



Richard Field
Casework and Customers
Ofwat
Centre City Tower
7 Hill Street
Birmingham
B5 4UA

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Date:
28 October 2014

Contact:

Fax:

Dear Richard,

RE: New appointments and variations – a consultation on Ofwat’s policy relating to highway drainage

We welcome Ofwat’s consultation regarding highway drainage charges relating to bulk services to new appointments and variations. We appreciate that the proposed policy provides greater clarity on the issue and support the policy that incumbent bulk service providers are reasonable to charge highway drainage where public roads on a new appointee’s site drain to the provider’s network.

We accept that incentives for new appointments and variations should encourage innovative solutions which would limit incremental costs on a regional network. However, we do not believe there is a clear case for the proposal that, in some circumstances, the new appointee would not contribute to highway drainage, as we are concerned that the specific nature of housing developments (often the extent of a new appointment or variation) will result in the costs of highway drainage not being shared by all customers in the region.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simon Oates".

Simon Oates
Director of Strategy and Communications