



Peter Simpson, CEO
Anglian Water Services Ltd
Lancaster House
Lancaster Way
Ermine Business Park
Huntingdon
PE29 6XU

Date: 13th January 2023
Contact: Paul Mackie
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Email: Paul.Mackie@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Dear Mr Simpson,

RE: Response to the Secretary of State on Anglian Water's action on sewage discharges.

At the meeting of East Suffolk Council's Full Council on 23rd November 2022 Councillors unanimously passed the following motion:

"This Council notes that sewage pollution continues to be allowed to flow untreated into our local waterways and coastal waters. It is imperative for our residents' health, the environment and our economy that water quality issues are addressed.

This Motion calls upon this Council to write a letter to Anglian Water to ask that it:

- Improves water quality checks in a bid to protect our rivers and coastline from pollution.
- Takes action to address all recent sewage discharges as a matter of urgency.
- Ensures that all its outfalls are equipped with operationally functioning Event Monitors or other sensors that are checked and maintained regularly
- Ensures that all of its communication with Council Environmental Officers is prompt and informative
- Reduces surface water run-off overwhelming the Combined Sewer System

And to also write to the Secretary of State for the Environment to:

- Acknowledge and act to protect our water systems
- Engage with all stake holder to work together to improve water quality throughout East Suffolk."

We read with interest your response to the previous Secretary of State regarding Anglian Water's action on sewage discharges and related challenges. This was timely – these issues are causing significant concern to communities and businesses across our District. As climate change is already affecting our lives it is even more important that all stakeholders work together to make sure we are climate ready for the future.

LEGAL ADDRESS East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge IP12 1RT

POSTAL ADDRESS Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft NR33 0EQ

East Suffolk is an ambitious and dynamic local authority working hard to protect the environment and help others align with our vision. Importantly, East Suffolk has two up-to-date Local Plans in place allocating significant necessary housing and employment growth. Working with infrastructure providers to predict and deliver improvements in a plan-led manner will ensure this growth delivers benefits to all.

You will be aware that Anglian Water were actively engaged with throughout the production of our Local Plans. This helped ensure that growth could be supported by sewage treatment facilities and necessary improvements would be possible.

We collectively agreed to write to you to understand the challenges and your proposals to maintain and improve water supplies to our district. As a Planning Authority and coastal District Council, we share many of your core matters of concern and we subsequently request your response on Anglian Water's progress on the following issues affecting East Suffolk:

- 1. Improving water quality checks to protect our rivers and coastline from pollution.**
- 2. Action to address sewage discharges.**
- 3. Ensuring that outfalls are equipped with operationally functioning Event Monitors or other sensors that are checked and maintained regularly.**
- 4. Actions to reduce surface water run-off overwhelming the Combined Sewer System.**
- 5. Investments planned over the next AMP period to address the needs of the District's growing population and to support the delivery of associated growth on new developments allocated in the Local Plans.**

We look forward to receiving your response in the near future. East Suffolk Council is ready to engage with your team on the solutions you have proposed and to discuss how we can work together to deliver urgent action on these issues.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "J. Ceresa". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Councillor Jenny Ceresa
Chairman
East Suffolk Council**