

Variation of Icosa Water Services Limited's appointment to include Syke Road, Burnopfield

On 19 October 2023 Ofwat began a [consultation on](#) a proposal to vary Icosa Water Services Limited's ("**Icosa Water**") appointment to become the water services provider for a development in Northumbrian Water Limited ("**Northumbrian Water**") water supply area called Syke Road, Burnopfield in County Durham ("**the Site**"). Details of the application and our assessment of it were set out in the consultation document.

The consultation ended on 16 November 2023. During the consultation period, we received a representation from one organisation, Northumbrian Water which is summarised in Section 1 of this document.

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 company. As set out in our consultation we are satisfied this is the case. The response we have received to the consultation have not changed that view.

Having assessed Icosa Water's application and having taken account of the response we received to our consultation, we decided to grant a variation to Icosa Water's area of appointment to allow it to serve the Site for water services. This appointment became effective on 23 November 2023.

The Site Map for the variation can be found in Section 2 of this document.

The Variation Notice legally making the variation can be found in Section 3 of this document.

1. Consultation Responses

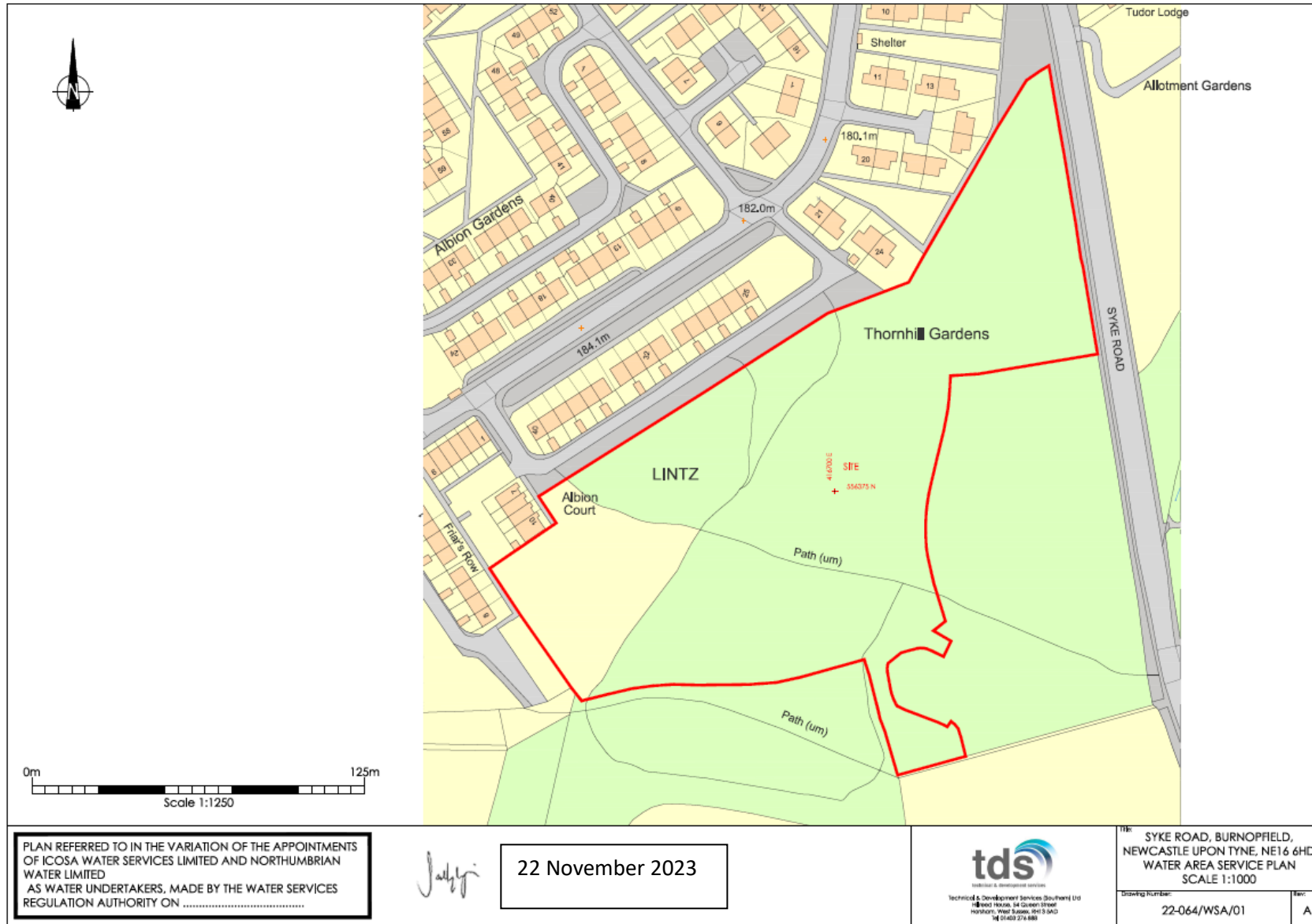
Northumbrian Water's Response

Northumbrian Water responded to the consultation to note that the consultation document stated that the proposed variation would be made under the unserved criterion, but that this would no longer be the case as the Site would be served as new properties on it become occupied ahead of the variation being made. It said the variation should therefore be made under the consent criterion, and provided a signed agreement with Icosa Water providing its consent.

Our response

Since receiving this consultation response both Icosa Water and Northumbrian Water have confirmed to us that circumstances have changed and the Site is not yet served. Therefore, the variation will be made under the unserved criterion as originally consulted on.

2. Site Map



3. Variation Notice

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

Variation of the Appointments of Icosa Water Services Limited and Northumbrian Water Limited as Water Undertakers

Made on 22 November 2023

Coming into effect on 23 November 2023

1. Icosa Water Services Limited ("Icosa Water") and Northumbrian Water Limited ("Northumbrian Water") hold Appointments as water undertakers for their respective areas ("the Appointments").¹ The areas to which the Appointments of Icosa Water and Northumbrian Water as water undertakers relate ("Water Services Area") are set out in their Instruments of Appointment.
2. The site called Syke Road, Burnopfield in County Durham, which is shown edged in red on the plan attached to this variation, ("the Site") is within Northumbrian Water's Water Services Area. The Site is being developed by Robertson Homes Limited.
3. Icosa 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 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 Icosa Water's application.
5. Therefore, as provided by sections 7(2) and 7(4)(b) of the Act, and with the agreement of Robertson Homes Limited, the Water Services Regulation Authority **varies**–

(a) the Appointment of Icosa Water as a water undertaker so that the Site is included in Icosa Water's Water Services Area; and

¹ Northumbrian Water's original Appointment as a water 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. Icosa Water's original Appointment as a water 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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(b) the Appointment of Northumbrian Water as a water undertaker so that the Site is excluded from Northumbrian Water's Wate Services Area.

Signed for and on behalf of the Water Services Regulation Authority

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sally Irgin', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Sally Irgin
Director of Enforcement