



30th September, 2020

Portsmouth Water
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Dear Lewis,

Havant Thicket Reservoir Planning Applications

I have great pleasure in submitting outline planning applications for the development of Havant Thicket Reservoir and a pipeline to connect the reservoir to Bedhampton Pumping Station.

It has taken some years to reach this stage and as a Havant-based company we're delighted to now be in a position to deliver this vital strategic water resource for the South East and create a unique leisure and wildlife environment for local communities.

Portsmouth Water has a long history of supplying water to the area and we continue to deliver the highest service standards for the lowest bills of all water companies in England and Wales.

We believe in 'doing the right thing', a belief further embedded in our Community Partnership, which ensures society benefit is considered in all our decisions. Our aim is to make sure our objectives are in line with those of our communities.

Nowhere is this more important than in the development and delivery of a large infrastructure project like a reservoir, the first to be progressed in the South East since the 1970s.

This project has the potential to provide many additional benefits, over and above its core purpose of securing vital water supplies. This includes sharing much-needed supplies with Southern Water to allow it to reduce its abstraction from two world-famous rare chalk streams in Hampshire.

Closer to home, our communities will benefit from the creation of a wetland for threatened bird species, extensive tree, hedgerow and wildflower planting, the creation of new woodlands, drought resilience and educational, training and employment opportunities. Our plans also create a green leisure space with paths and play areas – offering priceless benefits for health and wellbeing – with a visitor centre aimed at bringing communities together.

With our eye on future challenges, we've also considered the role we'll play in meeting our unique commitment as an industry to become carbon net zero by 2030.

We've listened carefully to the ideas and thoughts of our customers, communities, partners and regulators – held discussion groups, drop-in sessions, delivered talks, engaged on social media, spent time with young people and engaged tirelessly with our regulators, environmental organisations and the planning authorities. We believe this is part of the reason we have such strong support.

Our proposals are described in detail in the following documents which accompany the planning applications:

- Engineering and Design Report;
- Planning Statement;
- Development Specification;
- Environmental Statement, including a Non-Technical Summary and the following stand-alone appendices:
 - Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (including Record of Environmental Actions and Commitments or REAC)
 - Transport Assessment
 - Flood Risk Assessment
 - Water Framework Directive Compliance Assessment
 - Arboricultural Impact Assessment
- Design and Access Statement;
- Statement of Community Involvement;
- Outline Biodiversity Mitigation and Compensation Strategy;
- Article 4.7 Derogation Statement; and
- Planning drawings.

We think this application embodies not only our hopes and aspirations for the reservoir, but also those of the communities who will benefit and be part of its delivery, and we look forward to continuing to work in partnership with our neighbours over the months and years to come.



Bob Taylor, Chief Executive Officer, Portsmouth Water