Risk of water restrictions remain in Affinity Water's supply area

We have had exceptionally low effective rainfall over the past two winters. January may have felt very wet but rainfall was below average for this time of year.

This means we are actively planning for usage restrictions this spring and summer if conditions fail to recover sufficiently.

If we get above long-term average rainfall in the next three months we hope that we will not need to introduce them this summer. However, that does not remove the possibility that usage restrictions will have to be introduced in 2019. This will be dependent on rainfall next winter being sufficient to refill groundwater stores.

Long term average rainfall Monthly total above long term average rainfall Monthly total below long term average rainfall Nater loss through evaporation DEC 17 JAN 18 MAY 17 **JUN 17** IUI 17 SEP 17 **FEB 17** MAR 17 APR 17 AUG 17 OCT 17 NOV 17 Spring & summer rainfall used by trees and plants Autumn & Autumn & winter winter aquifer refill period aquifer refill period **OUR GROUND WATER LEVELS** Very low

Rainfall and groundwater levels

While we continue to undertake significant investment in infrastructure and drive down leakage in our network, we also need our customers to change how they view, and use water to help manage the situation, and as a key stakeholder you also have an important role to play. Demand in our supply area is above the national average and way above the average in other countries like Germany and the Netherlands.

We need a public debate about how we all use water. As a key stakeholder we would like to invite you to meet with us at your convenience to discuss how we can plan for

the future, to take the next step on this journey together. Please contact <u>jake.rigg@affinitywater.co.uk</u> for more information or to arrange a meeting.

We need your support to help make the longer term changes that will have a big impact for the future of water supplies.

There are simple steps that every one of us can take – whether a householder, business, community or a council.

We need YOUR help to spread the word and ensure everyone in your community knows what they need to do so we can reduce the likelihood of water restrictions this year.

- Help spread the message to the communities you serve: Every little step we can all make will collectively have a big impact on water usage.
- Turning off the tap off while we brush our teeth can save 6,500 litres of water a year.
- Avoid baths take a short shower instead to save on average around 50 litres each time.

For more tips and to order free water saving devices, visit: <u>www.affinitywater.co.uk/savewater</u>

To keep up to date with our latest water resource position, please visit www.affinitywater.co.uk/resources

Yours faithfully

Mike Pocock Director of Asset Strategy Affinity Water