

Variation of Independent Water Networks Limited's appointment to include Marcham Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire

On 25 May 2023 Ofwat began a [consultation](#) on a proposal to vary Independent Water Networks Limited's ("Independent Water Networks") appointment to become the water services provider for a development in Thames Water Utilities Limited's ("Thames Water") water supply area called Marcham Road, Abingdon in Oxfordshire ("the Site"). Details of the application and our assessment of it were set out in the consultation document.

The consultation ended on 23 June 2023. During the consultation period, we received no responses. Following the consultation period Independent Water Networks informed us of two changes to this application: that it wished to remove wastewater services from the application, and to reduce the number of properties on the Site from 90 to 88. We updated our assessment of the application and the changes do not alter our proposal to grant this variation. We have notified the statutory consultees of the changes.

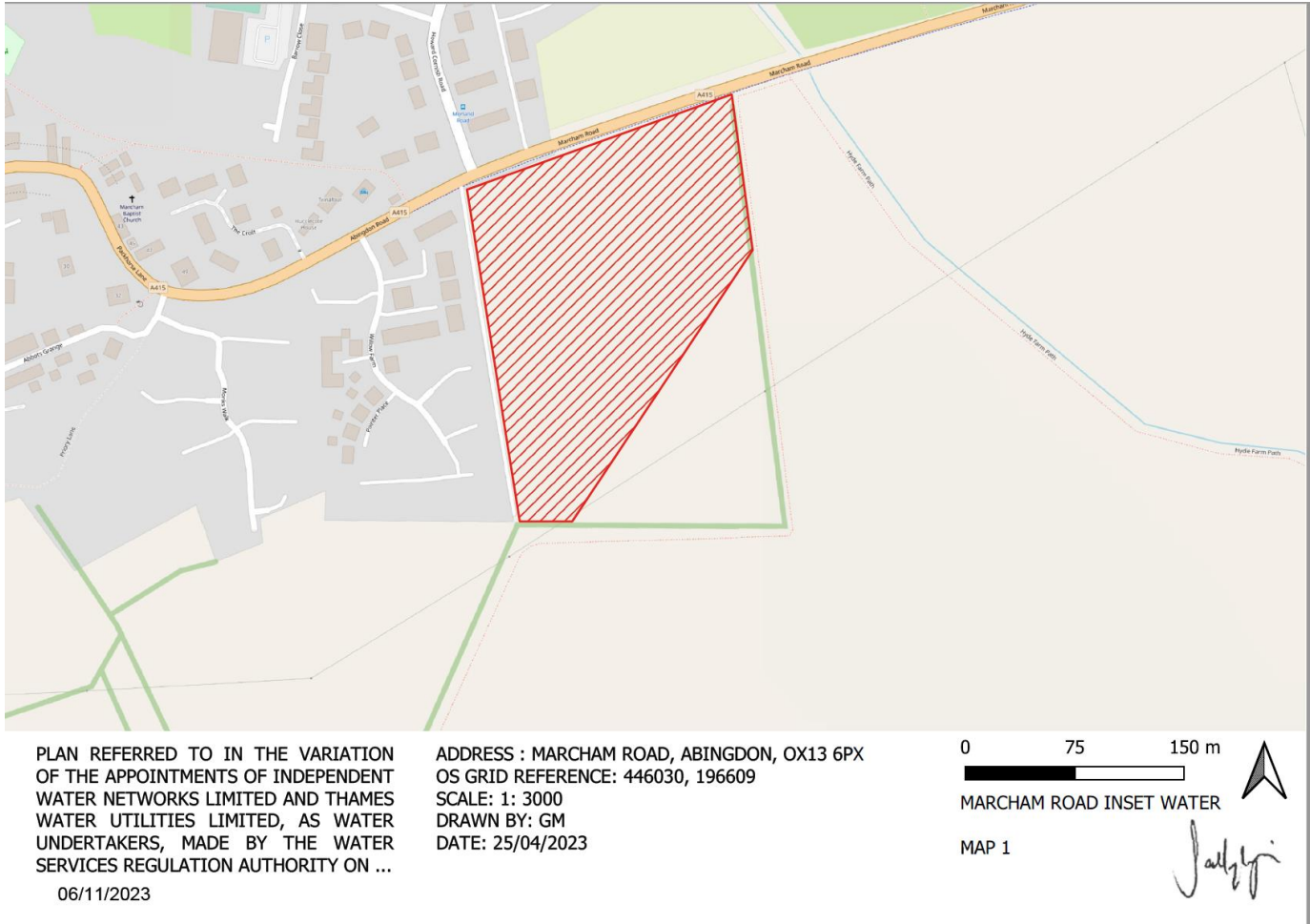
We will only make an appointment or variation if our assessment concludes that the application meets the criterion it has been made under; that customers or future customers on the site will be no worse off than if the site had been served by the existing appointee; and if the applicant will be able 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.

Having assessed Independent Water Networks' application and having received no responses 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 7 November 2023.

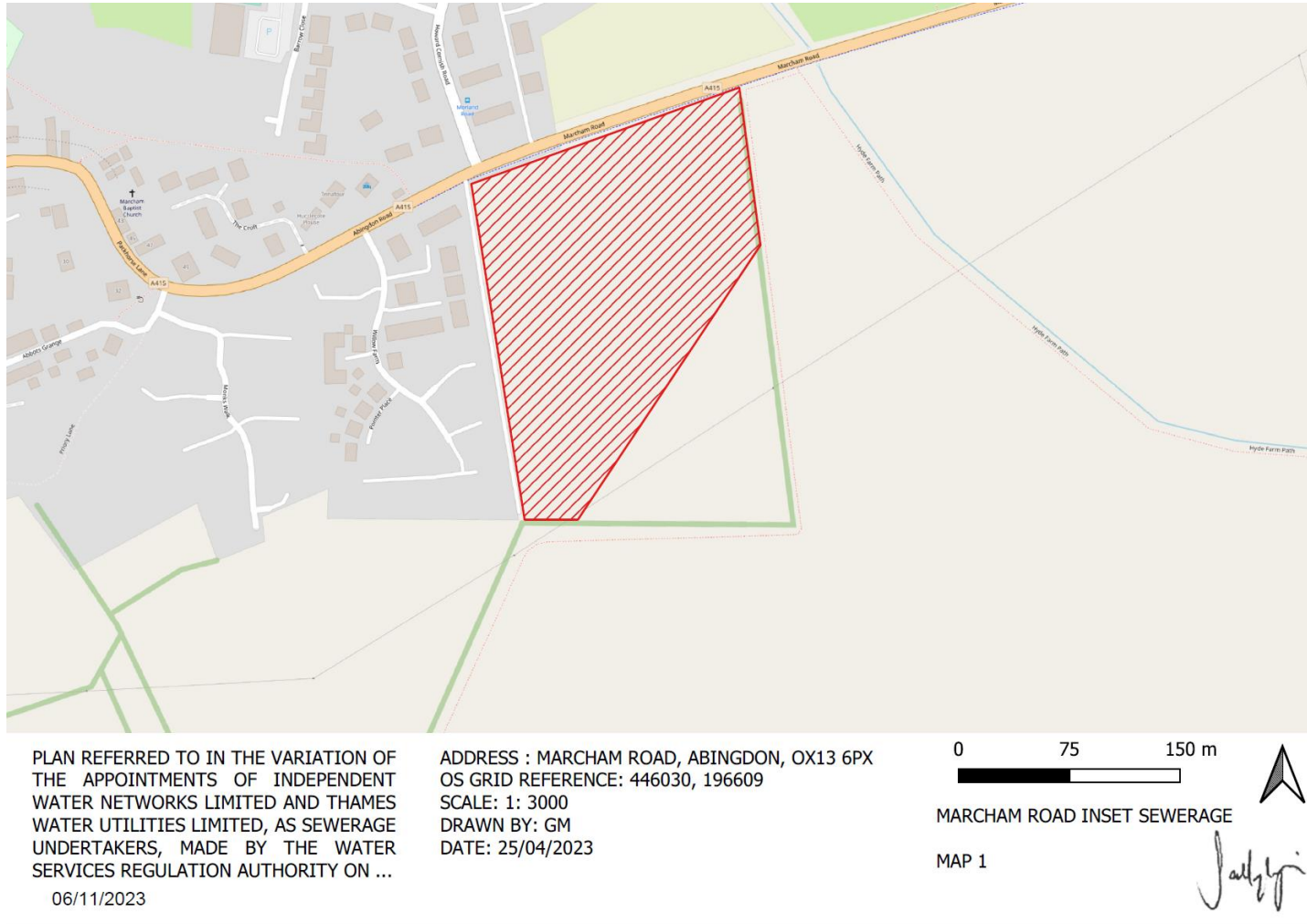
The Site Map(s) for the variation can be found in Section 1 of this document.

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

1. Site Maps



Variation of Independent Water Networks Limited's appointment to include Marcham Road, Abingdon



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 Thames Water Utilities Limited as Water Undertakers

Made on 6 November 2023

Coming into effect on 7 November 2023

1. Independent Water Networks Limited ("Independent Water Networks") and Thames Water Utilities Limited ("Thames Water") hold Appointments as water undertakers for their respective areas ("the Appointments").¹ The areas to which the Appointments of Independent Water Networks and Thames Water as water undertakers relate ("Water Supply Area") are set out in their Instruments of Appointment.
2. The site called Marcham Road, Abingdon in Oxfordshire, which is shown edged in red on the plan attached to this variation, ("the Site") is within Thames Water's Water Supply Area. The Site is being developed by Bloor Homes Limited.
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 undertaker to include the Site and for a consequential variation of Thames 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 Independent Water Networks' application.
5. Therefore, as provided by sections 7(2) and 7(4)(b) of the Act, and with the agreement of Bloor 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

¹ Thames 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. Independent Water Networks' 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.

(b) the Appointment of Thames Water as a water undertaker so that the Site is excluded from Thames Water's Water Supply Area.

Signed for and on behalf of the Water Services Regulation Authority



Sally Irgin
Director of Enforcement