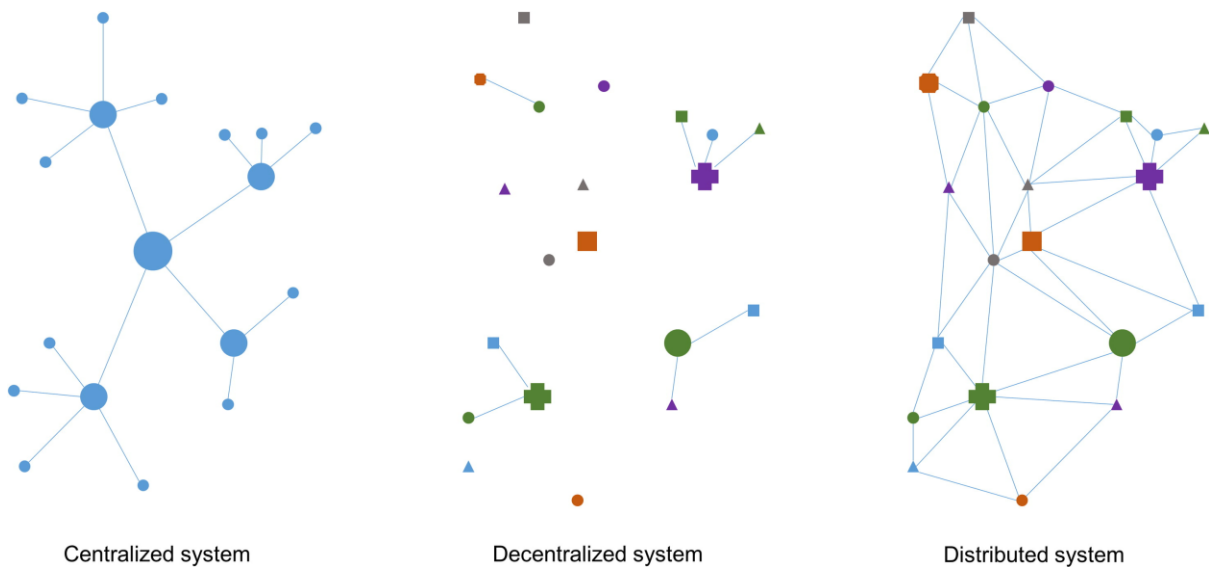


Distributed water networks

Paradigm shifts in thinking see future water supply and treatment more distributed (not just decentralised). This shift will be supported by technologies and networks which will allow more localised and tailored water supply and treatment such that water will be generated and used according to use and need (in terms of things like quality, reliability of supply etc). This will allow for more localised ownership and management. However, as it is distributed there will also be centralised infrastructure and management where this is appropriate. This shift will occur in parallel and mirror what will be happening in energy where more localised production, ownership and management of renewable energy supplies will be occurring. This will in turn increase the opportunity for localised water treatment and supply supported by these energy sources in locally owned energy-water management organisations.



Because this will reduce the role of the current water companies such thinking and piloting needs to be explored and delivered by those outside the water companies- they will not explore options and opportunities that impact their business. Therefore, OFWAT needs to set up some structure to progress these sorts of things?