

Chapter 12

Target area: Water



What have we been doing?

Reduction in water consumption has been achieved by the careful management of this precious resource. Waterless urinals are now installed across the estate where suitable and any refurbishment or replacement works are conducted using fixtures with reduced water flow.

The autoflush trial in Birmingham, Five Ways House was inconclusive and requires further analysis; no further installations are planned at this time. However a rollout

programme is planned for a new device – ‘flushwiser’, currently undergoing trials to establish the optimum setting. This small device is easy to fit in to existing cisterns and effectively replaces some of the water in the cistern with air, whilst maintaining the flush force. These small devices which can save between 1 and 4 litres per flush are expected to deliver approximately 10% water saving across the estate.

Further work is needed to enable us to monitor accurate progress against the 3m³ target. Work has commenced with LST to identify water consumption from new buildings but data for refurbishments needs careful analysis as often only part of a building may be refurbished. Unless separate meters have been installed, there is no accurate way to identify water usage from one particular part of a building, or the number of people who use those facilities.

Targets in detail

WATER CONSUMPTION

- Reduce consumption by 25%, by 2020, relative to 2004/05 levels.
- Reduce water consumption to an average of 3m³ per person/year for all new office builds or major office refurbishments.

At a glance...

- 28% reduction in consumption against baseline.
- Consumed 922,491m³ of water.
- 2020 target already achieved.
- New technology will deliver further savings.