

# Water Climate Call to Action

## Water Is Climate

As water professionals, we recognise the water sector presents serious challenges, and also many solutions, for both mitigation and adaptation.

However, we currently consider water superficially and in silos without taking the holistic view required across our many different relationships with water.

We need to think about how we value and use water and what we can do differently to improve our relationship with water and the environment.

Therefore, we will work towards the following objectives:

### Mitigation

We will challenge business as usual – recognising we will only reduce water sector operational and embodied greenhouse gas emissions sufficiently, through immediate, transformational change starting today.

Alternatives to reduce emissions in the water sector should take a life cycle assessment approach and collaborative decision making to maximise societal and climate benefits.

We commit to use less water ourselves and, through demonstration and support, help others reduce water demand and greenhouse gas emissions.

### Finance

Change is required in water infrastructure finance – with affordable, just finance and new value frameworks required that adequately fund both mitigation and adaptation. We will advocate and implement this change, engaging with decision makers.

We recognise that significant finance will be required for safe, resilient water infrastructure for those who remain without access to safe water and sanitation in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

We come together, at this Water Climate Discussion to make this Call to Action today. We will remain accountable to our Call, keep it central to our decision-making and commit to it in our daily roles.

We will come together each year prior to the Conference of Parties to reflect on developments and progress in the Water Climate space and to support each other.

Recognising that water is both how we experience the impacts of climate change and the medium through which we can mitigate and build resilience to climate change, we have come together to issue a call to action on climate change.

As water experts, working in a variety of positions and with diverse backgrounds, we are uniquely positioned to make a difference as professionals and individuals in mitigating and adapting to climate change.

### Adaptation

We will promote the importance of adaptation in ensuring sustainable resilience to climate change by educating on what adaptation means.

We will take on adaptation work alongside mitigation work, helping organisations, individuals, and communities to take ownership of solutions.

We will showcase what good adaptation looks like in our communities and homes.

We emphasise the need for adaptation work that maximises use of nature-based solutions and existing infrastructure.

### Collaboration

We will work broadly across all disciplines and sectors fostering trust with communities and individuals to reach sustainable, effective solutions to climate change.



"WaterUK has committed to Net Zero Water by 2030. Together, we will achieve this through passionate leadership, smarter collaboration and constant innovation." – Paul Bresnan, Managing Director

