



Secretary of State c/o
Mr Matthew Sheard
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Date
16 March 2026

Dear Matthew,

Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project

Section 46 Planning Act 2008: Notification of proposed application

I am hereby notifying you under section 46 of the Planning Act 2008, that Southern Water Services Limited ("the Applicant") intends to submit an application for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") for the Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project ("the Project"), directed by the Secretary of State as a project of national significance under section 35 of the 2008 Planning Act.

The Applicant will shortly be commencing two statutory pre-application targeted consultations under Chapter 2 of the Planning Act 2008. The first will be a consultation on a proposed design refinement at Otterbourne Water Supply Works, taking place between 17 March and 16 April 2026. The second consultation is on a minor design refinement at the junction of Kiln Lane and Main Road in Otterbourne, taking place between 18 March and 17 April 2026. Further details on our targeted consultations are provided below.

These consultations follow our Summer 2024 Consultation, Spring 2025 Consultation, and Autumn 2025 Consultation.

About the Project

As a reminder, the Project will transform how we source, treat and supply water across Hampshire. In the face of increasing environmental restrictions, population growth and climate change, the Project will help maintain essential water supplies for customers while taking less water from the environment, protecting the rare and sensitive chalk streams of the River Test and River Itchen.

The Project would use advanced treatment techniques to turn highly treated wastewater, that is usually pumped far out to sea, into purified recycled water at a new water recycling plant in Havant. This purified recycled water would be pumped via an underground pipeline to the Havant Thicket Reservoir where it would mix with spring water. Water from the reservoir would then be pumped along another pipeline to our Otterbourne Water Supply Works where it would be treated to strict drinking water standards before being sent into supply.

The Project has been directed by the Secretary of State as a project of national significance. We are therefore seeking consent for the Project under the Planning Act 2008 and anticipate making an application to the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order in late Spring 2026. As the Project falls within the threshold set out in Schedule 2 paragraph 10(I) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the 2017 Regulations), the Project will require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Accordingly, we prepared a Preliminary

Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) as part of our Summer 2024 Consultation to set out the preliminary likely significant environmental effects of our proposals.

Further consultation on the Project

As a result of further project development, the Applicant is proposing minor refinements to the Project at Otterbourne Water Supply Works and at the junction of Kiln Lane and Main Road in Otterbourne. The design refinements extend the draft Order Limits (i.e. red line boundary) and accordingly require statutory consultation over land in which stakeholders hold an interest.

The consultation documents comprise of letters and accompanying figures detailing the design refinements. The Applicant is providing these documents to relevant section 42 and section 44 consultees in hard copy format.

Section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 requires the Applicant to send to the Secretary of State the information that it intends to provide to consultees under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008, on or before commencing consultation in accordance with section 42. PDF versions of the following documents are enclosed, which will be sent to section 42 and 44 consultees in hard copy:

Design refinement at Otterbourne Water Supply Works

- A copy of the letter sent to Southern Water Services Ltd under Section 42(1)(a) and (d), and Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008.
- Template of letters to be sent to existing Category 2 persons as defined in Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008 and as required by Section 42(1)(d) and Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008.
- A copy of the letter sent to South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust as a person as defined in Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008 and as required by Section 42(1)(d) and Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008. This consultee, however, had previously been consulted under Section 42(1)(a) of the Planning Act 2008 and thus was not invited to provide feedback on previous consultations.
- Figures 1 and 2

Consultees will be asked to provide feedback by **16 April 2026** by emailing **FeedbackHWTWRP@southernwater.co.uk**, or writing to us at **FREEPOST HAMPSHIRE WTWRP CONSULTATION**.

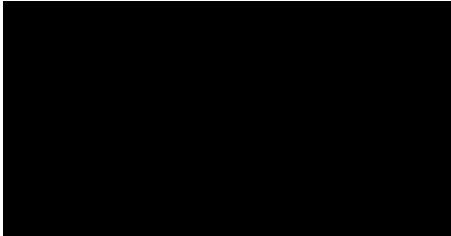
Design refinement at the junction of Kiln Lane and Main Road in Otterbourne

- A copy of the letter sent to Hampshire County Council under Section 42(1)(a) and (d), and Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008.
- A copy of the letter sent to National Highways under Section 42(1)(d), and Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008.
- Template of letters to be sent to existing Category 1, 2 and 3 persons as defined in Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008 and as required by Section 42(1)(d) and Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008.
- Template of letters to be sent to existing Category 2 persons as defined in Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008 and as required by Section 42(1)(d) and Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008, who also have an interest in land affected by the consultation on a design refinement at Otterbourne Water Supply Works.
- Figure 1

Consultees will be asked to provide feedback by **17 April 2026** by emailing **FeedbackHWTWRP@southernwater.co.uk**, or writing to us at **FREEPOST HAMPSHIRE WTWRP CONSULTATION**.

We would be grateful if you could please acknowledge that this section 46 notice has been received as a record of compliance.

Yours sincerely,



Planning and Consents Lead

██████████@southernwater.co.uk

Enc.

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- Figure 1