**Fix leaky pipes and use less water, urges London Mayor**

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London mayor Boris Johnson urged water companies to fix leaky pipes and Londoners to use less water in his draft water strategy published today

The Mayor’s draft water strategy outlines the many challenges that London faces - rising population, climate change and leaky Victorian pipes and how they could be addressed

Proposals in the draft water strategy include:

* Water companies should fix the leaky pipes and work with the Mayor to help Londoners to become more water efficient through a London wide homes energy efficiency programme set to launch next year
* Rainwater harvesting, grey water recycling and sustainable drainage encouraged through planning policies in the new London Plan.
* Mayoral support for complusory water metering in the capital.
* Improved public’s awareness of how to become more water efficient.

“It is easy to take our water, in the river Thames and in our taps for granted. It is a vital resource, which is under pressure from our expanding population and changing climate,” said Johnson.

‘Water is precious - essential for people and the environment, but we face not having enough if we do not make changes now,” said Environment Agency regional strategy manager for Thames Clive Coley.

“By 2050, climate change could reduce the amount of water available by up to 15 per cent so everyone needs to consume less and be more efficient with the water that is used. We welcome the Mayor’s proposals to increase water efficiency in both new and existing homes, and look forward to working closely with the GLA and other partners to ensure that there is a secure supply of water for Londoners now and in the future and that the environment remains protected.”

 Find out more...

[Rainwater harvesting](http://www.thameswater.co.uk/cps/rde/xchg/corp/hs.xsl/6670.htm)

[Grey water recycling](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/drought/38561.aspx)

[Water metering](http://www.uswitch.com/water/what-water-meter/)

[Water efficiency at home.](http://www.thameswater.co.uk/cps/rde/xchg/corp/hs.xsl/7494.htm)