

Chemical Engineering Matters



UK General Election 2015: Manifesto Digest of the main political parties on Water

Conservatives (see [here](#))

- Will clean up rivers and waterways, including supporting the Thames Tideway Tunnel.
- By 2020, through DfID, will help at least 60 million people get access to clean water.

Labour (see [here](#) and [here](#))

- Want strong incentives for environmentally friendly land management including for improving water quality by freeing up £150 million of CAP funding for better environmental protection and introducing a new primary sustainability duty for the water industry – they say that these reforms, coupled with a rigorous water-catchment management approach, will help improve water quality.
- Will make shale gas companies protect sources of drinking water.

Lib Dems (see [here](#))

- Pass a Resource Efficiency and Zero Waste Act:
 - Natural Capital Committee (NCC) will produce a ‘Stern report’ on resource use, identifying resources being used unsustainably and recommending legally binding targets for reducing net consumption.
- Pass a Nature Act that will include:
 - Putting the NCC on a statutory footing, set natural capital targets, including on clean water, and empower the NCC to recommend actions to meet these targets;
 - Transposition of EU water quality targets into UK law;
 - A sustainable water abstraction regime.
- Encourage the uptake of water metering, including introducing metering in all defined water-stressed areas by 2025, coupled with the development of national social tariffs to protect low income households.

SNP (see [here](#))

- Will support businesses, the third sector and public sector organisations working to boost productivity by using energy, materials and water more efficiently.