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9 February 2022

**To whom it may concern**

**Subject: Support to the evaluation of Ofwat's Innovation Fund**

Dear colleagues,

Ofwat has appointed the Centre for Strategy and Evaluation Services ([CSES](#)) to carry out research in relation to Ofwat's Innovation Fund. The objectives of the assignment are to:

- establish a baseline looking at the level of innovation in the water and wastewater companies in England and Wales prior to the implementation of the Innovation Fund;
- establish a baseline for the wider supply chain to the water sector;
- identify any gaps in the proposed approach and planned data collection in relation to the evaluation of the impacts of the Innovation Fund.

The work being undertaken by CSES will complement and inform the implementation and the evaluation of the Innovation Fund by Nesta, Arup and Isle Utilities.

In this context, Ofwat kindly requests your cooperation in facilitating the work of the study team, particularly with regard to the provision of information and any requests for an interview. This will contribute to the production of a high-quality report, which will inform the evaluation of the Innovation Fund.

The lead consultants from CSES will be James Rampton, Elias Nacer and Andrew Sikorski. CSES is also working in collaboration with Chris Decker from Regulatory Economics.

For further information, please contact either Seemaab Naseem, Senior Associate Policy and Strategy at Ofwat ([seemaab.naseem@ofwat.gov.uk](mailto:seemaab.naseem@ofwat.gov.uk)) or James Rampton at CSES ([jrampton@cses.co.uk](mailto:jrampton@cses.co.uk)).

Yours sincerely,



Marc Hannis – Innovation Fund