

Our ref: EIR-928

Date: 28/08/2026

Email: EIRRequests@uuplc.co.uk

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your request for environmental information. We appreciate your interest, and we want to let you know that your request has been carefully considered in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR).

Your request:

Please provide all information held relating to wastewater infrastructure improvement schemes that were proposed but subsequently deferred, postponed or cancelled between January 2020 and the date of this request.

For each scheme please provide:

- Original business case
- Reason for deferral
- Financial value
- Environmental justification
- Internal approval papers
- Whether the affected assets subsequently experienced pollution incidents or storm overflow discharges made

Our response:

United Utilities classify wastewater infrastructure assets as those operating on our sewer network. Non-infrastructure assets are therefore those operating at our wastewater treatment works (WwTWs).

Table 1 (in Appendix B) shows all of the wastewater infrastructure improvement schemes that have been deferred since January 2020. This table outlines the name of the scheme, the WINEP IDs and the associated financial value of each scheme. It also outlines the Environment Agency's (EA's) driver code and description, which is published in the Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP). This driver is the primary environmental justification for United Utilities undertaking the scheme by the regulatory delivery date.

Each of these schemes were deferred due to deliverability issues beyond the control of United Utilities. For example, the King Street Pumping Station scheme delivery schedule was unduly impacted by COVID-19 lockdowns. The decision to allow the Regulatory date to be moved, to allow an appropriate period of time to address these issues, rests solely with the Environment Agency. For each of these six projects, the EA agreed to the Regulatory date change.

We can confirm that there were no Category 1, 2 or 3 pollution incidents recorded at any of these six sites during the period of deferral, using the period from the original delivery date to the date of your

request (2 August 2026) for the assessment.

We can also confirm that there were spills from the storm overflows during the period of deferral. Table 2 (in Appendix B) shows the number of spills experienced, in line with the corresponding regulatory reporting periods. Please note that if the analysis period includes 2026, this storm overflow spill data has not yet been validated and published, so cannot be included until that process has concluded. Once finalised, this information will be published on our website in the following location - [Storm overflow performance | United Utilities](#)

The attached Appendix A includes the summary slides from the business cases for each of these schemes. All financial and contract information has either been removed, redacted or replaced with an 'XXX', as it is deemed to be commercially sensitive, and as such cannot be disclosed under the EIR. This approach is in line with Regulation 12(5)(e) which states that a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that its disclosure would adversely affect the confidentiality of commercial or industrial information where such confidentiality is provided by law to protect a legitimate economic interest. Please note that the format of these business cases summaries changed between AMP7 (2020 to 2025) and AMP8 (2025 to 2030), hence why the Appendix is shown in two distinct sections with varying formats.

Due to the commitments we adhere to under both the WINEP and Ofwat's Price Review, United Utilities prioritise the delivery of all our enhancement schemes. We would also be subject to notable Regulatory scrutiny for any environmental improvement scheme that we fail to deliver. As such, we do not have any wastewater infrastructure schemes within this period that have been 'cancelled'. Therefore, under EIR 12(4)(a) we are unable to provide you with a copy of this information, as it is not held.

We hope that this response answers your request. However, if you're not satisfied with how we've handled it, you can request an internal review. To do this, please write to us at Environmental Information Office, Haweswater House, Lingley Mere, Warrington, WA5 3LP or email us at EIRRequests@uuplc.co.uk, addressing your request to [REDACTED], and explaining why you're unhappy with our response. We'll be very happy to review your request and ensure we've done everything we can to assist you.

Any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this response, and we will reply within 40 working days from receipt of the request for internal review.

Many thanks



EIR Team
United Utilities

We'd love to hear your feedback on how we handled your request! If you have a moment, please complete our short survey [here](#) – your input helps us improve our service.