

**Open Report on behalf of Anglian Water Services**

Report to:	<b>Flood and Drainage Management Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>26 February 2016</b>
Subject:	<b>Anglian Water Planning Engagement Update</b>

**Summary:**

This report provides an update on Anglian Water consultation arrangements and ongoing process improvements following a previous report to the Flood and Drainage Management Scrutiny Committee on 4 September 2015 where an overview was provided to the Committee by Anglian Water on growth and its impact on infrastructure; the legislation and regulation covering the water industry and engagement in planning.

**Recommendation(s):**

The committee is invited to consider and comment on the report.

## **1. Background**

### **Pre-planning service**

Anglian Water has a pre-planning service for developers and their agents. The pre-planning service provides the customer with a report setting out infrastructure capacity in the area, any mitigation measures that would be required and high level costs for these improvements. All water and sewerage companies are monitored on their pre-planning services which are reported quarterly by Water UK.

For the current financial year we have received about 130 pre-planning enquiries from sites within the Lincolnshire County area.

### **Planning Applications**

Anglian Water is not a statutory consultee on planning applications. We seek to provide comments on major development of 10 or more dwellings or 0.5ha for other uses. Anglian Water currently relies on Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to send consultations through for comment and by checking weekly lists. Our records show that we have received about 170 planning application consultations from the Lincolnshire authorities since the start of the financial year.

Where development proposals propose to drain to a surface water sewer Anglian Water is sub-consulted by Lincolnshire County Council in its role as the Lead Local Flood Authority.

### **Process Improvements:**

We are currently exploring a number of process and system improvements including:

- Trialling a system where we are notified of submitted and approved planning applications through the use of software;
- Improving Anglian Water's planning related webpages and providing communication materials for residents setting out our role in the planning system;
- Updates to our customer pre-planning portal to make it easier for developers and their agents to submit enquiries;
- Refresh to the planning application consultation template and wording to assist LPAs as part of their decision making.

## **2. Conclusion**

This report provides an update on the Planning Engagement of Anglian Water.

## **3. Consultation**

### **a) Policy Proofing Actions Required**

N/A

## **4. Background Papers**

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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