

Variation of Leep Networks (Water) Limited's appointment to include Oak Lane, Kingswinford

On 14 February 2023, Ofwat began a [consultation](#) on a proposal to vary Leep Networks (Water) Limited's ("**Leep Water**") appointment to become the water and sewerage services provider for a development in South Staffordshire Water Plc's ("**South Staffordshire Water**") water supply area and Severn Trent Water Limited's ("**Severn Trent Water**") sewerage services area called Oak Lane, Kingswinford ("**the Site**"). Details of the application and our assessment of it were set out in the consultation document.

The consultation ended on 14 March 2023. During the consultation period, we did not receive any responses 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 sewerage company. As set out in our consultation we are satisfied this is the case.

Having assessed Leep Water's application and having received no responses to our consultation, we decided to grant a variation to Leep Water's area of appointment to allow it to serve the Site for water and sewerage services. This appointment became effective on 13 April 2023.

The Site Maps for the variation can be found in Section 1 of this document.

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

2. Variation Notice

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

Variation of the Appointments of Leep Networks (Water) Limited, South Staffordshire Water Plc, and Severn Trent Water Limited as Water and Sewerage Undertakers

Made on 12 April 2023

Coming into effect on 13 April 2023

1. Leep Networks (Water) Limited ("Leep Water"), South Staffordshire Water Plc ("South Staffs Water") and Severn Trent Water Limited ("Severn Trent Water") hold Appointments as water and sewerage undertakers for their respective areas ("the Appointments").¹ The areas to which the Appointments of Leep Water, South Staffs Water and Severn Trent Water as water and sewerage undertakers relate ("Water Supply Area" and "Sewerage Services Area") are set out in their Instruments of Appointment.
2. The site called Oak Lane, Kingswinford in Dudley, which is shown edged in red on the plan attached to this variation, ("the Site") is within South Staffs Water's Water Supply Area and Severn Trent Water's Sewerage Services Area. The Site is being developed by Keepmoat Homes Limited.
3. Leep Water has applied under section 7(4)(b) of the Water Industry Act 1991 ("the Act") for a variation of its Appointment as a water and sewerage undertaker to include the Site and for a consequential variation of South Staffs Water's and Severn Trent Water's Appointments 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 Services² 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 Leep Water's application.
5. Therefore, as provided by sections 7(2) and 7(4)(b) of the Act, and with the agreement of Keepmoat Homes Limited, the Water Services Regulation Authority **varies**—

¹ South Staffs Water's and Severn Trent Water's original Appointments as water and sewerage undertakers were made by the Secretary of State for the Environment under sections 11 and 14 of the Water Act 1989, now replaced by sections 6 and 11 of the Water Industry Act 1991. Leep Water's original Appointment was made by the Water Services Regulation Authority under sections 6 and 11 of the Water Industry Act 1991.

² With effect from 1 April 2006 the functions of the Director General of Water Services were transferred to the Water Services Regulation Authority in accordance with section 36 of, and Schedule 3 to, the Water Act 2003.

- (a) the Appointment of Leep Water as a water and sewerage undertaker so that the Site is included in Leep Water's Water Supply Area and Sewerage Services Area;
- (b) the Appointment of South Staffs Water as a water undertaker so that the Site is excluded from South Staffs Water's Water Supply Area; and
- (c) the Appointment of Severn Trent Water as a sewerage undertaker so that the Site is excluded from Severn Trent Water's Sewerage Services Area.

Signed for and on behalf of the Water Services Regulation Authority



Sally Irgin
Director of Enforcement