From: EIR Compliance

To:

Subject: 20260801 - EIR

Date: 08 January 2026 13:03:50

Attachments: image.png

Reference Number: **EIR**

Dear

We refer to your request for information submitted to Yorkshire Water dated 10 November 2025:

"I am making a request for information under the Environmental Information Regulations and Freedom of Information Act, the request is to ascertain if there is capacity in the sewer network from the developments at Shepley, (and specifically the new proposed development at Eastfield), Huddersfield to Huddersfield WwTW to accept sewage from new developments, and gain information on current and potential impacts on river water quality from sewage discharges. Please could you send me the following information:

- the route of the sewer network from Shepley to Huddersfield

- the location of any Sewage Pumping Stations, Combined Sewer Overflows on this route and any Emergency Overflows acting as CSOs

- the spill data related to the CSOs and EOs and if any of these spills were in dry weather for the last 5 years

- information on any pollution incidents / blockages/ burst sewers related to this stretch of sewer for the last 5 years

- information relating to the capacity of the sewer and documents YWS may hold on assessments on whether it has capacity to accept the sewage for all the new housing developments along its length and any predicted impacts on the frequency of spilling of the CSOs

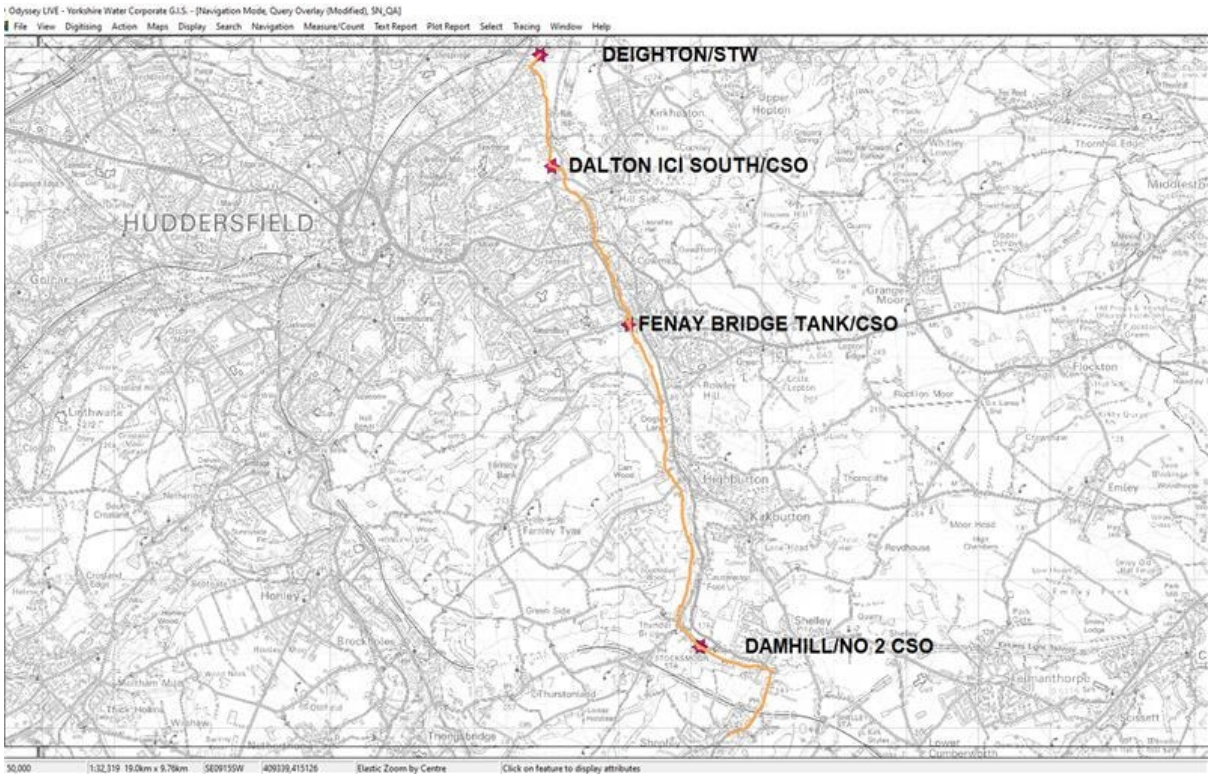
- what is the capacity for treatment at Huddersfield WwTW and what does it normally operate at?

- how often has the storm overflow operated at Huddersfield WwTW and for what duration for the past 5 years?

- information relating to any pollution incidents related to Huddersfield WwTW for the past 5 years?"

Please find attached the data which you have requested. Included with this email is our response to your questions:

1. **The route of the sewer network from Shepley to Huddersfield**



2. **The location of any Sewage Pumping Stations, Combined Sewer Overflows on this route and any Emergency Overflows acting as CSOs**

Please see above the locations of the CSO's on route.

There is no Sewage Pumping Stations or emergency overflows on this route.

3. **The spill data related to the CSOs and EOs and if any of these spills were in dry weather for the last 5 years**

We have previously disclosed spill start and stop data under PEIR 18, which includes the following datasets:

· EDM stop start data 2020 - EDM stop start data 2020.xlsx

· EDM stop start data 2021 - EDM stop start data 2021.xlsx

· EDM stop start data 2022 - EDM stop start data 2022.xlsx

· EDM stop start data 2023 - EDM stop start data 2023.xlsx

In addition to the above, we have started to publish EDM reports that include the start/stop information for all sites. These reports are readily available on our website via - https://www.yorkshirewater.com/environment/storm-overflows/event-duration-monitoring/:

- 2024: Individual stop start events 2024
- 2025: Individual stop start events 2025 year to date, we will republish a latest version each month until the finalised annual submission is published, one month in arrears.

If the sites we identified had spills in those years, they will be readily available in the public domain. You can filter the EDM data by site name to review the relevant records.

The dry day spill methodology laid out by the EA was developed in 2024. Using this, we have identified the spills highlighted below as triggering this criteria:

Site	Dry day spills
Deighton STW	9
Damhill/No 2 CSO	1

As there is no data held prior to 2024, The data protection team have conversed with the business and have established we do not hold of the requested data. As such for the purposes of paragraph 12(4) a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that (a) it does not hold that information when an applicant's request is received.

4. **Information on any pollution incidents / blockages/ burst sewers related to this stretch of sewer for the last 5 years**

On 9 December 2025, we asked for clarification which was, *"Can the customer please provide a plan as to the extents of sewer network they are interested in as the description 'the route of the sewer network from Shepley to Huddersfield' leaves it very open to interpretation."*

You confirmed that that *"It would be from the proposed new development at Eastfield to Copper Bridge waste water treatment works".*

1 reported blockage in 2024

7 external escapes reports between 2020 and 2024

In regards to pollution, we have provided this information in earlier response to in relation to the CSO and event duration monitoring.

5. **Information relating to the capacity of the sewer and documents YWS may hold on assessments on whether it has capacity to accept the sewage for all the new housing developments along its length and any predicted impacts on the frequency of spilling of the CSOs**

We don't hold a direct population equivalent figure for Cooper Bridge. The data protection team have conversed with the business and have established we do not hold of the requested data. As such for the purposes of paragraph 12(4) a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that (a) it does not hold that information when an applicant's request is received.

The catchment flow from Brighouse and Deighton pass through the various treatment processes at Huddersfield Complex and ultimately discharge from two Outlet assets named Cooper Bridge and Colne Bridge. The treatment works are complex and go through various stages.

YWS supports and encourages sustainable development, as this creates the lowest environmental impact and keep future YWS customer bills lower. For housing developers this means that we want to ensure appropriate surface water disposal to prevent unnecessary hydraulic loading particularly with rainfall. If surface water from new developments is retained in the combined sewerage system, this can lead to additional use of storm overflows and will mean that Yorkshire Water (funded by customers) will invest in larger infrastructure to prevent environmental harm of the local water environment.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the principle of sustainable drainage, while the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) and

Part H3 of the Building Regulations 2010 establish a hierarchy for surface water disposal. This hierarchy prioritises discharge to ground (infiltration), followed by discharge to a surface water body, then to a surface water sewer, and finally to a combined sewer.

YWS seeks to promote this hierarchy in collaboration with Local Planning Authorities and developers to improve water quality and reduce flood risk. As such, in practical terms when New Developments are proposed within catchments, our responses to planning applications will generally be as follows;

1. Where a development will discharge more surface water to the combined sewerage system we may object to the application on the grounds of the non-sustainable impact on the environment and our customers. We will separately review the impact of any foul discharges.

2. Where a development will discharge less surface water to the combined sewerage system than current volumes from that site we are unlikely to object to the application. We will separately review the impact of any foul discharges.

3. Where a development will not discharge surface water to the combined sewerage system we will review the impact of the foul discharges but are unlikely to object to the application.

4. Where a development will connect surface water into an existing surface water sewer, subject to EA agreement and flood risk assessments being accepted, we are unlikely to object to the application. We will separately review the impact of any foul discharges.

Where we object to a development but it is ultimately approved, we will build the impact of the development into our plan.

Based on the above, assessments and further analysis will be undertaken on a case by case basis when considering new and future development in the area.

6. **What is the capacity for treatment at Huddersfield WwTW COOPER BRIDGE and what does it normally operate at?**

Please see our response to question 5.

7. **- how often has the storm overflow operated at Huddersfield WwTW COOPER BRIDGE and for what duration for the past 5 years?**

Please see our response to question 2 and 3.

8. **Information relating to any pollution incidents related to Huddersfield WwTW COOPER BRIDGE for the past 5 years?**

We wrote to you on 27 November 2025 to clarify which asset or area you were referring to. You confirmed that it was Cooper Bridge. There are no incidents held against this wastewater treatment works.

We 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