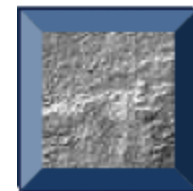




# Local water: the challenge and the prize for the ensuring council as a steward of water

Philip Monaghan, CEO, Infrangilis

Oxford, 17<sup>th</sup> July 2014



**Infrangilis**

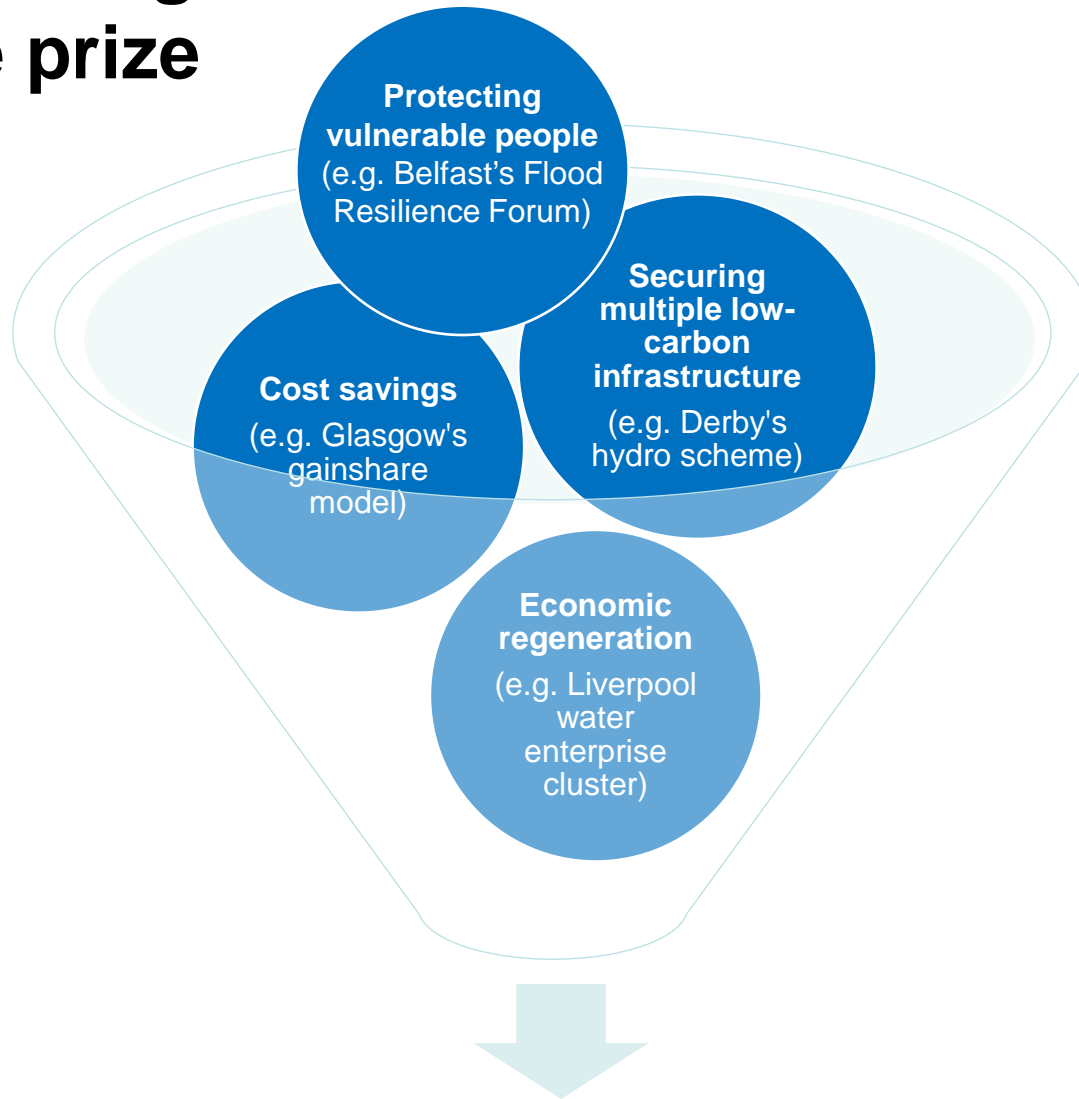
Resilience in practice



# A perfect storm (quite literally)

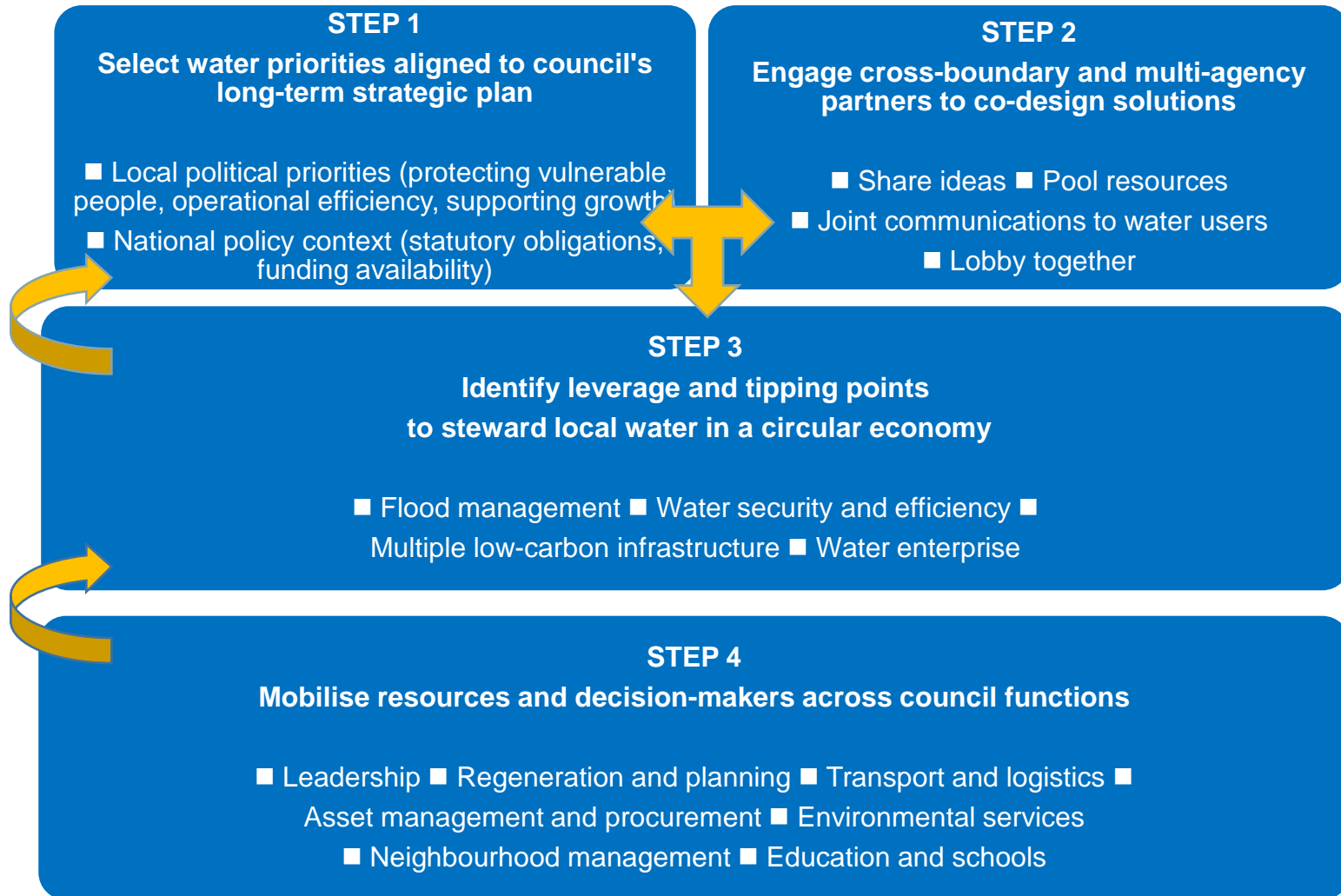
- The alarming **scale of the water emergency**: too much water, too little water
- Austerity **budget cuts**: councils and council partners, e.g. Environment Agency
- Increase in **statutory duties or local political pressures** which compete with other priorities, e.g. Flood and Water Management Act

# The challenge and the prize



Shaping the business case for local water stewardship

# An integrated approach to local water stewardship





# APSE policy recommendations to Government (1/2)

- Refresh the **National Infrastructure Plan** by setting out the long-term vision for the system planning of, and investment in, a UK water asset framework
- Redefine the **criteria for Grant in Aid** in recognition of the relation between water and the multiple benefits of low-carbon infrastructure development (e.g. energy, transport, land and housing, and green spaces)
- Ring-fence budgets and staff involved in flood or drought defence in any **restructuring of environmental agencies** or other support organisations



# APSE policy recommendations to Government (2/2)

- Reboot the **National Planning Policy Framework** so that all new commercial and residential buildings in water sensitive zones are required to be flood and drought resilient
- Request that OFWAT and the National Consumer Council for Water strengthen the **accountability of utility companies** on water emergencies to local elected politicians and consumers
- Ensure the strong voice of local authorities is at the top table for implementing the UK's new vision for **water technology exports** to boost economic competitiveness