Water Resource Planning
In our view the provision of adequate water supplies and adequate demand management is of 'critical' importance to the delivery of future development within the District. We published our Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) in June 2014. This plan sets out how we intend to maintain the balance between increasing demand for water and available supplies over the next 25 years up to 2040.

The Wealden district lies across South East Water's resource zones 2 and 3. Over the course of the planning period we intend to implement a series of supply options to ensure a reliable water supply for this area. These include an extension at Arlington reservoir alongside regional transfers from neighbouring water companies, transfers from other resource zones within South East Water, leakage reductions, water efficiency measures, improvements to treatment works and new groundwater schemes.

Our previous responses to consultations stress the importance of recognising the need for additional water resources in the area over the period 2015-2040 and we suggest references to the suggested plans should be recognised and included.

Code for Sustainable Homes
We have noted from the Local Plan that achieving code level 3 for water efficiency is included in Part 7 of the Building Regulations, but it is not proposed that any water efficiency requirements for the strategic site developments above and beyond this are required. You do mention that new homes on the strategic sites are to be at least code level 4 in relation to energy efficiency and would encourage that higher levels of water efficiency are also included and enforced to reduce the extra burden on the already stressed water supplies.

There is no mention of the planning policy in relation to the affordable homes in the consultation document and we suggest water efficiency measures are recognised within subsequent planning documents.