



# Clear Access Clear Waters

## Water Quality

**Our Aim:** We want coastal and inland waters free from sewage pollution, rich in wildlife for all to enjoy the benefits of being connected with nature.

## **What are we asking for?**

### Testing & Monitoring

1. We want accurate, reliable and transparent real-time water quality information available all year round for all UK inland and coastal recreational areas. We want Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) monitoring methodology to include load information, as well as volume.
2. We want an enhanced regime which tests for emerging threats such as antibiotic resistant bacteria and viruses that are harmful to human health.
3. We want Microplastics added to the list of pollutants regularly monitored in bathing waters, along with increased monitoring for microplastics in treated sewage sludge.

### Bathing Water Standards

4. We want Statutory targets for designating a minimum of 2 inland bathing waters, in each water company area for each year of any price review period.
5. We want Statutory targets for the number of watercourses with designated bathing water status classified as 'good' or 'excellent'.

### Nature Based Solutions

6. We want increased investment and associated targets for the restoration of natural habitats to reduce pressure on the water systems and help prevent sewer overflows.

## CSO's

7. We want Statutory Targets for the reduction in the duration, frequency and load of discharges made from Combined Sewage Overflow's (CSO's) in all waters all year round with an **end to untreated sewage pollution incidents by 2030**.
8. We want Water companies to set out plans to progressively reduce their reliance on combined sewer overflows (CSOs).
9. We want a commitment to fit EDM's (Event Duration Monitoring) on **all** CSO outlets by 2026.

## Consumer Behaviour

10. We want Government to fund an NGO-delivered national campaign to influence consumer behaviour.

## Diffuse Pollution

11. We want the government to continue to support the agricultural sector to embrace catchment sensitive farming techniques.
12. We want the government and key stakeholders to deliver solutions to urban pollution run-off, including sustainable urban drainage systems such as interception ditches, to reduce the flow of water after heavy rain.

## **What is British Canoeing doing about it?**

- Working closely with the End Sewage Pollution Coalition to align policy and agree collective actions.
- Engaging with the Environmental Audit Committee review of water quality and sewage pollution
- Influencing future water sector policy by responding to Defra & Ofwat consultations
- Providing information and guidance to our community on the threat of sewage pollution
- Engaging directly with water companies to influence their AMP 8 priorities