



Alice.Johnson@horsham.gov.uk

Date

11th March 2026

Contact

Tel 0330 303 0368

Dear Ms Johnson

**The Environmental Information Regulations 2004
Request for Information
EIR reference 4275**

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 11th February 2026. We have dealt with your request under The Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR 2004). This letter provides the response to your request, as follows: A complete copy of your original request is provided in Appendix A.

Re: DC/25/2057, Land North of Little Slaughterford

We can confirm that Southern Water does hold this type of information you have requested.

Your letter contains some requests which comprise requests for information under the EIR 2004. We have responded below to the points in your letter that comprise requests for environmental information.

Would the existing treatment plant perform adequately and meet all the required EA treated effluent quality consents if the Dry Weather Flow (DWF) was in excess of 291,000 litres per day?

Based on the available historical data for Barns Green Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW), the average Dry Weather Flow (DWF) is 146,000 litres/day (l/d) and has not exceeded 291,000 l/d. Therefore, we don't have available historical effluent data for DWF values within this higher range. The modelled results indicate that, under current site conditions and the existing permit, there will be an approximate 10% shortfall in primary and secondary treatment capacity if the DWF exceeds 291,000 l/d. Compliance with the Environment Agency (EA) discharge permit limits will depend on operational performance, weather conditions, and actual influent loading at the time.

Would the existing treatment plant perform adequately and meet all the required EA treated effluent quality consents if the population being served was in excess of 1,630?

This catchment is currently serving a total population equivalent (PE) of 1,210. Historically, the population served has not exceeded 1,630 PE. The modelled results indicate that, under current site conditions and the existing permit, there would be adequate treatment capacity if the population



served were to exceed 1,630 PE. Compliance with the EA discharge permit limits will depend on operational performance, weather conditions, and actual influent loading at the time.

If the potential Dry Weather Flow (DWF) is in excess of the current EA consented DWF of 227,000 litres a day into Parsons Brook, how likely is it that the EA would actually grant an increase to the consented daily discharge volume in view of the current well-documented 'poor ecological health' of the receiving waters?

Available water quality data for Parsons Brook is aggregated at the wider Adur West waterbody level (Waterbody ID GB107041012290), and no assessment specific to Parsons Brook currently exists: [Adur West | Catchment Data Explorer](#) | [Catchment Data Explorer](#)

The most recent "Reasons for Not Attaining Good" (RNAG) data, from 2022, does not attribute reasons for failure to any individual WwTWs. Four WwTWs, Itchingfield, Barns Green, Coolham and Shipley discharge into this catchment.

Of the 13 RNAGs listed for the waterbody, four relate to continuous wastewater discharges; however, only one (phosphate) is confirmed. The remaining indicators (dissolved oxygen, fish, and macrophytes/phytobenthos) are classified as probable. Other sectors, including agriculture, also contribute to water quality pressures.

Barns Green is a relatively small site and will be operating to the most stringent phosphorus standard achievable (0.25 mg/L) by the end of this regulatory period. Based on this context, an increase in DWF and resulting nutrient load from Barns Green is unlikely to cause a significant deterioration in overall water quality within the Adur West waterbody.

However, only the Environment Agency can assess and confirm this through its source-apportionment modelling.

We are entitled to make a reasonable charge for information provided under the Regulations. Details of our charging scheme can be found on our website: [Environmental Information Request | Southern Water](#). In this case we have decided to waive our charge.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within forty working days of the date of receipt of this response and should be addressed to Head of Legal, Southern Water Services Ltd, Southern House, Yeoman Road, Worthing, West Sussex BN13 3NX or you can email EIR.Internal.Review@southernwater.co.uk.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply, without charge, to the Information Commissioner, who will consider whether Southern Water has complied with its obligations under the Regulations, and can require Southern Water to remedy any problems. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Regulations in general, on the Information Commissioner's website at: www.ico.org.uk. Complaints to the Information Commissioner can be made via the "report a concern" section of the Information Commissioner's website.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

EIR Officer