

Variation of Leep Networks (Water) Limited's appointment to include Canford Park, Bournemouth

On 7 September 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 West Water Limited's ("**South West Water**") water supply area and Wessex Water Services Limited's ("**Wessex Water**") sewerage services area called Canford Park, Bournemouth in Dorset ("**the Site**"). Details of the application and our assessment of it were set out in the consultation document.

The consultation ended on 6 October 2023. During the consultation period, we received one representation. South West Water stated that it supports the development of markets where customers could benefit, or in the least suffer no detriment and confirmed it does not have any objection to the proposal to grant this variation.

Ofwat has engaged with the Environment Agency as part of the application process. For this application, the Environment Agency previously flagged that the water supply and demand forecasts in Leep Water's application did not reflect the assumptions set out in its draft Water Resources Management Plan (the statutory water resources management plan water companies are required to prepare to set out their planning approach for at least the next 25 years), and that this could pose a potential risk of a supply deficit in the future. The Environment Agency has since confirmed in an email dated 24 November 2023 that the Site deficit issues have now been resolved and it is happy for this variation to be granted.

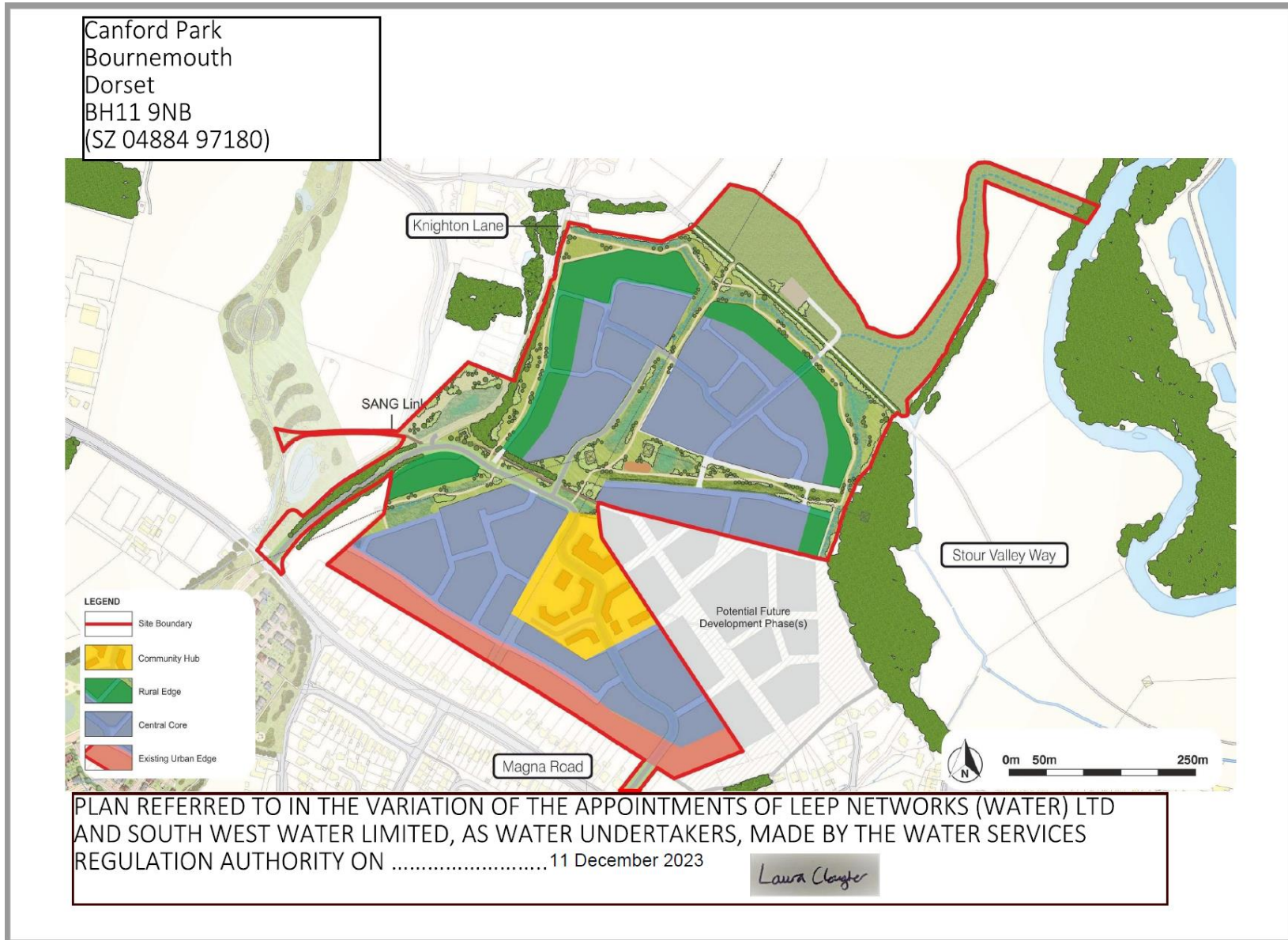
We will only make an appointment or variation if our assessment concludes that the application meets the criterion it has been made under; that customers or future customers on the Site will be no worse off than if the Site had been served by the existing appointee; and if the applicant will be able 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. The response we have received to the consultation has not changed that view.

Having assessed Leep Water's application and having taken account of the response we received 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 12 December 2023.

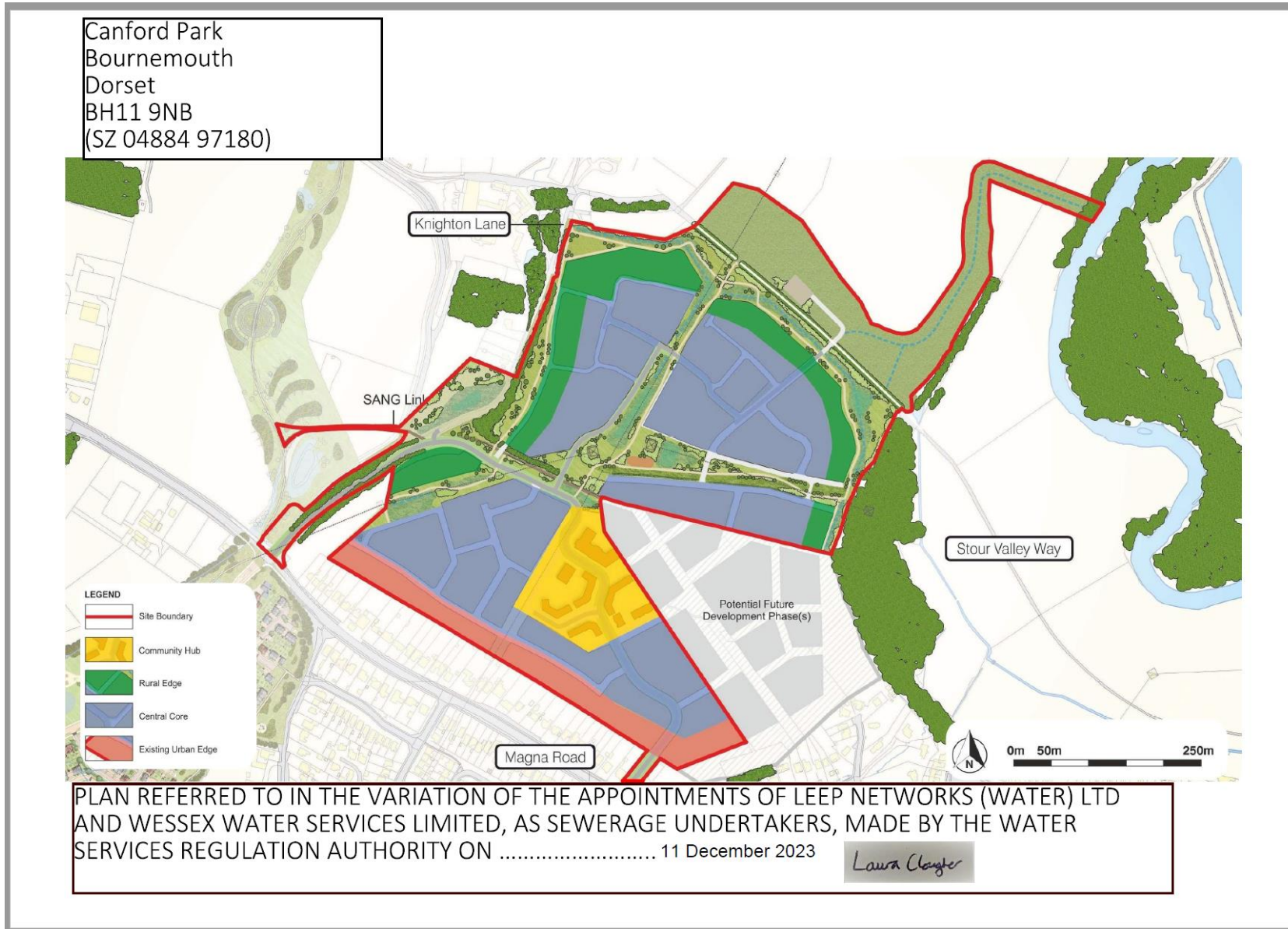
The Site Maps for the variation can be found in Section 1 of this document.

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

1. Site Map – Water



Site Map – Sewerage



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 West Water Limited
and Wessex Water Services Limited as Water and Sewerage Undertakers**

Made on 11 December 2023

Coming into effect on 12 December 2023

1. Leep Networks (Water) Limited ("Leep Water"), South West Water Limited ("South West Water") and Wessex Water Services Limited ("Wessex 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 West Water and Wessex 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 Canford Park, Bournemouth in Dorset which is shown edged in red on the plan attached to this variation ("the Site") is within South West Water's Water Supply Area and Wessex Water's Sewerage Services Area. The Site is being developed by Taylor Wimpey Plc.
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 West Water's and Wessex 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 Taylor Wimpey Plc, the Water Services Regulation Authority **varies**–

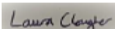
¹ South West Water's and Wessex Water's original Appointments as water and sewerage undertakers were made by the Secretary of State for the Environment under sections 11 and 14 of the Water Act 1989, now replaced by sections 6 and 11 of the Water Industry Act 1991. Leep Water's original Appointment was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

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- (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 West Water as a water undertaker so that the Site is excluded from South West Water's Water Supply Area; and
- (c) the Appointment of Wessex Water as a sewerage undertaker so that the Site is excluded from Wessex Water's Sewerage Services Area.

Signed for and on behalf of the Water Services Regulation Authority



Laura Clougher
Principal, Casework and Enforcement