

## Newport Pagnell Neighbourhood Plan, Reg 16 consultation responses

**Anglian Water**

**c/o Carry Murphy,  
Spatial & Strategic Planning Manager**

Thank you for inviting comments on the modification to the made Newport Pagnell Neighbourhood Plan of June 2021. Anglian Water supports neighbourhood plans and their role in delivering environmental and social prosperity in the region.

Anglian Water is the water and water recycling provider for over 6 million customers. Our operational area spans between the Humber and Thames estuaries and includes around a fifth of the English coastline.

The region is the driest in the UK and the lowest lying, with a quarter of our area below sea level. This makes it particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change including heightened risks of both drought and flooding, including inundation by the sea. Additionally, parts of the area have the highest rate of housing growth in England.

Anglian Water has amended its Articles of Association to legally enshrine public interest within the constitutional make up of our business – this is our pledge to deliver wider benefits to society, above and beyond the provision of clean, fresh drinking water and effective treatment of used water. Our Purpose is to bring environmental and social prosperity to the region we serve through our commitment to Love Every Drop.

Anglian Water wants to proactively engage with the neighbourhood plan process to ensure the plan delivers benefits for residents and visitors to the area, and in doing so protect the environment and water resources. Anglian Water has produced specific guidance note on the preparation of NPs found using this link under our Strategic Growth and Infrastructure webpage - [Strategic Growth and Infrastructure \(anglianwater.co.uk\)](https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/strategic-growth-and-infrastructure). The guidance also has sign posting/ links to obtaining information on relevant assets and infrastructure in map form, where relevant.

Anglian Water is the statutory water and sewerage undertaker for the Newport Pagnell neighbourhood plan area and is identified as a consultation body under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. Anglian Water does not appear to have been consulted at the Regulation 14 stage, according to the list of those notified in the accompanying consultation statement (section 5). Whilst the proposed modifications to the Neighbourhood Plan are limited to specific areas and policies, Anglian Water makes the following comments in relation to ensuring the making of the neighbourhood plan contributes to sustainable development and has regard to assets owned and managed by Anglian Water.

### Policy NP2 Tickford Fields Development Site Specific Policy and Development Brief

The development brief for the Tickford Fields site makes reference under the section on Access and Movement at para 4.15 *“Developers should also seek to negotiate with Anglian Water a redway route through the lakeside land to link with Priory Street.”*

It is not clear as to what work has been made regarding the extent of this proposal to

construct a redway link on this land and what it exactly would entail. Para. 5.2.2.4 states the Town Council will maintain a dialogue with various service providers and any other relevant bodies, with respect to bus services, education services, play areas and open space provision, highways department, waste recycling provision and cycle route provision. This also relates to Policy NP8 'Local Cycling and Walking Network' and the policy objectives of improving walking and cycling routes around the town. Figure 7 'Local cycling and Walking Network in Newport Pagnell' is also relevant as this identifies proposed redway routes and their status for potential progression i.e. straightforward to provide or assessment required.

The neighbourhood plan group is strongly encouraged to clarify the position on this matter, and I should be grateful if you could please contact me directly to discuss as the Anglian Water lead for neighbourhood plans. My contact details are provided in this response.

Maps of Anglian Water's assets detailing the location of our water and water recycling infrastructure (including both underground assets and aboveground assets such as pumping stations, water treatment and water works and water recycling centres) are available at: [www.utilities.digdat.co.uk](http://www.utilities.digdat.co.uk).

#### Policy NP4 Green and Blue Infrastructure Network

Anglian Water supports the policy of prioritising the delivery of biodiversity net gains within the neighbourhood planning area to support habitat recovery and enhancements within existing and new areas. Anglian Water has made a corporate commitment to deliver a biodiversity net gain of 10% against the measured losses of habitats on all AW-owned land.