

WATER SERVICES REGULATION AUTHORITY

WATER INDUSTRY ACT 1991, SECTION 13(1)

Modification of the Conditions of Appointment of Albion Eco Limited

Made on 17 December 2018

The modifications in Schedule 1 attached hereto will come into effect on 1 January 2019

The modifications in Schedule 2 attached hereto will come into effect on 1 March 2019

The Water Services Regulation Authority, in exercise of the power conferred on it by section 13(1) of the Water Industry Act 1991 ("the 1991 Act"), after giving notice as required by section 13(2) of the Act, hereby makes the modifications described in the Schedules attached hereto to the Conditions of the Appointment of Albion Eco Limited ("the Appointee") as a water undertaker under Chapter 1 of Part II of the Act, the Appointee having consented to these modifications.

Signed for and on behalf of the Water Services Regulation Authority

Aileen Armstrong

Senior Director

Schedule 1

1. **Condition A** is deleted in its entirety and is replaced with the following new condition:

“Condition A: Interpretation and Construction

1. Unless the contrary intention appears:
 - (1) words and expressions used in these Conditions and references in these Conditions to enactments shall be construed as if they were in an Act of Parliament and the Interpretation Act 1978 applied to them;
 - (2) references in these Conditions to enactments shall include any statutory modification thereof after the date on which the Appointment is made;
 - (3) references to a liability shall be taken to include the creation of any mortgage, charge, pledge, lien or other form of security or encumbrance, the making of a loan and the taking on of a debt;
 - (4) references to a loan shall be taken to include the transfer or lending, by any means, of any sum of money or rights in respect of that sum;
 - (5) words and expressions used in these Conditions shall have the same meaning as in any provision of the Water Industry Act 1991;
 - (6) references in these Conditions to sections and Schedules are references to sections of, and Schedules to, the Water Industry Act 1991; and
 - (7) references in these Conditions to paragraphs are references to paragraphs of the Condition in which the reference appears and references to sub-paragraphs are references to sub-paragraphs of the paragraph in which the reference appears.
2. In construing these Conditions:
 - (1) the heading or title of any Condition or of any paragraph of any Condition shall be disregarded;
 - (2) any description of the purposes of a Condition shall be construed subject to the provisions of the rest of the Condition in which that description appears; and
 - (3) the Conditions will so far as is consistent with other statutory duties and powers, be construed in accordance with relevant considerations specific to Wales, including the relevant legislative and regulatory frameworks applicable to Wales.

3. Unless the context otherwise requires, in these Conditions:

“**the 2014 Act**” means the Water Act 2014;

"**Appointed Business**" means the business consisting of the carrying out by the Appointee of the Regulated Activities;

“**Appointee's Turnover Share**” means, in relation to a Charging Year, the amount calculated as t / T where:

- (a) “t” means an amount equal to the turnover of the Appointed Business as shown in the accounting statements prepared by the Appointee under Condition F for the twelve month period ending twelve months before the start of the Charging Year; and
- (b) “T” means an amount equal to the sum of the turnover of the appointed businesses of all relevant undertakers, including the Appointee, as shown in their accounting statements prepared under Condition F, and the provisions of appointments which are equivalent to Condition F, for the twelve month period ending twelve months before the start of the Charging Year;"

Area" means the area for which for the time being the Appointee holds the appointment as water undertaker;

"**Associated Company**" means any Group Company or Related Company;

"**Auditors**" means the Appointee's auditors for the time being appointed in accordance with the Companies Act 2006;

“**Bespoke Charge**” means any charge fixed or agreed by the Appointee, in respect of any customer of the Appointee, which is not a Class Charge;

"**Books and Records**" means any and all books, records, files, maps, plans, documents, papers, accounts, estimates, returns and other data of whatsoever nature and whether or not created, recorded or maintained in a document;

"**Charging Year**" means a year commencing on 1st April;

“**Class Charge**” means any charge fixed or agreed by the Appointee which applies to a particular class of the Appointee's customers;

“**customer**” means any person who is provided with water or sewerage services by the Appointee either directly or indirectly via a Licensee, but does not include a Licensee acting in its capacity as such;

“Cross-Default Obligation” means a legal obligation contained in an agreement or arrangement where the Appointee’s liability to pay or repay any debt or other sum arises or is increased or accelerated due to the default of any person other than the Appointee;

"Domestic Customer" means the occupier of Domestic Premises;

"Domestic Premises" means any premises used wholly or partly as a dwelling or intended for such use;

"drought order" means an order made under section 73 of the Water Resources Act 1991;

"Effective Date" means the date this Appointment comes into effect;

“Eligible Premises” has the meaning given in the Wholesale-Retail Code (as amended from time to time);

"Financial Year" means a financial year of the Appointee beginning and ending on the respective dates referred to in section 390 of the Companies Act 2006;

“Holding Company” has the meaning set out in section 1159 of the Companies Act 2006;

"Group Company" means any subsidiary or holding company of the Appointee and any subsidiary of any holding company of the Appointee (other than the Appointee);

"Household Premises" has the meaning given in the Wholesale-Retail Code (as amended from time to time);

"Incumbent" means in relation to any particular part of the Area the company that was the water undertaker before the Appointee became the water undertaker for that particular part of the Area or such other company or companies as Ofwat may determine to be appropriate;

"Information" means information which the Appointee:

- (a) holds;
- (b) can reasonably obtain; or
- (c) can reasonably prepare from information which it holds or can reasonably obtain.

“Infrastructure Charge” means a Water Infrastructure Charge or a Sewerage Infrastructure Charge;

“Licensee” means the holder of a water supply licence or a sewerage licence granted by Ofwat under section 17A or under section 17BA of the Water Industry Act 1991;

“Metered Charges” means charges for services that are based wholly or partly on measured quantities of volume of water supplied;

“Ofwat” means the Water Services Regulation Authority;

"Periodic Review" means a review of the Appointed Business carried out under paragraph 8 or 10 of Condition B, but so that references in Part IV of Condition B to a Periodic Review shall exclude any review carried out under paragraph 10 of that Condition and shall include the determination by the Competition and Markets Authority of the relevant questions or, as the case may be, the disputed determination referred to it under paragraph 15 of Condition B following the giving of Information to Ofwat in accordance with paragraph 8;

“potential customer” means any person who is capable of becoming a customer on making an application for that purpose to either the Appointee or a Licensee.

“Prior Five Year Period” means the period of five consecutive Charging Years immediately before the Relevant Five Year Period;

"Prior Year" means the year commencing 1st April immediately prior to the relevant Charging Year;

“Relevant Five Year Period” means, as the context requires:

- (a) the period from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2020; or
- (b) the subsequent period of five consecutive Charging Years starting on the relevant five year anniversary of 1 April 2015.

“Relevant Index” means –

- (a) for any period before 1 April 2020, the Retail Prices Index,
- (b) for any period including, or after, 1 April 2020, the Consumer Prices Index (H),
- (c) in any year where the Statistics Board has not published the index to be applied by 31 December, such index for such month as Ofwat may not later than the following 7 January determine to be appropriate in all the circumstances after such consultation with the Appointee as is reasonably practicable;

"Reference Notice" means a notice given to Ofwat under paragraph 10 or 13 of Condition B;

"Regulated Activities" means the functions of a water undertaker and, for the avoidance of doubt, references to the functions of a water undertaker shall include references to the duties imposed on a water undertaker;

"Related Company" means anybody corporate in which the Appointee or any Group Company has a participating interest within the meaning of paragraph 11 of Schedule 10 to the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (SI 2008/410) or which has such a participating interest in the Appointee or any Group Company;

"Relevant Premises" means any office premises occupied by the Appointee in relation to the Appointed Business and to which members of the public have access;

"Retail Prices Index" means the Retail Prices Index published by the Office for National Statistics each month in respect of all items or, if the said index for the month of November is not published by 31st December next following, such index for such month as Ofwat may not later than 7th January next following determine to be appropriate in the circumstances, after such consultation with the Appointee as is reasonably practicable, and in such a case references to the Retail Prices Index shall be construed for the purpose of all subsequent calculations for which the value of the Retail Prices Index for that year is relevant as references to that other index;

"Review Charging Year" means the first of the Charging Years in respect of which any Periodic Review is carried out;

"Review Notice Date" means the first day of January which is fifteen months before the first day of the Review Charging Year;

"Ring-fencing Certificate" means a certificate, submitted to Ofwat by the Appointee, which states that, in the opinion of the Board of the Appointee:

- (a) the Appointee will have available to it sufficient financial resources and facilities to enable it to carry on the Regulated Activities, for at least the twelve month period following the date on which the certificate is submitted;
- (b) the Appointee will have available to it sufficient management resources and systems of planning and internal control to enable it to carry on the Regulated Activities, for at least the twelve month period following the date on which the certificate is submitted; and
- (c) all contracts entered into between the Appointee and any Associated Company include the necessary provisions and requirements in respect of the standard of service to be supplied to the Appointee, to ensure that it is able to carry on the Regulated Activities;

"subsidiary" has the meaning set out in section 1159 of the Companies Act 2006;

"Supply Pipe" means that part of the service pipe which is not owned by the Appointee;

“Ultimate Controller” means any person which, whether alone or jointly and whether directly or indirectly is, in the reasonable determination of Ofwat, in a position to control or in a position to materially influence the policy or affairs of the Appointee or any Holding Company of the Appointee;

“UK Corporate Governance Code” means the document of that title incorporated into the Listing Rules of the Financial Conduct Authority, or any document published to be the successor of the document, which has similar purpose and content;

“United Kingdom Holding Company” means a Holding Company which is registered in the United Kingdom and which is not a subsidiary of any company registered in the United Kingdom;

“Water Infrastructure Charge” means such a charge as is described in section 146(2)(a). Any notification required or permitted to be given under any Condition shall be given in writing and cognate expressions shall be construed accordingly; and

“Wholesale-Retail Code” means the code issued by Ofwat pursuant to sections 66DA and 117F of the Water Industry Act 1991.

4. The Appointee may refer to Ofwat for determination by it (having considered any representations by the Appointee and any other water undertaker) any question arising as to whether any area, island, premises or installation is, or, as the case may be, are, comprised within the Area.
5. The Appointee will use all reasonable endeavours to work with Ofwat, in a constructive and cooperative manner to improve the conditions that attach to this Appointment.”

2. **Condition E** is deleted in its entirety and is replaced with the following new condition:

“Condition E: Undue Preference/Discrimination in Charges

Introduction

This condition requires that the Appointee must not set its charges in a way which results in undue preference in favour of, or undue discrimination against, any of its customers or potential customers. This condition also sets out a number of limits to this requirement.

Requirement not to show undue preference or undue discrimination

- E1 Subject to paragraphs E2 to E4, in fixing or agreeing any charges for the carrying out of the Regulated Activities (whether Class Charges or Bespoke Charges), the Appointee must not show undue preference to, or exercise undue discrimination against:
- E1.1 any class of customers or potential customers of the Appointee;
 - E1.2 any particular customer in relation to whom the Appointee has fixed or agreed a Bespoke Charge; or
 - E1.3 any potential customer in relation to whom the Appointee has offered to fix or agree a Bespoke Charge.

Limits to requirement not to show undue preference or exercise undue discrimination

- E2 Paragraph E1 shall not apply to the fixing or agreeing of:
- E2.1 [not used]
 - E2.2 any charge which is determined by terms or conditions of an agreement that was:
 - E2.2.1 entered into by the Water Authority and transferred to the Appointee in accordance with a scheme under Schedule 2 to the Water Act 1989; or
 - E2.2.2 entered into by the Appointee before the transfer date but continuing in effect after that date;
 - E2.3 any charge which is determined by:

- E2.3.1 where the Appointee is a water undertaker, terms or conditions on which any supply of water in bulk is given by the Appointee to another water undertaker; or
- E2.3.2 where the Appointee is a sewerage undertaker, terms or conditions on which any main connection by another sewerage undertaker is permitted into the Appointee's sewerage system;
- E2.4 any charge which is determined by terms or conditions determined by Ofwat (or by a person appointed by Ofwat) under section 56 of the Water Industry Act 1991;
- E2.5 any charge which is determined by conditions imposed by Ofwat under section 122 of the Water Industry Act 1991; or
- E2.6 any charge which is determined by the provisions included in any notice served by the Environment Agency or Natural Resources Wales under section 132 of the Water Industry Act 1991 or anything required to be done by the Appointee under section 133 of the Water Industry Act 1991 so as to secure compliance with those provisions.
- E3 In fixing or agreeing any charges in compliance with paragraph E1, the Appointee is not required to consider any charges referred to in paragraph E2.
- E4 Paragraph E1 shall not require the Appointee to take any action in contravention of any local statutory provision.”

3. **Condition G** is deleted in its entirety and is replaced by the following new condition:

“Condition G: Core Customer Information

Introduction

This condition requires the Appointee to publish and make available specified information for customers. It also requires the Appointee to have a complaints handling procedure and to provide specified information with its bills.

Core Customer Information

- G1 The Appointee must maintain information in written form for customers (the **Core Customer Information**) in accordance with this condition.
- G2 The Core Customer Information must include, in relation to all customers, a description of:
- G2.1 how customers can contact the Appointee, and what customers should do, in the event of an emergency;
 - G2.2 the means by which customers may identify officers authorised by the Appointee when those officers visit customers' premises;
 - G2.3 the arrangements which the Appointee has in place for the testing of meters and any charge which may be payable for such testing;
 - G2.4 the charges which the Appointee may levy where metered premises have been vacated; and
 - G2.5 the offences set out in section 175 of the Water Industry Act 1991 (offence of tampering with meter).
- G3 The Core Customer Information must include, in relation to customers whose premises are not Eligible Premises, a description of:
- G3.1 how those customers can contact the Appointee to make general enquiries;
 - G3.2 the role of the Consumer Council for Water and how those customers can contact it;
 - G3.3 the services provided to those customers by the Appointed Business;

- G3.4 the terms on which those services are provided, including the charges levied for the services;
 - G3.5 the payment methods available to customers in respect of those charges, including payment by instalments and budget plans;
 - G3.6 the Complaints Handling Procedure which applies for those customers; and
 - G3.7 any independent dispute resolution scheme which is in place for resolving disputes between the Appointee and those customers and how customers can access the scheme.
- G4 The Core Customer Information must include guidance for customers whose premises are not Eligible Premises who are having difficulty paying their bills and a description of the procedures which the Appointee may apply to collect outstanding debt from those customers.
- G5 The Core Customer Information must include, in relation to Domestic Customers, the procedures which the Appointee applies in relation to leakage (in accordance with Condition H) and the charges which the Appointee may levy where there is an unidentified leak on the Supply Pipe at metered Domestic Premises.

Publication of the Core Customer Information

- G6 The Appointee must:
- G6.1 publish the Core Customer Information, presenting it in a manner which is effective, accessible and clear as a means of informing customers;
 - G6.2 publicise the Core Customer Information to its customers; and
 - G6.3 where any customer requests information which is part of the Core Customer Information, provide that information to the customer in writing.

Revising the Core Customer Information

- G7 The Appointee must ensure that the Core Customer Information is accurate and up to date.
- G8 The Appointee must review the Core Customer Information as a whole and, where necessary, revise it:
- G8.1 at least once every three years; and

- G8.2 whenever requested to do so by Ofwat, provided that such a request may not be made more than once in each year.
- G9 In carrying out any review under paragraph G8, the Appointee must consider whether the content of the Core Customer Information remains appropriate and whether the manner in which the Core Customer Information is published is effective.
- G10 Whenever it undertakes a review of the Core Customer Information under paragraph G8 or proposes to make any substantive revision to the Core Customer Information or the manner in which it is presented, the Appointee must consult the Consumer Council for Water and take its representations into account before (as the case may be) completing the review or making the revision.
- G11 Where a revision is made to the Core Customer Information or the manner in which it is presented, the Appointee must inform the Consumer Council for Water of the revision which has been made and of how the revised Core Customer Information may be accessed.
- G12 Where a revision is made to the Core Customer Information, the Appointee must publicise the revised Core Customer information to its customers.

Inclusion of information with bills

- G13 The Appointee must:
- G13.1 with every bill for Metered Charges, inform the customer of how the Core Customer Information set out at paragraphs G2.3 to G2.5 may be accessed;
 - G13.2 with every bill for charges payable by a customer whose premises are not Eligible Premises, inform the customer of how the Core Customer Information set out at paragraph G4 may be accessed; and
 - G13.3 with every bill for Metered Charges payable by a Domestic Customer, inform the customer of how the Core Customer Information set out at paragraph G5 may be accessed.

Complaints Handling Procedure

- G14 The Appointee must establish, maintain and comply with a **Complaints Handling Procedure** for handling complaints from customers.”

4. **Condition H** is deleted in its entirety and is replaced with the following new condition:

“Condition H: Procedure on leakage

Introduction

This condition sets out the procedure which the Appointee must follow in relation to leaks or potential leaks on Supply Pipes of Domestic Premises.

Application

- H1. The Appointee must follow the procedure set out in this condition in relation to customers whose premises are Domestic Premises.
- H2. In this condition, any reference to the Appointee making an adjustment to Metered Charges for water supply in respect of premises means:
- H2.1 in any case where the Appointee supplies water at the premises, making an adjustment to the Metered Charges payable by the customer for that supply; and
- H2.2 in any case where the premises are supplied by a Licensee with whom the Appointee has an agreement under section 66D of the Water Industry Act 1991, making an adjustment to the Metered Charges payable by the Licensee for that supply.
- H3. In this condition, any reference to the Appointee making an adjustment to Metered Charges for sewerage services in respect of premises means:
- H3.1 in any case where the Appointee provides sewerage services at the premises, making an adjustment to the Metered Charges payable by the customer for those services; and
- H3.2 in any case where the premises are provided with sewerage services by a Licensee with whom the Appointee has an agreement under section 117E of the Water Industry Act 1991, making an adjustment to the Metered Charges payable by the Licensee for those services.

Checking for a leak on the Supply Pipe

- H4. At the time of the installation of a meter at a customer’s premises, the Appointee must check the Supply Pipe between the meter and the customer's tap to detect whether there are any leaks.

- H5. Where, as a result of that check, a leak is detected on the Supply Pipe:
- H5.1 if the leak can be repaired without additional excavation at the time the meter is installed, the Appointee must repair the leak; and
 - H5.2 if the leak cannot be repaired without additional excavation at that time, the Appointee must notify the customer of the leak and either:
 - H5.2.1 repair the leak; or
 - H5.2.2 request that the customer repairs the leak at the customer's own expense.

Adjustment of charges for water supply

- H6. Paragraph H7 applies where, after a meter has been installed:
- H6.1 a meter reading indicates that there could be an undetected leak on the Supply Pipe; and
 - H6.2 such a leak is subsequently discovered.
- H7. Where this paragraph applies, the Appointee must make an adjustment to the Metered Charges for water supply in respect of the premises, subject to paragraphs H8 and H9.
- H8. The requirement to adjust Metered Charges under this condition is conditional on the leak being repaired within any reasonable period of time specified by the Appointee.
- H9. The Appointee is not required to make any adjustment to Metered Charges under this condition in relation to any leak:
- H9.1 detected following the repair of a previous leak in relation to which such an adjustment has been made;
 - H9.2 which was caused through the negligence of the customer, the owner of the Supply Pipe or anyone acting on behalf of either of them;
 - H9.3 where the Appointee has requested that a customer repairs the leak under paragraph H5.2.2 and the customer has failed to repair it; or
 - H9.4 which the customer otherwise knew or ought to have known about and failed to repair.

The amount of the adjustment of charges for water supply

H10. In making an adjustment to the Metered Charges for water supply in respect of the premises under this condition:

H10.1 where the Appointee has a record of the customer's past consumption, the adjustment must be based on that consumption, and

H10.2 where the Appointee has no such record:

H10.2.1 the adjustment must be based on typical usage for properties of a similar type; and

H10.2.2 the Metered Charges in respect of the premises must be further adjusted if the customer's subsequent actual usage is significantly different.

Adjustment of charges for sewerage services

H11. Where the Appointee is required to make any adjustment to the Metered Charges for water supply under this condition:

H11.1 if the Appointee is the sewerage undertaker for the premises, it must also make an adjustment to the Metered Charges for sewerage services in respect of the premises; and

H11.2 if another relevant undertaker is the sewerage undertaker for the premises, the Appointee must inform that undertaker as soon as reasonably possible of the adjustment the Appointee is required to make to the Metered Charges for water supply (specifying the basis on which the adjustment has been, or will be, made).

H12. The Appointee must also make an adjustment to the Metered Charges for sewerage services in respect of premises where:

H12.1 the Appointee is the sewerage undertaker for the premises; and

H12.2 the Appointee is informed by a water undertaker that the undertaker is required to make an adjustment to the Metered Charges for a supply of water to the premises (specifying the basis on which the adjustment has been, or will be, made).

H13. Where the Appointee is required to make any adjustment to Metered Charges for sewerage services under this condition, it must make that adjustment on a similar basis to the adjustment being made to the Metered Charges for water supply in respect of the premises.”

5. **Condition M** is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following new condition:

“Condition M: Provision of Information to Ofwat

Introduction

This condition requires the Appointee to provide information to Ofwat (subject to certain limitations) and to co-operate with certain investigations carried out by Ofwat for purposes relating to standards of performance.

Duty to provide Information

- M1 The Appointee must provide Ofwat with any Information that Ofwat may reasonably require for the purpose of carrying out its functions under any enactment.
- M2 The Appointee must provide any Information required by Ofwat by such time, and in such form and manner, as Ofwat may reasonably require.

Limits on the duty to provide Information

- M3 The Appointee is not required to provide Ofwat with Information for the purpose of Ofwat carrying out any function under section 14 or 201 of the Water Industry Act 1991, but if Ofwat requires it to do so the Appointee must provide reasoned comments on the accuracy of any information or advice which Ofwat proposes to publish under section 201 of that Act.
- M4 The Appointee is not required to provide Ofwat with any Information for the purpose of Ofwat carrying out an enforcement function if the Appointee could not have been required to provide that Information under section 203 of the Water Industry Act 1991.
- M5 The Appointee is not required to provide Ofwat with any Information that is protected by legal professional privilege.

Use of Information provided

- M6 Ofwat may use or disclose any Information which it has received from the Appointee for the purpose of carrying out any of its functions under the provisions of any enactment, including its functions under sections 14 and 201 of the Water Industry Act 1991.

Relationship to other conditions

- M7 Any duty on the Appointee to provide Information to Ofwat under any other Condition does not limit the duty of the Appointee to provide Information under paragraph M1.
- M8 The requirement in paragraph M2, and the limits in paragraphs M4 and M5, also apply in any other Condition under which the Appointee has a duty to provide Information to Ofwat.

Standards of Performance

- M9 Paragraph M10 applies in any case in which Ofwat notifies the Appointee that, for the purpose of deciding whether to make an application to the Welsh Ministers under either section 39 or 96 of the Water Industry Act 1991, it intends to investigate:
- M9.1 any Information provided by the Appointee to Ofwat in relation to the Appointee's service levels in carrying out the Regulated Activities; or
- M9.2 the means by which that Information was collated or recorded.
- M10 Where this paragraph applies, the Appointee must co-operate fully with any investigation by Ofwat, including in particular by allowing Ofwat (at reasonable hours and on reasonable notice) to:
- M10.1 access any plant or premises used by the Appointee in carrying out the Regulated Activities;
- M10.2 while at the plant or premises, carry out inspections, measurements or tests, and take copies of any document or record held for the purpose of the Appointed Business; and
- M10.3 take with it any persons or equipment necessary for those purposes.”

6. **Condition O** is deleted in its entirety and is replaced by the following new condition:

“Condition O: Termination and replacement appointments

Introduction

This condition, which sets out circumstances in which the Appointee can be replaced as the undertaker for its area, has effect under section 7(4)(c) of the Water Industry Act 1991.

Other circumstances of potential replacement are also set out at section 7(4) of that Act.

Circumstances when a replacement appointment may be made

- O1 An appointment replacing the Appointee as either water or (where applicable) sewerage undertaker in respect of the Area may be made where:
- O1.1 the Welsh Ministers have given at least 25 years' notice to the Appointee of the termination of the relevant Appointment in respect of the whole of the Area; and
 - O1.2 the replacement appointment is to come into effect on the expiry of that notice.”

7. **Condition R** is amended by, in sub-paragraph 5(4), deleting the words “paragraph 6 of Condition F (Transactions entered into by the Appointee or the Appointed Business with or for the benefit of Associated Companies or other businesses or activities of the Appointee)” and replacing with the words “paragraphs 5.1 to 5.3 of Condition P (Transfer Pricing and Cross Default Obligations)”.

8. **Condition Q** is deleted in its entirety and is replaced by the following new condition:

“Condition Q: Interruptions in supply because of drought”

Introduction

This condition sets out the payments that the Appointee must make where customers have their water supply interrupted because of a drought order.

Payments following interruption in supply

- Q1 Subject to paragraph Q5, where the supply of water to Household Premises is interrupted under the authority of a drought order, the Appointee must make a payment to the customer who is liable to pay charges for water supply at the premises or credit that customer’s account in accordance with paragraph Q2.
- Q2 The Appointee must pay or credit an amount equal to $D \times d$, subject to a maximum of A in any Charging Year, where:
- Q2.1 D is £10;
- Q2.2 d is the number of days during which, or part of which, the supply of water to the premises is interrupted; and
- Q2.3 A is the average water charge payable to the Appointee in respect of Household Premises for the Charging Year preceding the date of the interruption.
- Q3 Subject to paragraph Q5, where the supply of water to premises other than Household Premises is interrupted under the authority of a drought order:
- Q3.1 where the Appointee supplies water at the premises, it must make a payment to the customer who is liable to pay charges for that supply or credit that customer’s account in accordance with paragraph Q4; and

Q3.2 where the premises are supplied with water by a Licensee with whom the Appointee has an agreement under section 66D of the Water Industry Act 1991, the Appointee must make a payment to the Licensee in accordance with paragraph Q4.

Q4 The Appointee must pay or credit (as the case may be) an amount equal to $B \times d$, subject to a maximum of N in any Charging Year, where:

Q4.1 B is £50;

Q4.2 d is the number of days during which, or part of which, the supply of water to the premises is interrupted; and

Q4.3 N is:

Q4.3.1 the amount of water charges which were payable in respect of those premises by the customer who is liable to pay such charges for the Charging Year preceding the date of the interruption (excluding any amount payable in respect of any separate supply which was provided solely for purposes other than domestic purposes); or

Q4.3.2 if the customer was not liable to pay those charges, £500.

Q5 The Appointee is not required to pay or credit (as the case may be) any amount under this condition if it can demonstrate that it took all reasonable steps to avoid the circumstances which gave rise to the making of the drought order.

Determination of disputes

Q6 Where there is a dispute between the Appointee and a customer, or between the Appointee and a Licensee, over a right to a payment or credit under this condition:

Q6.1 either party may refer the matter to Ofwat for determination; and

Q6.2 the Appointee must give effect to any determination which is made.”

Schedule 2

1. **Condition F** is deleted in its entirety and is replaced with the following new condition:

“Condition F: Regulatory accounting statements

Introduction

This condition requires the Appointee to keep appropriate accounting records which are consistent with guidelines published by Ofwat. Ofwat will publish the guidelines and revise them, subject to certain procedural protections.

The Regulatory Accounting Guidelines

- F1 Ofwat will publish the **Regulatory Accounting Guidelines** which will:
- F1.1 relate to the accounting records that must be kept by the Appointee and the accounting Information that must be provided by it to Ofwat; and
 - F1.2 have the purpose of ensuring that:
 - F1.2.1 Ofwat may obtain all appropriate accounting Information in respect of the Appointed Business; and
 - F1.2.2 the financial affairs of the Appointed Business are recorded and reported on, and may be assessed, separately from any other business or activity of the Appointee.
- F2 The Regulatory Accounting Guidelines may in particular include provisions in relation to:
- F2.1 the form and content of the accounting records that the Appointee is required to keep;
 - F2.2 the form and content of the accounting statements, and any associated reports or analyses, that the Appointee is required to prepare;
 - F2.3 any audit of the accounting records and statements that the Appointee is required to procure, the terms on which that audit is to be procured, and the basis on which the record and conclusions of that audit must be provided to Ofwat; and

- F2.4 the time by which the Appointee is required to provide any accounting Information to Ofwat and any requirement on the Appointee to publish that Information.
- F3 The Regulatory Accounting Guidelines may not require the disclosure of Information which relates solely to a transaction wholly unconnected with the Appointed Business.
- F4 Ofwat may, from time to time, revise the Regulatory Accounting Guidelines in any manner that it considers appropriate, provided that, before any revision takes effect, Ofwat:
- F4.1 consults the Appointee on a draft of the proposed revision;
- F4.2 has regard to any representations made by the Appointee;
- F4.3 publishes a final version of the revision, incorporating any changes made to the draft following consultation; and
- F4.4 gives reasonable notice (of at least one month) to the Appointee of the date on which that revision will take effect.
- F5 The Appointee may notify Ofwat, within one month of receiving notice that a revision to the Regulatory Accounting Guidelines will take effect, that it disputes the revision, and in that case:
- F5.1 the question of whether the revision is appropriate shall (unless Ofwat withdraws the decision to make it) be referred by Ofwat to the Competition and Markets Authority for determination; and
- F5.2 the revision shall not take effect unless and until the Competition and Markets Authority determines that it shall.

Compliance with the Regulatory Accounting Guidelines

- F6 The Appointee must:
- F6.1 prepare a set of regulatory accounting statements, in respect of the twelve month period ending on 31 March in each Charging Year, which are in accordance with the Regulatory Accounting Guidelines; and
- F6.2 comply with all other requirements that are set out in the Regulatory Accounting Guidelines.”

2. **Condition N** is deleted in its entirety and is replaced by the following new condition:

“Condition N: Fees

Introduction

This condition provides for the payment of fees by the Appointee to cover costs incurred by Ofwat, the Consumer Council for Water and the Competition and Markets Authority and sets out how the amount of those fees will be determined.

Fees

- N1 The Appointee must pay the following **Fees** to the Welsh Ministers in accordance with this condition:
- N1.1 the Annual General Fee (or such part of the Annual General Fee as is payable under paragraph N2);
 - N1.2 the Special Fee (if any);
 - N1.3 the Interim Determination Fee (if any);
 - N1.4 the Consumer Council for Water Fee; and
 - N1.5 the Competition and Markets Authority Fee (if any).
- N2 Where Ofwat notifies the Appointee of an amount which is payable towards the Annual General Fee, the Appointee must pay that amount no later than 30 days following the notification, provided that:
- N2.1 the total of such amounts in a Charging Year may not exceed the Annual General Fee; and
 - N2.2 Ofwat may not give such a notification more than twice for a Charging Year.
- N3 Where Ofwat notifies the Appointee of the amount of any Fee other than the Annual General Fee, the Appointee must pay that amount no later than 30 days following the notification, provided that Ofwat may not give such a notification in respect of any one of these Fees more than once in a Charging Year.

N4 In this condition any determination by Ofwat of a fair proportion of an amount may only be made in accordance with a method which Ofwat has disclosed to the Appointee in writing.

Annual General Fee

N5 The **Annual General Fee** is Ofwat's determination of a fair proportion of its estimate of costs incurred or likely to be incurred by it in the Charging Year in the carrying out of its functions under any enactment, provided that any such determination is subject to paragraph N13.

Special Fee

N6 The **Special Fee** is Ofwat's determination of a fair proportion of its estimate of any costs incurred or likely to be incurred by it which:

N6.1 could have been included in the estimate used by it to determine the Annual General Fee for the Charging Year; and

N6.2 were not included in that estimate,

provided that any such determination is subject to paragraph N13.

Interim Determination Fee

N7 The **Interim Determination Fee** is an amount determined by Ofwat which represents its estimate of any costs incurred by it in the previous twelve months in relation to any Interim Determination which it is required to make.

Consumer Council for Water Fee

N8 The **Consumer Council for Water Fee** is:

N8.1 Ofwat's determination of a fair proportion of its estimate of costs incurred or likely to be incurred by the Consumer Council for Water in the Charging Year in the carrying out of its functions under any enactment, provided that no such amount will exceed the amount calculated in accordance with paragraph N10; or

N8.2 where a direction has been given to Ofwat by the Secretary of State under section 37(8) of the Water Act 2003, any greater amount which Ofwat determines is necessary to give effect to that direction.

N9 Any estimates which are used in the determination of the Consumer Council for Water Fee will be arrived at following consultation with the Consumer Council for Water

N10 A Consumer Council for Water Fee determined under paragraph N8.1 shall not exceed an amount calculated as $G \times A$ where:

N10.1 G is the amount of £7.65 million, as increased from November 2015 to the November immediately before the Charging Year using the Retail Prices Index (for any period up to November 2019) and the Relevant Index (for any period thereafter); and

N10.2 A is the Appointee's Turnover Share for the Charging Year.

Competition and Markets Authority Fee

N11 The **Competition and Markets Authority Fee** is an amount determined by Ofwat (in accordance with paragraph N12) which is the sum of:

N11.1 Ofwat's estimate of the costs incurred by the Competition and Markets Authority in the previous twelve months in relation to any reference under section 12 or section 14 of the Water Industry Act 1991, where the reference related solely to the Appointed Business; and

N11.2 Ofwat's determination of a fair proportion of Ofwat's estimate of the costs incurred by the Competition and Markets Authority in the previous twelve months in relation to any reference under section 14 of the Water Industry Act 1991, where the reference related to the Appointed Business and the appointed businesses of other relevant undertakers.

N12 Any estimates which are used in the determination of the Competition and Markets Authority Fee will be arrived at following consultation with the Competition and Markets Authority.

Cap on Annual General Fee and Special Fee

N13 The sum of the Annual General Fees and any Special Fees in a Relevant Five Year Period must not exceed the Regulation Fee Cap.

N14 Subject to paragraph N16, the **Regulation Fee Cap** is an amount which is the sum of:

N14.1 the sum of the amounts calculated as $S \times A$ for each Charging Year in the Relevant Five Year Period, where:

N14.1.1 S is the amount of £18.8 million, as increased from November 2015 to the November immediately before the Charging Year using the Retail Prices Index (for any period up to November 2019) and the Relevant Index (for any period thereafter); and

N14.1.2 A is the Appointee's Turnover Share for the Charging Year; and

N14.2 an amount equal to 0.3% of the average of the annual turnover of the Appointed Business, as shown in the accounting statements prepared by the Appointee under Condition F, over the Prior Five Year Period.

N15 Ofwat may refer to the Welsh Ministers for determination the question of whether the Regulation Fee Cap should be changed in relation to any Relevant Five Year Period (and if so what change should be made).

N16 The Regulation Fee Cap shall be changed to the extent required to give effect to any determination which:

N16.1 has been made following a reference made under paragraph N15; and

N16.2 is made before the start of the Relevant Five Year Period to which it relates.”