



## Water bill announcement 'rearranging deckchairs on titanic'

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GMB has described today's water bill announcement on water bills as 'rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic'.

Water bills in England and Wales are set to fall by an average of £50 between 2020 and 2025, under plans published by the industry regulator.

**“ If the UK is going to meet Climate Change commitments and make sure water is affordable, we must scrap the privatised 'water racket' which has been in place for the last 30 years and take it back water into public hands.**

**Stuart Fegan, GMB National Officer**

Since privatisation of water in 1989, bills in England and Wales have increased by 40% above inflation while shareholders pocket billions of pounds.

**Stuart Fegan, GMB National Officer, said:**

"The speech given by the Environment Secretary Michael Gove yesterday and the announcement by Ofwat today regarding the recent performance of Water Companies in England is simply just rearranging the deck-chairs on the Titanic

"What water customers really want to know is how will water companies improve their



awful performance - particularly around pollution incidents and leakage.

“Many companies, including Southern Water, are making vital staff redundant in order to maintain dividends to shareholders and the meet the requirements placed on them by the Ofwat.

“Water is a precious resource. If the UK is going to meet Climate Change commitments and make sure water is affordable, we must scrap the privatised 'water racket' which has been in place for the last 30 years and take it back water into public hands.”

