





An Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government



# A sustainable approach to water resource management

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WSTG Clayton Silver Springs Hotel, Cork 10 October 2019





#### **National Water Resources Plan**



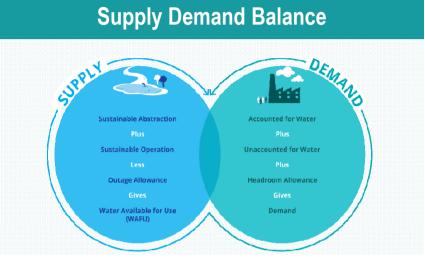
- Secure, resilient and environmentally sustainable future water supplies
- Water Framework Directive abstracting 1.7 billion litres of water each day
- Support key policies/strategies incl. WSSP, NPF, RBMP
- Standard Water Utility Practice
- Sets out a clear approach and targets

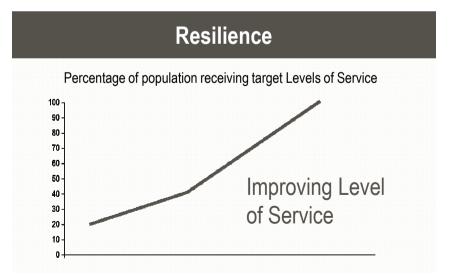


# A Sustainable, Reliable, High Quality Water Supply WATER



















Compliance

## An Environmentally Sustainable Water Supply





We have 310 surfaces water sources...

...that provide 83% of our supply



By comparison we have 858 ground sources...

...that provide 17% of our supply

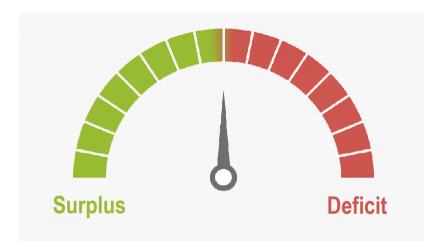


# **Current Surface Water Abstractions**

50% of our 310 SW abstractions (1.4m pop.) may not comply with WFD Abstraction standards

### **A Resilient Water Supply**





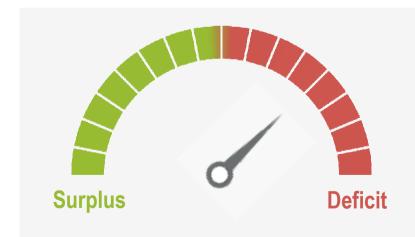
#### **Normal Conditions**

Almost 50% of our 535 Water Resource Zones (2.7m pop.) are at risk of deficit in normal conditions









#### **Drought Conditions**

Approximately 75% of our 535 Water Resource Zones (3.5m pop.) are at risk of deficit in drought conditions

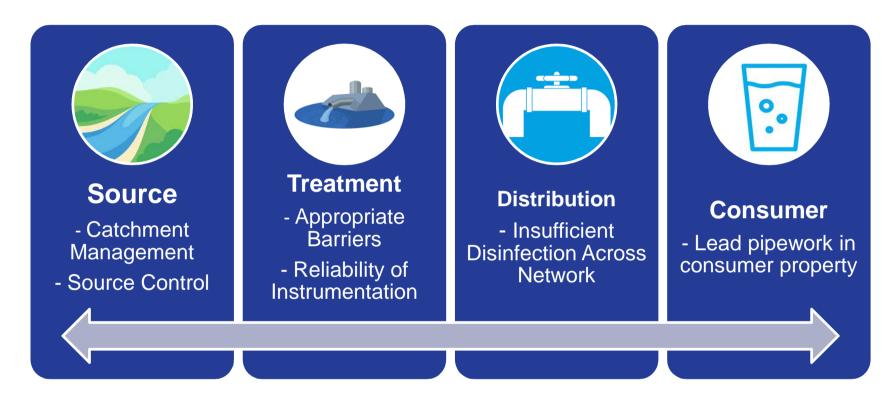






#### **A Quality Water Supply**

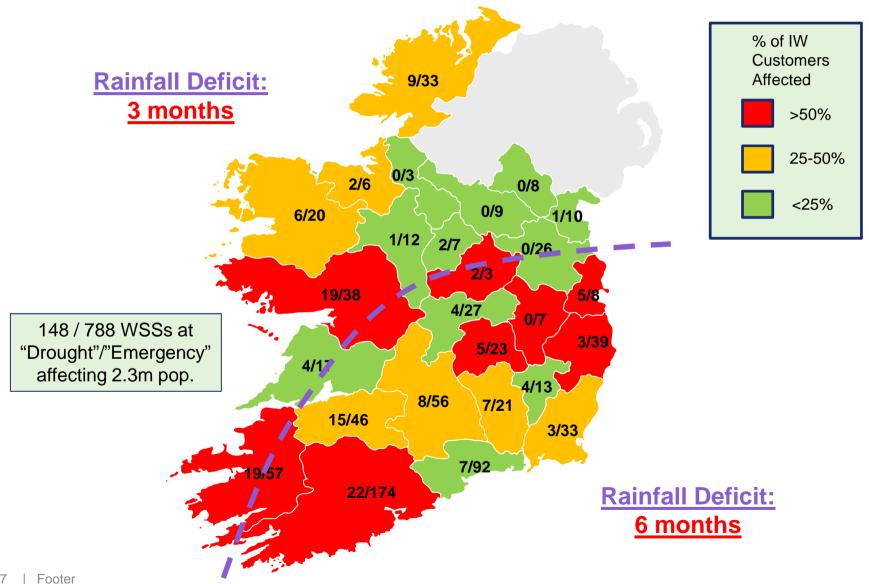




- Drinking Water Safety Plans: 136 risks assessed per supply
- RBMP: 350 sources risk assessed by 2021 with the reminder by 2027
- 516 WTPs assessed to day: 41,200+ risks assessed

# **Drought 2018 WTP's and Customers Affected: Geographical Spread and Duration**

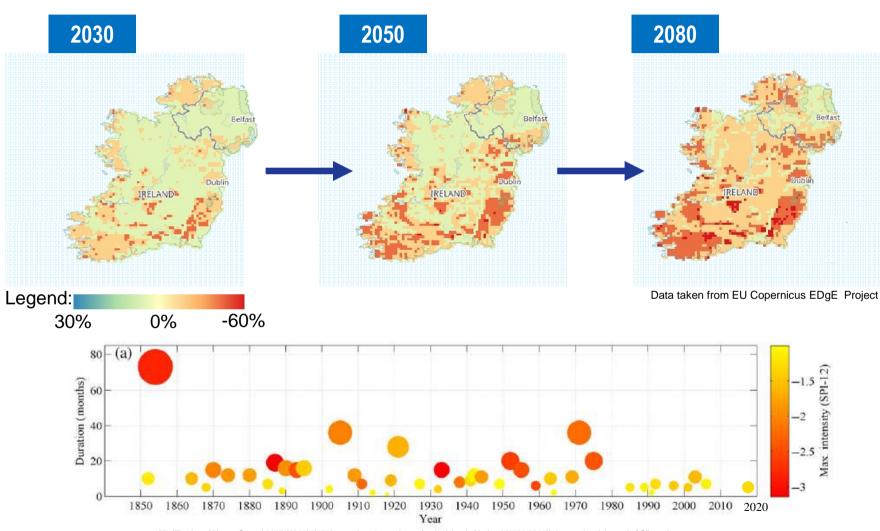




# **Projected Impact of Climate Change**



#### Change in Q95 flow (low flows)



Modification of Noone S, et al 2017 (2017) 'A 250-year drought catalogue for the island of Ireland (1765-2015)'. International Journal of Climatology.

## **Engaging with our Stakeholders**



#### **Plan Consultation**

- 6,000+ website views
- 4mins avg. web view
- 150 Update emails
- 71 queries
- 36 Stakeholder briefings
- 25+ pieces national & regional media coverage
- Conferences and Seminars

#### LA Consultation

- June & July 2019
- 31 Local Authorities
- 29 Workshops
- Over 1800 Comments Reviewed
- Data Validated for:
  - 535 WRZs
  - 1170 Abstractions
  - 790 WTPs

#### **Solving the problem – The Three Pillar Approach**



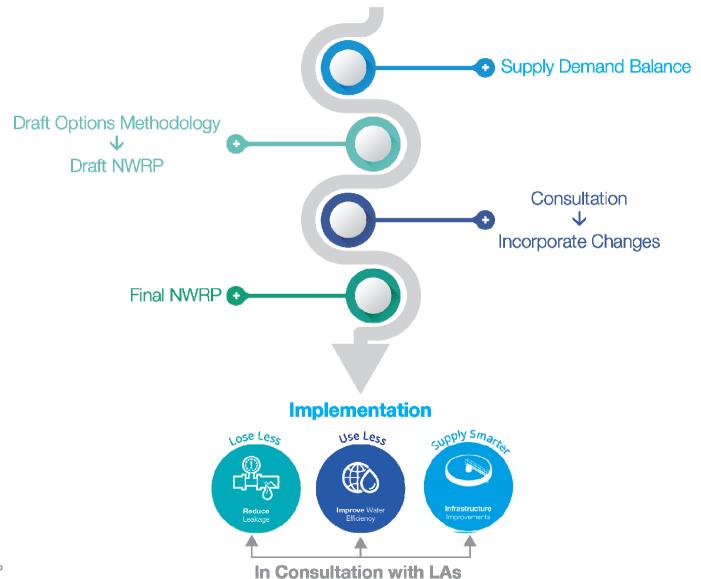






#### **Progress and Next Steps**





# **Summary**



- 25 year strategy to ensure that Ireland has a secure, resilient and environmentally sustainable high quality water supply
- Acknowledges our role in protecting the environment
- Current efforts are focussed on defining the challenge
- Aim is to gradually reshape our water supply assets whilst meeting social and economic commitments.
- Meeting the challenge will require a long term multi agency approach



# Thank you

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