

Anglian Water is the statutory wastewater recycling provider for the area within which the project is located and the statutory water services provider for the project area between Kelvedon and Colchester and the area around Hatfield Peverell. As outlined in our Relevant Representation, Anglian Water (AW) and National Highways (NH) have been in discussion on the project since October 2019 regarding the diversion of AW assets and the protection of other assets including 24/7 access in the event of an emergency.

Since the submission of our Relevant Representation, we have continued to engage with NH through regular meetings to discuss specific matters outlined in our representation; most recently a meeting to review the draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG).

NH will be submitting the draft SoCG to the Examining Authority by Deadline 2, which AW has agreed as work in progress, and we will continue to engage on the outstanding matters that remain under discussion.

The NH project requires a significant number of Anglian Water pipes to be diverted, other assets to be protected and for the project to be managed to enable 24/7 access to Anglian Water assets in the event of an emergency. AW and NH have progressed Protective Provisions which are in a final form apart from any amendments required to address unresolved matters including:

1. The protection of access to AW assets including access to AW land and assets on the east side of the A12 at Witham (Whetmead Local Nature Reserve).
2. The investigation of Essex and Suffolk Water assets on the eastern side of the Witham Water Recycling Centre (WRC) within AW land, by NH under licence from AW. This will determine whether the result of those investigations would require changes to the redline boundary of the project or other arrangements to enable the project to be constructed, operated and maintained and Essex and Suffolk Water assets to be protected or diverted. Those investigations include trial boreholes by NH and a licence is due to be issued for NH to proceed with these works.
3. The protection of the operations of the Witham WRC during construction and operation of the project including impact of the loss of trees on the A12, its impact upon the screening of the WRC site and the impact from the project on odour and its management at the WRC. Further meetings have been held to discuss the loss of trees/hedgerow to the east of the WRC in relation to odour management, visual screening and perception of odour on passing receptors. Odour assessment data has been provided by AW and we seek confirmation from NH on the replanting of trees/hedgerow along the eastern boundary of the WRC, which is in part influenced by the ground investigation works to establish the location of the Essex and Suffolk Water main and the resulting arrangements those investigations may entail.
6. NH's on-going surface water management investigations and designs requiring AW to be a consultee through inclusion in DCO Requirements on post consent decisions by the local planning authority on surface water management plans and designs. This is in part to ensure that those designs do not prejudice the operation of AW assets including currently unknown connections to the public sewer network and consequent impacts on the capacity of the network to serve existing customers and future development. We provide further detail on the reasoning behind this in our response to the Examining Authority's written questions.