

DRAINAGE AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

ANNUAL PROGRESS
REPORT JAN 2026



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Welcome to our first Annual Progress Report for our Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP). This report explains what we're aiming to do, how we're doing it, and the progress we've made so far.

We supply fresh, clean drinking water and take away wastewater from homes, businesses, roads and public spaces. This water travels through pipes, pumping stations and to 50 treatment works, where we clean it and safely return it to the environment. Our DWMP explains how we look after these systems and how we plan to improve them for both people and the environment, now and in the future.

In May 2025, the Government updated the guidance for creating DWMPs. Our plan follows this new guidance and forms an important part of developing our long term 25-year strategy as well as our shorter-term business plan for 2030–2035.

Accompanying this report, we provide our annual progress report data table, which sets out where we are up to in the development of our DWMP for each of our 50 Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) catchments. Each year until we have published our Draft DWMP28 we will provide an annual update on how we are progressing through the different stages of developing our plan.

In autumn 2025, we ran online sessions to involve our partners and local groups in the early development of our next plan, DWMP28, which will be published in 2028. Before these sessions, we shared a draft of our Strategic Context document and a short questionnaire to ask for feedback. We received helpful comments, and these have been incorporated into an updated Strategic Context document published alongside this report.

As we move through 2026, we're holding planning sessions to make sure the development of DWMP28 gets off to a strong start.

For the latest updates you can visit our [website](#) or email us at DWMP@hdcymru.co.uk

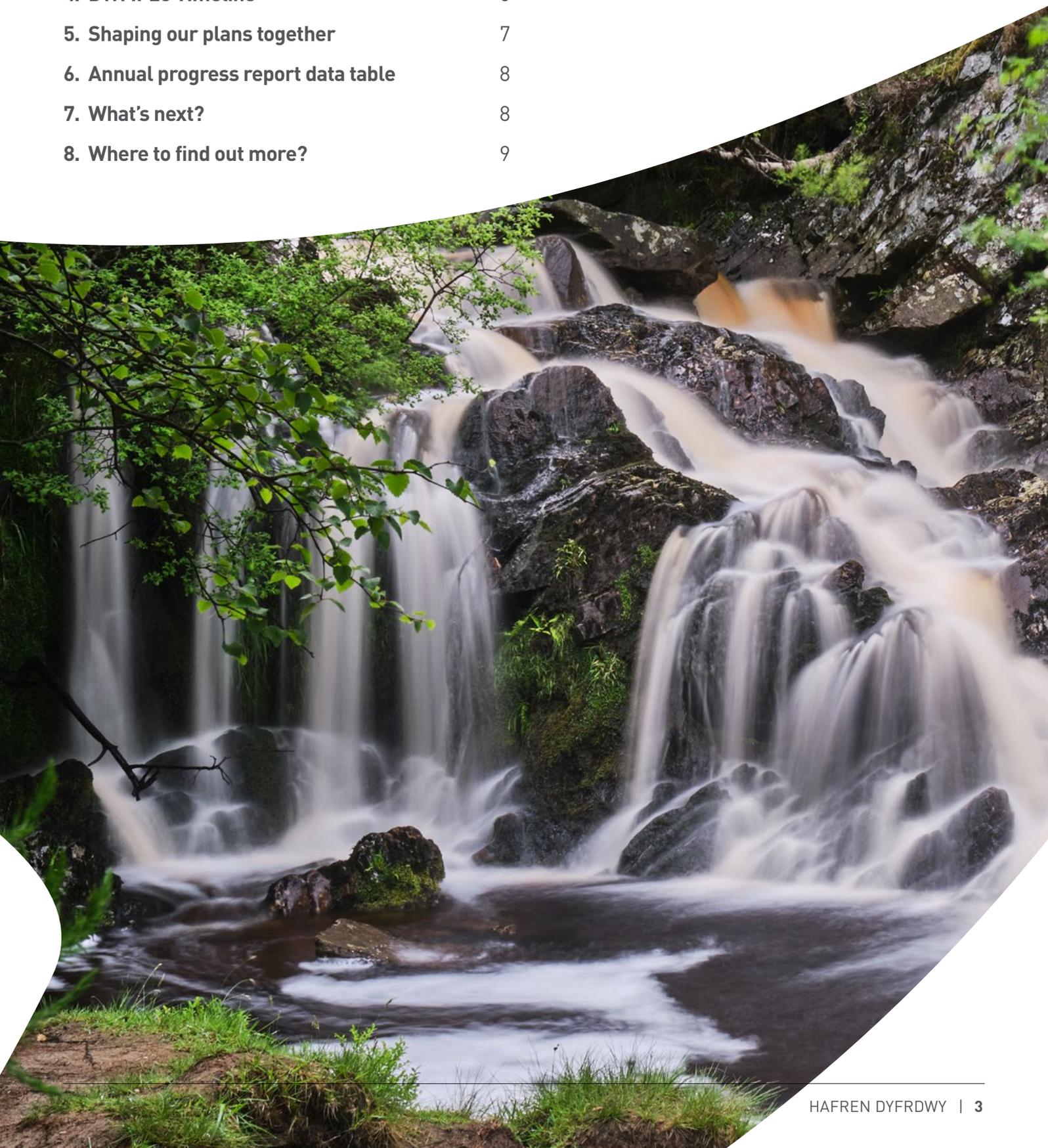


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1 Introduction

Our 2026 Annual Progress Report explains what we've been doing to look after the pipes and systems that take away and clean the water you use at home. Every water company has to make a plan for how they will keep these systems working well and protect the environment now and in the future.

In this report, we share what we've done so far and how we're working with local people and organisations to make good decisions for the future. You'll also see how this work fits into our bigger plans for the years ahead.

If you want more detail, you can look at our annual progress report data table, which shows the full set of information behind this report.

2 Our commitment for 2026 and beyond

We're proud to look after communities across Powys. Every day, we work hard to provide great services while also protecting people, wildlife, and the environment. Our Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP) has one main aim: to make sure wastewater is collected and cleaned safely – now and in the future. This is important for our customers, local communities, and the natural places we all enjoy.

What we're focusing on

We have four key priorities:

- **Protecting the environment** – We're working to make our rivers and natural areas healthier and stronger for the future
- **Keeping everything working well** – From pipes to pumping stations, we check and maintain our systems so they work reliably
- **Planning ahead** – As our region grows and we face additional challenges like climate change, we're investing to make sure our sewers and treatment works can cope with future flows
- **Considering nature-based solutions** – In planning solutions to address risks across our networks, we want to consider how we can invest in greener nature-based solutions to bring wider benefits.



3 What is our DWMP?

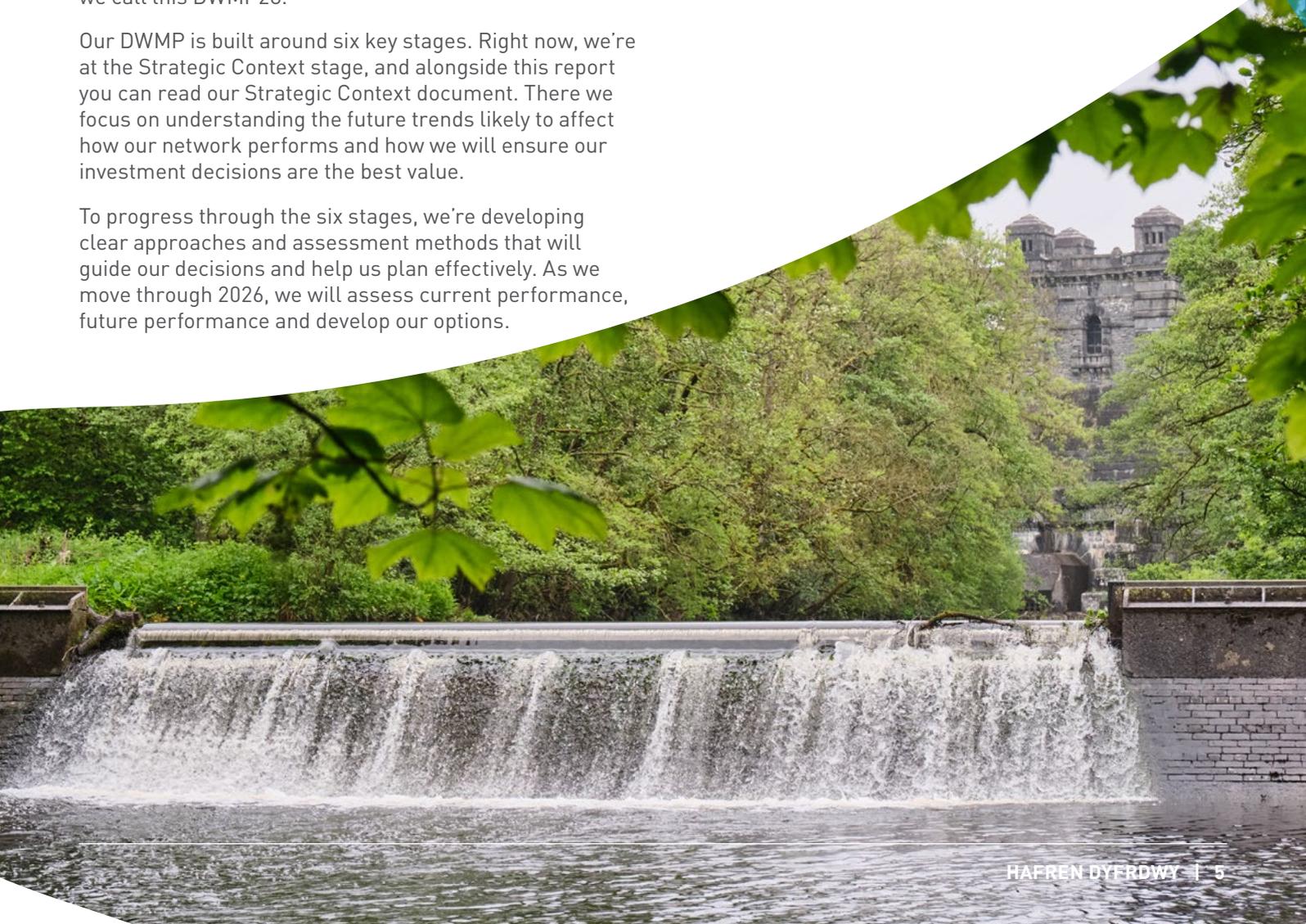
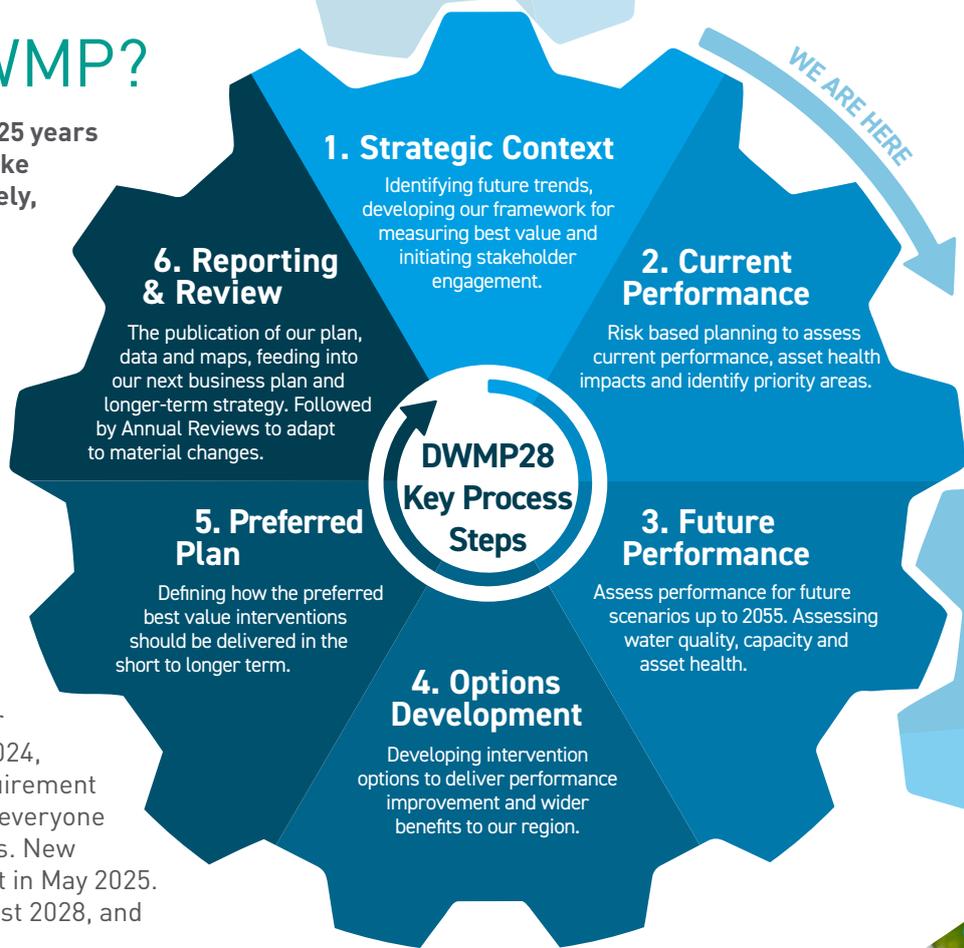
Our DWMP is a long-term plan that looks 25 years into the future. It explains how we will make sure we collect and clean wastewater safely, now and as our communities grow. This work is important for our customers, local communities, and the environment.

To make this happen, we need to look after the key parts of our network. This includes the pipes, pumps and treatment works that keep everything moving. We also need to make sure the system is resilient and has enough space to cope with more development and climate change impacts in the years ahead. At the same time, we want to protect – and wherever we can, improve – our rivers and natural habitats.

We published our first DWMP in 2023. This helped shape the plans we use to guide our work in the years to come. In September 2024, the Government made DWMPs a legal requirement for all sewerage companies, which means everyone must now update their plan every five years. New guidance was published by the Government in May 2025. Our next full plan will be published in August 2028, and we call this DWMP28.

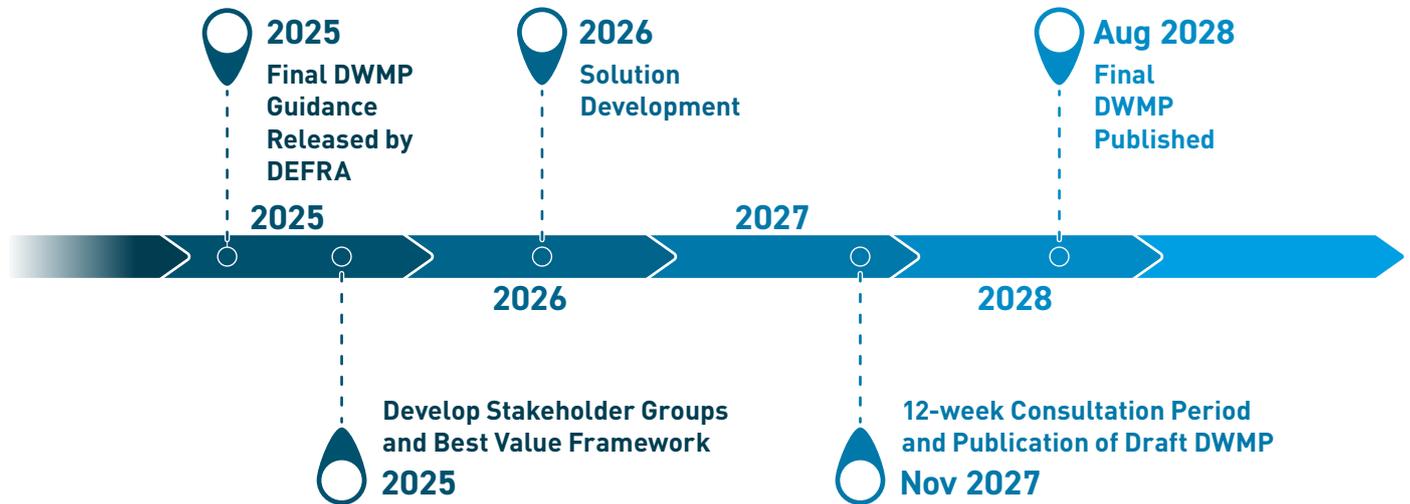
Our DWMP is built around six key stages. Right now, we're at the Strategic Context stage, and alongside this report you can read our Strategic Context document. There we focus on understanding the future trends likely to affect how our network performs and how we will ensure our investment decisions are the best value.

To progress through the six stages, we're developing clear approaches and assessment methods that will guide our decisions and help us plan effectively. As we move through 2026, we will assess current performance, future performance and develop our options.



4 DWMP28 Timeline

DWMP28 provides the evidence base to inform our 2030-2035 business planning process (known as PR29) which we expect to submit in Autumn 2028. To get there we will follow the timeline and Action Plan set out below.



2025

- Stakeholder Engagement - Setting up Strategic Planning Groups
- Develop Best-Value Framework
- Developing Tools and Approach

2026

- Publish our Strategic Context
- Risks and Scenario Modelling
- Option Development
- Solution Development

2027

- Best Value and Adaptive Scenario
- Plan Development
- Publish Draft DWMP28
- 12 Week Stakeholder Consultation

2028

- Final Plan Development
- Publish DWMP 28



5 Shaping our plans together

We want to make sure that everyone has the chance to be involved in shaping DWMP28. To do this we're setting up different stakeholder groups, each focussing on a different level of detail, so the right people can feed into the right parts of the plan. You can also access our mapping portal on our DWMP28 website to see the catchment boundary maps to identify the areas that interest you.

Level 1 – Company Level Strategic Planning Group (x1)

This group looks at the big picture. They help us think about what really matters for the whole Hafren Dyfrdwy area and guide the overall strategic direction of our plan. We held our first meeting of this group at the end of 2025 and are planning on meeting every three months going forward.

Level 2 – Regional Planning Groups (x2*)

Our area is split into 2 Regional River Basin Management Areas. This allows us to better align to other regional planning groups across our area. We will hold Level 2 Regional Planning Group meetings and workshops to provide a forum for collaboration between us, Powys local planning authority, environmental stakeholders and other risk management authorities. These groups will allow for more detailed discussions about specific risks and opportunities for working together to deliver improvements. *Whilst there are 3 river basin management district areas within Hafren Dyfrdwy, we have no wastewater services in one of these known as the Tern, so we will not focus on this area.

Level 3 – Wastewater Treatment Works Catchments (x50)

These catchments include the area of our sewered network that drains into each Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW). Whilst there won't be formal groups at this level, you will be able to find more detailed information on progress against understanding risks and options at a catchment level in our supporting annual progress report data table. As we progress through the development of our plan, we will publish our results for each WwTW.

Level 4 – Neighbourhood Sub-catchments

We are developing an approach to break down each Level 3 WwTW catchment into smaller Level 4 Neighbourhood scale sub-catchments. This will help us understand where in a catchment risks are greatest and help identify potential areas where other partners also have priorities. There will be many sub-catchments that will help to build up the detail of our plan in the background.



6 Annual progress report data table

Alongside this report we have a data table which sets out for each of the 50 Level 3 wastewater treatment catchments how we are progressing in our assessments. It matches the Level 3 catchment boundaries to the associated Level 2 regional planning group and county area.

For each catchment, we share the estimated population served by each wastewater treatment works (WwTW) in 2025 and the estimated population increase to 2055 based on Office for National Statistics projections. This gives an indication of the population increase we may expect using a proportional increase relating to Wales as a whole. To refine this to understand growth at a more local scale, we are working directly with Powys Council to obtain the latest data on where new development is planned to support us in more detailed assessments of the potential impact of growth.

We are planning to undertake a detailed study for all our Level 3 catchments. This will include a combination of hydraulic modelling to understand the capacity of our system and statistical performance modelling. We have identified which catchments have planned detailed water quality investigations over the next few years, and we will continue to review our other catchments to progress water quality investigations where required.

Over the coming months we are working through the assessment of current and future performance for each of our Level 3 catchments. We will assess each catchment against a range of Performance Indicators (see our Strategic Context document for more detail on these). As we move into summer 2026, we will use the outputs from our assessments to work with our partners to develop options to address current and future risks.

7 What's next?

As we move into 2026, we'll be taking a close look at our information to help us spot any problems early. This will help us plan for different future situations and make good decisions about how to look after our wastewater systems.

While we do this, we'll keep working closely with our partners and local groups. We'll listen to their ideas and make sure their views help shape our plans for the future.

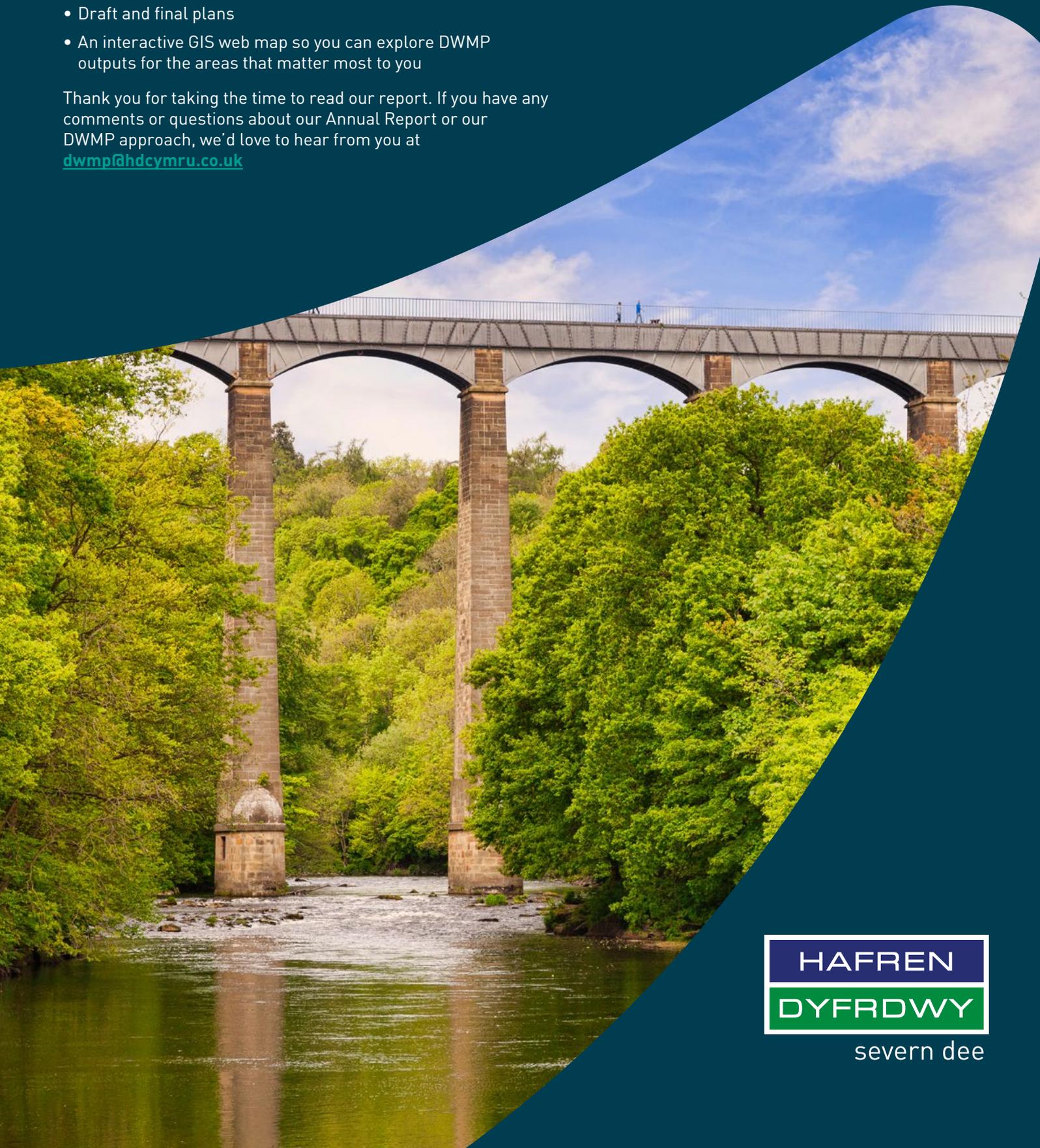


⑧ Where to find out more?

Keep up to date by visiting our [DWMP28 website](#) . Our website will be your go-to place for updates as we progress through the DWMP28 journey. You'll find:

- Regular newsletters
- Annual progress reports
- Draft and final plans
- An interactive GIS web map so you can explore DWMP outputs for the areas that matter most to you

Thank you for taking the time to read our report. If you have any comments or questions about our Annual Report or our DWMP approach, we'd love to hear from you at dwmp@hdcymru.co.uk



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