

Meeting Notes – Winchester City Council Water Cycle Study Scoping Discussion with Portsmouth Water

Date: 6 July 2026

Subject: Winchester City Council Water Cycle Study – Discussion on Scoping Document

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Winchester City Council

- Bethany Edwards
- Adrian Fox

Arcadis

- James Fidal

Portsmouth Water

- Simon Deacon
- Sophie Emms
- Jim Barker
- Fiona Thompson
- Kane Leslie

Apologies

- Renuka Gunasekara (Arcadis)

Purpose of Meeting

To discuss the Winchester City Council Water Cycle Study scoping document, which has recently been prepared and circulated to water companies, Hampshire County Council and the Partnership for South Hampshire for comment.

Agenda Items

Overview of WRMP24 – assumptions/PCC/housing numbers/map of supply area – PRT Discussion

- Draft WRMP29 – timeline and work to be undertaken to develop this plan – PRT discussion
- WCC Planning Numbers and assumptions – WCC discussion
- WCC Wastewater numbers and assumptions - WCC discussion
- References for calculations – PRT request
- PRT Developer Services – sight of allocations to infrastructure planning – PRT request

Key Discussion Points

Water Resources Management Planning

- Portsmouth Water provided an overview of its current Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) 2024, which came into effect in 2025.
- Unlike most WRMPs, the current plan covers a 50-year period, extending to 2075.

- Portsmouth Water confirmed it is also beginning work on the 2029 Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) which will contain the currently adopted Winchester District Local Plan 2020 – 2040 housing figures.
- In order to incorporate future housing growth into the 2029 WRMP, Portsmouth Water advised that it would require confirmed housing figures from Winchester City Council by 2027.

Existing and Future Water Supply Infrastructure

- Portsmouth Water provided an update on the Havant Thicket Reservoir project.
- The company confirmed that during development of WRMP they include headroom which typically is approximately 5% across the entire Portsmouth Water supply area.
- Portsmouth Water noted that infrastructure cannot be planned or delivered too far in advance of confirmed development requirements.
- The company is also investigating additional long-term water supply options, including:
 - Desalination
 - New reservoirs
 - Other strategic water resource solutions
- It was noted that these options form part of major infrastructure planning and typically offer a longer term solution (15-20 years)

Water Resources South East Webinar

- Portsmouth Water highlighted an upcoming Water Resources South East webinar on 17 July 2026.
- Bethany Edwards and Katherine Dove have registered to attend.

Water Efficiency

- Winchester City Council confirmed that its adopted Local Plan includes a target of 100L per person per day for water consumption.
- Portsmouth Water discussed ongoing work relating to water efficiency measures.
- The company is considering alternative water sources for commercial development.
- Portsmouth Water also supports farmers in identifying alternative water supply sources.
- Water efficiency measures discussed included:
 - Greywater harvesting
 - Rainwater collection and harvesting systems

Development Growth and Potential Constraints

- Adrian Fox asked whether Portsmouth Water had identified any areas within the Winchester City Council area served by Portsmouth Water where future development may be problematic.

- Portsmouth Water advised that it is difficult to identify specific constraint areas at this stage.
- The company explained that any assessment is dependent upon:
 - The quantum of development proposed
 - The location of development sites
- Until development numbers and locations are known, Portsmouth Water is unable to determine where capacity issues may potentially arise.

Water Cycle Study Engagement

- Winchester City Council and Arcadis confirmed that Portsmouth Water's next formal engagement regarding the Water Cycle Study is currently expected in early 2027 but this may be subject to change.
- It was also confirmed that the deadline for water companies to provide comments on the scoping document is Friday 24th July.

Future Contact

- Portsmouth Water advised that the Catchment Management team email should be used as the primary point of contact for any future queries relating to the matters discussed.

Actions

Action	Responsible	Timescale
Attend Water Resources South East webinar.	Bethany Edwards and Katherine Dove	17 July 2026
Provide comments on Water Cycle Study scoping document.	Portsmouth Water	Later in July 2026
Continue Water Cycle Study engagement and consultation.	Winchester City Council / Arcadis / Portsmouth Water	Early 2027
Provide confirmed housing figures (if information is available) to inform WRMP 2029 preparation.	Winchester City Council	By 2027