

# SSC Response to OFWAT's Pre-Qualification Decisions

## **Aims of Presentation**

- Overview of feedback from Ofwat's Risk Based Review (RBR)
- Key focus areas and action plan to update our business plan
- Seek CCG support for:
  - 1. Overcoming the totex funding deficit
  - 2. Overcoming the retail (ACTS) funding deficit
  - 3. Outcome revisions
  - 4. SCP case given the customer benefits of this.



## Headlines from 10 March Announcement – Initial Risk Based Review (RBR) Assessments

- Only two companies pre-qualifed as enhanced South West and Affinity. Both have since accepted the Risk & Reward guidance.
- Ofwat has graded business plans A-D for each of the RBR tests.
- New option of June Draft Determination (rather than Aug) for other companies, if re-submit plan on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.
- No re-submission category, no plans are awful.
- 4<sup>th</sup> April Ofwat released more company specific feedback and various models (e.g. totex).



Ofwat's Assessment of UK Water Companies' Business Planning Process Slide 4															
	Wa (Cust Engag Perfor	comes iater itomer itomer yement/ rmance nitment)	Waste (Cust Engage Perfor	comes ewater tomer gement/ rmance nitment)	(Cust Engag Perfor	nes Retail stomer gement/ rmance nitment)	Asses: (Wa	sale Cost ssment ater/ swater)	Retail Cost Allocation	ACTS Adjustment	Affordability	Board Assurance	Adjus (Wa	AMP5 Legacy Adjustment (Water/ Wastewater)	
Anglian Water	В	В	Α	В	A	В	D	С	С	В	А	В	С	С	
Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water	С	С	С	С	С	С	С	В	D	D	В	В	С	С	
Northumbrian Water	С	С	С	С	С	С	В	В	В	D	В	В	С	С	
Severn Trent Water	В	С	В	С	В	С	D	В	D	D	В	В	В	С	
South West Water	А	С	А	С	Α	В	В	В	В	С	В	В	A	А	
Southern Water	С	С	С	С	С	С	С	D	А	С	В	В	D	D	
Thames Water	С	С	С	С	С	С	В	D	В	D	С	В	Α	С	
United Utilities Water	В	С	В	С	В	С	С	D	А	С	В	В	D	D	
Wessex Water	С	С	С	С	С	С	С	С	В	D	А	В	С	С	
Yorkshire Water	С	В	С	В	С	В	В	D	С	С	В	В	С	С	
Affinity Water	В	С			В	С		В	D	В	В	В	C		
Bristol Water	В	С			В	С		D	С	С	С	В	С		
Dee Valley Water	С	C			С	C		D	С	С	С	В	D		
Portsmouth Water	С	С			С	С	I	В	С	С	В	В	С		
Sembcorp Bournemouth Water	С	С			С	С	. (	С	D	С	В	В	В		
South East Water	В	С			В	В	(	С	А	С	С	В		С	
South Staffs Water	В	С			В	С	(	С	А	С	С	В		D	
Sutton & East Surrey Water	В	С			В	С	[	D	D	С	С	В		А	

# Some specific points

- Ofwat's decision to quote our 59% customer acceptability has been challenged. Survey results were 59% nominal vs 82% real. Inconsistent with others.
- AMP5 legacy is largely expected to be due to a lack of explanation rather than disagreement.
- Outcomes feedback:
  - linked to long term commitments being weak
  - sometimes appearing lower service than present
  - reputational incentives needing more clarity
- Totex view appears to have significant weighting...



## **Breakdown of Wholesale Cost Assessment**

Water		Score		Company	Risk-based	Gap to B	Company	
company	Overall	Evidence	Costs	business plan £m	review initial thresholds £m	score £m (%)	business plan vs AMP5	
ANH	D	В	D	1,840	1,664	175 (11%)	+10%	
WSH	С	В	С	1,257	1,229	28 (2%)	-6%	
NES	В	В	С	1,363	1,359	3 (0%)	-2%	
SVT	D	D	D	2,806	2,549	257 (10%)	+12%	
SWT	В	В	А	697	826	-129 (-16%)	+9%	
SRN	С	В	С	840	796	44 (6%)	-4%	
TMS	В	В	А	3,160	3,766	-606 (-16%)	+7%	
UU	С	В	С	2,379	2,309	69 (3%)	-4%	
WSX	С	В	С	718	693	25 (4%)	+13%	
YKY	В	В	А	1,428	1,593	-165 (-10%)	0%	
AFW	В	В	В	1,049	1,099	-50 (-5%)	+3%	
BRL	D	С	D	572	351	221 (63%)	+14%	
DVW	D	В	D	102	89	13 (14%)	+24%	
PRT	В	В	В	137	143	-6 (-4%)	+7%	
SBW	С	В	С	136	130	6 (5%)	+2%	
SEW	С	С	С	808	771	37 (5%)	+6%	
SSC	С	В	С	409	398	11 (3%)	+7%	
SES	D	В	D	241	219	23 (10%)	+10%	
Industry				19,940	19,984	-43	+4%	

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# Grade Reflects Difference Between Initial Ofwat / Company View of Totex Needs



## Water Totex per property served



Company proposal cost per prop 📕 OFW

OFWAT risk based cost per prop

#### Breakdown of SSC performance by test category

#### Financeability and Affordability: 13. Affordability

Company	Bill ch	nange	2015-2020 a	ffordability	Future affordability	Overall score	
	Average household bill 2014-15 (£)	Change to average household bill by 2019-20 (£)	Acceptability reported in business plans	Criteria score	Criteria score		
ANH	412	-35	90%	А	В	А	
WSH	419	-20	94%	В	В	В	
NES	368	0	75%	В	В	В	
SVT	316	-12	88%	В	В	В	
SWT	512	-15	84%	В	В	В	
SRN	413	-7	90%	А	С	В	
TMS	349	+36	78%*	С	С	С	
UU	395	-6	>75%*	В	В	В	
WSX	459	-18	81%	А	В	А	
YKY	351	0	75%	В	В	В	
AFW	165	-6	87%	В	В	В	
BRL	195	-2	92%	В	С	С	
DVW	143	+13	71%	С	С	С	
PRT	91	0	99%	В	В	В	
SBW	149	-13	79%	В	В	В	
SEW	195	0	86%	С	В	С	
SSC	136	0	59%	С	В	С	
SES	176	-8	84%	С	В	С	



#### Key Dates 2014



# Summary of main activities

- Every opportunity for Ofwat engagement being sought. Also reviewing best practice highlighted and in dialogue with other companies.
- Information on AMP5 legacy adjustments (SIM, RCM, CIS, logging down, opex efficiency)
- Evidence case for small company premium
- Revisions to outcomes
  - Reviewing performance commitments (criticised for being weak given current standards)
  - Responding to opportunity to raise rewards (as per Ofwat risk and reward guidance)



## Summary of <u>main</u> activities (cont'd)

- Totex models were released to us on 24<sup>th</sup> March. Ofwat workshop held on 8 April.
- Reviewing ACTS (retail) for bad debt claim and input price inflation.
- Arranging for Mike Reid of Monson to undertake external audit of progress with AMP5 outputs. Ofwat meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> May.
- Ofwat asking for revised plan, gap analysis and for their financial model to be populated.



## **Board Involvement and Assurance**

- Continued INED interface at CCG.
- Comments on SCP evidence and revisions to our outcomes.
- Sign-off of revised plan and the SIM data for 2013-14 is needed at the next Board meeting.
- Future Board statements to expand on evidence of assurance. Our updated Governance Code is relevant.
- N.b. RBR scores now all "B" in this area for SSC.

## **Conclusion to current position**

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- Whilst we have not had the Draft Determination, we are very concerned at emerging risks to financial security of the business. We worked very hard to submit a Business Plan with zero price change. Subsequent Ofwat moves:
  - 1. Risk and reward guidance (lower WACC): £12m
  - 2. Totex: £11m
  - 3. Retail (ACTS): £10m
  - 4. SCP: £8m
  - 5. Legacy and financial model: unknown
- Funding shortfall of circa +£8m/year would lead to wide ranging implications (staff, investors, risks to service, discretionary spend)
- Imperative our representations to Ofwat overturn this damaging position. Scope to cut is limited relative to others.
   South Staffs Water