

Centre City Tower, 7 Hill Street, Birmingham B5 4UA
21 Bloomsbury Street, London WC1B 3HF

By email

24 May 2018

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 - Request For Information

Reference: 20180555

Dear 

Thank you for your request for information concerning Southern Water's (SW) compliance with s.156 general authorisations when they disposed on a property and the land surrounding the Shoreham-by-sea WSW site in 2007/08.

Ofwat confirms it does hold some information as explained below.

Water companies operating the public water networks hold appointments as water undertakers, and those operating the public wastewater networks hold appointments as sewerage undertakers, for the purposes of the Water Industry Act 1991. They also supply water and wastewater services direct to household customers (and in some cases to non-household customers) who are connected to their networks. Southern Water's licence can be found here; https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/lic_lic_srn.pdf

Licence condition K covers the disposal of land. For OFWAT to be involved the disposal proceeds are subject to a £1m materiality threshold (or £500,000 if there is a transfer to an associated company).

Ofwat has checked with our Land consultant and he confirms that no sales took place in Shoreham-by-Sea at that time that exceeded the thresholds set out above. As such we would not have any documentation relating to the sales.

Ofwat has checked the June return submissions (table 39) for 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09. At that time Ofwat only required all disposal exceeding £300k to be detailed in that table. There is only one reference to Shoreham (in 2006-07);

Shoreham PS Cottage (freehold land)

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Purchaser; [REDACTED]

Gross proceeds; £415,000

Offsetting costs £43,000

Net proceeds; £372,000

As explained above - Ofwat would hold no further documentation for this sale due to it being below the materiality threshold for condition K.

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Yours sincerely,

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