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# Your Guide to Business Water Deregulation



**Black Sheep Utilities** 



## What has happened?

Recent changes to the water market, which came in to effect on 1 April 2017, mean that most businesses and organisations in England can now choose which company they want to supply their retail water services.

Water deregulation is intended to increase competition, ultimately saving your business money.

Over 1.2 million eligible businesses, charities and public sector customers are no longer restricted to buying retail water services from their regional water company. Instead, they are now free to choose their water retailer.

By having the freedom to choose, your business could save water, spend less and get other benefits. Water deregulation is intended to increase competition, ultimately saving your business money.

## This is the biggest change to the water industry since privatization.

Historically business water supplies were billed based on the geographical location of the business by a single supplier who operated as a regional monopoly.

Now the Supply and Retail is completely separate. Your old water supplier will no longer be sending you bills. This may sound alarming but it is the case across the country and for now you will be billed at the same rate.

#### See who your new supplier is

Anglian Northumbrian Southern Severn Trent South West Thames United Utilities Wessex Yorkshire Affinity Bournemouth Bristol Cambridge Portsmouth South East Sutton & East Surrey South Staffs Essex & Suffolk Hartlepool

Anglian Water Business Wave **Business Stream** Water Plus Source for Business Castle Water Water Plus Water2Business Three Sixty Affinity Source for Business Water2Business Cambridge Water **Castle Water** South East Water Choice Sutton & East Surrey Business Source for Business Wave Anglian Water Business

### WHO'S WHO IN THE MARKET FOR WATER?



#### Customers

There are 1.2 million non-household customers in England eligible to choose their supplier of retail services. There are an additional 130,000 business customers in Scotland.



#### Wholesalers

Appointed companies that own and operate the network of pipes, mains and treatment works. They act as the wholesalers in the market, selling water and wastewater services to retail suppliers.

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#### **Retail suppliers**

Retail suppliers are able to compete for the custom of all eligible business customers.

Now is the perfect time to arrange a new contract.

The new business water retailers can increase your water costs at their discretion as you will not currently be in a fixed price water contract.

## HOW DO YOU CHOOSE A NEW WATER RETAILER?

Most businesses are choosing to use intermediaries to help secure the best contracts.

As deregulation in England has only recently happened most organizations have no experience of negotiating water contracts. It can be difficult to make sure you get the best deal for your company with the best suppliers.



Since 2008, Scottish businesses have saved £65 million in costs





Since 2008, water consumption has reduced by 16 billion litres

Since 2008, customer service satisfaction levels have increased by 26%

The benefits of a deregulated market are unparalleled... BUT Only if customers are proactive. The industry is relying on apathy to make a profit. That's why we're here!

## WHAT IF YOUR BUSINESS HAS MORE THAN ONE WATER SUPPLY?

Let's say you have five different sites in five different parts of the country. Currently, you get five different bills from five different suppliers, none of which you chose. After April 1st, you'll be able to move all your sites to a single supplier of your choosing, simplifying every aspect of your water supply management and billing.

## WHAT'S INVOLVED IN CHANGING SUPPLIER?

Our team make it as easy for you as possible. All we need to do is confirm your full business address and we can use an industry database to find your current meter details, water usage and waste usage we can even find your exact current costs. This means you don't even need to search for a bill or try and understand its jargon filled content.





Our team will approach all the most competitive water retailers and negotiate bespoke rates for your future water supply for your future water supply.

There are an additional 130,000 business customers in Scotland. Once you're happy with the offer provided we will do everything to make sure your contract is transferred to your new supplier.wholesalers in the market, selling water and wastewater services to retail suppliers. Our team will give you a completely independent and transparent breakdown of your current and future water costs.

## WHAT CAN BLACK SHEEP UTILITIES DO FOR YOU?





One of the largest business energy consultancies in the UK. We've helped over 10,000 businesses save money on their utilities.



Our team manage an energy portfolio of over £1.2 billion







Established relationships with over 30 different suppliers.

We have dedicated UK based customer service team to help our customers

We take pride in what we do and care about our customers.

Let us help your business, "Ewe won't be disappointed"

## ABOUT BLACK SHEEP

With nearly a decade of experience in the water industry we've helped 1000's of organisations save money in Scotland since deregulation in 2008 We've helped over 10,000 of Black Sheep Utilities customers reduce their energy costs, now we can also help reduce your water costs. We can help you choose the right supplier, saving your business money, no matter how much water your business uses.

CALL ONE OF OUR CONSULTANTS.

WE ARE HAPPY TO HELP

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