

Date: 5th April 2019

Sent via email

Dear Judith Summers

1. Background

I refer to your request for information received 20th March 2019 and which is being responded to under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 ("Regulations") as South West Water (SWW) is not covered by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request reads as follows:

This is a FOI request on behalf of the St Just and Pendeen Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, covering the parish of St Just-in-Penwith, Cornwall. Please could you tell us: (1) Tregeseal treatment plant, St Just: what size population is it designed for and how close to capacity is it? (2) Reservoir supplies of fresh water for the parish: what size population are they considered to be able to serve? Is there considered to be a need for further water storage and if so have any plans been made to supply this?

This letter provides the response to your request.

2. South West Water's Response

I can confirm that SWW does hold information of the type you have requested.

Under the Regulations, SWW has a duty to individuals requesting information to make that information available on request. SWW must comply with this duty, unless one of the exceptions contained within the Regulations applies.

This information is enclosed.

Tregeseal waste water treatment works St Just:

1(a) What size population is it designed for?

The current biological treatment capacity is assessed as 6154 'population equivalent' (p.e) and the current peak connected load is estimated to be around 5680 p.e.

1(b) How close to capacity is it?

In terms of biological capacity, the works is currently at around 92% capacity. In terms of hydraulic capacity peak flows are around 45 Litres per second and the works is not scheduled for any improvements during this Asset Planning period (to March 2020).

In the next Asset Planning period of 2020-2025 there is a planned scheme to provide additional storm storage at the site and also plans to improve the movement of flows around the site.

Reservoir supplies of fresh water for the parish:

2(a) What size population are they considered to be able to serve?

2(b) Is there considered to be a need for further water storage?

2(c) if so have any plans been made to supply this?

Approximately 90% of our supply comes from surface water sources, such as reservoirs and river intakes. Local reservoirs are supported by three large strategic reservoirs: Colliford, Roadford and Wimbleball. The other 10% of our supply comes from groundwater sources such as springs, wells and boreholes and are mainly located in East Devon.

During the winter months, when river levels are healthy, we abstract water from rivers with the reservoirs providing back-up supplies. The river and reservoir systems are linked together by a network of pipes, which enable us to transfer water around the region.

Initially we make use of the 17 smaller, local reservoirs. When the storage level in these reservoirs drops to a certain level, we make use of the large, strategic reservoirs, Colliford, Roadford and Wimbleball.

By using our network of pipes, we are able to move water around to balance dry periods in one part of our region with wetter periods in another. We are also able to pump water from rivers into our reservoirs, rather than waiting for them to refill naturally.

Our 'Drought Plan' can be found at this web address <https://www.southwestwater.co.uk/environment/a-precious-resource/drought-plan/>.

We have also published our draft 25 Year Water Resources Management Plan, the final version of which will be available at the location below very shortly. <https://www.southwestwater.co.uk/environment/a-precious-resource/water-resources-management-plan/>.

You will see from the plan that our analysis and assessment has determined that there is no need for any new major strategic assets and that demand can be met using our current infrastructure, coupled with a significant decrease in leakage and per capita consumption (demand).

3. Further Queries

Should you have any questions, please contact us at finreg@southwestwater.co.uk. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of receipt of this response and should be addressed to Sally Mills (SWW Regulatory Director) who can be contacted by e-mail on EIRinternalreviews@southwestwater.co.uk.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply, without charge, to the Information Commissioner, who will consider whether SWW has complied with its obligations under the Regulations, and can require SWW to remedy any problems. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Regulations in general, on the Information Commissioner's website at: www.ico.org.uk. Complaints to the Information Commissioner can be made via the "report a concern" section of the Information Commissioner's website.

With best regards,

South West Water

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