



**Tier 1 Pre-Planning Assessment Report**  
**Domestic Foul Water Drainage Feasibility Study**

<b>Anglian Water Reference Number:</b>	<b>PPE-0227252</b>
<b>Report Engineer:</b>	<b>[REDACTED]</b>
<b>Publication Date:</b>	<b>27/05/2025</b>
<b>Expiration Date:</b>	<b>27/05/2026</b>
<b>Site Name:</b>	<b>29616 Land West of Colne Road, Bluntisham</b>
<b>Development Details:</b>	<b>90 Dwellings</b>
<b>Site National Grid Reference:</b>	<b>TL 36749 75418</b>
<b>Development Type:</b>	<b>Greenfield</b>
<b>Planning Application Status:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

This report has been produced for M-EC and is to be submitted as part of a developed drainage strategy should planning permission be sought.

Anglian Water will use this report as the basis for any forthcoming planning application response relevant to this application.

Anglian Water cannot reserve capacity and therefore you are recommended to formally apply for a connection at your earliest convenience. Please note that available capacity in both the receiving network and water recycling centre (WRC) can be reduced at any time due to increased requirements from existing businesses and houses as well as from new housing and new commercial developments.



## Summary

### **Easements**

We have assessed above and below ground operational assets in relation to your proposed development site

### **Water Recycling Centre (WRC)**

We have assessed the receiving water recycling centre to determine whether it can process the increased flows and effluent quality arising from your development and continue to meet its permitted discharge consents.

### **Foul Drainage Network - Sustainable Point of Connection (SPOC)**

We have assessed the receiving foul water drainage system to identify a sustainable point of connection for your site to connect to the public sewerage network without causing a detriment to the operation of the system.

### **Indicative costs –**

The water recycling infrastructure charge per dwelling is set for the 2025-26 charging period at £403.00. For a development of 90 dwellings the total infrastructure charge will total £36,720.00 excluding VAT.

## Section 1 - Anglian Water Assets and Easements

The comments contained within this report relate to the public water mains and sewers indicated on our records. Your attention is drawn to the disclaimer in the useful information section of this report.

**Pipes** - We have identified pipework infrastructure within the boundaries of your site

**Operational Assets** – We do not have operational assets within 20 m of your site

**Source Protection Zone (SPZ)** – Your site does not sit within an identified SPZ

The proposed development site boundary is highlighted on Anglian Water’s asset record in figure 1. Additionally, it is highly recommended that you carry out a thorough investigation of your proposed working area to establish whether any unmapped public or private sewers and lateral drains are in existence.

Any potential instances of asset encroachment are to be identified and addressed at planning. Anglian Water are unable to permit development either over or within the easement strip without prior consent. The extent of asset easements are available in table 1. Please be aware that the existing water mains/public sewers should be located in highway or open space and not in private gardens. This is to ensure available access for any future maintenance and repair and this should be taken into consideration when planning your site layout.

Used Water Easements – Measured either side of the centre line (m)						
Sewer Diameter(mm)	Depth to Invert (m)					
	< 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 6	6 - 7.5	> 7.5
< 150	3.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	4.0
150 - 299	3.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	4.0
300 - 449	3.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	4.0
450 - 600	3.5	4.0	5.0	6.0	6.0	4.0
601 - 749	3.5	4.0	5.0	6.0	6.0	4.0
750 - 924	4.0	5.0	5.0	6.5	6.5	5.0
925 - 1000	5.0	5.0	6.0	6.5	6.5	5.0

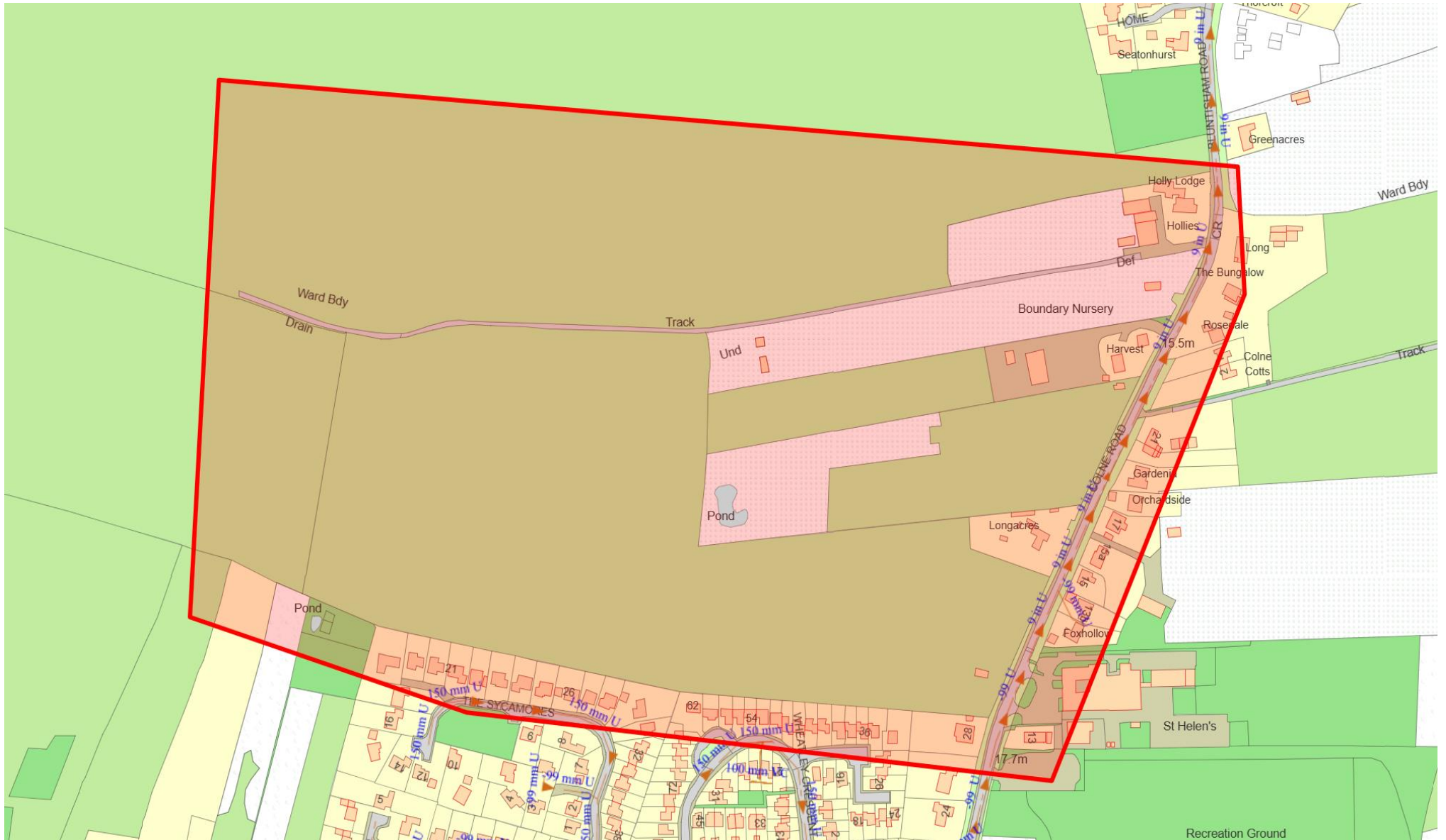
Table 1: Anglian Water used water asset easements

If it is not possible to avoid our assets then these may need to be diverted in accordance with Section 185 of the Water Industry Act (1991). You will need to make a formal application if you would like a diversion to be considered; please note that in some instances assets cannot be diverted; it is therefore vital to engage with our Drainage team prior to finalising site layout. The Drainage team can be contacted by calling 03456 066 087.

Due to the private sewer transfer in October 2011 many newly adopted public used water assets and their history are not indicated on our records. You also need to be aware that your development site may contain private water mains, drains or other assets not shown on our records. These are private assets and not the responsibility of Anglian Water but that of the landowner.

For your information, please be aware:

- We need to inform you that there are sewer mains (150mm and 225mm) within your site boundary.
- Anglian Water does not permit existing assets to be located within the curtilage of the proposed development buildings and we do not permit permeable paving or suds features over our assets. These assets should be located in areas of public open space and/or adoptable highways to ensure on-going maintenance and access is possible. The site layout plan, as submitted, indicates that the above asset will be located within the curtilage of a building. We strongly recommend that the applicant reviews the site layout plan and take the above in consideration to reflect the easement required for the sewer which is 3m either side of the sewers.
- Development is not permissible either over or within the established easement strip of any public asset without Anglian Water's granted prior consent.
- A new developments site layout must adhere to the required easements. You may also discuss potential diversions with us.
- Please be aware that existing water mains/public sewers should be located in highway or open space and not in private gardens or curtilages.
- Rising mains may not be located under play equipment or SUDS features. This is to ensure available access for any future maintenance and repair and this should be taken into consideration when planning your site layout.
- No significant planting can be located in the designated easement strip, to ensure that root intrusion does not pose a risk to our assets. Where necessary and to maintain the aesthetics of the proposed landscaping, ornamental/low lying hedges or similar are considered acceptable, but should be limited.
- In any case where site levels are to be altered within an easement strip, Anglian Water will request a CCTV survey is undertaken to understand the existing condition of the affected sewer and potential impact of this proposal. The footage and accompanying report should be provided to Anglian Water alongside any observations or recommendations (should these be identified) by your designer. In addition, the manholes in this area would also need to be raised to finished level. Anglian Water would expect photographs confirming the existing construction of these chambers and a design drawing which illustrates how this outcome will be achieved whilst maintaining compliance with Design and Construction Guidance ( DCG) standards.
- Anglian Water will expect confirmation of the established measures that will allow 24 hour unencumbered access for assets within the vicinity of the development. It is beneficial to understand how awareness of Anglian Water's need for access to provide this in perpetuity will be established going forward. It can be assumed that plot transfers (if appropriate) will contain covenants/rights relating to these assets; we would appreciate clarification on this point.
- It is the developer's responsibility to ensure the correct sight surveys are completed i.e. trial holes, to ascertain the exact location of Anglian Water assets. You should then present your findings to Anglian Water – we may need to complete formal risk assessments (at the developers cost) for certain asset types.



**Figure 1: The site boundary for the proposed development as shown on Anglian Water asset records.**

## **Section 2 – Used Water Assessment**

In examining the used water system we assess the ability for your site to connect to the public sewerage network without causing a detriment to the operation of the system. We also assess the receiving water recycling centre and determine the headroom available to manage the increased effluent flows and effluent quality from your development.

### **Water Recycling Centre**

This site is located within the catchment of the Somersham (Cambs) Water Recycling Centre (WRC), which currently lacks the capacity to accommodate the additional flows that would be generated by the proposed development.

Anglian Water has determined that the site is unsustainable due to the associated environmental risk and the increased discharge rates, which could lead to a deterioration in water quality and an unacceptable risk of breaching environmental legislation at Somersham(Cambs) WRC.

Considering these concerns, we recommend that planning permission be refused on the grounds of insufficient infrastructure capacity and to prevent environmental harm. Anglian Water collaborates with local planning authorities across the region to identify sustainable locations for future development, taking into account infrastructure capacity as part of the development plan processes. We also work closely with our regulators to identify opportunities for future growth investment. At present, no funding has been allocated at this Water Recycling Centre (WRC) for AMP 7 (2020-2025) or AMP 8 (2025-2030). However, we may seek to promote investment through our future business plans.

### **Used Water Network**

Our assessment has been based on development flows connecting to the nearest foul water sewer that may sustainably drain the site. The infrastructure to convey foul water flows to the receiving sewerage network is the responsibility of the developer. Conveyance to the connection point is considered as onsite Work and includes all work carried out upstream from of the point of connection, including making the connection to our existing network. Anglian Water has assessed the local foul sewerage network up to the water recycling centre and determined that the additional foul flow generated by the proposed development would create an unacceptable risk of flooding to our existing customers and the environment. A sustainable point of connection to the foul network is not available for this development. Anglian Water does not currently have a strategic investment scheme planned within this catchment, therefore at planning, Anglian Water will seek to utilise the planning system as a mechanism to control the risk of flooding to the environment and local network by objecting to this development. It is possible that the catchment could be included in our AMP9 (2030 - 2035) business plan, however until this has been officially confirmed, Anglian Water's stance will remain.

This initial Tier 1 assessment is a feasibility study and has been unable to determine a sustainable point of connection for your development. If you wish to further investigate a sustainable point of connection for this development, you have the option to submit a Tier 2 enquiry to enable us to carry out a more detailed analysis of the catchment. This additional analysis does not guarantee that a sustainable point of connection will be identified. The cost of a Tier 2 enquiry is £1034.40, however as you have submitted a Tier 1 enquiry, you will only be required to pay the balance of £690.00. These prices are inclusive of VAT. Please see our website for further details.

### **Trade Effluent**

It is noted that there are no specified trade effluent requirements for the proposed development site. Should this be required in the future, please submit a Tier 2 PPE assessment.

### **Used Water Budget Costs**

For a development site that benefits from full planning permission, infrastructure charges are raised on a standard basis of one charge per new connection, one each for water supply and drainage connections.

Infrastructure charges are applied to each new property connecting to the public water and sewerage network. The infrastructure charge type is set out in Section 146(2) of the Water Industry Act 1991. The charge should be paid by any party that wishes to build or develop a property and is payable upon request of connection.

The sewerage infrastructure charge per dwelling is set for the 2025-26 charging period at £403.00. For a development of 90 dwellings the total infrastructure charge will total £36,270.00

Please note that you should also budget for infrastructure charges on non-household premises where applicable and these will be calculated according to the number and type of water fittings in the premises. This is called the “relevant multiplier” method of calculating the charge. The relevant multiplier will be applied to the figures set out in our 2025-26 Developer Charging Arrangements to arrive at the amount payable. Details of the relevant multiplier for each fitting can be found on our website.

### **Environmental Incentives**

Following regulatory guidance and changes to the charging rules the Infrastructure Charge for connections to our water network will no longer attract an income offset discount after 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. This will be replaced with a new Environmental Incentive Scheme (EIS) aimed at promoting water efficiency and sustainability.

Anglian Water’s EIS has been developed in accordance with the Environmental Incentive Common Framework (EICF), which was released by Ofwat in December 2024. For this charging year, 2025-26, and in accordance with Ofwat guidance, only household properties will be eligible for our EIS. We will continue to reassess this for future charging years.

There are two elements to our EIS

#### **Water Environmental Incentive**

The applicant must demonstrate the newly connected property is designed to achieve consumption of 90 litres per person per day (pppd) or less.

Post property connection, we will conduct compliance audits on the first connected property and 10% of the remaining properties on a random basis.

#### **Sewerage Environmental Incentive.**

Post property connection for redeveloped brownfield sites we will complete a site inspection to confirm the removal of surface water flows.

#### **Environmental Component**

This charge is used solely to fund the Environmental Incentive and is uniformly applied upon connection of each developed property; this includes connections which do not qualify for the Environmental Incentive.

<b>Environmental Incentives</b>	<b>Charge per property</b>
<b>Water Environmental Incentive</b>	-500
<b>Environmental Incentive Component Charge Water</b>	100
<b>Additional Water EIS Audit (per premises)</b>	84
<b>Sewerage Environmental Incentive (50% of Sewerage Infra)</b>	-202
<b>Environmental Incentive Component Charge Sewerage</b>	0

Our EIS will be available between 1st April 2025 and 31st March 2030 and during this period, we reserve the right to make any amendments to the EIS as we may see fit, including amendments to the value of both Environmental Incentives and the Component Charges. The EIS may close on 31st March 2030, therefore to qualify for the Environmental Incentives, your plot must be connected to our network, and validated by us. Please refer to our Developer Charging [Arrangements](#) for full details. To learn more or apply for our environmental incentive scheme please visit our website [Water Environmental Incentive Scheme](#)

### **Section 3 – Useful Information**

#### **Water Industry Act – Key used water sections**

##### **Section 98:**

This provides you with the right to requisition a new public sewer. The new public sewer can be constructed by Anglian Water on your behalf. Alternatively, you can construct the sewer yourself under section 30 of the Anglian Water Authority Act 1977.

##### **Section 102:**

This provides you with the right to have an existing sewerage asset vested by us. It is your responsibility to bring the infrastructure to an adoptable condition ahead of the asset being vested.

##### **Section 104:**

This provides you with the right to have a design technically vetted and an agreement reached that will see us adopt your assets following their satisfactory construction and connection to the public sewer.

##### **Section 106:**

This provides you with the right to have your constructed sewer connected to the public sewer.

##### **Section 185:**

This provides you with the right to have a public sewerage asset diverted. Details on how to make a formal application for a new sewer, new connection or diversion are available on our website or via our Development Services team on 0345 60 66 087.

### **Surface Water Drainage**

All surface water must be managed in line with Building Regs / Sewer Sector Guidance (SSG). Our guidance document and Surface Water policy ([insert website link](#)) detail our requirements and expectations. You must explore all on-site options per the SUDS hierarchy before speaking to us about a possible connection to our SW drainage network. We recommend that you contact the Local Authority and Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for your site to discuss your application.

### **Sustainable drainage systems**

Some existing urban drainage systems have additional risks of flooding, pollution or damage to the environment and are not resilient to climate change in the long term. Our preferred method of surface water disposal is through the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems or SuDS. SuDS are a range of techniques that aim to mimic the way surface water drains in natural systems within urban areas. For more information on SuDS, please visit our [website](#).

### **Private sewer transfers**

Sewers and lateral drains connected to the public sewer on the 1 July 2011 transferred into Water Company ownership on the 1 October 2011. This follows the implementation of the Floods and Water Management Act (FWMA). This included sewers and lateral drains that were subject to an existing Section 104 Adoption Agreement and those that were not. There were exemptions and the main non-transferable assets were as follows: Surface water sewers and lateral drains that do not discharge to the public sewer, e.g. those that discharged to a watercourse.

Foul sewers and lateral drains that discharged to a privately owned sewage treatment/collection facility. Pumping stations and rising mains will transfer between 1 October 2011 and 1 October 2016.

The implementation of Section 42 of the FWMA will ensure that future private sewers will not be created. It is anticipated that all new sewer applications will need to have an approved section 104 application ahead of a section 106 connection.

It is anticipated that all new sewer applications will need to have an approved Section 104 application ahead of a Section 106 connection.

### **Encroachment**

Anglian Water operates a risk based approach to development encroachment on our above and below ground infrastructure and assets.

#### **Locating our assets**

Maps detailing the location of our water and used water infrastructure including both underground assets and above ground assets such as pumping stations and recycling centres are available from digdat.

All requests from members of the public or non-statutory bodies for maps showing the location of our assets will be subject to an appropriate administrative charge.

We have more information on our website

#### **Charging arrangements**

Our charging arrangements and summary for this year's water and used water connection and infrastructure charges can be found on our website [link added here](#)

#### **Section 4 - Disclaimer**

The information provided in this report is based on data currently held by Anglian Water Services Limited ('Anglian Water') or provided by a third party. Accordingly, the information in this report is provided with no guarantee of accuracy, timeliness, completeness and is without indemnity or warranty of any kind (express or implied).

This report should not be considered in isolation and does not nullify the need for the enquirer to make additional appropriate searches, inspections and enquiries. Anglian Water supports the plan led approach to sustainable development that is set out in the National Planning Policy Framework ('NPPF') and any infrastructure needs identified in this report must be considered in the context of current, adopted and/or emerging local plans. Where local plans are absent, silent or have expired these needs should be considered against the definition of sustainability holistically as set out in the NPPF.

Whilst the information in this report is based on the presumption that proposed development obtains planning permission, nothing in this report confirms that planning permission will be granted or that Anglian Water will be bound to carry out the works/proposals contained within this report.

No liability whatsoever, including liability for negligence is accepted by Anglian Water or its partners, employees or agents, for any error or omission, or for the results obtained from the use of this report and/or its content.

Furthermore, in no event will any of those parties be liable to the applicant or any third party for any decision made or action taken as a result of reliance on this report.

This report is valid from the date issued and the enquirer is advised to resubmit their request for an up to date report should there be a delay in submitting any subsequent application for water supply/sewer connection(s). Our pre-planning reports are valid for 12 months. Please note Anglian Water cannot reserve capacity and available capacity in our network can be reduced at any time due to increased requirements from existing businesses and houses as well as from new housing and new commercial developments.