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# Thames Water – Greater Harlow Position Statement

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## Introduction

This is a statement from Thames Water on our position regarding development proposed in and around Harlow by all the appropriate Local Planning Authorities (Harlow, Uttlesford, Epping Forest & East Hertfordshire) for the current asset management plan period.

It is our position as of October 2018 and subject to revision.

## Sewer Network

We have carried out growth assessment up to 2026. The existing network has some additional capacity and on most occasions will be able to accommodate proposed growth. Areas with insufficient capacity have been identified and high level solutions established. Detailed design will be required and delivered based on provided phasing programmes for the sites.

A modelling study confirmed a high level of infiltration into the foul water sewers. Most of the proposed solutions assume limiting this infiltration through system separation and creation of extra capacity for proposed development. This is very flexible solution which allows us to gradually increase sewer capacity to match growing need.

Using the above approach solutions for following sites have been established: Harlow East, Latton Priory, Sumners, Katherines and developments in Sawbridgeworth.

For the Newhall and Gilston Park developments more traditional minor upgrades will be required.

## Sewage Treatment Works

Rye Meads Sewage Treatment Works is currently being upgraded; the project is due to complete in 2019. The main scope of the project is to extend the treatment capacity and improve discharge quality standards of the existing sewage treatment works to enable it to treat an increased volume of incoming flow. The upgrade will provide Rye Meads STW with a treatment capacity of 447,134 PE (Population Equivalent).

A number of local authorities within the Rye Meads catchment are proposing significant housing growth.

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Based on our current growth forecasts, our recent high level assessment indicates that from a final effluent stream point of view we currently expect the site to have capacity up to 2036. However, we might need to deliver upgrades in sludge and storm streams during AMP7/8 (between 2020 and 2030). We are currently producing our business plan for the period 2020-2025 and any planning for additional capacity will follow our normal growth process, which means growth review and modelled view of risk to prioritise which sites will need a project and when.

Given the scale of development coming forward in the region we are keeping a regular review of our sewage treatment works capacity. We are also working closely with local councils on understanding their future growth projections and likely changes in Environment Agency discharge consents.

Our position statement is subject to change if growth forecasts within the catchment change.

## Revision of Statement

We propose to revise this statement periodically in response to any significant changes in the proposed levels of development within the catchment or changes in circumstances.

## Working with Stakeholders

We are keen to work pro-actively with local authorities and other stakeholders to monitor the progress on the delivery of growth proposed in Local Plans and to ensure that any necessary infrastructure upgrades are delivered at the required time. We will provide any data requested by Local Planning Authorities to assist with their processes as best we can. We would welcome the early sharing of any information regarding any significant changes in circumstances within local authorities including any changes to delivery programmes of major developments.