

3.01.17.

Good morning,

Rye Meads Sewage Treatment Works is currently being upgraded; the project is due to complete in 2018. The main scope of the project is to extend the treatment capacity and improve discharge quality standards of the existing sewage treatment works to enable it to treat an increased volume of incoming flow. A number of local authorities within the Rye Meads catchment are proposing significant housing growth. Based on our current growth forecasts, our recent high level assessment indicates that we currently expect the site to have headroom until 2024. We are currently producing our business plan for 2020-2025 and any planning for additional capacity will follow our normal growth process, which means growth review and modelled view of risk to prioritise which sites will need a project and when.

Given the scale of development coming forward in the region we are keeping a regular review of our sewage treatment works capacity. We are also working closely with local councils on understanding their **rates of completion**, future growth projections and likely changes in Environment Agency discharge consents. As part of this engagement we are part of the Hertfordshire Water Cycle Study group which is assessing long term water and wastewater infrastructure and environmental capacity.

Many thanks,

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