

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – JOBS, ECONOMY AND
TRANSPORT**

30 July 2013

Report of the Acting Strategic Director – Environmental Services

**SEVERN TRENT WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN
2013**

(1) **Purpose of the Report** To agree the County Council's response to Severn Trent's Water Resources Management Plan 2013 consultation.

(2) **Information and Analysis** The County Council is one of a number of stakeholders that has been consulted by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) on Severn Trent's draft Water Resources Management Plan 2013. The Management Plan and associated documents can be accessed by following the link below.

<http://www.severntrent.com/future/plans-and-strategy/water-resources-management-plan>

The Plan has been widely publicised and consulted on over the last two years. As part of its business planning process, Severn Trent consulted stakeholders and the public on 'Making the Right Choices' which asked for views on priorities for 2015 – 2020 in April 2012. This included a series of consultation workshops that County Council officers attended.

The draft Management Plan sets out Severn Trent's proposals for ensuring enough water is available in the right place at the right time to supply their customers over the next 25 years.

The overall strategy is to reduce demand for water and make the best use of existing water resources. To achieve this, Severn Trent proposes to reduce waste and leakage; reduce water demand and improve water efficiency, deploy existing resources flexibly and efficiently, improve resilience, and develop new sources of water when required.

The draft Management Plan divides Severn Trent's operational area into a number of zones. Derbyshire is covered by the Strategic Grid Zone. Severn Trent has calculated that, due to changes to abstraction licences and

environmental changes along the River Wye and at Elan Valley Reservoirs, there will be a reduction in supply in the Strategic Grid Zone.

Severn Trent has also looked in detail at future projections of population and household growth to calculate future household demand for water consumption. The projections used are the same projections used to inform the preparation of Local Plans.

In order to balance demand and supply, Severn Trent needs to find additional sources of water supply to provide an additional 75 million litres per day in the Strategic Grid zone over the next 10 years. Proposals for this additional water supply include four schemes in Derbyshire:

- Belper Meadows – refurbish disused pumps and upgrade the existing (currently disused) water treatment works and lay new pipelines to the Strategic Grid to supply an additional 4 million litres per day.
- Little Eaton – expand capacity by 30 million litres per day at the water treatment works (in conjunction with Carsington Reservoir which will be filled in winter from the River Derwent with water then released back to support the Little Eaton works during the summer).
- Hatton – recommission Haseley Springs to feed into the Hatton water treatment works to provide an additional 2 million litres per day.
- Stanton and Milton – recommission disused groundwater boreholes and install new pipes to feed the Melbourne water treatment works and supply an additional 6.5 million litres per day.

Local Member Comments

Members' comments, which, in view of the tight deadline for responses, are not included in this report, will form part of the County Council's formal response along with Technical Officer comments.

Officer Comments

This strategic approach is supported by officers. Using the same projections as those used in Local Plans is helpful it ensures alignment between local planning authorities' proposals for growth and Severn Trent's investment plans.

These proposals are supported as they will help to ensure adequate water supply for existing and projected future households and commercial users over the next 25 years. Severn Trent's plans are a critical part of delivering the strategic infrastructure required to support sustainable growth and development in Derbyshire over the longer term.

(3) Financial Considerations Severn Trent will fund the projects identified in the Management Plan through a combination of public funding direct from Government Office of Water Services (OFWAT) and the

company's private funding (for example from customers' bills). Severn Trent does not seek financial contributions from developers at the point of a planning application as it accounts for planned levels of growth and the impact of any future development when preparing the Management Plan and negotiating with Government on its financial settlement. There are no financial implications for the County Council.

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

(4) **Key Decision** No.

(5) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(6) **Background Papers** The County Council responded to a previous consultation on Severn Trent's Business Plan in July 2012. This response is held on file by the Planning Services Manager. Officer contact details - Harriet Fisher, extension 39551.

(7) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION** That the Cabinet Member approves the County Council's response as set out at Annex A.

Mike Ashworth
Acting Strategic Director – Environmental Services

Annex A



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Your Ref:	WRMP
Date	30 July 2013

Dear Rt Hon Owen Paterson MP

Consultation on Severn Trent's Water Resources Management Plan 2013

Thank you for consulting Derbyshire County Council on Severn Trent's draft Water Resources Management Plan 2013.

Derbyshire County Council welcomes and supports the proposed overall strategic approach of reducing demand for water and making the best use of existing water resources.

In addition to working to reduce demand and leakage, Derbyshire County Council recognises that there is a need to find additional sources of supply to help meet growing demand for water consumption as a result of environmental changes and increased population and household growth.

Derbyshire County Council supports the four proposed schemes in Derbyshire (Belper Meadows; Little Eaton; Hatton; and Stanton & Milton) which will help to ensure adequate water supply for residential and commercial users over the next 25 years. Severn Trent's plans are a critical part of delivering the strategic infrastructure required to support growth in Derbyshire over the longer term.

Yours Sincerely

Harriet Fisher
Principal Planner