

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

By email

29 March 2018

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

Reference: FOI 20180326

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information concerning water supply area maps.

Ofwat confirms it does hold the information in as much as we hold mapping information but not as one document and not in GIS form. It may help to explain what maps we hold, because they may not be what you require. Ofwat holds:

1. Large (approximately A1) maps that set out the original (1989) boundaries of the water supply areas and/or sewerage services areas (which are not identical) for each company that was originally appointed as a water undertaker and/or sewerage undertaker in 1989 (these are currently only available for inspection in electronic form); and
2. Smaller maps of more recent changes to areas in relation to individual sites (such as new housing developments) that have been made under our New Appointments and Variations (NAV) process, normally in relation to small new entrant companies that have become the water undertaker and/or sewerage undertaker for one or more individual sites (some of which are available for inspection in electronic form and some of which are available in paper form).

Since 1989 there has been consolidation in the water industry and many companies that were appointed to be water undertakers in 1989 have been replaced by other such companies. It was not necessary to create new maps when this happened (and it would not have been possible to do so unless the boundaries with third party water undertakers were exactly identical to the 1989 maps). Although the maps collectively show the areas of appointment for each water undertaker or sewerage undertaker,

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they are therefore not necessarily shown as the areas for each current water company.

The maps are therefore most easily used for identifying boundaries in particular areas of the country or for a particular company. The consolidated working versions of water company appointments on [our website](#) include notes listing any companies they have replaced and other changes in area (up to the date of the document), as well as the lists of premises that were either physically inside an area but deemed to be outside it or physically outside an area but deemed to be inside it. We also publish [a list of NAV sites](#) (although this does not normally include where a company has been completely replaced as a water undertaker, as opposed to having part of its area removed).

Companies have been publishing their water resources market information on their websites alongside their draft water resources management plans (WRMPs). This includes GIS shapefiles of their water resource zones (which are used for water resources planning purposes), consistent with their WRMP. We have collated the links to the relevant water company webpages where [this market information is published on our website](#) <https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/regulated-companies/markets/water-bidding-market/water-resources-market-information/>.

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If you have any queries or concerns with regard to the content of this email please do contact me, quoting the reference number.

Freedom of Information/EIR Provide the Information

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<https://ico.org.uk/>

or

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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