

**From:** EIR Compliance

**To:**

**Subject:** 20250227 - EIR - Data Supplied

**Date:** 27 February 2025 09:45:00

Reference Number: **EIR**

Dear

I refer to your request for information submitted to Yorkshire Water dated 11 February 2025.

Included with this email are our responses to your questions:

**1. Please can you confirm how much money has been spent on taking over private sewers since the introduction of the government legislation for water companies to take over these waste treatment plants? Please can you confirm the number of treatment plants as well?**

This figure was only reported from 2012-2020, during that period we spent £78m CAPEX (capital expenditure) on transferred private sewers, this value was spent on sewer and sewage pumping stations.

Nothing (£0) was spent on private waste treatment plants as these were not covered under the transfer of private sewer regulations, as stated in DEFRA guidance below:

*"Self Contained Sewerage Systems*

*5. Private drains and sewers which are not connected to a public sewer (but which for example drain to a private treatment facility, septic tank or cess pit*

*which does not itself discharge to the public sewerage system) are not affected by the transfer and will remain the responsibility of their current owners. Similarly, private sewers that drain direct to a public treatment works are outside the scope of transfer. Where a treatment facility discharges directly to the public sewerage system the treatment facility and the pipework draining to it will not transfer on 1 October 2011. This is because such discharges do not comprise sewers or lateral drains which are the subject of transfer."*

**2. Please can you confirm how much money was given to you by the government for taking on this responsibility?**

No money was provided by the government. Our economic regulator Ofwat made specific allowances for this expenditure in price reviews until 2020, which was recovered from customer bills. After 2020 it was considered part of normal asset maintenance operations and as such no longer reported as a separate allowance.

**3. Please can you confirm has this money been separated from your general other accounts for the sole purpose for taking over treatment plants?**

Please see response to question 1 and question 2.

**4. Since taking over the sewage systems, how many new waste treatment plants have been brought into production to help get rural areas off their own treatment plants and septic tanks?**

None, we have been consolidating our treatment plants to reduce

smaller rural sites.

**5. Has the government given any money to help rural areas to become connected to the main sewers and how much has been given in the last ten years?**

No government funding has been received for this. The connection of rural areas to the main sewer network is covered by Section 101a of the Water Industry Act. We can request allowances for this expenditure in price reviews with Ofwat and is then recovered from customer bills.

I trust that the provision of this data satisfies your request. In accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, if you are not satisfied with this reply to your request you can ask for an internal review. A request for an internal review must be submitted within 40 working days by contacting the Data Protection Team.

Thank you for contacting Yorkshire Water.

Yours sincerely,

Data Protection Team

Email: [EIR@Yorkshirewater.co.uk](mailto:EIR@Yorkshirewater.co.uk)