

Variation of Independent Water Networks Limited's appointment to include Richmond Park, Whitfield, Kent

On 11 September 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 Affinity Water Limited's (“**Affinity Water**”) water supply area called Richmond Park, Whitfield in Kent (“**the Site**”). Details of the application and our assessment of it were set out in the consultation document.

The consultation ended on 9 October 2023. We did not receive any responses during the consultation period.

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.

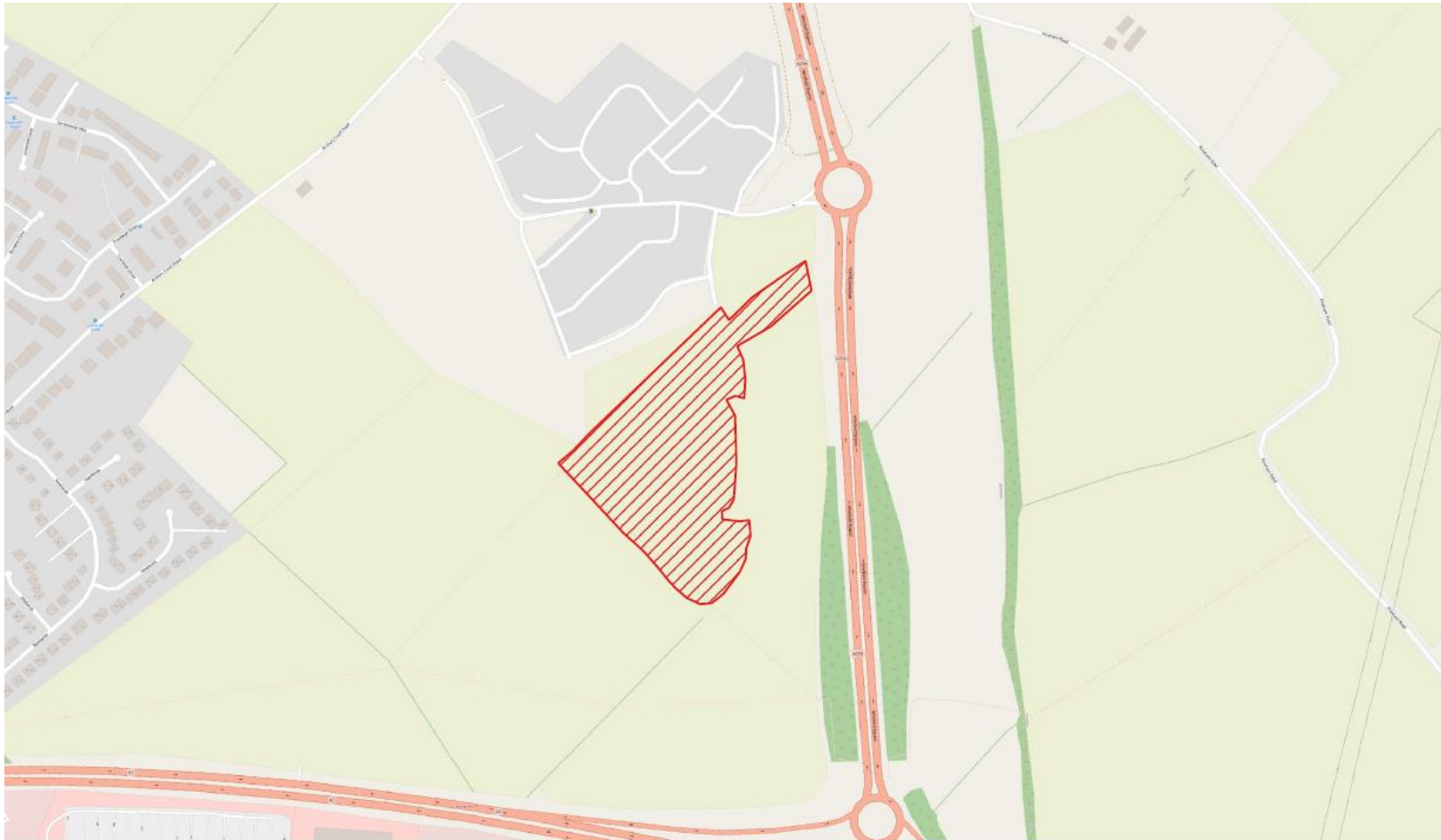
Having assessed Independent Water Networks' application and having received no responses to our consultation, we decided to grant a variation to Independent Water Networks' area of appointment to allow it to serve the Site for water services. This appointment became effective on 5 January 2024.

We have previously granted variations for two sites which are located adjacent to this Site; [Archers Court Road \(South\)](#) (granted 29 October 2020) and [Archers Court Road](#) (granted 3 May 2023).

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 AFFINITY WATER LIMITED, AS WATER UNDERTAKERS, MADE BY THE WATER SERVICES REGULATION AUTHORITY ON ... 4 January 2024

ADDRESS: RICHMOND PARK, ARCHERS COURT ROAD, WHITFIELD, DOVER, KENT, CT16 3FT
OS GRID REFERENCE: 631262, 144984
SCALE: 1:5000
DRAWN BY: AD
DATE: 12/07/2023

Laura Clayton

0 100 200 m

RICHMOND PARK INSET WATER MAP 2



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 Affinity Water Limited as Water Undertakers

Made on 4 January 2024

Coming into effect on 5 January 2024

1. Independent Water Networks Limited ("Independent Water Networks") and Affinity Water Limited ("Affinity Water") hold Appointments as water undertakers for their respective areas ("the Appointments").¹ The areas to which the Appointments of Independent Water Networks and Affinity Water as water undertakers relate ("Water Supply Area") are set out in their Instruments of Appointment.
2. The site called Richmond Park, Whitfield in Kent, which is shown edged in red on the plan attached to this variation ("the Site"), is within Affinity Water's Water Supply Area. The Site is being developed by Abbey Developments 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 Affinity 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 Abbey Developments 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 Affinity 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 Affinity Water as a water undertaker so that the Site is excluded from Affinity Water's Water Supply Area.

Signed for and on behalf of the Water Services Regulation Authority



Laura Clougher
Principal, Casework and Enforcement