

A photograph of a child and a dog wading in a stream. The child is on the left, wearing a green and blue jacket, yellow pants, and green boots. The dog is a brown, shaggy breed, possibly a Border Terrier, wading in the water. The background is a lush, green forest. A dark teal curved shape is in the top left corner.

# COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL

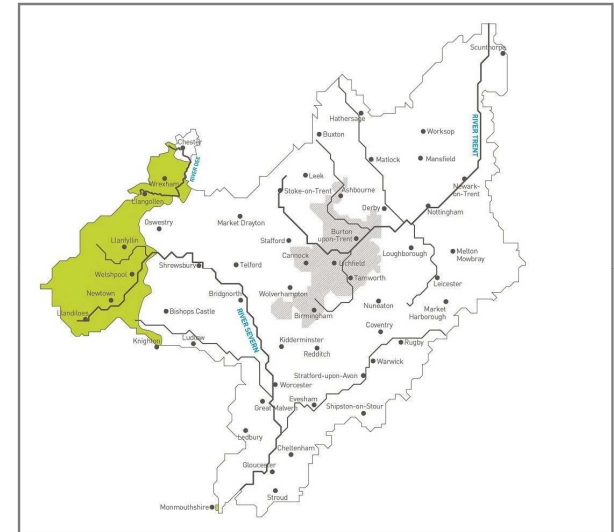
Scrutiny Committee  
18 July 2024



WONDERFUL ON TAP

# SEVERN TRENT WATER: MIDLANDS-BASED FTSE 100 COMPANY

- We supply clean, safe drinking water to our 500,000 plus customers in Coventry and Warwickshire and over 8 million across our entire patch. We deliver two billion litres of clean water every day, and then take the wastewater away to be treated at our sewage treatment works.
- We have thousands of people working in Coventry and Warwickshire, with around 1,000 based at our Headquarters in Coventry city centre. This will continue to grow in the next few years as we embark on our biggest ever investment programme.
- On track to maintain the highest four-star Environmental Performance Assessment for the fifth consecutive year.
- Our Great Big Nature Boost plans to revive 12,000 acres of land, plant 1.3m trees, and restore 2,000km of rivers by 2030.
- Have signed the Carbon Triple Pledge to be carbon net neutral by 2030.
- Investing £566million in our green recovery programme. This includes a scale nature-based approach to reduce the risk of flooding in Mansfield.
- Supported the Kickstart programme and have extensive apprentice and graduate programmes.
- Since 2020 our Community Fund has supported over 1.2million people in Coventry and Warwickshire with over £950,000 donated to 89 community organisations.
- Our average combined bill remains one of the lowest in the country and last year we supported 20,000 customers across Coventry and Warwickshire to avoid water poverty.
- **Our *Get River Positive* and our Storm Overflow Action Plan are working to improve the health of our region's rivers. We're investing £4.4billion across our region to reduce spills and further improve river health, with £300million being spent in Warwickshire, on 141 storm overflow improvements alone.**



# OUR RIVER PLEDGES



**GET RIVER POSITIVE**

CORE PLEDGES:

**OUR RIVER PLEDGES**

Improving the health of our regions' rivers is a team game. We believe that water companies need to show more leadership. We need to listen, be transparent and set out a credible way forward. And that is why we are committing to Get River Positive: our five step plan to the healthiest rivers in the UK.

Get River Positive is underpinned by five key pledges that pave the way for the restoration and revitalisation of our regions' rivers.

-  **Ensure storm overflows and sewage treatment works do not harm rivers**
-  **Create more opportunities for everyone to enjoy our region's rivers**
-  **Support others to improve and care for rivers**
-  **Enhance our rivers and create new habitats so wildlife can thrive**
-  **Be open and transparent about our performance and our plans**

www.getriverpositive.co.uk

[Get River Positive | Severn Trent Water \(stwater.co.uk\)](https://www.stwater.co.uk) is our dedicated website outlining our pledges in more detail and the work we are doing. In addition, our Storm Overflow map providing close to real-time information about our storm overflows across our region is now live. This can be seen here: [Storm Overflow Map | In My Area | Severn Trent Water \(stwater.co.uk\)](#).

Since January 2022, our team of River Rangers have worked with customers, citizen scientists, community groups and environment organisations to protect and enhance our local rivers.



# GET RIVER POSITIVE | FACT SHEET

APRIL 2024

## Our network:

**3.1 billion**  
litres of wastewater treated every day and manage **>92,800km** of pipes

**300 million**  
data points about how our storm overflows are performing in a year

**100%**  
of our storm overflows have event duration monitors

## Our progress:

Continuing to invest **£100m** a year on our waste network

Increasing **sewer capacity** and **storage** to slow the flow of storm water during wet weather

We continue to work with our **Advisory Panel** who oversee our progress against our river pledges. We expanded membership this year to **seven** experts

## Our bigger efforts:

Moving **two** stretches of river towards bathing quality by **2025**

Received the highest **four-star rating** from the Environment Agency for the fourth year running in 2022 and are confident we will be awarded the highest rating for an unprecedented fifth year in 2023

Severn Trent is currently responsible for **14%** of RNAGS in our region

**10** River Rangers, working in communities and with partners to improve river health

### RAIN RAIN RAIN

You've seen some of the wettest months on record.

**35%**  
more rain in the region compared to 2022.

**30%**  
close to 30% of river gauge stations in our region recorded their highest ever levels in **October** during Storm Babet.

### WHERE DOES THE RAIN GO?

Our sewers deal with rainfall on roads and built-up areas. But they can sometimes get too full.

**Heavy rain** means that the majority of storm overflows spill is rain water.

We can now see **300million** data points on our monitored overflows - every single year.

### WE'RE WORKING ON IT

We're improving the network. That means fewer spills from storm overflows.

**£384m**  
current programme of investment

**Our aim:** no storm overflow to spill more than times a year, on average.

**10**  
**£1.1bn**  
in 2025-2030 to meet targets at least **five** years ahead of those set by regulators and Government.

### HOW WE'LL DO IT

Here's where you'll see the difference.

- 1 Separation**  
Keeping rainwater out of our sewer system.
- 2 Treatment**  
Treating more sewage reduces spills.
- 3 Storage**  
Additional capacity on the network storing water during heavy rainfall.

- We have reduced our impact on rivers to be responsible for 14% of RNAGs in our region.
- Despite the wet weather challenges, we have had no serious pollutions in 2023.

# STORM OVERFLOW IMPROVEMENTS IN 2024

- Across the Severn Trent region we are planning to deliver storm overflow solutions across 900 locations, with a total investment for 2024/25 of £450m aiming to reduce total storm overflow spills by 20% per year.
- This includes:
  - New **storage solutions** to capture and store more flows
  - A large-scale community trial of over 8,000 free **water butts**
  - New 'nature based' solutions including the creation of 70 new **reed beds** to treat sewage from storm overflows.
  - Enhancements to **increase the flow of sewage to treatment works**
  - **Flap valves** to prevent river ingress into the network
  - A **Zero Spills hub** dedicated to storm overflow improvements

