

Variation of Independent Water Networks Limited's appointment to include Additional Land at Seaton Vale, Ashington

On 22 June 2023, Ofwat began a [consultation](#) on a proposal to vary Independent Water Networks Limited's ("**Independent Water Networks**") appointment to become the water and sewerage services provider for a development in Northumbrian Water Limited's ("**Northumbrian Water**") water supply area and sewerage services area called Additional Land at Seaton Vale, Ashington ("**the Site**"). Details of the application and our assessment of it were set out in the consultation document.

The consultation ended on 19 July 2023. During the consultation period, we received one representation from Northumberland County Council. Northumberland County Council confirmed that it has no objections to this variation being granted.

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 and sewerage services. This appointment became effective on 26 July 2023.

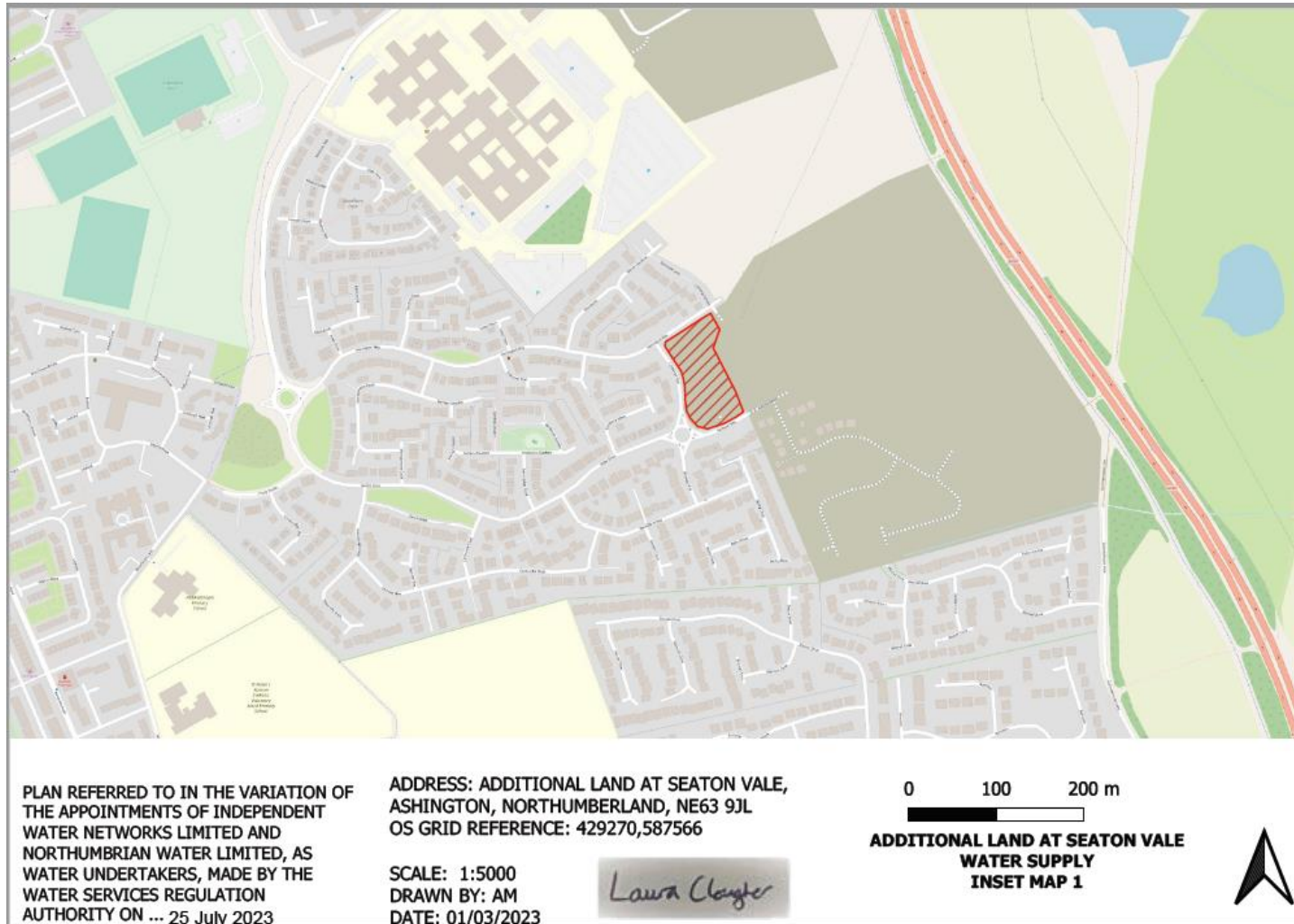
The Site is part of a phased development and we have previously granted a variation for phase 1 of the development, Seaton Vale, Ashington. The variation was granted on 10 May 2021, to allow IWN to provide water and sewerage services to 600 household properties on the Site. This variation is for an additional 26 household properties.

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

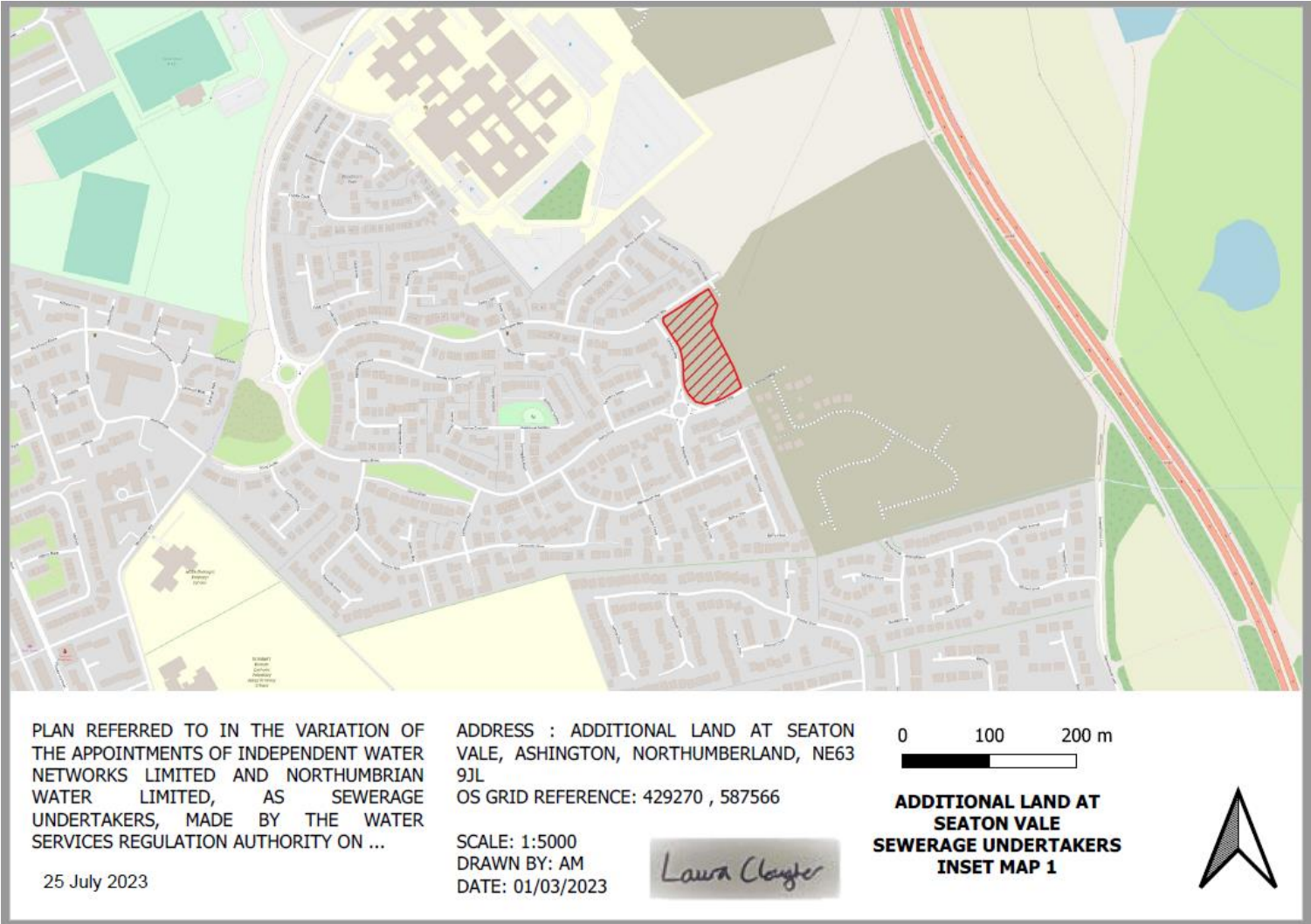
The Variation Notice legally making the variation can be found in Section 2 of this document.

1. Site Maps

Water



Sewerage



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
Northumbrian Water Limited as Water and Sewerage Undertakers**

Made on 25 July 2023

Coming into effect on 26 July 2023

1. Independent Water Networks Limited ("Independent Water Networks") and Northumbrian Water Limited ("Northumbrian Water") hold Appointments as water and sewerage undertakers for their respective areas ("the Appointments").¹ The areas to which the Appointments of Independent Water Networks and Northumbrian 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 Additional Land at Seaton Vale, Ashington which is shown edged in red on the plan attached to this variation, ("the Site") is within Northumbrian Water's Water Supply Area and Sewerage Services Area. The Site is being developed by Persimmon plc.
3. 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 and sewerage undertaker to include the Site and for a consequential variation of Northumbrian 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 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 Independent Water Networks' application.
5. Therefore, as provided by sections 7(2) and 7(4)(b) of the Act, and with the agreement of Persimmon plc, the Water Services Regulation Authority **varies**—
 - (a) the Appointment of Independent Water Networks as a water and sewerage undertaker so that the Site is included in Independent Water Networks' Water Supply Area and Sewerage Services Area; and

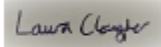
¹ Northumbrian Water's original Appointment as a water and sewerage undertaker was made by the Secretary of State for the Environment under sections 11 and 14 of the Water Act 1989, now replaced by sections 6 and 11 of the Water Industry Act 1991. Independent Water Networks original appointment as a water and sewerage undertaker 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.

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Vale, Ashington

- (b) the Appointment of Northumbrian Water as a water and sewerage undertaker so that the Site is excluded from Northumbrian Water's Water Supply Area and Sewerage Services Area.

Signed for and on behalf of the Water Services Regulation Authority

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Clougher".

Laura Clougher
Principal, Casework and Enforcement