

Yorkshire Water NAG AGM

18/3/26

Clare Beasant – River Health Improvement Manager

Miles Cameron – Manager of Strategic Partnerships (Bathing Water)



1. What are your organisations plans for the Nidd for the next 5 years (and beyond)?



YorkshireWater

Yorkshire Water's plan for the Nidd for the next 5 years (and beyond) – Bathing Water

Investment

- Our primary focus is to reduce the impact of our storm overflows on BW at Lido, Knaresborough and we are committing to meet the statutory 2035 Environment Act target of no more than 10 spills per year and 1 spill per season 5 years early (by 2030).
- This will be coupled with additional improvements at our treatment works, as well as catchment modelling for other targeted interventions.
- The engineering solutions at several of these assets will create additional storage plus surface water controls e.g. water butts and planters on larger buildings.
- Our ambition is for more blue/green solutions which focus on locations where we can separate surface water from the combined network.
- ~ 900 residential properties have been identified as suitable locations for the provision of water butts and planters
- Our capital partner M Group will be delivering the water butts activities.

Source Control in Town Centre and Combined Separation Around Aspin Oval

- Permeable paving, planters and rain gardens at Holy Trinity Church, permeable paving at Chapel Street car park
- Combined separation of road gullies and property drainage with new SW network incorporating underground attenuation and SuDS feature in green space off Aspin Oval, with restricted return to combined sewer
- Subject to IAS (commissioned, results pending)
- Stakeholder agreement, legal agreements and maintenance provisions required
- Listed Building Consent required for works to church buildings
- Significant impact on local roads and properties, challenge maintaining access to cul-de-sac properties
- May be possible to coordinate SuDS feature design with grey storage options in same area

YorkshireWater | Yorkshire Storm Alliance

Yorkshire Water's plan for the Nidd for the next 5 years (and beyond) – Bathing Water

Innovation

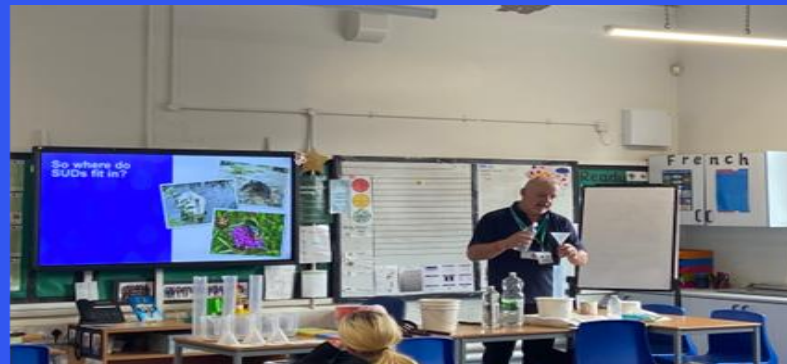
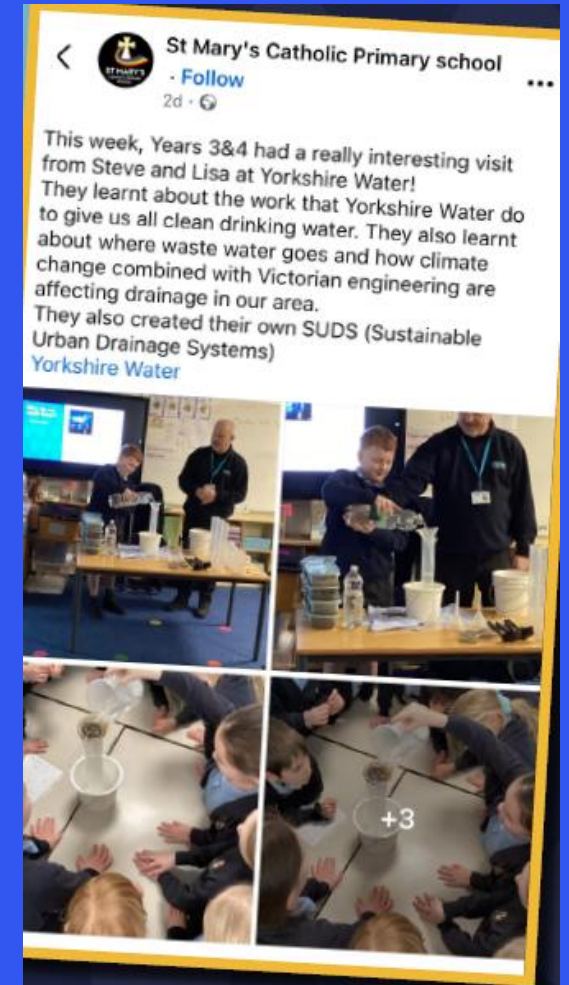
- Seven commercial properties have been shortlisted to trial large 10–30kL smart-valve rainwater storage tanks, enabling sites to reuse rainfall and provide data on system performance.
- The trial will help reduce combined sewer overflows by temporarily storing water during heavy rainfall and releasing it during low-flow periods; sites were selected based on CSO proximity, water use, roof suitability and metering.
- Next steps are to engage with property owners to confirm participation and use their feedback to finalise detailed design; thanks, given to Councillors Gostlow and Walker for their support.
- Real Time Water Quality Monitoring - Ofwat innovation project with UnifAI to install 20 continuous water quality monitors at key locations around Yorkshire. In the Knaresborough area, monitors have been installed at the Lido and one is installed at Oak Beck, near Harrogate North STW.
- The monitors will sample for bacteria and the data from them will build an AI model to predict bathing water quality in near real time.



Yorkshire Water's plan for the Nidd for the next 5 years (and beyond) – Bathing Water

Community Involvement & Education

- Our YW Education team will continue to visit schools in the local area with lessons delivered on:
 - Water Safety
 - LEGO coding
 - SUDs planters ahead of capital investment.
- Schools in the programme so far; Aspin Park Academy, St Mary's Catholic Primary School, St John's CE Primary School, Meadowside Academy
- We will have a dedicated role supporting communities and stakeholders in place later this year.
- We will also be proactively looking for other opportunities in Knaresborough including how we can be involved in Knaresborough community events in 2026 and beyond.



Plans for the Nidd for the next 5 years (and beyond) – river water quality...

Asset Improvements

Wastewater Treatment Works:
8 Phosphorus Schemes

Storm Overflows:
24 Schemes additional to bathing water

Surface Water Outfalls:
Oak Beck Outfall Safari resolutions
Crimple Beck outfall safari planned with YDRT
Collaboration with NYCC on misconconnections

Rivers Trust Partnership

- Managing Land for Water
- People & Rivers
- Biodiversity
- Great Yorkshire Rivers
- Storm Overflow & Urban Pollution



Citizen Science

CaSTCo DataHub open data
Yorkshire River Watch – now with outfalls!
Catchment Scorecards
Community Fund
Outfall Safaris
Rivers Trust
YWT Rivers to Reef



2. What in your view are the key knowledge gaps or other constraints that limit your actions to improve the health of the Nidd?



YorkshireWater

Key knowledge gaps or other constraints impacting bathing water quality...

- Modelling and investigations identify that there are a complex mix of inputs that can impact on bathing water quality.
- To address these requires close collaboration and partnership with other agencies and organisations including NYC, EA and Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust and of course... NAG!
- Our Bathing Water Partnership brings together multiple agencies and stakeholders with a common vision to create and sustain thriving bathing waters in Yorkshire.
- A great example of this is our collaboration with YDRT funding a dedicated agricultural advisor. The role builds on existing strong links with the farming community and wider catchment knowledge.



Yorkshire Region Bathing Water Partnership
Terms of Reference

Our Vision:
Create and sustain thriving bathing waters in Yorkshire.

Our Purpose:
A unified partnership coordinating efforts and focus on improving bathing water quality, providing clear communications and improving confidence through our activities.

Our Objectives:

- Maximise the opportunity for efficient bathing water investment by working together.
- Engage relevant stakeholders with a vested interest in improving Bathing Water Quality.
- Leveraging collective knowledge for environmental improvements that enhance biodiversity.
- Identify bacterial pollution sources that may impact designated bathing water quality.
- Implement robust systems to regularly test, mitigate and remove known pollution sources promptly.
- Partnership members to exercise relevant powers to improve bathing water quality.
- Promote honest, clear communications about our bathing waters consistently across the partnership.
- Explore and share data, best practice and technological innovation to drive improvements.

Our Approach:

- To harness cross-region working for all our bathing waters with direction via a strategic board supported via collaborative tactical subgroups.



Key knowledge gaps or other constraints impacting river water quality...

Surface Water & Other Inputs

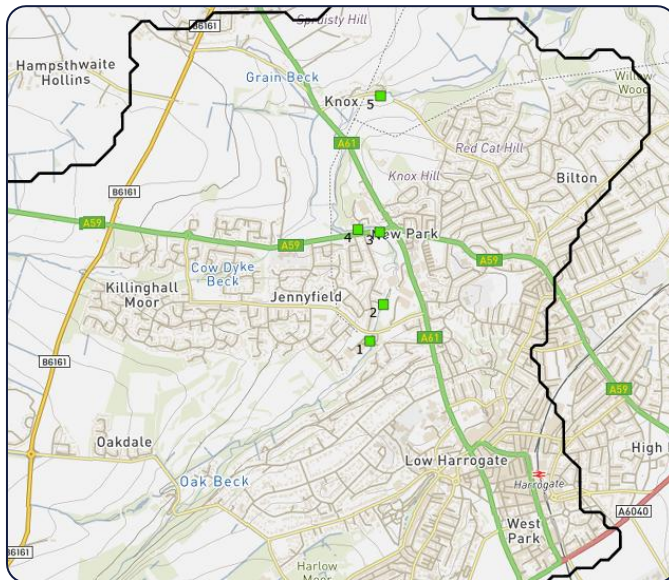
Modelling on Oak Beck linked to YW monitored assets.

Citizen science outfall safari data shared to enrich modelling

Surface water network is extensive!

Septic tanks

Misconnection rectification is a long process



Seasonal fluctuations

~30 S82 Continuous WQ Monitoring installations by 2030

- Ammonia
- pH
- Temperature
- Dissolved Oxygen
- Turbidity
- Conductivity



3. What do you think that people in this room can do to work with other stakeholders to improve the Nidd?

- Bin it, don't block it – remember the 3 P's... Pee, Poo and Paper.
- Surface Water Separation – primarily for new developments.
- SUDs (Sustainable Urban Drainage Solutions) – water butts, planter beds, avoiding tarmacking.
- Misconnection awareness and education
- Citizen Science monitoring – CaSTCo DataHub
- Be the eyes and ears
- Use an approved plumber
- Household product awareness



**BIN IT.
DON'T BLOCK IT.**

Thank you

Please sign up to our quarterly Yorkshire Waterways newsletter to hear more about river health across the Yorkshire region.

