



10 November 2009

Mr Martyn Mance,
Department for Communities & Local Government,
Planning Resources & Environment Policy A,
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Pamela Taylor
Chief Executive

Dear Mr Mance,

Consultation on Proposed Amendments to PPS25 – Development & Flood Risk

1. We thank you for the consultation on the above, and apologise for the lateness of our response.
2. Water UK is the organisation that represents water and sewerage companies and authorities of the United Kingdom. We are therefore concerned with the way in which your proposals may affect the water and sewerage companies in England.
3. We do not think there is much that we can usefully add to the representations you have already received from member companies, and in particular Thames Water and Yorkshire Water.
4. However, we would emphasise the following. Much of what water and sewerage companies do is driven by requirements placed on the Government by European Directives, including for example the Drinking Water and Urban Waste Water Treatment Directives.
5. In order that water and sewerage companies may carry out and complete on time those works which are needed to enable the Government to comply with European Directives, it is of course important that the planning regime should facilitate the carrying out of such works. However, for the reasons given in the Thames and Yorkshire letters, we are concerned that your proposals, as they relate to water and sewage treatment works, may hinder the achievement of such compliance.

6. We therefore suggest that your proposals may need to be modified for the purpose of ensuring that they will not get in the way of the Government complying with European Directives.
7. We hope that these comments will be of assistance, and look forward to hearing from you further concerning this.

Yours sincerely,

RICHARD VENTERS

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