

Worked examples – testing your drought plan against a range of droughts scenarios

Published: 02/09/2019

As part of your drought plan you should provide selected worked examples to show how you would expect your drought plan to work under a range of droughts.

Your examples should:

- demonstrate how your drought triggers would work in different droughts
- show what actions you'd take in different droughts
- demonstrate the expected time frames and durations for your actions
- show what the effects of a range of droughts such as the worst drought on record

You should test your plan against a selection of different types of drought, as detailed in the guidelines. You should explain the conditions for how the drought example developed and give detail as to which parts of your system were most significantly affected. You should present this as relevant graphs for each of your water resource zones and annotate it to show where your drought trigger points are crossed and when you will carry out the associated actions (example below).

We expect you to clearly show the timings of when you will prepare for and then carry out your various drought management actions to make sure the actions are implemented in time, as well as displaying how these various actions will improve the water resource position for your indicator site so delaying further actions. You should also indicate how these actions correspond to the level of drought restrictions – i.e. levels 1 to 4.

An example of the sorts of actions you may want to include on your graph are:

- actions to optimise existing sources
- contacting Environment Agency to discuss the situation
- enhanced media campaigns – including requests for voluntary restraint
- enhanced leakage management
- rescheduling planned maintenance if possible
- fast tracking any infrastructure improvements
- planning for, advertising and then implementing TUBs, including how far in advance of any drought permits or orders you would aim to do this
- prepare to apply for drought permits or orders
- send formal application for drought permit or order
- hearing held if needed

- permit granted
- implement drought permit or order
- timing of implementing any non-essential use drought orders
- pressure control
- bulk transfers – either limiting your own or enhancing ones from other water companies
- discussions with neighbouring water companies about initiating a change to bulk supply arrangements

Worked example showing drought triggers and associated actions



