



Our Invasive
non-native
species and
biosecurity
policy.

Invasive non-native species and biosecurity

We are the largest water and waste water provider in the UK. Serving around 15 million customers in London and the Thames Valley, we recognise that in providing an essential service at the heart of daily life we influence and are influenced by the variety of wildlife that exists within our operational sites and the wider landscape.

As custodians of large areas of land and water, the increasing threat of invasive non-native species is of real concern to us. We need to take care of our estate and are committed to ensuring compliance with all invasive non-native species (INNS) regulatory drivers through the implementation of good biosecurity practice.

We know we cannot do this alone and rely on delivering better outcomes in partnership with our customers, stakeholders, alliance partners, suppliers and regulators.

Describing our approach

Our commitment to the environment is identified as a priority in our business plan and our biodiversity policy focuses on ensuring an overall improvement in the management of the wildlife within our landholding, including the management of invasive species.

In particular, to ensure we fulfil our INNS and biosecurity responsibilities, we will:

- As a minimum comply with all applicable laws and regulations and drive for improved biosecurity and INNS management where we operate.
- Keep our approach to biosecurity and INNS management under review. In particular where INNS affect our operational sites and nature reserves through effective working with operations and grounds maintenance teams.
- Work closely with external regulatory bodies to ensure reporting and response procedures are in place to deal with new discoveries or risks, where practical and feasible to do so/
- Work to understand and address the ongoing problem of INNS to meet the impacts of climate change and population growth.
- Proactively protect biodiversity, human health and operational performance through prevention, early detection, rapid eradication and management of INNS.

- Actively engage our employees so they are aware of and understand their responsibility to help manage INNS and implement the nation-wide 'Check, Clean, Dry' process for everyone who visits our sites.
- Plan, monitor and deliver our INNS and biosecurity commitments in the Water Industry National Environment Plan.
- Continue to work in partnership with stakeholders and communities to improve communication and provide engagement opportunities that encourage native biodiversity and prevent the spread of INNS.

Sharing our progress

This policy will be made available and apply to our employees, suppliers, alliance partners and contractors. We will work with them to promote sound INNS practice.

We will review and update this policy on a regular basis. Details of our progress will be published in the biodiversity section of our annual Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability report.

**Steve Robertson, Chief Executive Officer,
August 2018**

