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Stepping up our dry weather preparations

20 June 2025

If you have any questions regarding this update, please e-mail: community@southeastwater.co.uk

What's the latest?

I am writing to you as one of our valued stakeholders to provide you with the latest information on our dry weather preparations.

Met Office reports show that it's been the warmest March and April since records began in 1884, particularly in South East England. The latest data shows that rainfall in the south east of England up to mid-June was 36% of the Long-Term Average. This combination of heat and sunshine, coupled with very low rainfall, has created challenging conditions across much of the country for agriculture and water resources.

A word from our Head of Water Resources, Nick Price

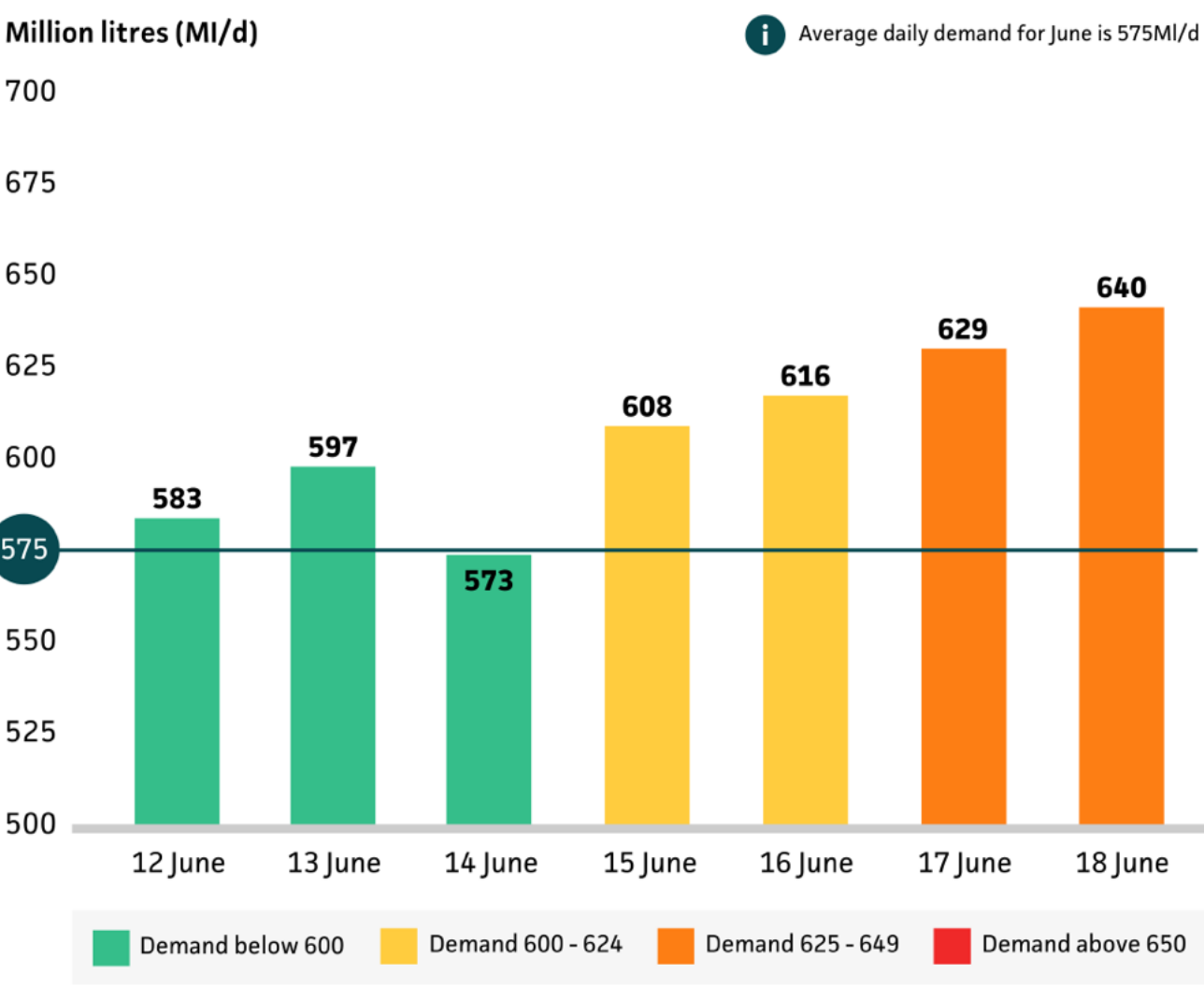


The warmer weather we've been experiencing during the past few months, combined with the lack of rainfall, has seen demand for water increase to the highest levels we have ever seen for this time of year, reaching 640 million litres yesterday, 96 million litres a day more than the yearly average.

Water levels in all of our reservoirs and underground aquifers were in a healthy position as we moved into spring following the winter rainfall, however water levels are now falling as a result of the dry three months we have just experienced.

Daily water demand

12 - 18 June 2025



Please note: Figures may change following audit reviews



Demand for water is increasing as the temperature is increasing, putting extra strain on our resources.

What we're asking customers to do

We're encouraging our customers to think about their water use.

Top tips include:

- Add a cover to paddling pools to ensure they can be used more than once and when finished reuse the water in the garden.
- Put the jet wash away for now. If they need to wash their car, then use a bucket and sponge instead.
- Collect clean cold water from baths, showers and sinks whilst waiting for it to heat up to reuse elsewhere, such as in the garden.
- There's no need to water lawns, they're designed to go golden and withstand hot summer months. It will bounce back again when it rains again.

Making these simple changes now helps keep the taps flowing for everyone and prevents further measures.

What we're doing

While we're asking our customers to help, we're playing our part in reducing water use too, by:

- Stepping up our leak detection with more teams out finding and fixing leaks than ever before.
- Suspending our pipeline flushing programme.
- Appointed a dedicated Alternative Water Manager and bought 10 additional water tankers. So far, 5 have been delivered with the rest set to come later in 2025.

How you can help

You'll hopefully see an increase in messaging promoting the need to be water efficient coming from us which we urge you to share on your social media channels, in your newsletters and on your websites.

Facebook: [@sewateruk](#)

X: [@sewateruk](#)

Instagram: [officialsewateruk](#)

We also have a whole host of information on our website: southeastwater.co.uk/waterlatest

If you need anything more specific from us, please click the button below.

[e-mail us](#)

[Visit our interactive map here](#)

The Source

We're working hard to make sure we meet the needs of our customers, now and in the future.

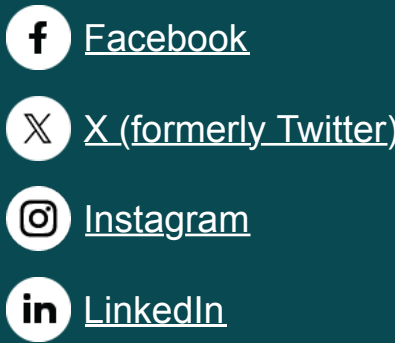
To do this, it's really important we keep in touch with our stakeholders, like you. We want to share important updates with you, and find out what you think about the work we're doing. Your feedback helps us make the right decisions for the future.

We know it's helpful for you to know about the important work we're doing, and we'd like to keep you updated via our stakeholder newsletter, 'The Source'.

[Click here to sign up to our quarterly stakeholder newsletter](#)

Kindest regards

Douglas Whitfield
Operations Director



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