



aiimi

The asset health data challenge:

How to get ahead of regulatory demands and drive sharper decision-making.

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS GUIDE

- The regulatory shifts shaping the future of UK water
- Why data quality and completeness are now business critical
- How to use AI to unlock insight from asset data
- Practical steps to prepare for evolving reporting demands
- Real-world examples of improving asset data outcomes.

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AIIMI IN WATER

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Foreword by Aiimi CEO, Steve Salvin ↘

“By 2036, we could be looking at a very different UK water sector.”

The independent review led by Sir Jon Cunliffe — and the UK Government’s “A New Vision for Water” whitepaper — together signal one of the most significant shifts in how the UK will govern, regulate, and invest in its water infrastructure. By 2036, we could be looking at a very different UK water sector.

For water companies struggling with ageing assets and strained infrastructure, the challenge — and opportunity — to transform data and digital is immense. Particularly as a new regulator promises to draw focus to data quality, transparency (including publicly accessible open data), and real-time reporting requirements.

01 / 04 ↘

I have four key takeaways on the report's strategic priorities:

01 / 04

Data completeness. Incomplete structured asset records risk under-representing condition and maintenance needs — with real implications for expenditure planning and regulatory compliance.

02 / 04

Foundational data quality and governance. As regulators push for enhanced reporting and ISO-aligned asset management frameworks, data governance isn’t just a back-office concern, it’s a strategic capability.

03 / 04

Unstructured data to bridge critical gaps. Field reports, inspection logs, engineering notes, PDFs and other “dark data” often hold the only evidence of historical repairs or nuanced asset condition insights: bringing this into the fold enriches the structured view and supports better decisions.

04 / 04

AI and automation to unlock scale. Without tech-enabled discovery, classification, and integration, organisations risk drowning in data while starving for insight, especially as regulators expect a more complete picture of asset health.

Asset Health Data is a priority AMP8 challenge, and I’m committed to helping the sector get to grips with their new requirements and use technology to make progress.

Steve Salvin,
Aiimi CEO

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A call to action for water companies.

In November 2025, we saw a step change in Ofwat's expectations surrounding asset data. In particular, Ofwat required water companies to submit their first asset dataset as part of its roadmap for enhancing understanding asset health in the industry. While this 'soft launch' initially focused on a subset of asset types, it's expected that the breadth and depth of regulatory requirements will continue to grow, following the wider consultation with water companies that's been ongoing since January 2025.

Maintaining the health of core assets is crucial for ensuring long-term operational resilience in the water sector. This year, Ofwat is already putting in place requirements for water companies to report on the health of priority assets, to help maintain and improve the long-term health of their assets and facilitate appropriate investment throughout the asset lifecycle.

In this guide, we'll outline the key requirements that are under consideration for the remainder of 2026 and how water companies can start to get themselves – and their data – ready for Ofwat's proposed regulations on asset health.

What is Ofwat's proposal to enhance asset health using data?

The new data initiative aims to improve the sector's understanding of asset

health, focusing on a broader set of assets aligned to Ofwat's developing Asset Data Hierarchy (ADH) over the 2025-27 period. The ultimate goal is to determine if additional base expenditure allowances are needed to address sector-wide asset health issues before PR29.

Ofwat is engaging with stakeholders through consultations this year to refine the proposal and gather feedback on various aspects, such as transition periods for certification and the scope of the asset management system. These sessions aim to develop an asset inventory, identify priority assets, and establish the kind of data needed to understand asset health comprehensively. The focus is on collecting additional asset health and condition data for a subset of assets to assess whether there is a need for additional allowances during the 2025-30 period.

Ofwat's Asset Health Data Proposal – Key Points.

We took documentation relating to Ofwat's asset health proposal, and asked our Workplace AI platform to summarise the key changes:

01/ Licence Modification & ISO 55001:2024 Compliance: Ofwat intends to introduce a new licence condition that leverages international standards for asset management, specifically ISO 55001:2024. This condition will encourage water companies to attain and maintain certification, demonstrating they have appropriate systems in place for managing assets.

02/ Asset Self-Assessment Tools: Companies are encouraged to demonstrate their asset management maturity through regular self-assessments like the Institute of Asset Management's SAM+ tool. This tool helps measure capability against asset management standards and provides a framework for continuous improvement.

03/ Asset Condition and Health Data Collection: As part of the enhancing asset health understanding workstream, companies will collect asset condition and health data for a broader set of assets aligned to Ofwat's developing Asset Data Hierarchy (ADH). This includes data on asset condition surveys and

workload (i.e., refurbishment and replacement) data. Companies may need to provide inspection reports and data collected from a representative sample of assets to inform Ofwat's assessment of asset health.

04/ Data Collection for Historical Workload and Expenditure: Companies will be required to provide historical workload and expenditure data for the priority assets to better understand past investments and asset health.

05/ Ongoing Monitoring and Reporting: Companies will need to report on their compliance (with standards like ISO 55001:2024 recognised as best practice) and their progress against asset management maturity improvement plans. Ofwat is considering ways to incentivise good asset management performance and may publish companies' maturity scores to encourage improvement. Companies must also report progress against their asset management improvement plan.

AI SUMMARY BASED ON
PROPOSAL AS OF AUGUST 2025.

When does the asset health reporting requirement come in?

The new asset health reporting proposal includes a transition period for companies to achieve compliance, with plans to bring in the new licence modifications with a phased timeline extending through 2026, in line with updated Ofwat workshops.

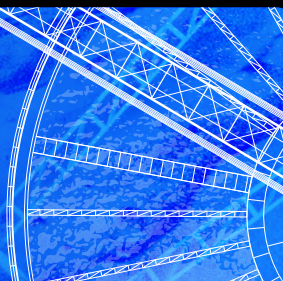
Ofwat has completed a consultation with companies to build up an asset inventory and define asset classes, establishing assets to focus on. Ofwat issued the workload and expenditure data request on 10th September 2025, asking water companies to provide data on historical workload and expenditure for priority assets.

How can water companies get their asset data ready for Ofwat's requirements?

The new proposal features data collection and reporting as core new requirements for water companies. To help the regulator gain a holistic view of asset health and make informed decisions about interventions, the requirements look to address inconsistencies in data quality and comparability across water companies and standardise the sector's approach to data collection.

For 2026's immediate requirements, here's how we recommend starting to prepare your asset health data collection capabilities.

Continued on next page →



Preparing asset health data at scale.

With Ofwat's requirements extending to cover thousands of assets and sub-assets, the incoming data reporting requirement is huge. With at least nine potential asset types to monitor, and approximately 18 health factors to maintain across these assets, there are tens of thousands of data points requiring discovery from a full array of data sources.

Accessing, collecting, and collating all necessary data points is key to accurately assess asset health under the proposed requirement. Incomplete data can lead to gaps in understanding the true condition of assets, potentially resulting in underinvestment or misallocation of resources.

To collate, integrate, and ensure data quality at this scale, data leaders need to be looking at AI-enabled automation for their data management and discovery, ready to cope with this demand and fulfil the immediate requirement to share standardised asset data at scale.

AI-powered search solutions can help specifically with:

01/ Building a complete, navigable data picture: Connecting to disparate data sources, water companies can create a live, centralised index of core asset health data to meet the new requirement. Allows teams to explore asset data and build the complete data picture to support asset health analysis.

02/ Using AI and ML to classify and label data at scale: Handling multiple file types and using AI to classify and label data appropriately – think automatic extraction of part numbers, locations, sensitivity markers, and stale or duplicate data. Ready to streamline data and supply what's needed for Ofwat's reporting requirements.

03/ Automating manual data processes: Reducing manual effort by automating regular data discovery and validation for dynamic data fields.



Integrating asset data and improving data quality.

The challenge with asset data is twofold: ensuring completeness and improving quality. Data must be high quality, accurate, and reliable – not just complete.

To support both data integration and data quality, water companies can leverage AI-powered search solutions to first support with data discovery and collation, and then with improving data quality at scale.

AI-powered search solutions can help specifically with:



Discovering and extracting key attributes: Automatically identifying and extracting specific asset information from a range of unstructured document sources.



Validating and populating data in core systems: Cross-referencing this extracted data with existing records in platforms such as SAP, filling gaps and enriching the completeness of asset records.

Once all relevant data points are captured and made accessible, and data quality is improved by interconnecting and enriching records with the data already available in disparate systems, then companies can identify and address improvements needed for their asset monitoring and sensor systems.

Ofwat's new requirements are an opportunity to invest in data.

As the sector embarks on this journey to enhance asset health understanding, addressing data completeness and quality challenges is a non-negotiable. This makes Ofwat's new requirements an opportunity to prioritise improving how you collect, manage, and use asset data in AMP8.

Ofwat's requirements can be used by water companies as a driving force for strategic investments in technology that handles asset data at scale, ensures data completeness, and improves data quality – throughout AMP8 and beyond.

INDUSTRY CASE STUDY ↗

Transforming asset data outcomes for a major UK water utility.

Historical challenges with data governance have resulted in low data quality and incomplete records in parts of the water sector. With increasing regulatory scrutiny, the industry is under pressure to demonstrate improved governance of data. Here's how one major utility plans to tackle the challenge.

Previously, one of our water customer's teams spent over 100 hours manually searching through unstructured historical data and resurveying assets to fill gaps in their records.

Aiimi's platform will enable them to connect structured and unstructured data for a unified view of asset information. This will significantly reduce the time taken to respond to asset data requests, minimise the number of systems and people involved, and increase the percentage of assets with complete document sets and key metadata.

Ultimately, this approach is designed to improve the success rate in finding the information needed, supporting both operational efficiency and regulatory compliance.

Learn more about Aiimi's work in water.
aiimi.com/solutions/water



Solution Spotlight AIIMI WORKPLACE AI PLATFORM

Get the full picture on asset data.

From legacy documents to sensor data – AI-powered data management puts maintaining asset health, ensuring compliance, and targeting innovation within reach for AMP8. Aiimi's Workplace AI platform enriches and connects your unstructured and structured asset data to raise quality and completeness, powering intuitive data discovery at scale.

How Workplace AI supports your asset health data.



Your complete data picture: The platform connects to disparate data sources to create a centralised index of core asset health data to support faster, more complete reporting and health analysis.



AI and ML classify data at scale: Intelligent AI handles multiple file types, classifying and labelling data at scale – including automatic extraction of part numbers, locations, sensitivity markers, and stale or duplicate data.



Integrate and augment asset databases: Automatically identify and extract specific asset information and metadata from unstructured document sources to validate and augment your structured health data in SAP, Maximo, or databases.



Automate manual data processes: Cut manual effort by automating regular data discovery, validating dynamic data fields, and creating reports on asset health.



Search that's tailored to you: Integrate with the sources that matter most and customise data enrichment to make data work harder for you, leveraging Aiimi's expertise in water and utilities.

“

We're establishing complete visibility of all data across our enterprise to further advance our asset knowledge maturity... The Aiimi platform will help us to reduce time spent searching for information spread across our corporate systems.

Richard Stirland,
Asset Data Team Manager,
Anglian Water

love every drop
anglianwater

Solution Spotlight AIIMI WORKPLACE AI PLATFORM

FIGURE 01 →

Are you ready for new Asset Health Maturity regulations in AMP8?

As Ofwat launches its proposed Asset Health Maturity requirements, a rich, high-quality, and complete asset data picture – across thousands of assets and sub-assets – matters more than ever. You need connected, complete asset health data reporting, made accessible in one platform.

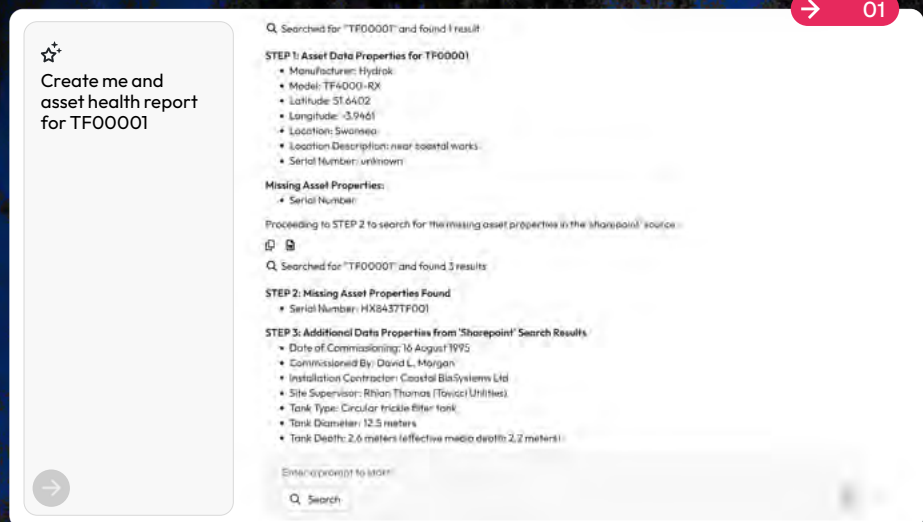


FIGURE 02 →

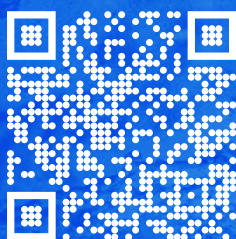
Support your Asset Health with enriched metadata.

By enriching asset-related documents and data using AI and Machine Learning-based techniques, Aiimi Workplace AI gives you a richer picture of your asset health, ready for reporting, compliance, and decision-making.

Relevant asset data is automatically located within unstructured content and populated into structured data records.

When integrating data across sources with various trust levels, users can configure rules to resolve conflicts, supported by manual data validation to keep accuracy high.

Page Filters		Field	Value	Source 1	Source 2
Asset Number	TF00001	Asset No.	TF00001		
Serial Number	HX8437TF001	Manufacturer	Hydrex		
		Model	TF4000-RX		
		Serial No.	HX8437TF001		
		Site Size	12 hectares		
		Tank Type	Circular		
		Construction Material	Reinforced concrete		
		Level	Below Ground		
		Chemical Usage	Sodium Hypochlorite, Ferric Sulphate, Polyelectrolyte		
		Volume (Size of Tank)	330m³		
		Install Date	16/08/1995		
		Condition	Moderate rust		
		Media	Structured plastic media		
		Corrosion	Light surface rust		



SCAN THE QR CODE
OR CLICK THE LINK

DISCOVER ENTERPRISE AI SEARCH

The power of AI search, with complete confidence, precision, and control.

Built on a scalable and secure foundation, Aiimi Workplace AI delivers true enterprise AI search across asset data. It combines semantic search, data classification, our RAG engine, and LLM selection with full explainability and citation, security, and audit tools – all in one powerful platform.

aiimi.com/platform/enterprise-ai-search

Take steps towards smarter Asset Health Data Management. Book a solution demo.

We'll take you through the platform's capabilities, exploring Asset Health Data management powered by AI. **Get in touch today and reference 'Asset Health Data'.**

Nick Williams

Water Sector Lead

@ nwilliams@aiimi.com

in www.linkedin.com/in/nick-williams-0b8baa48/

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WE ARE AIIMI.

POWERING AI
EVERYWHERE
AT WORK.

[AIIMI.COM](https://aiimi.com)

About Aiimi

Aiimi is a trusted data, digital, and AI partner to the water sector, working with UK water companies including Anglian Water, Northumbrian Water, and Yorkshire Water and an active member of the UK Water Partnership. In AMP7, our expert teams delivered over 180 projects in the water sector, and our Workplace AI Platform is enabling water leaders to manage, protect, and unlock the value of their data with AI.