

[REDACTED]

From: EIR
Sent: 23 January 2026 14:01
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

Importance: High

Dear Requester

Thank you for your request for information about Cambridge Water Recycling Centre relocation, which we received on 23 December 2025. Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

You requested:

1. The potential environmental risks of new developments in Cambridge
2. Why Anglian Water changed it's position on relocating the Water Recycling Centre.

EIR Response: Provision of Requested Information

Item 1 is held by Anglian Water and has been provided below.

There was limited investment identified and secured within the AMP8 determination for the existing treatment plant at Milton, due to the planned relocation of the works and the need to ensure value for money for customers.

Funding for the relocation was expected to be provided through Homes England's Housing Infrastructure Fund. With this funding confirmed at the time, Anglian Water's planning position was to seek a pre-occupation condition on all new development, ensuring that the timing of connections aligned with the delivery of the new site.

However, when this funding was subsequently withdrawn, and no alternative mechanism was identified to deliver the additional capacity required to support new growth, Anglian Water—consistent with its established planning policy approach—revised its position and sought a temporary objection to further development in the catchment. This position is informed by the latest annual flow monitoring data submitted to the Environment Agency, which is compared against the site's current permit conditions and forecast growth over the following year. Where this assessment indicates that the works are exceeding, or are at risk of exceeding, their permitted limits, an objection is raised to help manage the risks associated with accommodating additional flows from new development.

In terms of environmental risk, exceedances relate to sanitary permit parameters such as Suspended Solids, Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), Ammonia and Phosphates. The existing plant cannot continue to accept increased flows and loads without parallel investment to maintain adequate treatment capacity and ensure continued compliance with environmental discharge standards.

Item 2 is held by Anglian Water and has been provided below.

In terms of any change in position, Anglian Water's stance remains the same: with appropriate investment, the existing plant can continue to support growth by expanding the treatment facility within the current site boundary, ensuring sufficient flow capacity and ongoing environmental compliance.

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If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request an internal review, you should email EIR@anglianwater.co.uk or write to:

General Counsel, Anglian Water Services, Lancaster House, Lancaster Way, Ermine Business Park, Huntingdon PE29 6XU

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this email, please contact us via EIR@anglianwater.co.uk.

Yours sincerely

EIR Team

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