

Mr Maurice Barlow  
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council  
Forward Planning  
PO Box 11652  
Solihull  
West Midlands  
B91 9YA

**Our ref:** UT/2006/000335/SF-  
03/IS1-L01  
**Your ref:**  
**Date:** 20 June 2012

Dear Mr Barlow

## **WATER CYCLE STUDY FOR SOLIHULL**

Thank you for referring your Water Cycle Study for comment, which was received on 30 May 2012.

Clarification should be provided as to the water resources plan used for the water supply data, as it appears to be out of date, with the draft plan being used rather than the final water resources plan published in 2010.

As the majority of the comments appear to be based upon WMRSS data, clarification should be provided within the report as to the relevance of this to your growth proposals, and to whether this information is still up to date and accurate.

No modelling or evidence has been submitted to show there is capacity within the named waste water treatment works (WwTW) Coleshill, Barston and Minworth. In light of this there is no certainty that there will be capacity to support development in combination with the growth projections of other LPAs that will also discharge to these WwTW.

Reports such as this often use a Red, Amber, Green system to identify where there are concerns at certain WwTW – we advise this would be beneficial to illustrate the foul capacity within the borough. This would be particularly of use to highlight Severn Trent Water's concerns over capacity in the North Solihull Regeneration Area.

The report seems to take the approach that Severn Trent Water will take all flows when they come on line and deal with them accordingly whether there is capacity or not. This may not be the case, and timing and phasing of development may be required to coincide with improvements needed to works or piped infrastructure. The WCS should provide information on these timings in order to inform the Core Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

Environment Agency  
Sentinel House (9) Wellington Crescent, Fradley Park, Lichfield, WS13 8RR.  
Customer services line: 03708 506 506  
[www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)

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Although the report acknowledges our River Basin Management Plans, it provides no assessment of whether the proposed growth will not cause deterioration under the associated Water Framework Directive.

In light of the above we recommend that additional work is undertaken to provide evidence and detail to support the conclusions of the report. This should demonstrate to the inspector that the impact of your growth proposals have been considered alongside neighbouring authorities' proposals (in line with the Duty To Co-operate) and will not cause a detrimental impact to the water environment through pollution.

The Environment Agency would be happy to meet with your Authority alongside Severn Trent Water to discuss this further if required.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs Laura Perry**  
**Planning Liaison Team Leader**

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