event and sent out a newsletter to introduce the scheme and route to all communities impacted along the proposed pipeline.

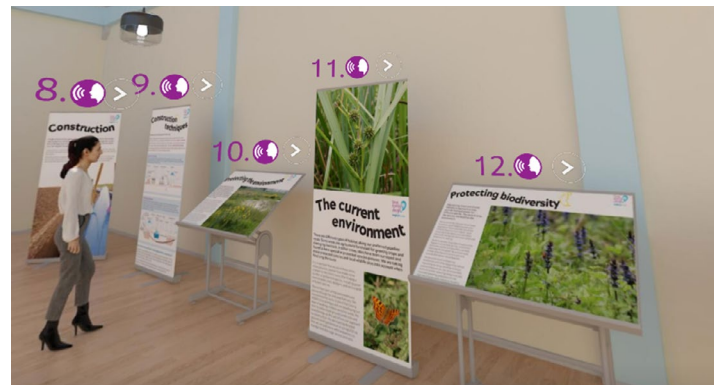
We submitted a planning application, accompanied by an Environmental Statement (ES), in August 2021. The ES sets out the results of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which was undertaken to understand the potential significant environmental effects of our work and how we plan to avoid, reduce, and mitigate them. This has been reviewed by the planning authorities and they are expected to determine the application in the coming weeks.

What's next?

We'll be starting preparation work along the route of the pipeline so that the main work of laying water pipes can begin. This is known as 'enabling' or 'pre-construction' work and includes setting up compounds where staff and equipment will be based and creating access for our teams to work. The work will include the removal of some sections of hedgerows and soil.

We will also be putting up fencing and signage and making sure we protect electricity cables and gas pipes. You may see some temporary traffic management systems where we'll be laying the pipe under the roads. These activities will take place along the whole of the route.

The main construction works which include enabling and pipelaying are expected to start in winter 2022.

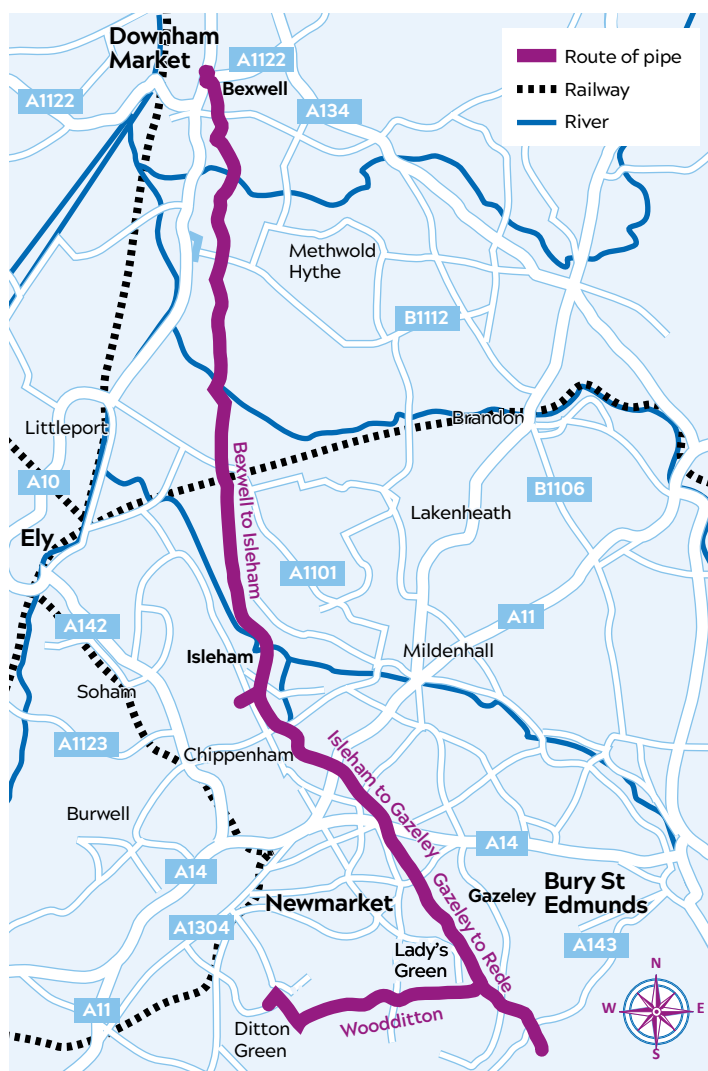


Our online virtual engagement event, 2021



Phase of work	Types of activity	Approximate timetable
Engaging with customers and stakeholders about the preferred route	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sharing the route, listening to feedback	Ongoing since 2020
Environmental investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Archaeological surveys and ecological monitoring	Ongoing
Ground investigations and archaeological trial pits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Digging trenches and boreholes to understand conditions below the surface	In progress and ongoing
Planning application	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Submission of planning application for the proposed works	Submitted August 2021, application being considered by local planning authorities
Enabling works (pre-construction)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ecological protection for legally protected speciesSome vegetation removal to aid site access	Winter 2022 until winter 2023
Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Site compounds set-upPipeline installation (methods described below)	Winter 2022 until summer 2024
Commissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cleaning the pipeline and connecting to the network	From 2024
Reinstatement after installation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Restoration of access routes and fencingReinstatement of road surfacesReinstatement of drainageReplacement of vegetationReplacement of topsoil	Ongoing reinstatement alongside construction and commissioning from 2022

** Please note that these dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances



Indicative map of the route from Bexwell to Bury St Edmunds

Construction

The pipeline route will be broken down into four sections which are as follows:

- Gazeley to Rede: we'll work north from Rede up to Gazeley
- Isleham to Gazeley: we'll work south from Isleham to Gazeley
- Bexwell to Isleham: we'll work south from Bexwell to Isleham

We will contact parish councils on each section before our work begins.

- Woodditton: we'll work west from Lady's Green to Ditton Green

To help facilitate the delivery of the Woodditton project we are bringing in an additional delivery partner. Construction for this area is now planned to begin spring 2023. If you are affected, we'll be in touch with you directly.

In the meantime, if you have any queries relating to this section, please call **03457 145 145** stating reference **60631705** or email onealliancecustomers@anglianwater.co.uk

Impact on communities

We will work hard to keep the impact on you, the communities along the route, and the environment, to a minimum.

We will do this by keeping you informed via our webpages and updating the parish councils of our progress.

For more information about our commitment to working with communities, please see our **Statement of Community Involvement**, which sets out our approach to engaging with people and organisations.

Visit our dedicated webpages to keep up to date with our work: anglianwater.co.uk/spa

If you need practical support

You can sign up for free to our **Priority Services Register**. The Priority Services Register can help a wide range of people, from those with sight, hearing, or mobility difficulties, to parents with babies under 12 months old. And 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.

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

Roadworks

To allow our teams to complete the work safely, temporary traffic management systems will be used in some areas. This will include the use of temporary two-way traffic lights and a small number of temporary road closures. If you will be impacted, we will give you prior notice of these works, informing you of the dates and times you will be affected.

Further details about this work are available on Anglian Water's In Your Area pages: inyourarea.digdat.co.uk/AnglianWater

Site compound and laydown areas

There will be one main compound along the route. The location will be announced via our webpages in the next few weeks.

It will include offices and welfare facilities, storage for materials, fuel, construction materials, waste containers, plant/equipment and car parking as required.

Temporary construction lighting will be required at main compounds, to be used at the start and end of the day during the winter months. If night-time working is required at specific locations, additional temporary lighting may be used at those locations for limited periods of time.

There will be some smaller areas, known as satellite compounds and laydown areas, which will be used to store sections of pipe and other construction materials and equipment which may include welfare cabins. These have been strategically placed along the route.

All of our compounds and laydown areas will have secure perimeter fences and working sites will have some security or safety lighting which will be used as required. Construction access will generally be from locations agreed with the local highways authority, where the route crosses public roads, and then along the working width.

Removal of some vegetation

Sections of hedgerows, including some trees, will be removed to allow access. As far as possible, the sections of hedgerows we remove will be replaced.

We have assessed and will mitigate our impact on the environment, farming, people and communities wherever possible.

Construction techniques

As you can imagine, there is a lot of work involved in installing a new 70km pipeline. We will continue to work with the local authorities, parish councils, landowners, and all contractors to deliver the scheme with as minimal disruption as possible.

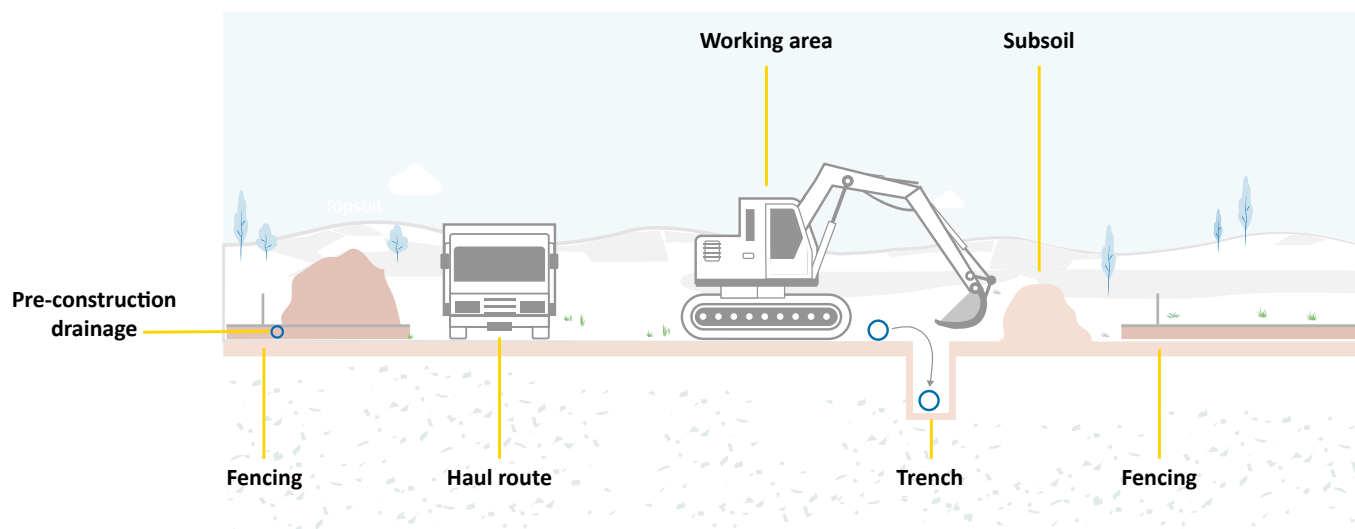
We are always looking at better, more efficient ways to deliver this complex programme of works and how to cause less impact to our landowners and communities.

Our working area will generally be 40 metres wide, but this will be slightly narrower for crossing hedgerows, tree lines and watercourses.

Prior to the works commencing, we will initially strip the topsoil (approximately 40 metres wide) and it is anticipated that this will be reinstated in 2024. The pipe that we will be laying on this route is an approximately 700mm diameter pipe to a minimum depth of 900mm.

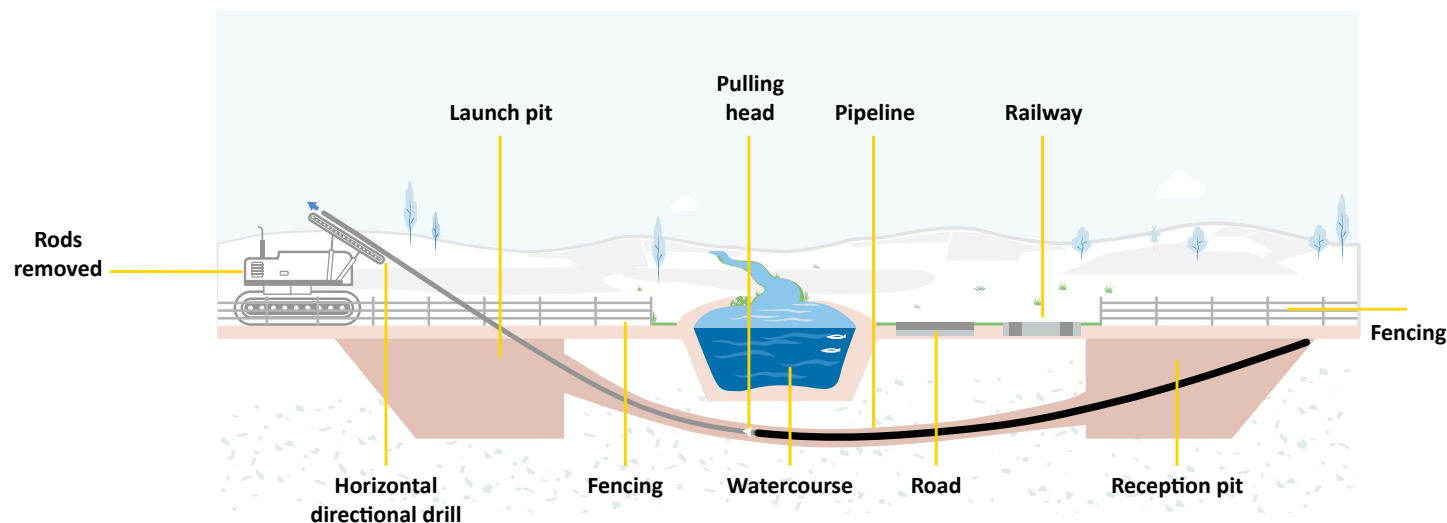
Techniques we will use

Open cut trenches



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.

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 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.

Improving water supplies across the region

This is one of the biggest infrastructure programmes for a generation. We need to act fast to combat environmental and supply restrictions to our region.

The new pipelines will help us move water more freely around the region, so that we are able to divert it from areas of water surplus in North Lincolnshire to the south and east of the region, where it isn't as readily available.

We are building the pipeline in separate phases so will be able to strengthen local resilience and reduce the number of homes and businesses which rely on a single water source.

Our challenges

We are facing four interlinked challenges to water supplies in East Anglia. 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

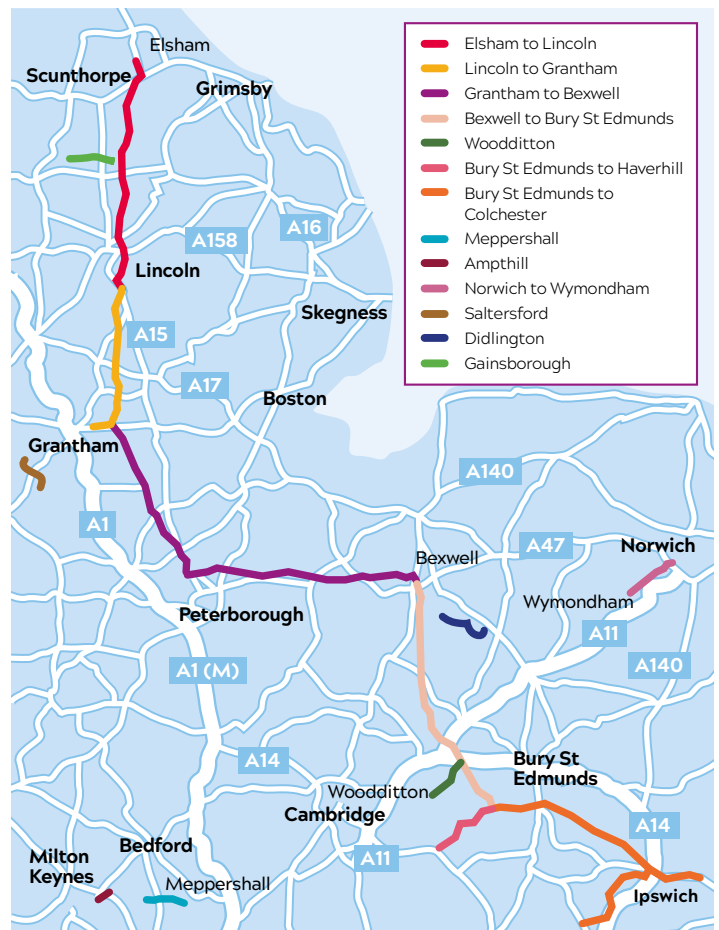
We will be taking less water from the environment, such as rivers and boreholes. We aim to reduce the amount we take by 84 million litres a day.

Population growth

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

Drought

We are in a period of drought at the moment. Our work is crucial in addressing the predicted future imbalance where demand for water greatly outstrips the available resources in the East of England.



Indicative map showing the route of all our interconnecting pipelines



Any questions?

Please visit our dedicated webpages, anglianwater.co.uk/spa

Call us on **03457 145145** stating reference number **57182448**

Email us at StrategicPipelines@anglianwater.co.uk

Woodditton scheme only – please state reference **60631705** or email us at onealliancecustomers@anglianwater.co.uk

Alternatively, you can write to us at **Strategic Pipeline Alliance, Anglian Water, 3rd Floor, Worldwide House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough, Cambridge, PE3 6SB.**