



Leaky Loos - Summary Position Statement

Fixing leaky loos can reduce water wastage, lower customers bills and increase resilience to drought.

- A leaking toilet wastes between 215 and 400 litres of clean drinking water on average every day. It's like having a couple of extra people using water in your home!
- Between 5 and 8% of toilets are leaking, mostly dual flush toilets. Fixing one can halve a customer's water bill if they pay by meter, but most customers are unaware their toilet is leaking.
- Around 400 million litres of water is estimated to leak from UK toilets every day, which is enough water to supply 2.8 million people - the populations of Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Sheffield, Liverpool and Bristol combined.
- Fixing leaky loos could contribute around 10% of the additional water capacity needed to cope with an extreme drought in England by 2050.

We urgently need a UK-wide approach to dealing with Leaky Loos, to include:

- A **national campaign**, coordinated by Waterwise, to **raise awareness** of leaky loos amongst domestic and business water customers, fittings manufacturers, plumbers, housebuilders, water industry leaders and government policy makers.
- A review of conformity performance **testing** standards for the relevant products, along with the effectiveness of self-certification, **approval** schemes, labelling and **enforcement** processes. Successful testing should ensure that products, cannot cause such significant water loss issues, whether they are approved or self-declared.
- A **scaling up** by the water sector of **best practice** approaches to **find and fix leaky loos** in both domestic and business users (to include providing information in bills, distributing leak strips, analysis of meter data, targeted home and business visits).



To support the above Waterwise will be working with the UK Water Efficiency Strategy Steering Group to commission further research into leaky loos and how to prevent them.