

5 February 2015

Ian Lynch  
Town Clerk  
Farnham Town Council  
Council Offices  
South Street  
Farnham  
Surrey  
GU9 7RN

**DD:** 01634 873215  
**Email:** [gemma.frisby@southeastwater.co.uk](mailto:gemma.frisby@southeastwater.co.uk)

Dear Mr Lynch,

### **Farnham Draft Neighbourhood Plan**

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the infrastructure and water resources requirements in relation to your draft Neighbourhood Plan.

South East water covers the western part of the Waverly borough including Farnham. The South East Water Company is divided into 8 water resource zones for planning purposes and the area of Farnham does indeed lie in resource zone 5 as stated within your letter. As a statutory consultee, South East Water has recently responded to the Waverly Local Plan consultations, which will cover the area of Farnham.

### **Water Resources Planning**

We published our Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) in June 2014. This plan sets out how we intend to maintain the balance between increasing demand for water and available supplies over the next 25 years up to 2040. The plan takes into account planned housing growth as well as the potential impact of climate change.

The area of the Farnham lies within South East Water's resource zone 5. Our WRMP indicates that, with planned reductions in demand from the customer metering programme and enhanced water efficiency, for the plan period this resource zone will remain in surplus for average demands. However, for peak demands a deficit is forecast from 2020 onwards, at which time additional schemes are scheduled to be delivered which will satisfy demand. This includes a transfer from another water company to the south of the resource zone by 2040.

It is imperative that there is sufficient flexibility within the Local Plan to support any currently unforeseen development that maybe required during the plan period to maintain and enhance the provision of water and the water supply network. To this end the plan includes a range of sensitivity testing which covers uncertainty in demand, climate change, property and population growth, etc. and confirms that the plan remains robust in meeting water demands.

**Rocfort Road  
Snodland  
Kent ME6 5AH**

**TELEPHONE**  
0333 000 1122

**EMAIL**  
[water@southeastwater.co.uk](mailto:water@southeastwater.co.uk)

**EMERGENCY LINE**  
03330 000 365

**WEBSITE**  
[www.southeastwater.co.uk](http://www.southeastwater.co.uk)

South East Water Ltd  
Registered in England No. 2679874  
Registered Office: Rocfort Road, Snodland,  
Kent ME6 5AH  
ISO 9001 Certified  
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## **Housing allocations**

To ensure secure supplies for the future, we must ensure our plan reflects the housing numbers in our supply area as accurately as possible.

In line with statutory guidance, our planning takes account of the planning forecasts of Local Authorities within our region. All Local Authorities been contacted and we have a comprehensive forecast, developed by Experian, together with neighbouring companies, of growth estimates in population and households which are planned by the authorities.

For Waverly in particular, forecasts used by Experian include a growth estimate of 1528 households over the period 2012 to 2020, 2212 households over the period 2012 to 2030, and 2670 households over the period 2012 to 2040

However, South East Water only supplies part of the Waverly borough and therefore our forecasts are slightly lower than their plan. These numbers will include the expected growth for Farnham as outlined within your letter.

We have completed sensitivity testing on our plans using the highest housing numbers provided and we can assure you that in the context of our current water resource plan, we are able to confirm that our published planned programme will be fully able to satisfy the growth in demands in the zone.

## **Infrastructure**

We assess the ability of the water mains network to continue to supply new and existing customers with sufficient flow and pressure and our Business Plan includes investment in reinforcement where necessary to ensure we can supply such sites as proposed across the district. We have a statutory duty to supply any reasonable additional demand requested for domestic purposes

However, we are aware that development is planned across the Waverly Borough. New mains will be required for these developments to reinforce our existing network to meet the additional demand and this may cause temporary disruption to traffic in the surrounding areas.

We do not expect to have to lay extensive off site strategic mains to supply these sites. However development in Farnham itself is likely to require reinforcement in the vicinity of Victoria Reservoir and Bourne WTW.

We have also identified short lengths of local reinforcement on the periphery of the town some of which will be needed in addition to the current scheme depending on each location.

Some reinforcement is already in place for the development proposed in Badshot Lea but further local mains will be required to meet demand projections.

The Water Act enables us to charge developers for a contribution towards any reinforcement and new mains required as a result of new development to ensure we maintain levels of service for both new and existing customers.

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**Sustainable Homes**

We encourage the Town Council and local planning authority to promote water conservation across the area of Farnham. We also encourage you to ensure new homes are built sustainably with an expected water use below 105 litres per person per day.

Yours sincerely,

Gemma Frisby  
Water Resources Planner

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