



Water and the Environment

Smart Rural 5

28th April 2021 – 9.00am to 1.00pm BST

Turn your ideas into reality and make a real difference



CREST!

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Flood management and property development. Why do we keep building on flood plains? How do we re-ignite the historical appreciation that a river is more than just the water it is the whole river valley environ. We can't keep boxing them off from each other and treat them as one.

- *Planning to improve water quality in British rivers & waterways by stopping/fining farming polluters (causes 40% of damage to waterways ecosystems).*
- *Flood Risk Management in the context of urban planning.*
- *Management of surface water flooding.*
- *Surface water flooding is a growing challenge with climate change but businesses and householders are less aware of its management than river or coastal flooding*

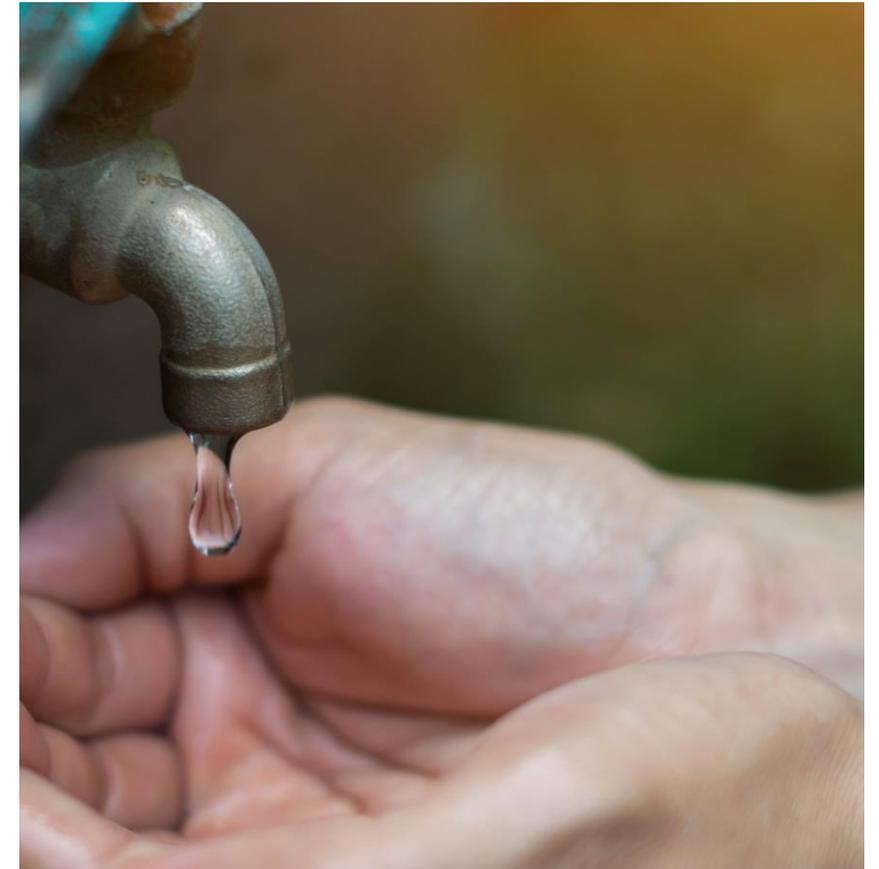


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Are the forecasts for routine water shortages in the next 25 years still in place and are we planning for a change in the way public usage is managed, even permissible?

- *What are the pros and cons concerning any potential to renationalise water management, isn't this realistically the only way to improve quality and sustainability against the seemingly competing requirements for shareholder profits?*
- *Is water leakage really the Elephant in the room, - how can we increase responsibility of water firms to improve water leakage (3 billion litres per day in 2020) so that we don't run out of water in certain areas of the country.*
- *Is it also time for a public consultation or innovation drive connected to sustainable water, offering incentives for in-house recycling of brown water, rain run off for garden tanks.*
- *Education connected to increasing water sustainability through public awareness associated with the forecast need in relation to climate and increased demand for water over the next 25 years*



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- Is there a conflict of interest between the private ownership of our water supply, about 70% and our ability to make it fit for purpose and carbon efficient?*
- The water industry is a massive consumer of energy, what different approaches are planned to reduce inefficiency and carbon impact.*
- Given that the climate forecasts for net rainfall in the U.K. is to fall by 20% over the next 20 years what plans are we making for sustainable water use?*
- Given that there has been some suggestion that advancing infrastructure projects will be a focus for restarting the economy, has any additional funding been given to the replacement of older water pipe work?*



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How are we tackling the issue of raw sewage discharge by water companies (400,000 times in waterways in 2020 & 2,900 times in 2020 on English and Welsh coasts according to the press, seems unbelievable.

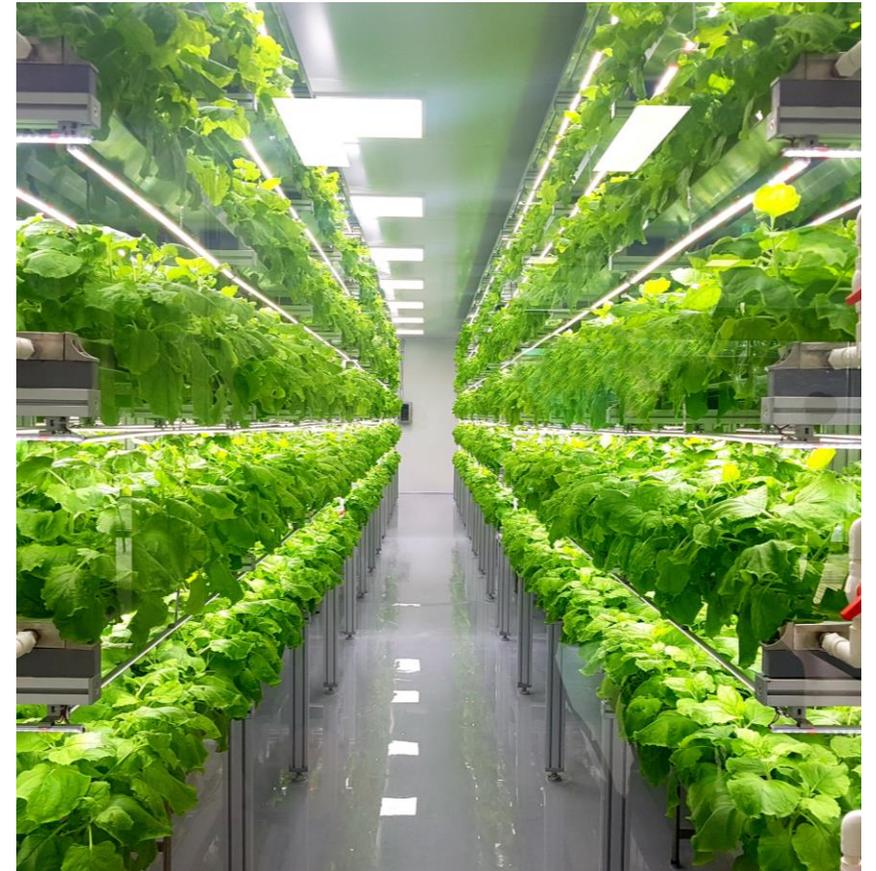
- *What are the plans for increasing the funding of the Environment Agency, Staffing, Research etc as by all accounts these budgets have been cut in recent years at a time when economic need and sheer necessity of the problems seems to indicate we should be doing the reverse?*
- *Is it really sustainable to have just so much of our water supply owned by companies abroad given that water security as an issue is likely to increase?*
- *The public opinion on the prevalence of direct pollution to rivers, and sewage discharges is that they no longer really happen, is this true?*
- *Decentralized sewage treatment*
- *Dish-washer-laundry-stain removal/softening products and toilet cleaners etc all go into the water environment which then produces ALL the food we consume.*



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Most people now live in an increasingly densely built urban environment where access to green spaces largely determines their quality of life. My interest is in developing the technologies for planting on vertical surfaces including the supply and management of irrigation water

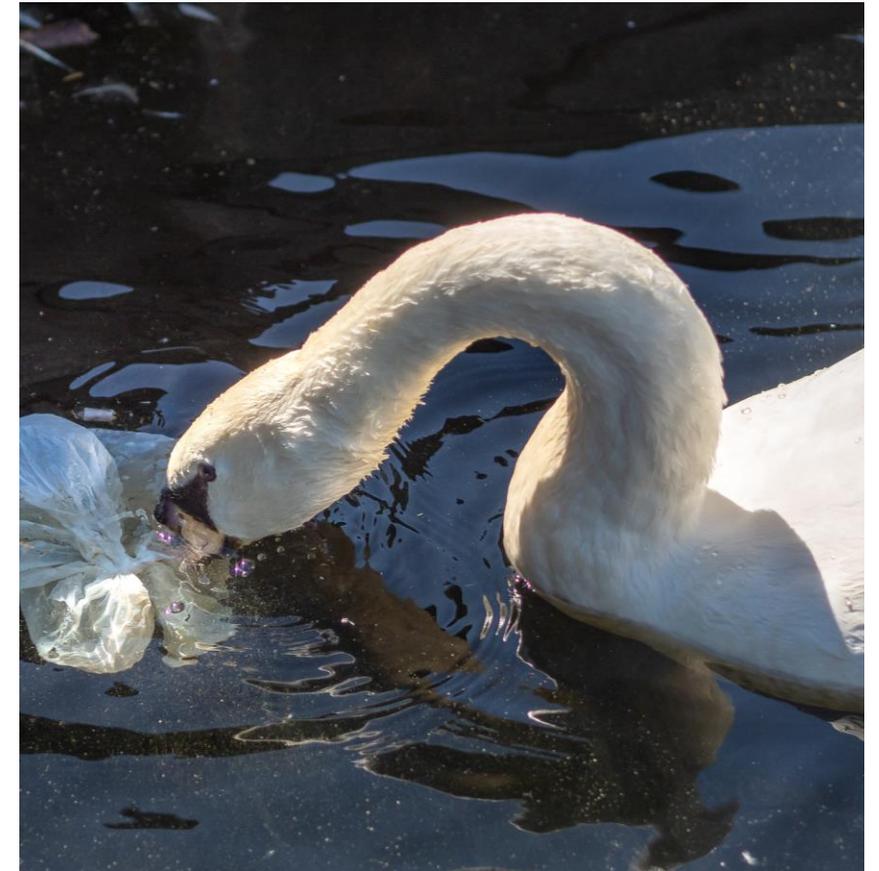


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Aquatic Wildlife in all its variety - it acts as a barometer of how we treat the land, currently, very badly!

- *Maximising the biodiversity of our inland waterways, at the same time as maximising the amount of energy that we can utilise from them.*
- *I am interested, because I feel this is an under utilised resource, but there must be some way to find a balance.*
- *The public should be more aware of the chemicals used-how they remain in the food we eat and effects on soil biodiversity.*





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