Water Neutrality Statement

Thursday 27th June 2024

This statement has been prepared to support the planning application, ref AWDM/0771/24 for 9, Laines Road, Steyning BN44 3LL.

The application is for the conversion of an existing garage into a bedroom with en-suite for the teenage son and a spare room. Currently in this 3 bedroom house, the applicant and her 3 children live with the two sons sharing a bedroom.

In September 2021, Natural England issued a statement saying it cannot conclude that the existing water abstraction is not having an impact on protected sites in the Arun Valley. Advising that in order for development to proceed it should be "water neutral", development should not increase the rate of water abstraction from the existing supply.

Based on Horsham District Councils estimated baseline of 135 litres per person per day, with my occupancy of one adult and three children, this should equate to 540 litres per day. I have been the owner of this property since 1st July 2022. Since this date (please refer to the attached Sothern Water statement on the next page), they have only consumed a mere 230 litres per day total on average. Less than half of the current council's baseline. They are always economical with their use of water, for both financial reasons and environment concerns. Their current usage therefore is less than 60 litres per person per day.

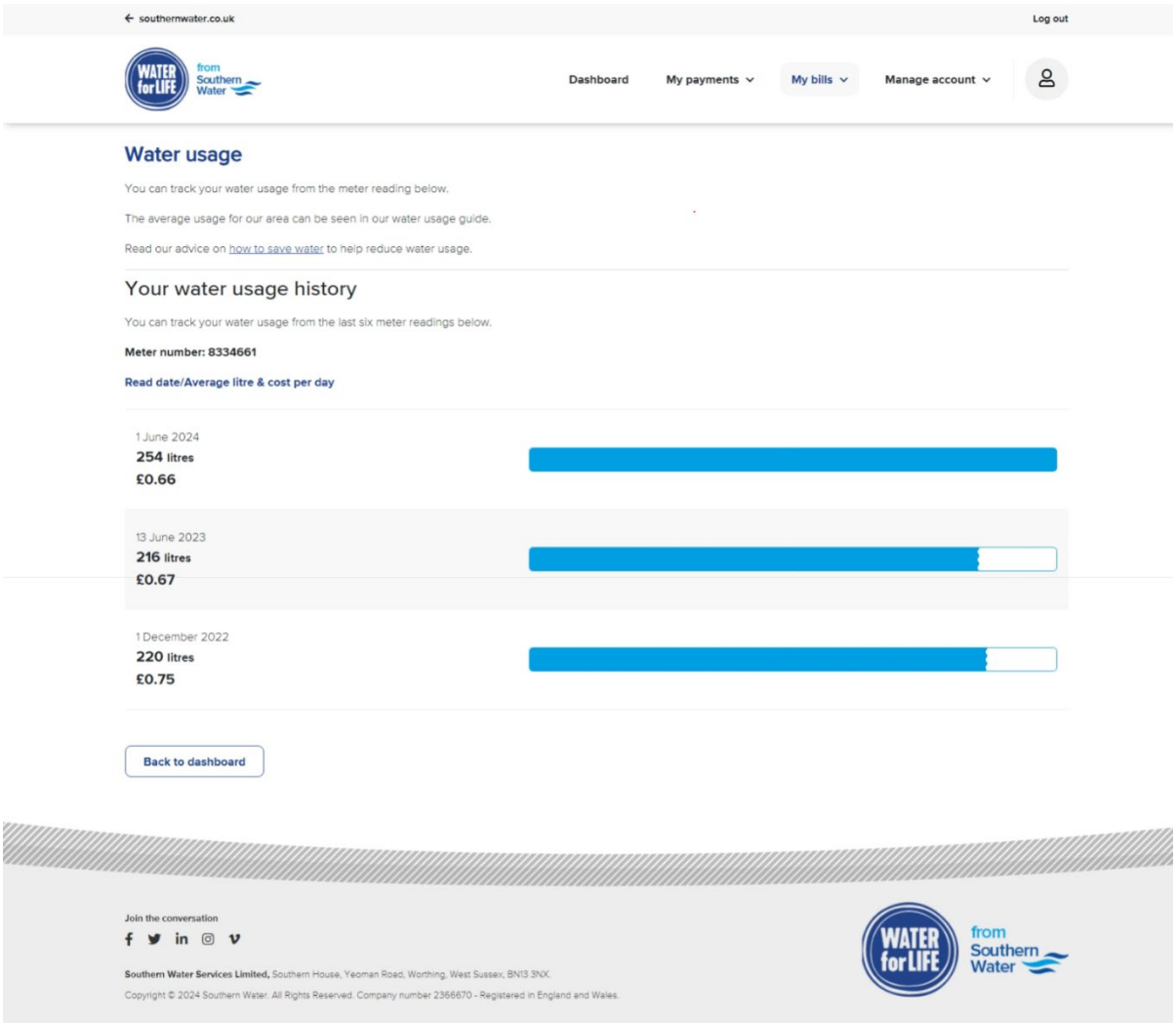
The proposed works will not be using any extra water by moving the son into this conversion, it is simply shifting his usage. In addition a shower is to be installed that is economical with its supply and use. Even with the occasional guest staying the usage will remain well below the recommended levels.

Please note this property has no bath. Only one shower, for the four occupants.

Further water efficiency will be achieved through installing water saving fixtures (Shower and toilet) in the conversion. Products such as the Hansgrohe Crometta 1jet EcoSmart Shower. This has a flow rate of 6 litres per minute and the Eco deluxe Metro Water Saving toilet, featuring a 3 litre flush.

To conclude, this conversion does not increase the water usage from the existing supply, in effect it will actually reduce the consumption. The usage will be <60 litres per person per day.

Extract from Southern Water Statement



Prepared by Inature Architecture and Design