

Date: 2 July 2024

Our Ref: EIR24172

Sent via email.

Dear Suzanne Cleave,

Request for Environmental Information

Thank you for your request for information, received by South West Water ("SWW") on 6 June 2024, which is included below for reference.

The information you have requested is covered by the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 ("the Regulations") and SWW has a duty to make environmental information that it holds available on request, unless one of the exceptions contained within the Regulations applies.

Information is provided as follows.

SWW's Response

SWW have undertaken a Storm Overflow Assessment Framework ("SOAF") investigation on Delabole, completed in March 2022. Following the SOAF investigation, it was agreed with the Environment Agency ("EA") that improvements would be included in the next investment period with a current proposed completion date of March 2028 at the latest. The design of this project is already underway and is likely to require a large upgrade of the Sewage Treatment Works ("STW") site.

Historically, the site has not been deemed to affect the Camel Shellfish beds by the EA, as it is a distance from the Estuary and bacteria levels decay. Hence it has not been improved previously under a Shellfish driver.

However, the SOAF investigation and accompanying improvements are under an Urban Wastewater Treatment Regulations driver, meaning that now the new DEFRA Storm Overflow Discharge Reduction Plan applies. As such, this site will meet a target of 10 spills (on average) by the completion date of March 2028. SWW is currently making progress towards meeting this target.

Your rights under the Regulations

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 Barry Matthews (Group Deputy General Counsel) who can be contacted by e-mail on EIRinternalreviews@southwestwater.co.uk

With best regards

South West Water

Your Request:

“When the data for sewage discharges from overflows for 2023 was recently released, it was picked up in the Cornish press that the WWTW at Delabole was one of the worst in the country with 3,352 hours (about 4 and a half months) of discharges.

Please could you explain to us and our residents what actions you propose to take in the near term to address this blight on our village.”