

Anglian Water Services (AWS)

All the parish of Wing is within AWS statutory sewage service area. Severn Trent provides water services in the area. The Wing Water Recycling Centre (WRC) is located some 300m north of Bottom Street, south of the railway line.

Anglian Water welcomes the reference (page 55) to our staff based at the Wing Water Treatment works, which is south of Morcott Road. We consider the company to be both a key employer and an important part of the community. Colleagues have commented on our internal updates and how frequently the activities at Wing such as biodiversity work and events include the wider community.

Policy position

- Rutland Local Plan

The 2011 Core Strategy places Wing in the Smaller Service Centres (Policy CS3). Paragraph of the Core Strategy indicates development up to 5 dwellings and infill up to 2 dwelling would be appropriate in the Smaller Service Centres and this is summarised in Policy CS4. Policy CS9 indicates that the total quantum of growth across all the Smaller Service Centres is about 12 homes per annum.

The 2014 Rutland Site Allocations DPD reaffirms the settlement hierarchy and references the heritage and ecology assets in Wing parish. DPD Policy SP2 does not reference any allocations for residential development in Wing. DPD Policy SP15 requires all new developments to meet good design standards including ‘measures to minimise energy and water consumption’.

Anglian Water plans investment based on growth in adopted Local Plans and recent growth patterns. If growth comes forward through planning applications which exceeds that allocation or the general growth trend it may not be possible to accommodate that growth until the next Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) and the next Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP) are drawn up, consulted on, and approved by regulators. Anglian Water’s draft WRMP and DWMP for investment between 2025 and 2030 are at consultation and will be finalised by the end of 2023 and early 2024.

- Housing numbers

The government’s Housing Delivery Test numbers have not been published for 2022. The three-year average from 2021 for Rutland show that the Council delivered 172 homes a year against the 110 homes annual target i.e., 55% over delivery. The figures supplied for the Housing Delivery Grant showed that in the year to October 2022 some 73 new homes were built. Comparing the Local Plan settlement hierarchy and allocations policy with housing delivery figures suggest that supply is not overly constrained but is reliant on a small number of sites. As the five-year housing supply is just above 4 years this may indicate that additional housing is required in Smaller Service Centres such as Wing until a new Local Plan allocates sites. If new sites are required to meet specific local needs defined by the community such as affordable housing it would be necessary to show that existing infrastructure would be able to support additional demands and so support allocation(s) in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

- Future Development Plans

Looking forward we note that Rutland withdrew its previous draft plan and is at the early stages of developing a new Local Plan. The withdrawn plan, although having very limited status now, also

identified Wing as a smaller service centre which could provide limited scale development which could be interpreted as mainly coming from infill sites. It is therefore positive to see that WNP Policy HBE1 provides for this within the current settlement boundary.

Assessment

- Sustainability hierarchy

Anglian Water is committed to delivering net zero carbon by 2030. We have significantly cut operational carbon and reduced embedded (capital) carbon in new and upgraded infrastructure. Our approach is to follow the sustainability hierarchy which seeks to:

- a. First use existing capital (embedded) carbon within our infrastructure
- b. Then consider, manage, and utilise that existing capacity through optimisation
- c. Only build new infrastructure if new housing or business is in sites which cannot utilise a. and b above. Our preference if new capacity is required is to use nature-based solutions such as wetlands to increase water recycling capacity and which then has a lower carbon footprint

Anglian Water is currently assessing the carbon associated with different scales of development which has been undertaken across the 59 local planning authority areas we serve. Initial outputs indicate that there is a carbon economy of scale. In summary, smaller developments are more carbon intensive than larger developments due to treatment and network upgrades or new capacity required. Our carbon assessment supports the settlement hierarchy in the adopted Local Plan and the location of for most of the growth it proposed.

- Water supply

Anglian Water's Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) is currently subject to public consultation. Wing is outside of our statutory service area, but the water treatment facility plays a vital part in supplying water from Rutland Water to the homes and businesses in the west of the Anglian Water region in the Ruthamford Water Resource Zone (WRZ). This area including Northamptonshire, Milton Keynes and Bedfordshire is one of the fastest growing parts of the country. The Ruthamford South WRZ is forecast to increase in population by 24.7% from 2025 to 2050. To maintain the balance between supply and demand and mitigate the impacts of climate change all new housing would need to demonstrably achieve or better a 110 litres per person per day level of water efficiency.

The planned growth of Rutland, which is within our water service area, at Ketton for example, in the Local Plan and calculated using past growth levels is factored into Anglian Water's WRMP

Anglian Water acknowledge that the Wing works is an operational site which due to locational necessity and its essential function has needed to grow (page 55). We are pleased that liaison between the Council and ourselves has enabled improvements to operations. As you may know the need to improve resilience to drought meant that six years ago the Wing water treatment facility could have been inline for significantly more development. Instead, an innovative flow reversal trial proved it would be possible to use existing pipes and equipment to reverse the direction of flow through one of the company's biggest water mains linking Grafham Water Treatment Works in Cambridgeshire with Hannington, near Pitsford Water in Northamptonshire. The Grafham Water Resilience project went on to be awarded Carbon Reduction Project of the Year at the British Construction Industry awards in 2017. We continue to invest at Wing having spent £160,000 last year to refurbish micro strainers at Wing Water Treatment Works to maintain supplies of safe, clean drinking water to the area.

We would also like to acknowledge the work which has been undertaken on site by colleagues to improve biodiversity (page 55), which the WNP correctly advises is part of company policy. We continue to look at opportunities to support this work as part of development projects, in partnership with others including The Conservation Volunteers and Wildlife Trusts and through wider funding work such as the Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP). Our Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP) is the largest plan of any water company and totals over £800 million of work, across 1,200 schemes, which are specifically targeted at enhancing the environment and improving river water quality.

Anglian Water welcomes the recognition (page 57) that ‘the existing Anglian Water site located outside of the village does provide some scope for expansion within its boundary’. We hope that the continued liaison with the community will ensure that when operational developments are a necessity, for example to enable environmental improvements or address climate change, that this ensures the community is involved in shaping those plans and minimising impacts. This would include consideration of biodiversity net gain as will be required by national policy which may overlook the policy position set out in Policy ENV 3. This liaison has proven to be instrumental in addressing community concerns (page 61) and enabled Anglian Water to work with and educate contractors on their responsibilities.

- Water recycling

Anglian Water’s Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP) was subject to public consultation in 2022.

The Wing WRC is in the Welland Valley catchment area which covers 80 of our water recycling catchments, 40 of which progressed to further assessment in the DWMP for investment from 2025 onwards. In the DWMP the modelled trend-based population increase served by the Wing WRC grows from 353 in 2021 to 364 in 2050, suggesting a net increase of circa five households. There are no AWS combined sewer overflows in the Wing Oving catchment and so water recycling investment would be to provide additional capacity as a result of housing or non- domestic/commercial growth. Anglian Water supports the identification of important open spaces (Figure 6) and agrees that the WRC site as a developed site should not be included.

The Wing water recycling catchment is assessed as zero for risk to Anglian Water assets with 2 being the highest score if there is a risk from flooding (river, rain, or coast) and there was no recovery plan in place. The DWMP assessment considered the standard issues that may require investment including, WRC permit compliance, sewer leaks and environment & wellbeing. Further monitoring equipment will be installed this year to provide additional environmental protection and inform investment decisions.

All the settlement boundary and so the potential sites that could come forward under Policy HBE1 are within the current Wing sewer catchment area. If sites were brought forward outside of the settlement boundary they could technically be connected although this would likely involve a longer length/ higher carbon intensive network extension. The provision for 8 homes identified either at site A or site B in the two draft WNP (HBE2 and HBE3) up to 2026, is not factored into the DWMP at this stage. Instead, when the plan is adopted, they could be considered in annual reviews of investment and specifically when developers commence pre application discussions with Anglian Water.

Anglian Water welcomes Policy E5: Tourism and specifically part c) seeking to ensure proposals do not adversely affect infrastructure including sewerage. The policy requirement should perhaps be made for all forms of development, for example Policy HBE 6: Windfall sites. Due to the scale of housing

growth proposed and the specifics of each site it would be a matter for the developers to work with our Developer Services team to assess the need for additional capacity at the WRC and on the sewer network. This may include nature-based solutions such as wetland to provide tertiary treatment at the WRC. Community Action 2: Biodiversity could reference this specifically and so support co creation of the habitat funded by the developer.

- Flooding and Climate Change

Anglian Water supports Policy ENV 1: Flood Risk Resilience although we suggest the first line of text could be clearer about which areas on Figure 18 are being referred to. The policy mandates for the use of SuDS and we would advise that should the allocated sites come forward that the required Surface Water Drainage Strategy ensures all surface water and rainwater would need to be managed through rainwater harvesting and nature-based solutions including SuDS. No surface water connections would be permitted to the public sewer network as this may require additional grey infrastructure with its attendant carbon emissions.