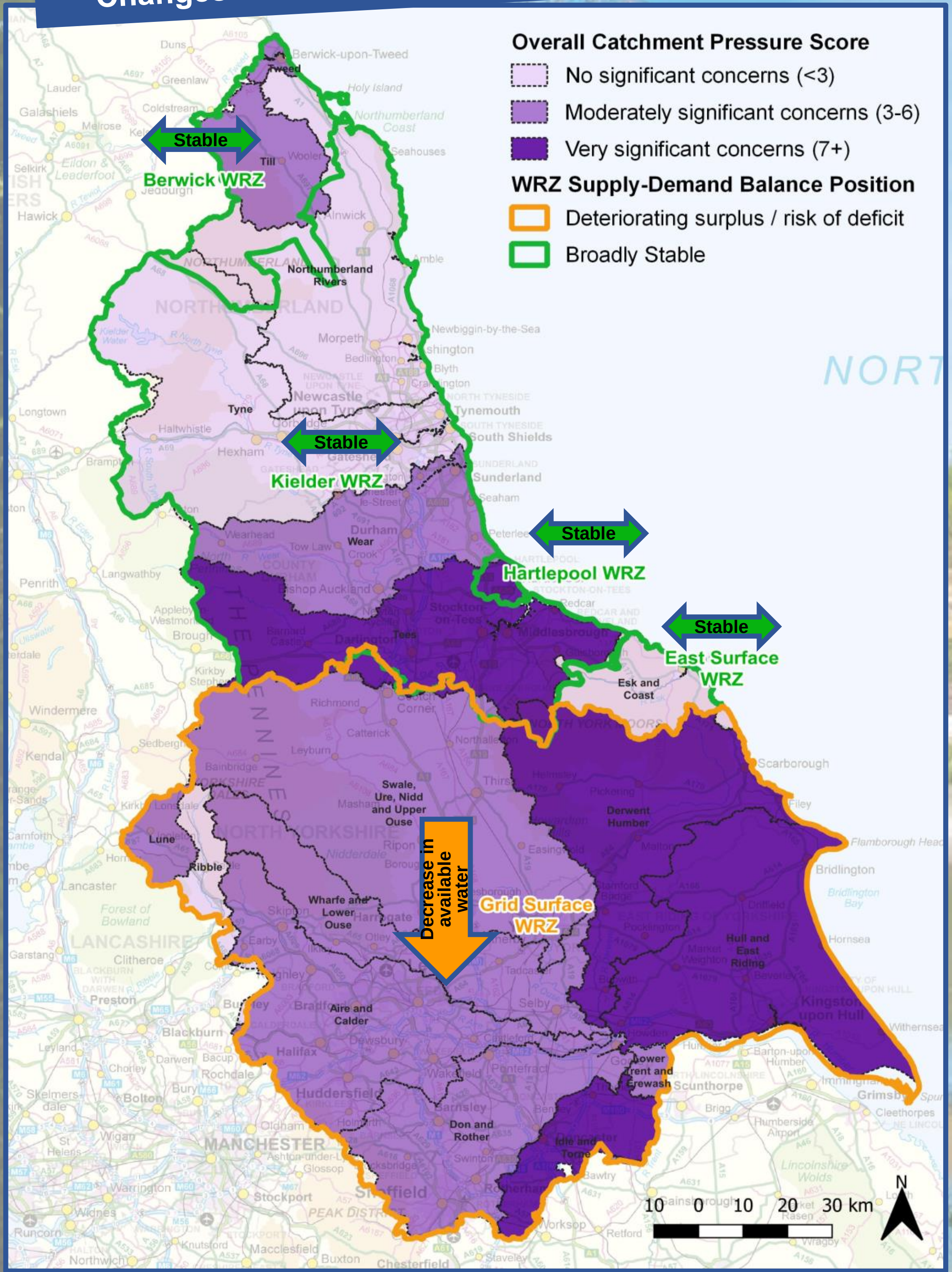
February 2021 Revised Water Resources Position Statement: Summary on a Page

WReN Water Resources North

Our Revised Water Resources Position Statement (RRPS21) presents an update on our regional position as of February 2021 and summary of our progress towards our first Regional Plan. It outlines our progress since March 2020, when we published our Initial Resources Position (IRP20). This set out an early view of water resources in our region. This is a high level summary to complement the main report.

Changes in water resources pressures since IRP20



What we have done since IRP20

Stakeholder Engagement
Set up steering group meetings and specific sector meetings to understand the water resources challenges and opportunities across our region, and which catchments are under greater pressure

Drought Resilience
WReN water companies have developed new hydrological models to allow more severe droughts to be tested.

Methodology development
Published a summary of our method to build the plan in July 2020 and have built on this to develop our approach to our Regional Plan

Environmental Destination
Analysed data provided by the Environment Agency on future environmental impacts, and are working with stakeholders to develop our environmental ambition for the region

What are we doing next?

August 2021 Draft Plan
We are putting together a draft regional plan which will outline the regions needs, present a regional supply-demand balance, and outline potential regional options

Stakeholder Engagement
Ongoing meetings to further refine our understanding of key sector needs and challenges, to shape the plan and inform priority catchments for option development

Regional Plan Reconciliation
Following the production of the draft plan we will be working closely with other regional groups, water companies and stakeholders to ensure plans and options align

Environmental Destination
Continue working with stakeholders to develop our long term environmental destination for the region

Regional option development
We are working with neighbouring companies and regions to understand potential water transfer opportunities. Please see map below / full report for further details.

What do we know now?

National resilience	Our IRP20 showed we currently have a water resources surplus at a regional level. However, we expect there to be upward pressure on demand in the future, with increased in population and growth of water use in other sectors such as energy and agriculture. We have calculated scores to highlight catchments that are experiencing multiple concerns for priority further study, shown in purple shades on the map. However, at a regional scale we expect to remain in surplus and are investigating transfer options that might help to support other regions and national resilience.
Public water supply	In the Yorkshire Grid, the dual impacts of increased demand and climate change are indicating a reduced surplus and potentially a deficit. In our Berwick zone, supplies remain stable but they are sensitive our environmental destination. For both zones, we expect that the likely scale of any deficits will be modest. Kielder, Hartlepool and Yorkshire East are expected to remain in surplus.
Other sectors	In our IRP20, we presented data for sectors that abstract their own water from the environment, based on information that was included in the Water Resource National Framework. We expect future needs for these sectors to increase, but this is very uncertain, so we have been working closely with key stakeholders over the last year to better understand their future needs.
Environ -ment	For our region, we may experience potential long-term reductions in abstraction from 74 Ml/d (‘Business as Usual’ scenario), to 336 Ml/d (‘Enhanced’ scenario), although this is very high level. This is an key area for us to further refine with all sectors, as we develop our Regional Plan.
Climate change & drought	For the our Regional Plan, we will update our assessment of drought & climate impacts using the latest UKCP18 projections. We expect that the impact of climate change will be more severe compared to previous assessments, although not as great as will affect other regions. In the future there will be a greater chance of hotter, drier summers and warmer, wetter winters.

Potential Regional Transfer Options