



Planning Application - Anglian Water Response

If you would like to discuss any of the points in this document please contact us on 03450263912 or email planningliaison@anglianwater.co.uk.

AW Site Reference: 229719/1/0233802

Local Planning Authority: North Hertfordshire District

Site: Unit 1 Deans Yard South Road Baldock
Hertfordshire SG7 6BZ

Proposal: Redevelopment of site to provide 9 no. dwellings following demolition of existing buildings, to include access, parking, and landscaping.

Planning application: 25/02204/FP

Prepared by: Pre-Development Team

Date: 20 October 2025

ASSETS

Section 1 - Assets Affected

New development must comply with Building Regulations and the Water Industry Act. Our records show that there are no assets owned by Anglian Water or those subject to an adoption agreement within the development site boundary or affected by the proposals. Any encroachment zones should be reflected in the site layout. It is highly recommended that the applicant carries out a thorough investigation of the proposed working area to establish whether any unmapped public or private sewers and lateral drains are in existence. Due to the private sewer transfer in October 2011 many newly adopted public used water assets and their history are not indicated on our records. The development site may contain private water mains, drains or other assets not shown on our records. These are private assets and not the responsibility of Anglian Water but that of the landowner.

Further general information and guidance can be found on our website.

Information on locating our assets:

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/developers/development-services/locating-our-assets/>

Guidance on the private sewer transfer regulations 2011:

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/siteassets/developers/drainage-services/aws-sewer-ownership-guidance-sm-v2.pdf>

Permission is required for diverting or crossing over any of our assets:

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/developers/drainage-services/building-over-or-near-our-assets/>

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/developing/water-services/water-mains-diversion/>

Our Drainage and Water Connections teams can provide further advice with regard to the private sewer transfer, diversions, and building over existing assets:

drainage@anglianwater.co.uk

connections@anglianwater.co.uk

0345 606 6087 (8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday)

WASTEWATER SERVICES

Section 2 - Wastewater Treatment

When assessing the receiving water recycling centre's (WRC) dry weather flow (DWF) headroom we take the latest Q90 DWF figures, as verified by the Environment Agency, and add sites with planning consent to this. Based on the above assessment, Letchworth WRC is within the acceptance parameters and can accommodate the flows from the proposed growth.

TAL

Letchworth Water Recycling Centre is included in our nutrient removal programme and will be designed to technically achievable limits (TAL). For the majority of WRCs in this programme this will be for phosphorous removal where TAL is 0.25mg/l.

When both TAL and DWF capacity constraints are forecast at a WRC, either due to housing/non-domestic growth or infiltration into the network then alternative options will need to be considered. Some WRCs will be either too remote or not near another WRC with capacity. The impact of environmental pressures, including sites at technical achievable limits, and the approach required to enable future sustainable growth is something we will continue to discuss with the Environment Agency and key stakeholders, including local planning authorities. Where TAL impacts on the DWF headroom and our ability to accommodate future growth we may start objecting, if we are not doing so already, to planning applications in the impacted catchments.

Section 3 - Used Water Network

Anglian Water **OBJECTS** to any connection into our foul network from the proposed development, due to capacity constraints and pollution risk. In order to overcome our objection we require that the applicant consults Anglian Water in the form of a Pre-Development enquiry (PPE) in order to define a Sustainable Point of Connection (SPOC). This will avoid the constrained network which could cause pollution and flood risk downstream. The developer is to be responsible for the infrastructure to convey foul water flows from the proposed development to the receiving network. Once a SPOC has been identified and a strategy has been agreed with Anglian Water, we would expect the applicant to submit this PPE as part of their submitted documents for this application, we will then review and respond appropriately. Anglian Water is committed to supporting sustainable growth and in doing so we must continue to meet the statutory obligations whilst balancing factors such as climate change as environmental protection.

However, if the LPA are minded to approve the application, despite our objection and risk of pollution, we recommend the following condition is applied:

Condition: no development shall commence until a strategic foul water strategy has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local Planning Authority, in consultation with Anglian Water. This strategy will identify a sustainable point of connection to the public foul network. Prior to occupation, the foul water drainage works must have been carried out in complete accordance with the approved scheme.

Reason: to protect water quality, prevent pollution and secure sustainable development having regard to paragraphs 7/8 and 180 of the National Planning Policy Framework. If permission is granted we require the applicant to engage with us via our pre-development services and to submit a pre development enquiry. Further information regarding our pre-development services and to submit a pre development enquiry the applicant can click here: <https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/developing/planning--capacity/how-to-apply/>

Section 4 - Surface Water Disposal

The preferred method of surface water disposal would be to a sustainable drainage system (SuDS) with connection to sewer seen as the last option. Building Regulations (part H) on Drainage and Waste Disposal for England includes a surface water drainage hierarchy, with infiltration on site as the preferred disposal option, followed by discharge to watercourse and then connection to a sewer.

From the details submitted to support the planning application the proposed method of surface water management does not relate to Anglian Water operated assets. As such, we are unable to provide comments on the suitability of the surface water management. The Local Planning Authority should seek the advice of the Lead Local Flood Authority or the Internal Drainage Board. The Environment Agency should be consulted if the drainage system directly or indirectly involves the discharge of water into a watercourse. If planning permission is granted, the strategy should be listed within the decision notice with any approved plans. Should the proposed method of surface water management change to include interaction with Anglian Water operated assets, we would wish to be re-consulted to ensure that an effective surface water drainage strategy is prepared and implemented.