# Variation of Independent Water Networks Limited's appointment to include Walshes Road, Crowborough, East Sussex

On 17 October 2022, Ofwat began a <u>consultation</u> on a proposal to vary Independent Water Networks Limited's ("**Independent Water Networks**") appointment to become the water provider for a development in South East Water Limited's ("**South East Water**") water supply area called Walshes Road, Crowborough, East Sussex ("**the Site**"). Details of the application and our assessment of it were set out in the consultation document.

The consultation ended on 14 November 2022. During the consultation period, we received one representation from the Environment Agency, stating it had no further comments or objections to raise in regard to the consultation.

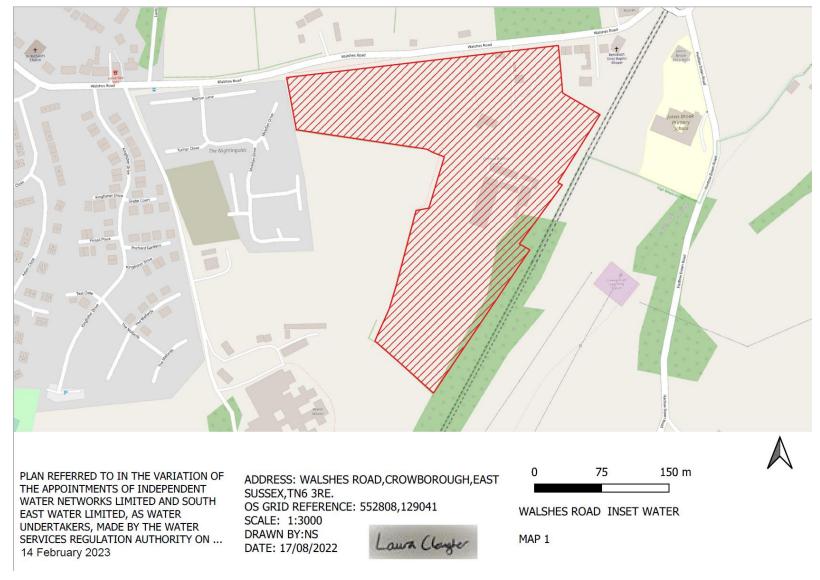
We will only make an appointment or variation if our assessment concludes that the application meets the criterion it has been made under; that customers or future customers on the site will be no worse off than if the site had been served by the existing appointee; and if the applicant will be able to finance the proper carrying out of its functions as a water and/or sewerage company. As set out in our consultation we are satisfied this is the case. The response we have received to the consultation has not changed that view.

Having assessed Independent Water Networks' application and having taken account of the response we received to our consultation, we decided to grant a variation to Independent Water Networks' area of appointment to allow it to serve the Site for water services. This appointment became effective on 15 February 2023.

The Site Map for the variation can be found in Section 1 of this document. On 7 February 2023 we granted a variation to Icosa Water Services Limited enabling it to provide sewerage services to the same Site; the decision document for this application can be found <u>here</u>. We also granted a variation to Icosa Water Services Limited enabling it to serve sewerage services to a site located opposite; the decision document for this application can be found <u>here</u>, we here, the variation was signed on 14 December 2021.

The Variation Notice legally making the variation can be found in Section 2 of this document.

### 1. Site Map Water



## 2. Variation Notice

#### WATER SERVICES REGULATION AUTHORITY WATER INDUSTRY ACT 1991, SECTIONS 6 TO 9

#### Variation of the Appointments of Independent Water Networks Limited and South East Water Limited as Water Undertakers

Made on 14 February 2023

Coming into effect on 15 February 2023

- Independent Water Networks Limited ("Independent Water Networks") and South East Water Limited ("South East Water ") hold Appointments as water undertakers for their respective areas ("the Appointments").<sup>1</sup> The areas to which the Appointments of Independent Water Networks and South East Water as water undertakers relate ("Water Supply Area") are set out in their Instruments of Appointment.
- The site called Walshes Road, Crowborough, East Sussex, which is shown edged in red on the plan attached to this variation, ("the Site") is within South East Water's Water Supply Area. The Site is being developed by Vistry Homes Limited.
- Independent Water Networks has applied under section 7(4)(b) of the Water Industry Act 1991 ("the Act") for a variation of its Appointment as a water undertaker to include the Site and for a consequential variation of South East Water's Appointment to exclude the Site.
- 4. On 27 June 1995, the Secretary of State for the Environment and the Secretary of State for Wales acting jointly and pursuant to sections 6(1) and 7(2) of the Act authorised the Director General of Water Services<sup>2</sup> to make variations such as those contained in paragraph 5 below. After public consultation, as required by section 8 of the Act, the Water Services Regulation Authority has decided that it should grant Independent Water Networks' application.
- 5. Therefore, as provided by sections 7(2) and 7(4)(b) of the Act, and with the agreement of Vistry Homes Limited, the Water Services Regulation Authority **varies**
  - (a) the Appointment of Independent Water Networks as a water undertaker, so that the Site is included in Independent Water Networks' Water Supply Area; and
  - (b) the Appointment of South East Water as a water undertaker, so that the Site is excluded from South East Water's Water Supply Area.

# Signed for and on behalf of the Water Services Regulation Authority

#### Laura Clougher Principal, Casework and Enforcement