

[REDACTED]

From: EIR
Sent: 05 December 2025 15:20
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]
Attachments: PLN-0232426+-+Planning+Report.pdf; PLN-0235006+-+Planning+Report-20-11-2025.pdf

Dear Requester

Thank you for your request for information about capacity in Bluntisham, which we received on 16 November 2025. Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

You requested:

1. If the network in Bluntisham has the capacity to cope with future demand.

EIR Response: Provision of Requested Information

Please find attachment:

- PLN-0232426+-+Planning+Report.pdf
- PLN-0235006+-+Planning+Report-20-11-2025.pdf

Item 1 is held by Anglian Water and has been provided as an attachment.

Cambridge Water supply the water in the Bluntisham area, and therefore information related to water capacity should be sought through their appropriate contact channels. They can be contacted on environment@south-staffs-water.co.uk or in writing at Environmental Information Regulations, South Staffs Water, Green Lane, Walsall, WS2 7PD.

With regard to wastewater, Bluntisham is served by the Somersham Water Recycling Centre. Somersham Water Recycling Centre (WRC) operates under a numeric environmental permit issued by the Environment Agency. This permit includes a defined limit on Dry Weather Flow (DWF) - the volume of treated effluent that can be discharged to the receiving watercourse.

These limits are set by the Environment Agency (EA) to ensure that the receiving water environment is not detrimentally impacted. They are based on a range of environmental factors, including the sensitivity and ecological status of the watercourse.

The limits set within our permits are designed to protect the water environment, and the EA assess the impact of these limits when granting and reviewing permits.

When assessing the receiving water recycling centre's (WRC) dry weather flow (DWF) headroom we take the latest Q90 DWF figures, as verified by the Environment Agency, and add sites with planning consent to this.

The WRC consent permit is for 1450m³ per day, however the WRC was operating at 1610m³ per day as of the 2024 Q90 data.

Based on the above assessment, Somersham WRC currently lacks the capacity to accommodate additional flows that would be generated by new development. Anglian Water are objecting to new development within this WRC catchment.

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 8 (2025-2030). However, we may seek to promote investment through our future business plans.

With regard to the sewerage network, this refers to sewers, pumping stations, rising mains and associated infrastructure used to transport flows from proposed development sites to the receiving Water Recycling Centres.

Capacity assessments are required to be done on a site-by-site basis, as the impact of new development will depend on the exact nature of the proposed development, the proposed connection point into our network, and factors such as the sites use and scale.

Should pollution risk, constraints, or risk to the public network be identified at the planning application stage, Anglian Water will object, or request appropriate conditions be applied by the deciding Local Planning Authority, to help protect our existing customers, and the environment.

We encourage developers to engage with Anglian Water early in their pre-development stages via our Pre-Planning Enquiry (PPE) service, to identify and address any concerns ahead of the planning consultation stage.

More information on this service can be found on our website:

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/developing/planning--capacity/planning-and-capacity>

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If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request an internal review, you should email EIR@anglianwater.co.uk or write to:

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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