

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Hampshire Water Project](#)
Subject: HWTWRP Letter from the Office of Suella Braverman MP
Date: 11 June 2026 08:37:09
Attachments: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

To whomever it may concern,

Please find attached a letter from Suella Braverman MP. Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Parliamentary Assistant to the Rt Hon Suella Braverman KC MP
Member of Parliament for Fareham & Waterlooville
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA



See Suella's latest news and sign up to her newsletter [REDACTED]

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Member of Parliament for Fareham and Waterlooville
HOUSE OF COMMONS

Mr Matthew Sheard
Hampshire Water Project (HWTWRP) Team
SENT VIA EMAIL

11th June 2026

Dear Mr Sheard,

Re: Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project (HWTWRP), Adequacy of Pre-Application Consultation, Endorsement of RCPC and SOSCA Representations

I write as Suella Braverman, Member of Parliament for Fareham and Waterlooville, to confirm that I have reviewed:

1. Rowlands Castle Parish Council's Adequacy of Consultation Representation of 9 June 2026 and its *Inadequacy of Consultation Report*; and
2. Save Our South Coast Alliance's Adequacy of Consultation Representation of 9 June 2026.

On behalf of my constituents, I support the concerns raised in both submissions.

The submissions (including the Inadequacy of Consultation Report) identify multiple material failures by Southern Water to comply with its statutory consultation duties under sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act 2008, assessed in accordance with the Gunning Principles (the applicability of which is explained clearly in SOSCA's submission). In particular:

- No consultation at a formative stage: the HWTWRP was selected by Southern Water in December 2021 before public consultation on that option.
- No meaningful consultation on alternatives: despite Southern Water's commitment to consult further if Fawley desalination proved undeliverable.
- Those "likely to be affected" including my constituents were not adequately consulted, including:
 - Recreational users of Havant Thicket;
 - Residents near the reservoir, Water Recycling Plant and pipeline corridors; and
 - Portsmouth Water and Southern Water customers whose tap water, supplied from Havant Thicket Reservoir, would change from natural sources to water containing recycled effluent.



- Insufficient information was provided to enable intelligent consideration, because affected communities were clearly not told that they would receive tap water containing recycled effluent from Havant Thicket Reservoir.
- Consultation responses were not conscientiously considered, including the exclusion of a substantial proportion of 2024 responses from the published analysis.
- Publicity was inadequate, including the absence of site notices and lack of direct notification to affected tap water drinkers.

Statutory consequence under the Planning Act 2008

The Planning Inspectorate may only accept a Development Consent Order application if the applicant has complied with the pre-application consultation requirements. If Southern Water has not complied with sections 42, 47 or 48, the statutory consequence is clear: the application cannot lawfully be accepted for examination.

In my view, the evidence presented by RCPC and SOSCA demonstrates that these consultation duties under the Planning Act 2008 and Gunning Principles have not been met. I urge you to consider the points raised by RCPC and SOSCA and reject Southern Water's application for examination.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the Member of Parliament.

Rt Hon Suella Braverman KC MP

Member of Parliament for Fareham & Waterlooville

From: [Hampshire Water Project](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: HWTWRP Letter from the Office of Suella Braverman MP
Date: 11 June 2026 10:12:06
Attachments: [image.png](#)

Good morning Alex

Thank you for your email and attachment.

The application above was submitted on 28 May 2026 and the acceptance decision must be taken on or before 25 June 2026. The decision will be published on the [project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website](#).

If the application is accepted, the following documents will also be published on the project webpage:

- The application documents (if they are not already published).
- Any Adequacy of Consultation Representations submitted by relevant local authorities.
- The Planning Inspectorate's acceptance checklist.

The acceptance tests

Section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 states that an application can be accepted provided:

- it is an application for an order granting development consent;
- that development consent is required for any of the development to which the application relates;
- the Applicant has, in relation to a proposed application that has become the application, complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure); and
- that the application (including accompaniments) is of a standard that the Secretary of State considers satisfactory.

The following must be considered when making the decision:

- a) The Consultation Report received with the application
- b) Any Adequacy of Consultation Representations received by the Planning Inspectorate from a local authority consultee.
- c) The extent to which the Applicant has had regard to government guidance.

If you have sent comments about the **Pre-application consultation**, these can be considered in addition to the statutorily required acceptance tests when making the decision about whether or not to accept the application. However, it will be for the decision maker (the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State) to decide the weight to give to the views expressed based on the individual facts of the case.

If you have sent comments about the **merits of the Proposed Development** (e.g. setting out support for, or objection to, the principle of the Proposed Development) these cannot be considered at the acceptance stage. Should the application be accepted for Examination you will be able to submit your comments as a 'Relevant Representation' and register as an Interested Party. Your comments must be submitted on the 'Registration and Relevant Representation form' which will be made available on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website at the appropriate time.

Further information about registering as an Interested Party can be found in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice for members of the public: [How to register to have your say and make a relevant representation](#).

You may find it helpful to subscribe to [Get updates](#) by email on the progress of the above application.

Kind Regards

Matthew Sheard

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2026 8:36 AM
To: Hampshire Water Project <HampshireWaterProject@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: HWTWRP Letter from the Office of Suella Braverman MP

[REDACTED]

To whomever it may concern,

Please find attached a letter from Suella Braverman MP. Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours Sincerely

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