

## Variation of Independent Water Networks Limited's appointment to include Copperhouse Green (Phases 1 & 2), Dartford, Kent

On 21 September 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 Thames Water Utilities Limited's (“**Thames Water**”) water supply and sewerage services area called Copperhouse Green (Phases 1 & 2), Dartford, Kent (“**the Site**”). Details of the application and our assessment of it were set out in the consultation document.

The consultation ended on 19 October 2023. We did not receive any representation during the consultation period.

On 18 October 2023 Independent Water Networks notified us that it wished to remove the sewerage services aspect from its application, as the developer had decided that it would remain with Thames Water for this service. Independent Water Networks therefore wished to proceed with a water only application. As the consultation for this application was due to conclude a day later on 19 October 2023, we notified the statutory stakeholders of the change and allowed until 31 October 2023 for any new representations to be made. We received no further comments. We reassessed the financial viability of the Site following the removal of sewerage services and we remain satisfied that Independent Water Networks will be able to finance its functions if this variation is 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 sewerage company. As set out in our consultation we are satisfied this is the case.

Having assessed Independent Water Networks' application and its consequent change to the 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 DD MMMM YYYY.

The Site Map 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 Map

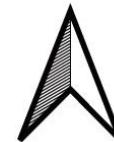


PLAN REFERRED TO IN THE VARIATION OF THE APPOINTMENTS OF INDEPENDENT WATER NETWORKS LIMITED AND THAMES WATER UTILITIES LIMITED, AS WATER UNDERTAKERS, MADE BY THE WATER SERVICES REGULATION AUTHORITY ON ...  
13 November 2023

ADDRESS: COPPERHOUSE GREEN (PHASES 1 & 2),  
LOWFIELD ROAD, DARTFORD, DA1 1HD  
OS GRID REFERENCE: 554076, 173635  
SCALE: 1:2000  
DRAWN BY: TB  
DATE: 10/07/2023

0 50 100 m

**COPPERHOUSE GREEN  
(PHASES 1 & 2)  
WATER UNDERTAKERS  
INSET MAP 1  
PROJECT: N0020585**



## 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 and Sewerage Undertakers**

Made on 13 November 2023

Coming into effect on 14 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").<sup>1</sup> 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 Copperhouse Green (Phases 1 & 2), Dartford, Kent, 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 Bellway 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 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 Bellway 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

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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**