



# Opening Keynote

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**Pauline Walsh**

Chief Executive  
Affinity Water

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The background of the slide is a white surface with a large, dark blue, irregular splash or stain in the center. The splash has a textured, water-like appearance with some lighter blue and greyish areas around its edges. The text is centered within the dark blue area.

# Water UK Public Interest Commitment - Leakage



# 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Leakage Conference

**Delivering on the  
leakage reduction  
targets for AMP7 and  
beyond**

# Background to the Leakage Public Interest Commitment

- In April 2019, the industry announced its five Public Interest Commitments (PIC)

The leakage PIC is sponsored by Three CEOs:

- Pauline Walsh at Affinity Water
- Peter Simpson at Anglian Water
- Bob Taylor at Portsmouth Water

**Collaboration is key – no company can do this alone**

# Why is leakage so important?

## Environmental concerns continue to rise

- Wider appreciation of green spaces and local rivers since Covid lockdowns
- More people wanting to take-action against climate change

## Going above and beyond to tackle climate crisis

- Everyone has an important role to play
- Reducing leakage to world class levels is essential to help meet our climate commitments and the long-term sustainability of water



## Reducing leakage is key to how the industry is perceived

- We need customers by our side to achieve long term sustainability
- If we are seen to fail on leakage – customers are less likely to play their part too
- Collaboration between companies, regulators and supply chain partners is essential – we cannot do this alone.



# Challenges



**Covid-19 - a once in a hundred-year global pandemic**



**Continuing to deliver an essential public service, whilst meeting our commitments**



**Treble the rate of leakage reduction by 2030**

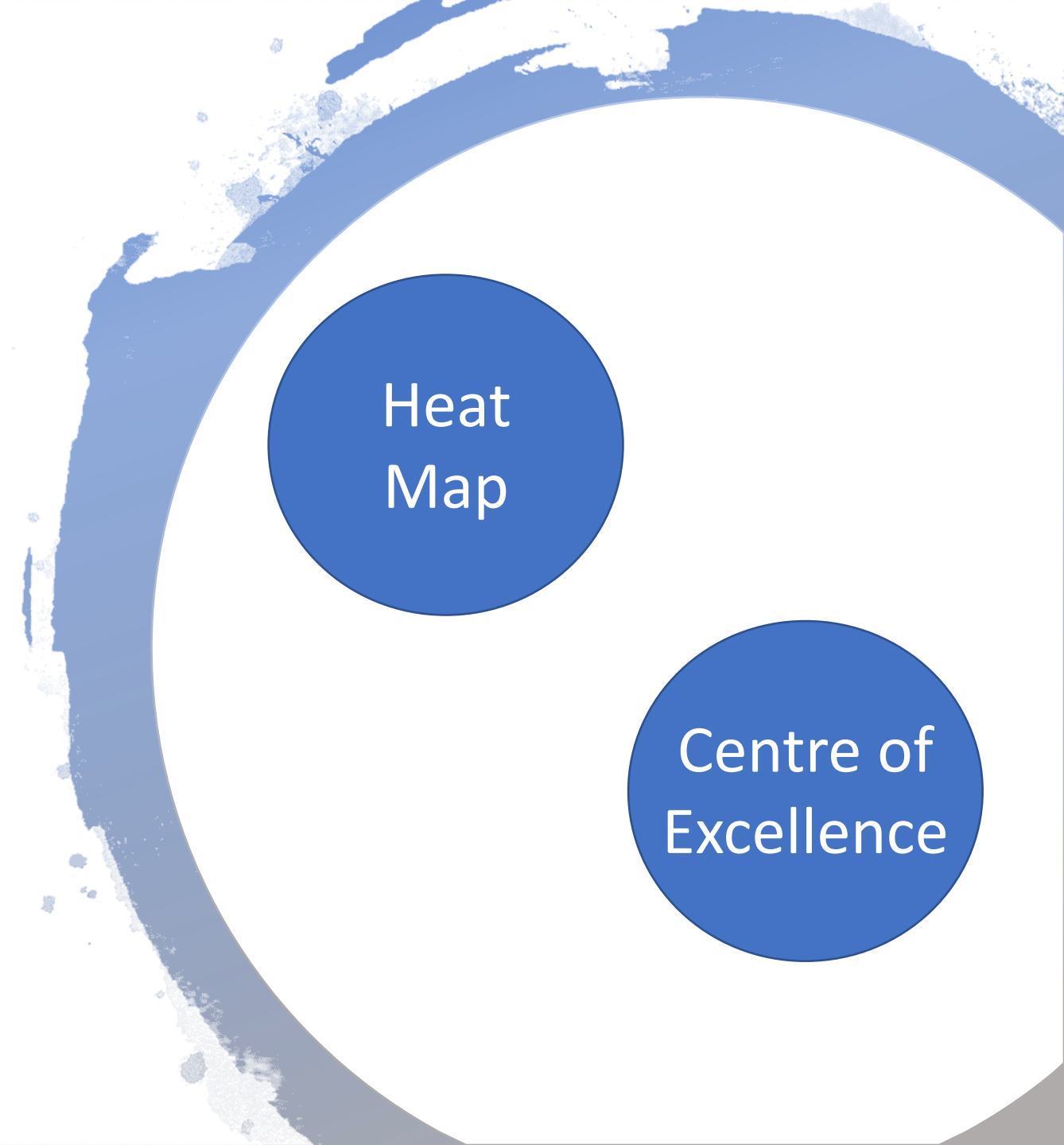
# Leakage PIC priorities

## Heat Map

- Drives efficiencies and collaboration through a centralised database
- Promotes information sharing
- Learning best practice from each other

## Centre of Excellence

- Transforming the way the sector collaborates and innovates
- A dedicated team to manage groups and broker cross sector collaboration
- Foster innovation through a 'Proposals Portal'



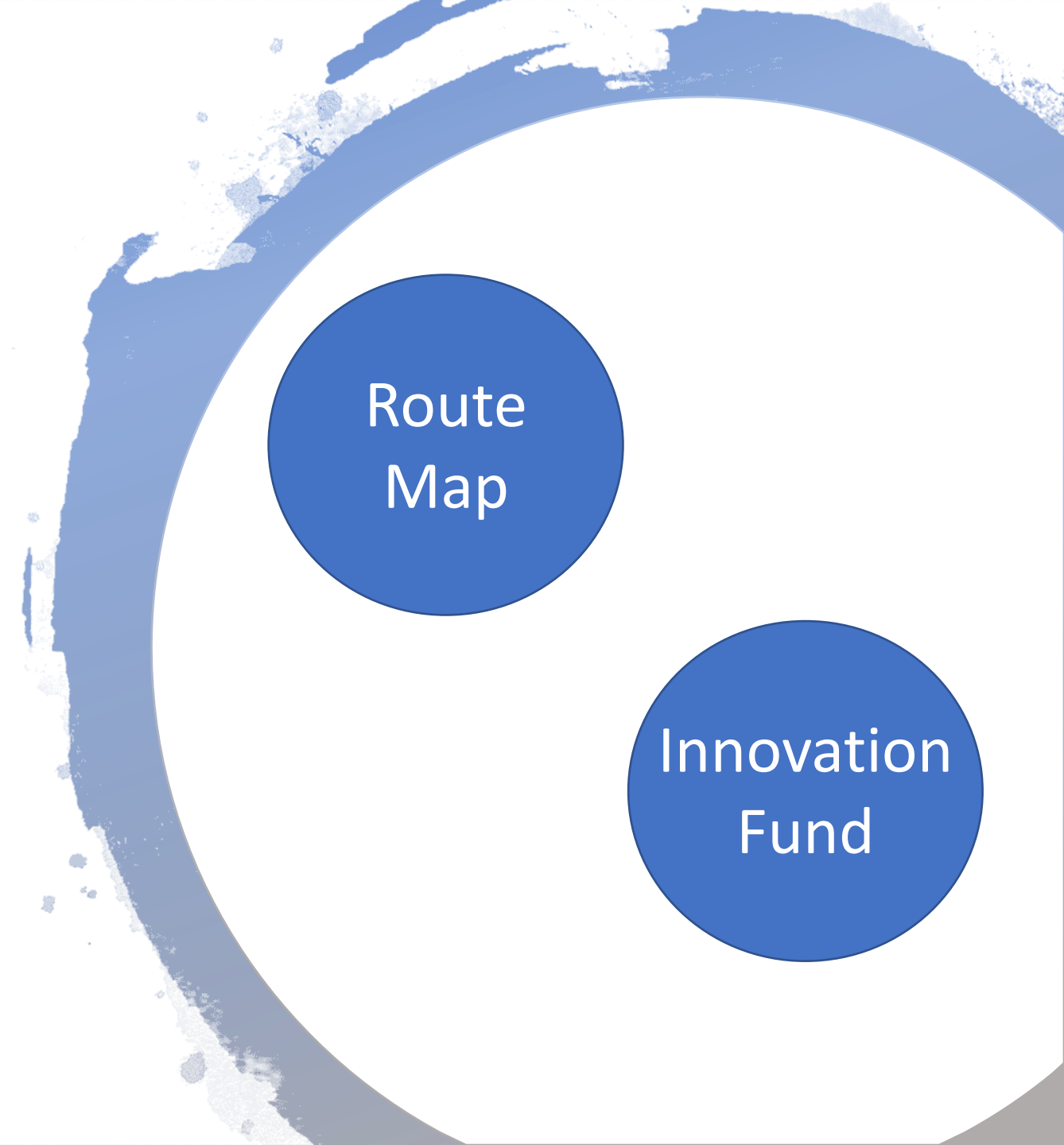
# Leakage PIC priorities

## Innovation Fund

- Exciting opportunity for the sector
- £200m fund with themes that resonate with leakage PIC
- Emphasises collaboration and innovation

## Route Map

- Water industry Route Map to Net Zero has potential to position us as global leaders
- Leakage Route Map must learn from this to set clear guidance, commitments and timeframes



A hand is shown drawing puzzle pieces on a whiteboard. The word 'PARTNER' is written on one piece, and 'SHIP' is written on another. The hand is holding a white marker and is in the process of drawing a piece.

# Innovation highlights

## The latest technology and processes to drive down leakage

Essex & Suffolk Water has teamed up with utility giants SUEZ and satellite experts Utilis, to harness the power of space satellites to help spot leaks on its network

## Partnerships are flourishing

Yorkshire Water has started the largest and most extensive smart water network pilot in the UK, collaborating with 15 companies in the digital water space

## Sharing our knowledge is key to success

- At Affinity, we are using the latest in Artificial Intelligence, data science and machine learning to understand leakage patterns and trends – a **major breakthrough**
- Real time data available for leakage teams – minimises manual intervention
- Feeds into Situational Awareness digital tool to identify other potential impacts

**Open data is important to the industry and we are willing to share this innovation**

