From: PS.Emma Hardy <ps.emma.hardy@defra.gov.uk>
Sent: 09 October 2025 12:57
To: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX@wealden.gov.uk>
Cc: PS.Emma Hardy <ps.emma.hardy@defra.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Southern Water Stakeholder Group update

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Hi XXXXXXXXX,

Thank you for getting in touch, and apologies for the delay in responding.

Officials have followed up with Southern Water on the issues the group raised, and particularly on the Minister's suggestion that the group ask Southern to provide more detailed, granular and localised data regarding planned upgrade works.

Southern has assured us that they will work with the group closely to understand what your needs are, and they're keen to have a constructive relationship going forward. They have been reviewing information they provide on local planning applications and I would encourage the group to continue to discuss that with the company to feed in your views on what you need. Sources of information of which you may well already be aware include:

- Factsheets detailing investment plans for each area across the region for AMP8. We understand Southern will be working to make these more specific.
- For less granular information on storm overflows, Southern's Clean Rivers and Seas Plan
- Southern Water consultation exercises and ongoing engagement through routes such as on their Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP).

Southern have also said they will be in touch with you directly with this information and on how they can work with you going forward. I hope this will be of some help to the group, and encourage you to continue engaging directly with Southern.

Kind regards,

Sam Jolly (He/Him), Private Secretary to Minister Hardy
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
2 Marsham Street, London