



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

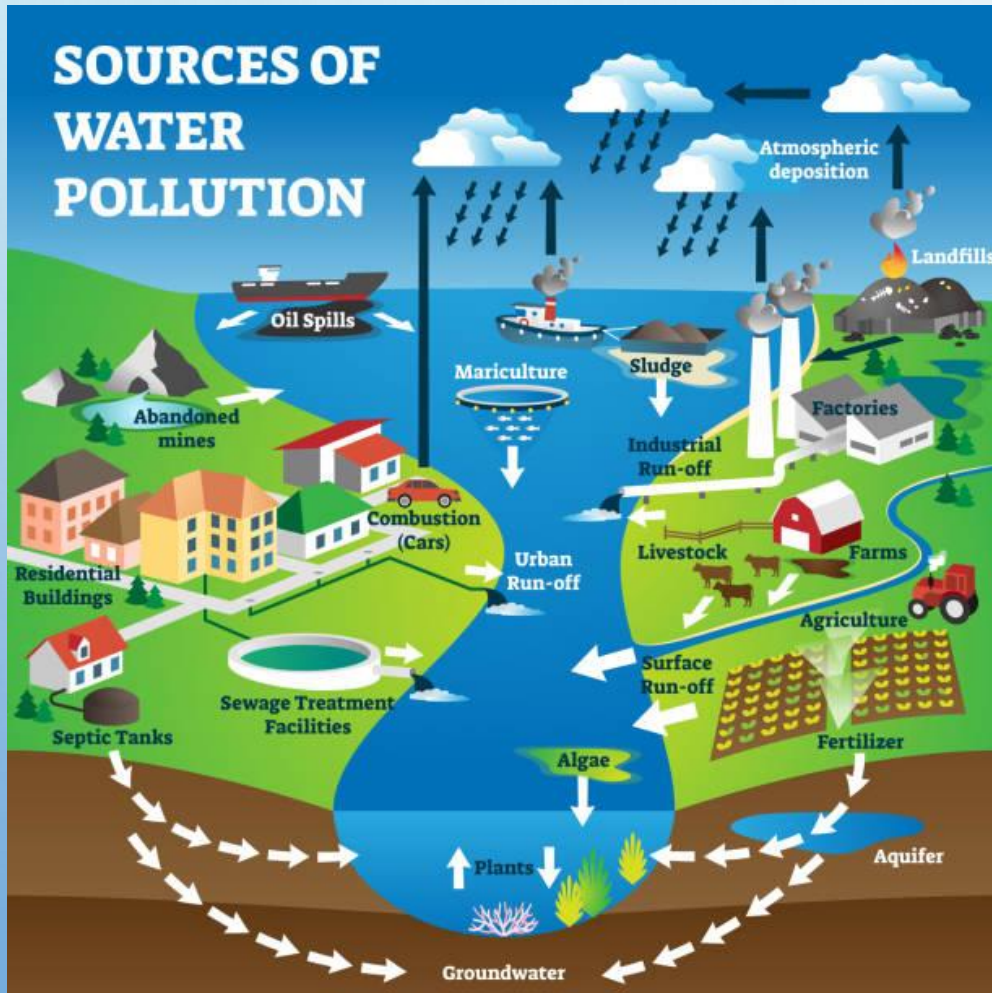
# What is on the Horizon?

Emerging Threats to Water Quality Working Group

Better Water Quality Conference

Dr Adriana Kiss, Water Policy  
Welsh Government

The group's main objective is to identify chemical substances and associated issues, such as AMR and microplastics, which present a threat to water quality in Wales and assist the Welsh Government's long-term policy development



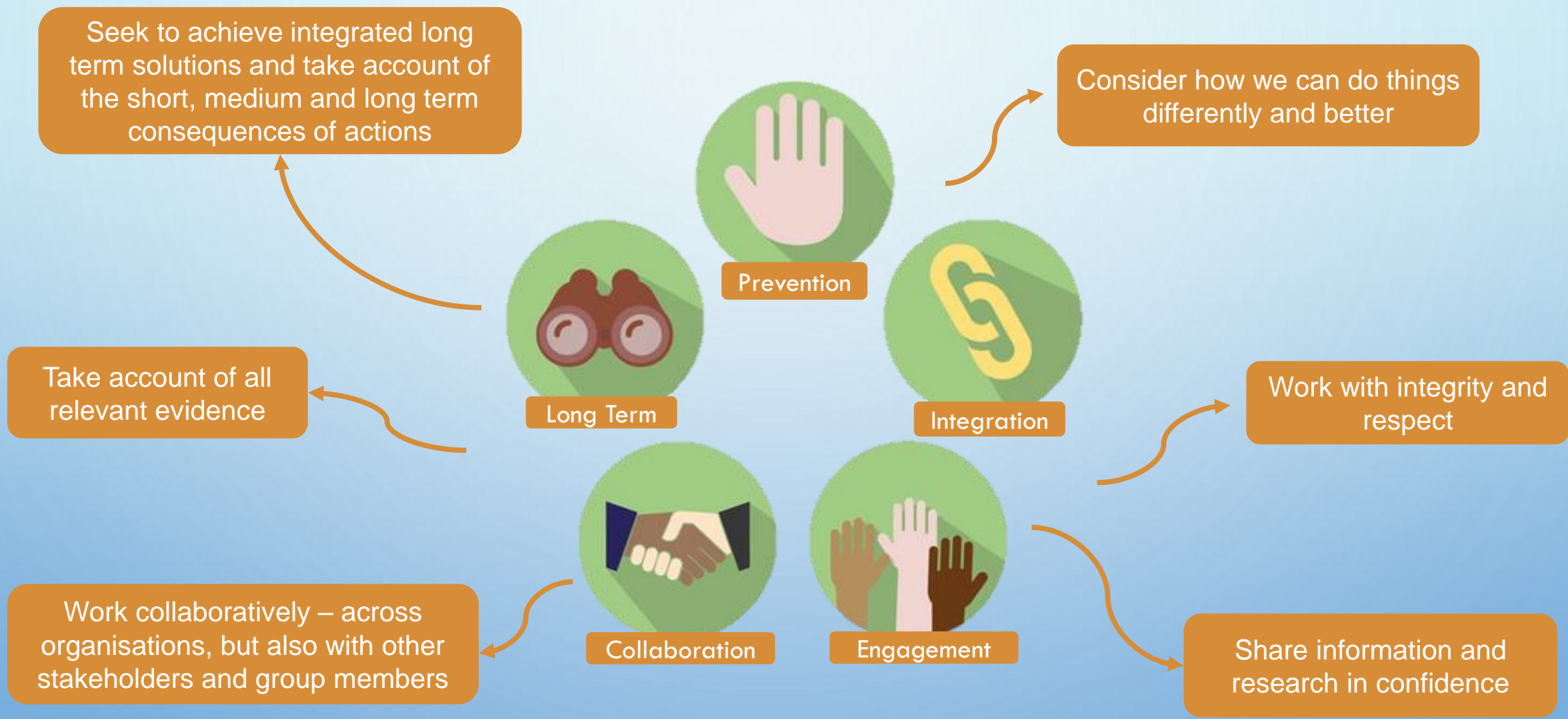
- Started as an informal gathering and discussions between Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and Welsh Government policy teams
- Based on NRW's chemicals investigation programme (passive monitors)
- Identified wider interest in Wales and beyond Wales
- Placed on a more formal footing with a Terms of Reference
- Regular monthly/bi-monthly meetings
- Network and group is growing

**The well-being of future generations act 2015  
- 7 wellbeing goals**



**Healthy water environment, safe clean water and sufficient supply underpins all the wellbeing goals**

# STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK AND WAYS OF WORKING



# What did we find?

Everything ends up in water

NRW Chemicals Investigation Programme provides an interesting and useful dissection of society (nicotine, caffeine and lifestyle drugs)

Pharmaceuticals represent a high proportion of substances found in water in Wales

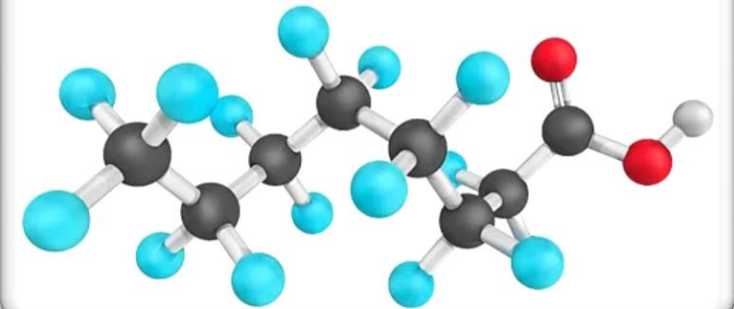
Concern are (more or less) the same for drinking water and environmental water quality

Emerging threats is a fast-evolving area

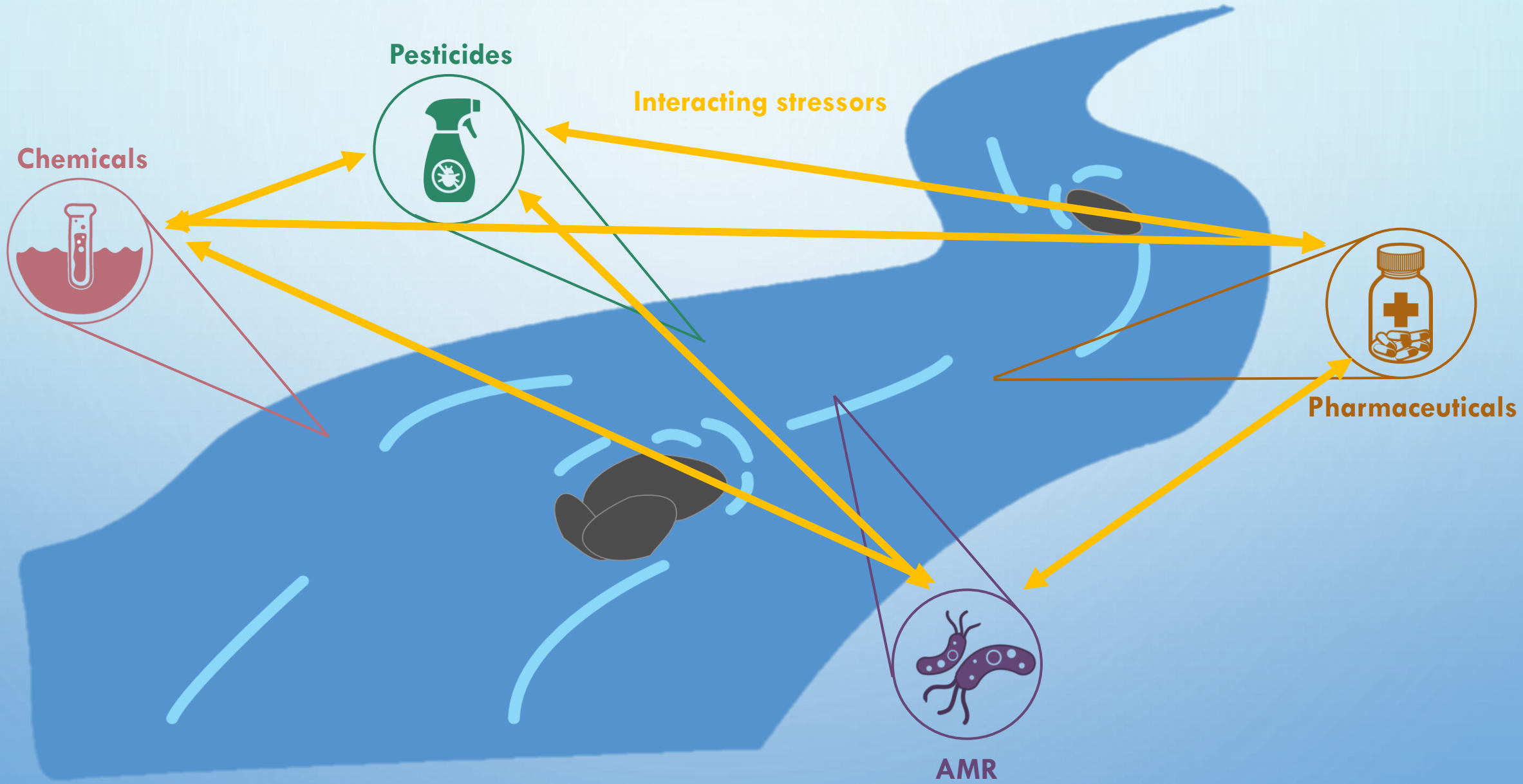
Lots of interest at Wales and UK level

Complex issues – mixtures and interactions

## PFAS







# The Work So Far

PFAS research and presentations

PFAS literature review

Diazinon subgroup

Microplastics (recent addition)

Presentations by the EA and DWI

Presentations by researchers and academics

Regular updates from the Welsh Government

Updates from permanent members

Follow UK and EU developments (EQS)

Knowledge exchange platform



# Next Steps

**Influence policy development in Wales**

**Influence policy developments at UK level**

**Identify chemicals of emerging concern and identify actions to ensure a high level of environmental protection**

**Support monitoring and evidence needs**

**Identify evidence gaps**

**Set up subgroups when needed to focus on Wales-specific issues**

**Contribute to the development of policy and legislative interventions**

**Increase integration and collaboration**



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THANK  
YOU