

From: EIR
Sent: 31 March 2026 14:05
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

Dear Requester

Thank you for your request for information about West Bergholt, which we received on 13 February 2026. Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

EIR Response: Provision of Requested Information

1 For the WRC please separately confirm:	
1a any permit limits, whether under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 or otherwise. Please provide a copy of each permit;	This is available on the Environment Agency Public Domain Register AW2NF335 - https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/water-discharges/registration/AN-AW2NF335-009?_pageState=result-consents
1b the current operating capacity to treat wastewater. Please provide evidence to support these capacity figures as part of your response	The permitted DWF for the site is 1430m3/day and it is designed for Full Treatment (FFT) figure of 50 litres/second
1c the current maximum capacity to treat wastewater and the current headroom to accept additional flows (if any). Please provide evidence to support these capacity figures as part of your response;	As noted in our response to question 1b the permitted DWF is 1430m3/day. Measured flow data for the 2025 Calendar year (and which we have not yet received from EA) was in excess of this figure (Q80 was 1636m3/day and the Q90 was 1567m3/day). This data confirms that the WRC does not have any headroom to accept additional flows.
1d how frequently the capacities provided at (1) (b) and (c) are checked or monitored. Please confirm the process for this;	Our Environmental Permit requires us to monitor and report the total dissolved solids (TDS) and the FFT values. In accordance with the requirements of the permit, this data is reported to the Environment Agency within 2 months of the end of each Calendar year.
1e whether Anglian Water make any distinction in its capacity calculations (including those provided in response to (1) (b) and (c)) between wastewater flows derived from domestic premises and wastewater flows derived from non-domestic premises;	When designing our WRC we take into account the relative contribution of domestic and non domestic premises. For example, whilst we typically use a per capita consumption figure of around 135 litres/head/day from domestic premises, the allowance that we make from non domestic premises will typically be higher and will vary depending upon the source
1f the geographical catchment area the WRC serves and accepts wastewater flows from	The catchment can be seen on the map at the bottom of this page https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/corporate/strategies-and-plans/wastewater-management-plan/dwmp-hierarchy
1g	It does not

whether the WRC accepts and processes wastewater flows from other WRCs (whether via tankering or direct flows or otherwise);	
<p>1h</p> <p>has Anglian Water already undertaken any phosphate, nitrate, or other nutrient stripping works to the WRC (or any other works aimed to treat wastewater through nutrient removal)? If so, please provide details including the nutrient output in terms of phosphates and nitrates. Are any such works scheduled or planned over the next 10 years? If so, please provide full details and the anticipated output in terms of nitrate and phosphate discharge following completion and commissioning of those works</p>	<p>The WRC has a permitted phosphorus limit of 0.5mg/l, which is de permit. Processes are in place on site to ensure these conditions a no plans for further work over the next 5 years. It is currently unk will be undertaken in the following 5 years due to the nature of th investment cycle.</p>
<p>1i</p> <p>is the WRC currently in breach of those Environmental Permits or other permits or restrictions confirmed in (1) (a)? If so, please provide full details, including to what extent the WRC is in breach and how frequently / for how long; and</p>	<p>We exceeded our permitted DWF in 2025</p>
<p>1j</p> <p>for each of the previous five years, has the WRC breached the Environmental Permit or restrictions confirmed in (1) (a)? For each breach, please provide full details, including when such breaches occurred, the extent of the breach and the reason for such breach over the previous five years.</p>	<p>We exceeded our permitted DWF in 2023, 2024 and 2025. We we 2021 and 2022. We were compliant with the other aspects (sanita the Environmental Permit.</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Is Anglian Water aware of how the Environmental Agency assess and record breaches of Environmental Permits or other capacity restrictions applicable to the WRC? Please confirm methodology and any guidance or evidence Anglian Water holds to confirm what constitutes a breach and how such breaches are assessed and calculated.</p>	<p>Yes. In accordance with the requirements outlined in our Environ provide data from our Operator Self Monitoring programme and Daily Volumes and the FFT values to the EA. The Permit also outlin constitutes a breach either of the sanitary parameters, or nutrient compliance is assessed. In addition the EA Agency publish Guidan which details how they assess compliance against Environmental https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/assessing-and-sco-permit-compliance/discharges-to-surface-water-and-groundwater-environmental-permit-compliance. The EA also carry our periodic and these are also available to download from their website - https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/water-discharges/registration/AN-AW2NF335-010?_pageState=result-y-consents</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Does Anglian Water hold any information or evidence as to the environmental impact (or likely environmental impact) (whether in terms of increased nutrient loadings or otherwise) as a consequence of any breaches confirmed in (1) (i) and (j) above? If so, please provide such information and/or evidence.</p>	<p>No. The Environment Agency undertake a monitoring programme effect of our discharge (and others) on the receiving watercourse. classification of the watercourse and the factors which may be aff quality can be found on their website - https://environment.data.planning/v/c3-plan/WaterBody/GB105037041330</p>
<p>4</p> <p>For the WRC, please confirm the capacity projections over the next ten years?</p>	<p>Using the Colchester 5 year housing supply data there are 224 ho forward in the next 5 years.</p>

Predicted beyond this is difficult as there are a lot of uncertainty. Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan 2024 shows the following predictions for the West Bergholt Catchment

Level 3 Summary Catchments: W Bergholt

Zoom to Pan

Sewer Catchment Name	W Bergholt
Sewer Catchment Shortcode	WBERSC
L3 water recycling catchment	W BERGHOLT
2021 population	5,659
2035 population	6,388
2050 population	6,832
Passed RBCS	Yes
Resilience risk score	1
Planning objective themes reviewed	Escape from sewers WRC compliance Environment and wellbeing
Stakeholder concerns/comments	-
Medium term strategy	WRC - new permit.
2050 Strategy	50% surface water removal.

We are currently working on our new DWMP, which will provide a longer term view of growth. The final DWMP will be published in [waste recycling management plan](#)

5
In relation to those capacities confirmed in response to (1) (b) and (c), and the projections confirmed in response to (4):

5a
How are such projections calculated and what developments (or otherwise) are included? Please provide full details, including in particular whether allocated sites in local development plans and existing sites subject to planning permissions are included in the projections, and provide a full schedule of those sites.

The projections are calculated for the next 5 years based on the new developments expected to be constructed each year. This information is sourced from data provided by Glenigan and/or the Five-Year Housing Supply Statement by Colchester Council. The projections do not include additional floorspace by employment sites or other non-residential use classes, such as

5b
What rainfall, water table and other weather assumptions have been taken into account when calculating such projections?

DWMP23 used a variety of rainfall scenarios to assess capacity in the sewer network. For metrics such as flooding- design rainfall was used, and for intensities (20 & 30 year return periods) an uplift was also applied to account for Climate Change. For Spills a time series rainfall dataset was used. For the 2050 year rainfall scenario. Climate change uplifts were applied to the design rainfall as a storage requirement. The water table levels were not applied to the design rainfall as there was not a process to do so at the time (in hydraulic model). Design capacity at a WRC rainfall is not specially applied. Future PE (popu

	used in design, but as part of this we used a standard infiltration rate which allows for possible rainfall/water table inundation.
<p>5c Do these existing operational and projected capacities include development of sites subject to an allocation in either: a) currently adopted development plan; b) emerging development plan, or c) both?</p>	Anglian Water cannot reserve capacity for sites which lack planning consent regardless of local plan allocation status.
<p>5d Do these existing operational and projected capacities include developments which already have the benefit of outline planning permission?</p>	Yes they do. They include consented growth yet to connect to our sewerage network and projections from local plan allocations yet to gain planning consent.
<p>6 When calculating the projections confirmed in (5), how many additional dwellings is Anglian Water assuming the WRC will be required to serve across the next five years?</p>	Answered above
<p>7 Please confirm how regularly Anglian Water review and revise its projections for capacity required from the WRC over future years. Please confirm the methodology for this (including the input of any rainfall, water table and other weather assumptions).</p>	<p>We have a programmed schedule for WRC forecast reappraisal with regular revision time-frames.</p> <p><u>6 monthly forecast update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We update site based long term growth intelligence (from our external consultant) on a 6 monthly basis (this has been revised from a quarterly to a monthly programme, due to a lack of change in that time period). <p><u>Yearly Rebased forecast</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All forecast parameters are reassessed and rebased to the latest available out-turns This includes the rebased population and property values, wastewater effluent and holiday population values ONS population and property trend based forecasts including ONS estimates. Updated Local plan information reconciled between 'top down' and 'bottom up' site assessments. <p><u>5 Yearly - DWMP (with intermediate revisions up to submission)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We generate the preferred plan forecast for the DWMP (aligned with the WRMP forecast for properties and population) This includes long term strategic growth assessments which include Local Plan information (OxCam corridor, New Towns) Updated Per Capita Consumption PCC values (aligned with the latest forecast DWF values) <p>These values are used to derive future capacity assessments based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current population and assessed occupancy changes over the next five years (including deaths, migration) New growth and population change due to added developments

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DWF values based upon 5YA, 3YA, Q80/90 flow values (with weather variation and Dry Weather conditions) and • forecast PCC (accounting for smart metering and demand) <p>As part of our forecast processes we generate a large number of v before agreeing the preferred projection for our statutory WRMP submissions. The preferred scenario is generated in liaison with the region.</p>
<p>8 Does Anglian Water remove proposed developments from its proposed capacity calculations if such developments will construct and deliver their own site-specific water recycling centre or are not anticipated to deliver waste water flows (in whole or in part) to a relevant water recycling centre operated by Anglian Water until the end of the projection period?</p>	<p>Yes, so long as there is certainty they will do this.</p>
<p>9 What information does Anglian Water use to base their future capacity requirement projections for the WRC on? Please provide methodology (including the input of any rainfall, water table and other weather assumptions as well as development projections).</p>	<p>We use local authority housing data and third parties such as Edge Glenigan to gain population and housing trajectories, as explained. We then use the standard calculation for flows based on the following capacity based on 2.368 pop/household & 126.2 l/hd/day + 25% i l/prop/day</p>
<p>10 Are there any current confirmed investment programmes to upgrade the WRC? If so, please provide details.</p>	<p>No funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) (2025-2030).</p>
<p>11 Are there any further (whether in draft or anticipated) investment programmes to upgrade the WRC? If so, please provide details for each, including their current progress status and the anticipated dates such investment programmes will be confirmed and anticipated works completed.</p>	<p>No funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) (2025-2030).</p>
<p>12 In respect of each of those investment programmes confirmed in response to (10) and (11):</p>	
<p>12a What is the prospective maximum capacity of the WRC subject to the investment programmes?</p>	<p>No funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) (2025-2030).</p>
<p>12b What are the anticipated milestones for capacity upgrades to the WRC subject to the investment programmes, including, but not limited to, the proposed final date of completion?</p>	<p>No funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) (2025-2030).</p>
<p>13 If there are no such investment programmes:</p>	
<p>13a Is this a position that is anticipated to change considering the current WRC capacity levels and assumed housing growth?</p>	<p>No funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) (2025-2030).</p>
<p>13b</p>	

<p>Please confirm how Anglian Water will accommodate and cater for such growth and demand for waste water recycling in the absence of any investment programmes; and</p>	<p>We are obligated to accommodate the domestic flows from sites consent, and we will plan investment, in consultation with the Environment Agency. The responsibility for implementing enhancement to WRC to enable flow permit rests entirely with Anglian Water. Our investment programme ensure that the WRC flow permit is sufficient to accommodate new flows within the catchment.</p>
<p>13c Are there any temporary solutions proposed to deal with any increase in demand?</p>	<p>No funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) (2025-2030).</p>
<p>14 Over the past ten years, in respect of the WRC, has Anglian Water sought funding (whether from Ofwat or otherwise) to maintain, upgrade or increase capacity where such funding has been refused or otherwise not been secured? Please provide details and any information as to why such bids were refused.</p>	<p>West Bergholt was on the PR14 list of WRC growth sites requesting funding. We got an allowance of 55m vs our requested 138m - see query re OBQ-ANH-182 submitted 7th Feb 24. Ofwat did not provide site by site funding, only a portfolio level allowance. This meant we had to prioritise and not all was delivered at this site. It was not on the list at PR19 or PR24, because at that time didn't suggest a scheme was necessary</p>
<p>15 In line with Anglian Water's Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan ("DWMP"), we understand that the medium-term plan for this WRC is to obtain a new discharge permit.¹ Please confirm if this is correct and:</p>	<p>This is correct- West Bergholt WRC was assessed as part of the DWMP28. It was considered to be at a risk of having insufficient capacity in the medium term (2035). The identified option was to apply for a new DWF permit.</p>
<p>15a What is the prospective timeline for this to be obtained?</p>	<p>There is not a timeline for this currently. The WRC (and catchment) was assessed in DWMP28. This means it will be assessed again with new options (and any regulatory changes) and new options may be devised. This will be published in August 2028.</p>
<p>15b Would this mean that in turn this would increase capacity for the WRC to accommodate additional flows and if so, to what extent?</p>	<p>As per Q15a increased capacity will depend on options devised in DWMP28 on scheme prioritisation and justification of future growth through the catchment.</p>
<p>15c Would the permit increase require any improvements or additional works to the WRC? If so, please provide details of such works and the timescale for completion.</p>	<p>No funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) (2025-2030).</p>
<p>15d Please confirm any other details of the proposal to obtain a new environmental permit such as any increase to DWF and pollution levels that would be relevant to the WRC's capacity to accommodate additional flows from relevant housing developments.</p>	<p>There are no plans to obtain a new environmental permit as no funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) for AMP 8 (2025-2030).</p>
<p>16 The DWMP also highlights that the long-term plan for this WRC is to remove 50% of the surface water from the sewer system. Please provide details of the plan to achieve this and:</p>	<p>This is correct. The option was devised at a high level- there were no specific details identified currently.</p>
<p>16a What is the prospective timeline for this to be carried out and completed?</p>	<p>There is currently no timeline for this. As per Q15a, the catchment was assessed as part of the DWMP28.</p>
<p>16b What would the anticipated capacity of the WRC be if this were to be completed?</p>	<p></p>

	The WRC will be reassessed as part of DWMP28. Once this has been completed, we will have a view of the required capacity for the WRC. Currently we are working out a future scenario assessment.
17 We understand that Anglian Water has asked Ofwat to refer its PR24 Final Determination to the Competition and Markets Authority but that there will be no delay to the delivery of Anglian Water’s plans for year one of AMP8 as a result of this referral ² . Please confirm:	Please refer to the answer to question 15a.
17a Have Anglian Water invested in the WRC to increase capacity to treat wastewater under the current PR24 Final Determination and, if not, when?	Please refer to the answer to question 15a.
17b In respect of the WRC please confirm when such works have or would be completed and operational and the increased capacity of the WRC following such works. Please confirm what is required, following completion of the works, for the improvements to become operational and the likely time periods for this?	No funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) (2025-2030). If the DWMP28 process identifies a need and we are securing that as part of PR29 then the upgrade would likely be completed.
17bi Have Anglian Water delivered improvements to the WRC, and if not will they by 31 March 2026 in being that it is the end of year one of AMP8? In respect of the WRC please confirm when such works would be completed and operational and the increased capacity of the relevant WRC following such works	No funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) (2025-2030).
18 Anglian Water is subject to obligations under the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 for certain of its water recycling centres to meet “Technically Achievable Limits” (“TAL”) ³ . Is the WRC subject to this requirement? If so, please confirm:	No. No funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) (2025-2030).
18a When does Anglian Water expect works to achieve TAL to be completed, operational and commissioned? Please confirm the steps required for operation and commissioning (if different), and the likely timescales following completion of works?	Not applicable (see comment above)
18b Will such works increase the capacity of the WRC to treat waste water from a greater number of dwellings than the current capacity of the WRC? If so, please confirm such increased capacity for the WRC.	Not applicable
19 By reference to Anglian Water’s Developer Charging Arrangements:	
19a Please confirm the total receipts by Anglian Water pursuant to such arrangements for each of the preceding ten years.	Infrastructure charge receipts do not fund upgrades to WRCs but are used for the network.
19b How have such receipts been spent? Please provide a breakdown, to include confirmation of the amount of	As above

receipts spent on works to the WRC and provide details of such works. Please confirm whether such works increased capacity (and by what extent) and/or improved the WRC's ability to remove nitrates or phosphates (and again to what extent)

Refer to previous answer and to question 14.

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General Counsel, Anglian Water Services, Lancaster House, Lancaster Way, Ermine Business Park, Huntingdon PE29 6XU

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this email, please contact us via EIR@anglianwater.co.uk .

Yours sincerely

EIR Team

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