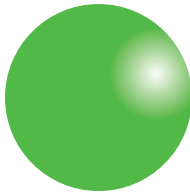
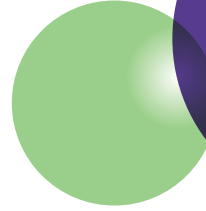


**business stream**

A SCOTTISH WATER COMPANY



case studies



## Water efficiency lessons prove beneficial for West Dunbartonshire's schools Business Stream unearths £56,000 year on year savings for West Dunbartonshire Council



When West Dunbartonshire Council first approached Business Stream, their major priority was to reduce their water consumption levels and identify where the largest savings could be made.

They were aware that water consumption levels varied widely across many of their schools. Leaks, poorly adjusted valves and inefficiencies were responsible but without being able to monitor fluctuation levels they were unable to address these problems.

With the help of Business Stream the Council was able to significantly reduce their water consumption levels, resulting in year on year savings of over £56,000.

### Business Requirements

West Dunbartonshire Council administers a vast region west of Scotland stretching from Glasgow's outskirts to the banks of Loch Lomond which is home to 93,000 people. A major responsibility of the council is the provision and management of all the schools in the area which includes 40 primary schools and seven large secondary schools. Improving efficiency and reducing costs are key priorities for most public authorities so when the Council's Corporate Procurement Officer, Alison Wood called on the services of Business Stream she was keen to identify potential savings as well as improve water efficiency across many of their schools.

### Solution

Business Stream's water experts suggested the Council benchmark its consumption levels against recognised national standards.

Benchmarking was able to highlight those schools with the greatest potential for savings. Taking into account the number of pupils and the floor areas of each school, five schools were identified as having excessive water consumption.

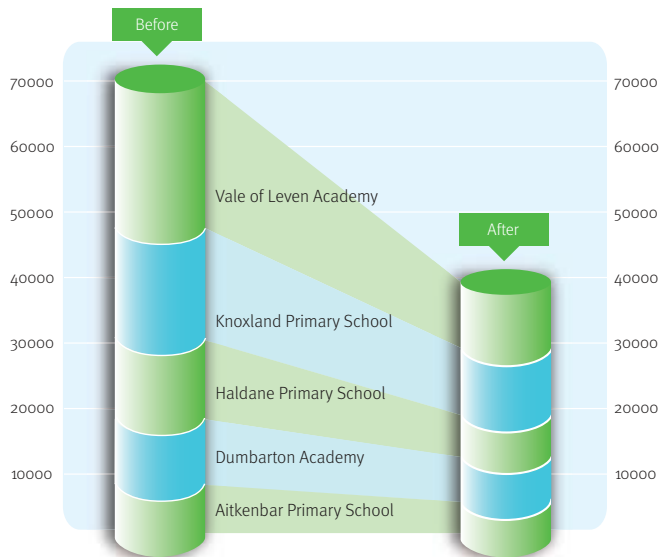
Business Stream then installed smart meters in each of these five schools to provide more in-depth meter reads. Smart meters provide a number of benefits, including the ability to control and monitor water usage in real-time. They are able to gather and record water readings every 15 minutes allowing you to monitor consumption patterns as well as identify leaks and wastage.

The combined use of benchmarking and the installation of smart meter technology enabled the team to gather detailed data which was used to identify a number of leaks across the five schools.





## West Dunbartonshire School's water consumption in cubic meters before and after leakage repairs



### Contact information

To find out how we can make water work for you, please get in touch

- **Online:** [www.business-stream.co.uk](http://www.business-stream.co.uk)
- **By email:** [customer.service@business-stream.co.uk](mailto:customer.service@business-stream.co.uk)
- **By phone:** 0845 602 8855
- **By post:** 55 Buckstone Terrace, Edinburgh, EH10 6XH

When the work was fully completed the Business Stream team was able to provide the Council with a series of water management recommendations to enhance their water efficiency.

### Business Benefits

The project delivered the Council a number of business benefits. Firstly the annual water consumption in these five schools fell by 31,000 cubic metres, which is a staggering 44% compared to the previous year's total, significantly improving their water efficiency.

Improved water efficiency also resulted in major savings for the Council. These five sites alone are now saving West Dunbartonshire Council over £56,000 a year in water and sewerage charges.

#### Alison Wood

Corporate Procurement Officer,  
West Dunbartonshire Council

“All organisations with substantial property holdings are becoming aware of the need to reduce utility costs. By comparing our consumption with national schools benchmarking data, we were able to focus corrective action in the most appropriate locations.

“Without Business Stream's expert advice and assistance we would not have been able to optimise our water usage and in turn make significant savings.”