

Growth and Asset Health Cost Change 2026

Letters of support

April 2026

This document includes:

Letters in support of our Water Asset Health Cases:

- Letter of support – DWI (Boreholes)
- Letter of support – DWI (RGFs)
- Letter of support – DWI (Treated Water Storage)

Letters in support of our Enabling Data Centre Growth Case:

- Letter of support - Mayor of Greater Manchester

Letters in support of our Ellesmere Port Clean Energy Case:

- Letter of support - Cheshire and Warrington Business Advisory Board
- Letter of support - Enterprise Chesire and Warrington
- Letter of support - Essar Energy Transition
- Letter of support - Evero Energy

Letters of support from our supply chain partners:

- Letter of support - C2V
- Letter of support - Costain
- Letter of support - J.Murphy & Sons
- Letter of support - Jacobs
- Letter of support - Kier
- Letter of support - MMB
- Letter of support - MWH Treatment
- Letter of support - Volkerstevin



Drinking Water Inspectorate

Ground Floor
Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
Enquiries: []

E-mail: []

DWI Website: www.dwi.gov.uk

DWI reference: UUT01

30 April 2026

Grant Batty
Water Services Director
United Utilities Water Limited
1st Floor, Haweswater House
Linley Mere Business Park
Great Sankey
Warrington
WA5 3LP

Dear Mr Batty

Cost Change 2026: United Utilities Water Limited

DWI Scheme reference: UUT01 - Boreholes Asset Health

Final Decision Letter – Commend for Support

The Inspectorate has assessed the scheme proposed by United Utilities ('the Company) to provide boreholes improvement including headwork upgrades, borehole cleaning and renewing boreholes by relining or redrilling as part of Ofwat asset health cost change.

The detailed assessment considered the outcome of the risk assessment report submitted to the Inspectorate as required by regulation 28(1) of the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2016 (as amended) for the 24 proposed boreholes.

Based on the information submitted by the Company, the Inspectorate **commends for support** the proposals to deliver improvements to the 24 boreholes identified, to mitigate residual risks to the wholesomeness of water supplied to consumers. We consider that formal enforcement action and putting in place a legal instrument is inappropriate at this stage. The Inspectorate may track the delivery of the scheme through formally acknowledged actions should funding be approved.

The Inspectorate is prepared to review this decision should circumstances change significantly, or if new information becomes available.

This decision does not preclude regulatory enforcement action being taken subsequently, if considered necessary to protect public health.

I am copying this letter to David Beesley, Ofwat

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Adjei', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Nicholas Adjei

Deputy Chief Inspector, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Cc Emily MacDonald, Drinking Water Regulations Manager, United Utilities

Cc Amy Jeffrey, Company Liaison Inspector, Drinking Water Inspectorate

Cc Ashleigh Parker, Principal Inspector, Drinking Water Inspectorate

Cc Simon Benton, Principal Inspector (Enforcement), Drinking Water Inspectorate

Cost Change 2026: Summary of DWI Assessment – Commend for Support

Water Company Name:

United Utilities Water Limited

DWI Scheme Reference:

UUT01

Scheme Name:

Borehole Asset Health

Proposal:

Replacement of current headworks of 18 boreholes, renew four boreholes either through lining or redrilling and clean 5 boreholes.

Supporting Evidence:

No water quality risk lines are relevant and the driver is asset health.

Conclusion:

Commend for support.

The driver is asset health as part of Ofwats cost change process with no direct or realised water quality risk.

The Inspectorate may track the delivery of the scheme through acknowledged actions if funding is approved by Ofwat.



Drinking Water Inspectorate

Ground Floor
Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
Enquiries: []

E-mail: []

DWI Website: www.dwi.gov.uk

DWI reference: UUT02

30 April 2026

Grant Batty
Water Services Director
United Utilities Water Limited
1st Floor, Haweswater House
Linley Mere Business Park
Great Sankey
Warrington
WA5 3LP

Dear Mr Batty

Cost Change 2026: United Utilities Water Limited

DWI Scheme reference: UUT02 - RGF Asset Health

Final Decision Letter – Commend for Support

The Inspectorate has assessed the scheme proposed by United Utilities (‘the Company’) to provide structural improvements to RGFs across five water treatment works, including replacement of filter floor, nozzles, pipework and filter media as part of Ofwat asset health cost change.

The detailed assessment considered the outcome of the risk assessment report submitted to the Inspectorate as required by regulation 28(1) of the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2016 (as amended) for the 24 proposed boreholes.

Based on the information submitted by the Company, the Inspectorate **commends for support** the proposals to deliver improvements to the 44 filters across five water treatment works, to mitigate residual risks to the wholesomeness of water supplied to consumers. We consider that formal enforcement action and putting in place a legal instrument is inappropriate at this stage. The Inspectorate may track the delivery of the scheme through formally acknowledged actions should funding be approved.

The Inspectorate is prepared to review this decision should circumstances change significantly, or if new information becomes available.

This decision does not preclude regulatory enforcement action being taken subsequently, if considered necessary to protect public health.

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Yours sincerely

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Cc Emily MacDonald, Drinking Water Regulations Manager, United Utilities

Cc Amy Jeffrey, Company Liaison Inspector, Drinking Water Inspectorate

Cc Ashleigh Parker, Principal Inspector, Drinking Water Inspectorate

Cc Simon Benton, Principal Inspector (Enforcement), Drinking Water Inspectorate

Cost Change 2026: Summary of DWI Assessment – Commend for Support

Water Company Name:

United Utilities Water Limited

DWI Scheme Reference:

UUT02

Scheme Name:

RGF Asset Health

Proposal:

Structural remediation and filter refurbishment on 44 RGFs across five water treatment works, a number of filters have been identified as near end of life.

- **Huntington WTW – 15 filters**
- **Watchgate WTW – 10 filters**
- **Wayoh WTW – 8 filters**
- **Sweetloves WTW – 6 filters**
- **Pierthorne WTW – five filters**

Supporting Evidence:

No water quality risk lines are relevant and the driver is asset health.

Conclusion:

Commend for support.

The driver is asset health as part of Ofwat's cost change process with no direct or realised water quality risk.

The Inspectorate may track the delivery of the scheme through acknowledged actions if funding is approved by Ofwat.



Drinking Water Inspectorate

Ground Floor
Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
Enquiries: []

E-mail: []

DWI Website: www.dwi.gov.uk

DWI reference: UUT03

30 April 2026

Grant Batty
Water Services Director
United Utilities Water Limited
1st Floor, Haweswater House
Linley Mere Business Park
Great Sankey
Warrington
WA5 3LP

Dear Mr Batty

Cost Change 2026: United Utilities Water Limited

DWI Scheme reference: UUT03 - Treated water storage Asset Health

Final Decision Letter – Commend for Support

The Inspectorate has assessed the scheme proposed by United Utilities (‘the Company’) to provide additional investment at 24 treated water storage tanks across 17 sites as part of Ofwat asset health cost change.

The detailed assessment considered the outcome of the risk assessment report submitted to the Inspectorate as required by regulation 28(1) of the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2016 (as amended) for the 24 proposed boreholes.

Based on the information submitted by the Company, the Inspectorate **commends for support** the proposals to deliver improvements to the 24 treated water storage tanks across 17 sites, to mitigate residual risks to the wholesomeness of water supplied to consumers. We consider that formal enforcement action and putting in place a legal instrument is inappropriate at this stage. The Inspectorate may track the delivery of the scheme through formally acknowledged actions should funding be approved.

The Inspectorate is prepared to review this decision should circumstances change significantly, or if new information becomes available.

This decision does not preclude regulatory enforcement action being taken subsequently, if considered necessary to protect public health.

I am copying this letter to David Beesley, Ofwat

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Adjei', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Nicholas Adjei

Deputy Chief Inspector, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Cc Emily MacDonald, Drinking Water Regulations Manager, United Utilities

Cc Amy Jeffrey, Company Liaison Inspector, Drinking Water Inspectorate

Cc Ashleigh Parker, Principal Inspector, Drinking Water Inspectorate

Cc Simon Benton, Principal Inspector (Enforcement), Drinking Water Inspectorate

Cost Change 2026: Summary of DWI Assessment – Commend for Support

Water Company Name:

United Utilities Water Limited

DWI Scheme Reference:

UUT03

Scheme Name:

Treated Water Storage asset health

Proposal:

As part of Ofwat's additional asset health investment, 24 treated water storage tanks across 17 sites have been identified, with proposed solutions presented in the information provided.

Solutions proposed included recommissioning tanks, new membranes, replacement of tank, dividing tank (to support resilience and removing one compartment at a time) and tank refurbishment.

Supporting Evidence:

Regulation 28(4) risk lines were reviewed, with no immediate WQ risks noted with the driver being asset health.

Conclusion:

Commend for support.

The driver is asset health as part of Ofwat's cost change process with no direct or realised water quality risk.

The Inspectorate may track the delivery of the scheme through acknowledged actions if funding is approved by Ofwat.

Chris Walters and Helen Campbell
Ofwat
Centre City Tower
7 Hill Street
Birmingham
B5 4UA

Cc Louise Beardmore CEO United Utilities

24 March 2026

Ref: AB/DH

Dear Chris and Helen,

Subject: PR24 Cost Change Process: Demand Growth in Greater Manchester (and North West)

We are writing to express our strong support for United Utilities' proposals to advance strategic water infrastructure investment required to meet rapidly emerging demand from large-scale data centres and associated industrial growth across Greater Manchester and the wider North West.

This letter builds on Greater Manchester Combined Authority's submission to Ofwat of 16 January 2026 on the *PR24 Cost Change Process – Demand Growth Investment Additional Guidance*, and reflects our recent discussions with Ofwat and United Utilities.

Greater Manchester Delivery Readiness

Greater Manchester has mature, place-based arrangements in place to plan, coordinate and sequence growth and infrastructure, including:

- An integrated infrastructure pipeline aligning housing, employment, transport and utilities;
- Mayoral Development Corporations, providing statutory powers to accelerate delivery in priority locations;
- A Strategic Infrastructure Board, bringing together water, energy, flood, transport and digital partners to manage interdependencies and resolve delivery issues; and
- Established funding mechanisms, including the £1bn Good Growth Fund, to unlock private investment while maximising social and economic value.



Together, these arrangements provide a robust evidence base, governance framework and delivery confidence to support demand-led, phased infrastructure investment.

Support for United Utilities' Approach

United Utilities' updated analysis demonstrates material, clustered water demand arising since submission of the 2024 Water Resource Management Plan, particularly from data centres and other "new economy" industries. Without timely water resource and network investment, water availability risks becoming a binding constraint on nationally significant digital investment and, potentially, on wider housing and employment delivery.

We support United Utilities' proposed combined approach to water resource supply and network reinforcement, including phased delivery aligned to site commissioning, avoidance of unnecessary upfront over-build, and coordination with other infrastructure providers. This approach appropriately balances resilience, environmental protection, affordability and delivery certainty.

We also support the use of flexible regulatory mechanisms, including re-openers, to enable investment to respond to verified demand. Our experience working with other economic regulators demonstrates that place-based, demand-led funding models can deliver better outcomes for customers, investors and growth locations.

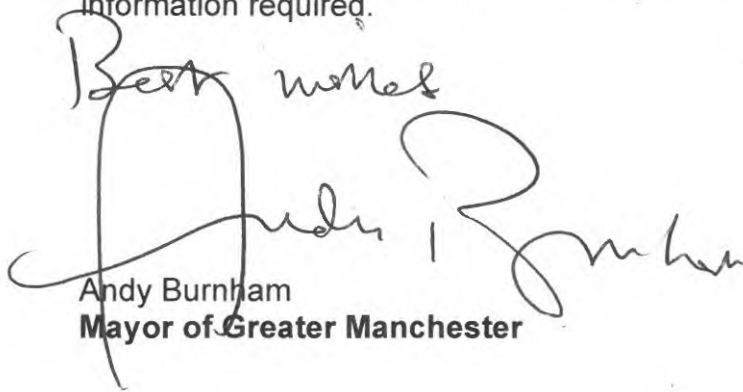
Regional and National Value

The proposed investments will help secure Greater Manchester's role as a leading UK digital and AI hub, supporting high-skill job creation, supply-chain growth and wider economic benefits, while aligning with national industrial and growth priorities.

Next Steps

GMCA will continue to work closely with United Utilities and Ofwat as proposals are refined, including at priority locations such as Atom Valley / Northern Gateway MDC. We would welcome continued structured engagement to ensure that place-based evidence, delivery readiness and governance are fully reflected in Ofwat's consideration of PR24 and emerging AMP9 mechanisms.

My team stands ready to support further discussions and provide any additional information required.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Burnham', is written over a printed name and title. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'A'.

Andy Burnham
Mayor of Greater Manchester

Peter Emery
Chair Greater Manchester Strategic Infrastructure Board

To:
David Lamb
Industrial Growth Strategy Manager
United Utilities

16/04/2026

By email: []

Subject: Letter of Support – Future Water Requirements (Ellesmere Port)

Dear Dave

I am writing to you on behalf of the Cheshire and Warrington Business Advisory Board (BAB) to express our support for United Utilities' proposed £251m investment in industrial water infrastructure.

As a Board charged with driving economic growth and industrial competitiveness, we view this investment as a foundational requirement for the UK's net zero transition and industrial growth. Our position is informed by consultation with our members and reflects both the immense opportunity presented by the scheme and the important environmental and civic responsibilities that must be considered as it progresses.

1. **The Economic Mandate: A Scale of Urgency**

The acceleration of industrial demand in our region is no longer a projection; it is a reality. Driven by the maturity of HyNet, carbon capture initiatives, and the rise of data centres, demand in Ellesmere Port alone is set to reach 76 Ml/day by 2040, nearly two times the current level.

Without the foundational infrastructure upgrades proposed for AMP8, the region faces a "growth ceiling." We risk stalling nationally significant clean energy and industrial projects that are ready to deploy but lack the raw water resources to function. This investment is, therefore, a prerequisite for regional and national industrial strategy.

2. **Environmental Stewardship and Innovation**

The Board recognises the need to source water to support this industrial water infrastructure, and our members are clear that this should be progressed alongside a strong commitment to environmental stewardship and innovation. In that context, we strongly advocate fo

- **Prioritising Non-Potable Reuse:** The BAB strongly advocates for the acceleration of final effluent reuse and, as such, urges a faster transition toward a statutory regime for recycled water.
- **Rigorous Catchment Management:** We expect United Utilities to work in lockstep with the Environment Agency and other environmental NGOs such as Cheshire Wildlife Trust and Canal & River Trust, alongside broader stakeholders such as Natural Resources Wales, to ensure that cumulative impacts on local ecosystems are not just monitored but actively mitigated. In close liaison with relevant stakeholders, ways to enhance and increase the resilience of local habitats should be proactively explored. The

conservation and enhancement of our natural assets is not at odds with growth; it is the baseline for sustainable growth.

3. Mitigating Community and Infrastructure Disruption

Our Board includes key voices from the tourism and conservation sectors and there is a shared concern regarding the potential for significant disruption to Chester's business community and its vital tourism economy during construction.

To help maintain the project's social licence to operate, we would expect:

- **Collaborative Planning:** Transparent, early-stage engagement with local businesses to minimise logistical bottlenecks.
- **Sensitivity to the Visitor Economy:** Strategic scheduling of works to protect historic Chester's status as one of the leading tourist destinations in the UK

4. Conclusion

The Cheshire and Warrington Business Advisory Board concludes that the "do nothing" option is an existential threat to our industrial ambitions. We support United Utilities' request for this interim determination and believe this infrastructure is necessary to unlock the region's clean energy transition, industrial decarbonisation, and long-term economic prosperity.

We believe that, by addressing these wider considerations as core project requirements rather than afterthoughts, United Utilities can deliver a scheme that serves as a blueprint for responsible industrial growth in the UK.

Yours sincerely,



Steve Purdham
Chair, Cheshire and Warrington Business Advisory Board

Enterprise Cheshire + Warrington

28 April 2026

Via Email

Dear David Lamb

Re: Letter of Support for United Utilities' Ofwat Submission – Ellesmere Port Strategic Water Infrastructure

United Utilities recently advised Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington about their forthcoming submission to Ofwat which seeks approval for strategic water infrastructure to unlock the nationally significant clean-energy and industrial growth planned in Ellesmere Port.

Origin industrial cluster in Ellesmere Port is one of the most important locations in the UK for hydrogen, carbon capture, advanced manufacturing, and wider clean-energy investment. The cluster contains 1,300 businesses employing 24,100 people, and the home of HyNet which is central to regional and national industrial decarbonisation. HyNet alone is expected to create an additional 6,000 jobs over the next 5 years, with private sector investment expected in excess of £5bn. Ensuring that water infrastructure enables national ambitions, supporting the first fully decarbonised industrial sector in the world, is of vital strategic importance not only to Cheshire and Warrington, but to the UK at large.

We therefore recognise to the importance of securing additional funding for new water capacity, network resilience, and a coordinated approach to meeting rising industrial water demand. The acceleration of demand associated with HPP1, HPP2, Protos, and other expected developments makes timely approval essential.

The industrial nature of the majority of the additional demand for water means that it doesn't need to be potable. There are substantial opportunities in this area to meet increased industrial need through re-use of grey water, or recycled industrial water, reducing the burden of new abstraction in the area and therefore on the river network. Previous discussions between ourselves and UU on Integrated Water Management Planning (IWMP), and the potential for such solutions in C&W, give surety that there is appetite for exploring these options, with obvious environmental benefits.

Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington are overall pleased to support United Utilities' proposals to invest in this essential infrastructure to provide more water for industrial purposes, and we would support any associated investment necessary to allow use of non-potable water for these purposes. The proposed investment is essential to unlocking the region's clean-energy transition, industrial decarbonisation, and long-term economic prosperity.

We look forward to continuing our constructive partnership and welcome further discussion as the Ofwat submission is finalised.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philip Cox', written in a cursive style.

Philip Cox

Chief Executive. Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington

To:
David Lamb
Industrial Growth Strategy Manager
United Utilities

23rd March 2026

By email: []

Subject: Letter of Support- Future Water Requirements

Dear Dave,

Essar Energy Transition is the owner and operator of the Stanlow refinery in the Northwest of England. Our site produces 16% of the UK's road transport fuels and directly employs hundreds of skilled workers, with around 1,700 jobs supported when including on-site contractors and local businesses. Stanlow is a nationally strategic asset, supplying petrol, diesel and jet fuel to major economic hubs and transport networks. Essar Energy Transition has commenced its planned US\$3 billion investment to transform Stanlow into the UK's leading low carbon processing refinery and energy transition hub over the next five years.

The transition plan includes large scale low carbon hydrogen production, carbon capture and sustainable fuels. Together, these projects can secure the refinery's future and anchor regional decarbonisation and growth. EET has already invested over \$350m. This includes the recent turnaround, which increased refinery output by more than 8%, the purchase and installation of the new hydrogen ready furnace, and other improvement projects. These will deliver significant energy efficiency gains and annual CO2 savings from 2025.

EET appreciates the constructive engagement with United Utilities on the region's future water provision. Over the coming decade, EET intends to deliver a nationally significant pipeline of low carbon projects that will shape our water requirements. This includes the next phase of our Hydrogen Production Plant (HPP2), development of Advanced Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) facilities, and the planned multi-phase upgrade of our Combined Heat and Power (CHP) assets. These investments form core elements of our decarbonisation strategy and will affect both baseline industrial water demand and system resilience.

In parallel, plans to develop substantive low carbon power at Stanlow are likely to attract further local investment, such as data centres seeking reliable low carbon power. Our proposed projects aim to bring islanded (off grid) power to customers on an accelerated timeline. This prospect of high value investment for the Northwest further underscores the importance of forward looking water infrastructure decisions.

As a critical national infrastructure asset, EET has invested significantly in operational continuity at Stanlow, including the ability to maintain operations through loss of the natural gas or electrical grid. Extending that capability to raw water supply is a natural and important next step. The current reliance on a single water source – highlighted by a contamination event in 2025 –

reinforces the case for diversified supply infrastructure that safeguards existing operations.

EET is planning major investment decisions over the next twelve months, including sanctioning major schemes and progressing new opportunities into development. These decisions require confidence that adequate, resilient and scalable non potable water supply will be available. Without this clarity, project timing and sequencing may become constrained, with wider implications for the region's industrial decarbonisation pathway.

For these reasons, EET strongly supports United Utilities' proposal to Ofwat for accelerated action to advance the necessary water resilience and capacity increases for the Ellesmere Port industrial area. We urge Ofwat to determine the outcomes in a timely manner to enable United Utilities to invest with confidence in infrastructure that meets future industrial demand and supports the North West's clean growth ambitions.

We value the ongoing collaboration between our organisations and welcome continued joint planning on scenario development, demand profiling, phased capacity options and resilience measures. EET has shared its expected water demand volumes and timings with United Utilities, and we understand that these have informed the planning assumptions underpinning this enhancement case. EET stands ready to provide further information on our project pipeline and associated water needs as required.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this important process. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further details or clarification.

Yours sincerely,



Ruth Herbert

Managing Director,
Business Development & Strategic Initiatives.
Essar Energy Transition.

David,

I am writing on behalf of Evero Energy to express our support for United Utilities' proposed investment to expand non-potable water capacity in the Ellesmere Port area. We own and operate two waste wood to energy power stations in the area and are currently developing a carbon capture retrofit onto our Ince Bio Power plant, located in Ince, Cheshire. Known as the InBECCS project, it is a key strategic development within the Hynet Northwest cluster contributing to the governments Net Zero plans. Improved water availability would significantly reduce project risk and strengthen the long-term resilience of carbon capture and other decarbonisation infrastructure in the region.

Importance for InBECCS and early-stage low-carbon projects:

Evero's InBECCS (Ince Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage) requires a dependable supply of water to support key process operations in the carbon capture systems. Limited water headroom increases exposure to early-stage development risk, including permitting, operational flexibility, and future scaling options. Confidence in the water capacity available to support our proposed development is critical as we advance through the development cycle through FEED to final investment decision (FID).

Implications for future CCS and low carbon deployment:

Beyond InBECCS, United Utilities' proposed investment has an important enabling role for future low carbon projects within the Ellesmere Port area. Additional water resilience will directly support:

- Future CCS deployment at Evero Mersey Bioenergy plant, located in Widnes, Cheshire.
- Other decarbonisation infrastructure, most notably Green Hydrogen which requires a large volume of non-potable water.

Ensuring the local network can support these future developments is essential to maintaining momentum in the region's transition to a low-carbon industrial ecosystem.

Supporting national net zero priorities:

Reinforcing non-potable water infrastructure in Ellesmere Port aligns with wider government priorities to accelerate carbon capture deployment, develop engineered greenhouse gas removals, and build resilient low-carbon industrial clusters. By investing ahead of demand, United Utilities is helping ensure that the enabling infrastructure for CCS and low-carbon projects is in place at the right time.

Low-carbon infrastructure also delivers social benefits by improving air quality and creating long-term local jobs in green industries. Cleaner technologies reduce pollution exposure for nearby communities, supporting better health, while investment in low-carbon projects supports industrial communities by continuing to generate skilled employment.

Our engagement with United Utilities:

Evero has been directly engaged with United Utilities on the requirement for water for over 2 years regarding InBECCS. We value the continued support and forward-looking approach taken to understanding project requirements and planning for future regional needs.

For these reasons, we endorse United Utilities investment case and encourage its timely approval to ensure that the region can continue to deliver nationally significant low-carbon projects with confidence.

Kind regards,

Alex Young

Head of Development, Evero Energy



C2V,
The Lancashire Hub,
Preston City Park Bluebell Way,
Preston,
PR2 5PE

15th April 2026

OFWAT via Craig Jones
Head of Commercial (Capital Programme)
United Utilities Group PLC
Haweswater House
Great Sankey
Warrington, WA5 3LP

Dear Craig,

Following a review of workloads and resources we would formally confirm our support to United Utilities with their proposal to secure and deliver additional growth-related projects during AMP8.

C2V are currently set-up and ready to deliver our peak workload during year 2 of AMP8 and beyond. We are keen to explore opportunities to maintain this delivery in future years providing a more sustainable and predictable position for our people and supply partners. The United Utilities growth-related initiative would be a great opportunity for C2V to not only meet this objective but allow ourselves to further invest in socio economic growth alongside securing additional future talent and local business to support ourselves and the Enterprise for the long term future.

As a Delivery Partner based in the North-West, dedicated to Enterprise success, we are highly agile in providing end to end delivery with an in-house delivery model inclusive of design and commissioning. Therefore, this enables us to give prioritisation to your needs as required, whilst providing resilience in potential fluctuations in future work.

We are excited and confident in our position to support United Utilities delivering any additional investment alongside the baseline AMP8 programme. Together we are already making a significant investment in local people and businesses to grow the water sector in the North-West, this will allow this investment to yield more benefits in the long term.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Hancock'.

Gavin Hancock

Commercial Director

on behalf of C2V.

Craig Jones
Head of Commercial
United Utilities Group PLC
Haweswater House
Lingley Mere Business Park
Great Sankey Warrington
WA5 3LP

15th April 2026

Dear Craig,

Further to recent Enterprise Board discussions, Costain are writing to formally support United Utilities with their submission to Ofwat for the growth-related investment, in addition to the AMP8 base programme.

The current 5-year investment cycle results in fluctuating workloads, with alternating high intensity periods followed by low ones. Predictable delivery will best be achieved through removal of this low intensity period between AMP cycles allowing the capacity, capability and resilience established to be retained and a more sustainable and consistent delivery profile created resulting in optimised utilisation and increased efficiency.

In response to the current period of growth and the strong forward order book, Costain's "gearing up for growth" strategy will meet the capacity required to resource the forecast high intensity period and with confirmation of further funding Costain would be in a strong position to maintain this level into AMP9.

Costain's increasing investment in our Early Careers pipeline is a meaningful demonstration of the growth we are delivering, with 100 graduates, apprentices and interns joining us in our 2025 cohort with this increasing to 180 for both 2026 and 2027 with a high proportion of these joiners being deployed into the water sector to support AMP 8 and AMP 9 delivery.

Costain have steadily increased our in-house design capacity throughout 2025 and will continue to enhance our capability to deliver solutions for our customers, this team is based out of Manchester and when combined with our global strategic design partners we are confident in our ability to meet any growth in demand.

Costain have an extremely well-established northwest supply chain, however we recognise the introduction of new suppliers is required to guarantee successful delivery, to this end we are working across all of our sectors to ensure the introduction of additional capacity via new procurement routes.

Additional investment will increase confidence, secure long-term availability and be a key success factor in ensuring delivery remains controlled and predictable, Costain fully support this growth request and are in a strong position to contribute to the success of the programme and the value it will bring for United Utilities customers.

Yours sincerely,



Matt Bateman
Sector Director Water, Costain



Craig Jones
Head of Commercial (Capital Programme)
United Utilities Group PLC
Haweswater House
Lingley Mere Business Park
Lingley Green Avenue
Great Sankey
Warrington WA5 3LP

14th April 2026

Dear Sir or Madam

We are writing to formally confirm our support for United Utilities' application to Ofwat for additional growth-related investment to be delivered during AMP8, in addition to the current base programme.

As discussed with Ofwat representatives on 5 March in Blackpool, following the United Utilities Supply Chain event, the peaks and troughs in demand experienced across AMP cycles present a significant challenge. This is further compounded when aligned with similar cycles across our other key clients. We therefore strongly support efforts to reduce the predicted trough following the AMP8 peak and, where possible, to smooth workload demand towards a more sustainable, steady-state profile.

We are currently building our capacity to meet the anticipated peak demand during AMP8. Early identification of a sustainable workload extending into AMP9 would significantly support our long-term recruitment and training strategy, as well as the long-term attraction and retention of skilled individuals within the water industry.

We are proud that we achieved Investors in People Platinum status in 2025 and for 2026 we are recruiting 240 early careers Apprentices and Graduates and approximately 20% of this cohort will support our activities across the UU Great North West Upgrade Programme. Confidence in this level of year on year investment is underpinned by the stability of workload that we see across the UU portfolio although this growth related investment would significantly reinforce this outlook.

In addition to workforce planning, increased certainty of future investment would allow more effective planning and utilisation of plant and equipment, enabling us to drive higher levels of efficiency. Early identification and long-term planning are more important than ever, given the volatility of global events. Our company strategy is focused on maximising self-delivery in order to maintain control over our capacity and capabilities. As part of this approach, we have significantly increased our internal design resource over the past 12 months, and confirmation of future workload would allow us to continue on this recruitment path. Furthermore, where specialist work activities are forecast to peak, early visibility provides the confidence required to invest appropriately; for example, we are currently assessing the potential procurement of large pipe-jacking plant and associated resources to meet future needs.

Across our business, we have also established secure procurement routes for materials and have proactively secured early stocks of certain commodities, including steel, to protect against socio-economic volatility. Greater confidence in future programmes would further support this strategy and provide additional contingency against unexpected constraints, helping to ensure that regulatory delivery commitments can be met.



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We invest in people Platinum


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If the forecast trough between AMP cycles is not addressed across the water sector, our business strategy would inevitably need to seek alternative opportunities to offset the reduction in demand in order to maintain continuity for our workforce. Historically, such transitions result in inefficiencies and avoidable waste, outcomes that could be mitigated through earlier and more consistent investment planning.

We therefore strongly support United Utilities' application and believe that a more balanced and forward-looking investment profile would deliver clear benefits across the supply chain, while ultimately supporting improved outcomes for customers and regulators alike.

Yours faithfully,



Adrian Savory
Group Technical Director & MD Infrastructure

20 April 2026

Jacobs UK Ltd
Cottons Centre, Cottons Lane

To: Craig Jones, United Utilities, Head of Commercial

Re: Supply chain partner feedback on United Utilities' proposal for additional growth-related investment for AMP8

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of Jacobs and as a strategic supply chain partner of United Utilities, I am pleased to provide this letter in support of UUW's submission relating to proposed additional investment to accommodate growth and associated drivers during AMP8.

As a core partner to United Utilities, Jacobs plays a central role in the design development and delivery of the AMP8 programme in our role of Strategic Solutions Team (SST). This is a role we have been fulfilling since early 2024 and is key in early stage design development for projects which are delivered through the AMP8 programme. Through our close work with United Utilities in AMP8 (and in the lead up to AMP8 commencement) we understand the delivery commitment and are well placed to support UU's proposal. As a key partner we have an informed view on the capacity, capability and resilience of the delivery supply chain to support the proposed additional works alongside the baseline programme.

We currently have 250 full time equivalent staff working on the AMP8 programme; who are part of a broader staff group of 2,100 in the Jacobs Water and Environment business across the UK, Ireland and Poland. We have established plans in place to mobilise additional resources quickly and as needed through our agile resourcing approach and utilising our global talent base. This takes account of upcoming programme and project forecasts from United Utilities which allows us to scale our technical teams in a controlled and timely manner. I am confident that the proposed profile of additional work can be accommodated without detriment to quality, safety or delivery performance, and that appropriate governance arrangements are in place to manage workload priorities effectively.

Jacobs operates mature contingency arrangements to respond to unexpected constraints, whether arising from resource availability, market volatility or supply chain disruption. These arrangements include access to alternative delivery routes, flexible resourcing models, and

adaptive programme sequencing, ensuring that delivery remains resilient under changing conditions.

This resilience is embedded within our ways of working and provides confidence in the ability to maintain momentum and performance during AMP8.

We have confidence in the deliverability of the additional investment when implemented alongside United Utilities' baseline AMP8 commitments. The proposed additional programme aligns well with our organisation's established capacity planning assumptions and will continue to form a vital part of our own business plans over the AMP8 period and beyond.

Maintaining a consistent and stable flow of work across the AMP cycle provides tangible benefits in terms of workforce retention, productivity, safety performance and value for money. It enables us to continue our business investment in the region and support the growth of workforce. In doing so we can commit to making our partnership with United Utilities a continued success and support continuous improvement across the programme; ultimately delivering on United Utilities ambition of a Greener, Healthier North West.

Based on our experience of working alongside U UW for over a decade, I am supportive of the proposal and am confident that together we are in a position to deliver against the commitment of the additional growth investment. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss anything in relation to this letter.

Yours faithfully,



Amy Bentley

Senior Vice President – Water & Environment, Europe, Jacobs UK Ltd

M:[] | [] |

[]

T: []

www.kier.co.uk**Private & Confidential**

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Cc []

14th April 2026

Dear Tony

Assurance of Capacity and Deliverability – Proposed Additional AMP8 Growth Investment

Thank you for sharing United Utilities' emerging position as you prepare your formal submission to Ofwat for approval of additional growth-related investment during AMP8.

We strongly support the proposed approach to profile this additional investment towards the latter part of the AMP, when the baseline programme traditionally tails off. From our perspective, this represents a highly positive and progressive step compared to previous AMP cycles. A steadier and more predictable delivery profile across the regulatory period would be genuinely transformative—enabling delivery partners to retain skilled resources, optimise the utilisation of plant and equipment, and drive materially higher levels of efficiency and value.

In response to your request for assurance, we can confirm that we have engaged with our design and delivery partners and are confident that **sufficient capacity, capability and resilience exist within the supply chain** to support delivery of the proposed additional programme alongside the baseline AMP8 works.

Specifically, we can provide assurance that:

- **Plans are in place to provide adequate resources and capability** across both design and construction to support the proposed additional works, aligned with the anticipated delivery profile.
- **Material availability has been reviewed and confirmed**, and where longer-lead or constrained materials are identified, associated risks are well understood and considered manageable within existing procurement and planning strategies.
- **Appropriate contingency arrangements are in place** to address any unexpected constraints, whether related to resource availability or material supply, ensuring delivery remains resilient and responsive.

Overall, we are confident in the **deliverability of the additional investment alongside the baseline AMP8 programme**. The proposed work profile aligns well with our organisations' capacity planning assumptions and, critically, supports the maintenance of a consistent and stable workload across the AMP cycle. This stability provides clear benefits in terms of workforce retention, supply-chain sustainability, safety performance and efficiency of delivery.

We would welcome the opportunity to continue working closely with you as the submission is finalised and to support any further assurance or evidence required as part of the Ofwat engagement.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if it would be helpful to discuss this in more detail.

Yours sincerely,



Ross MacKenzie
Managing Director

Head of Commercial (Capital Programme)

United Utilities Group PLC
Haweswater House
Lingley Mere Business Park
Lingley Green Avenue
Great Sankey, Warrington WA5 3LP

15 April 2026

Dear Craig

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a letter of support in relation to United Utilities' proposed submission to Ofwat for additional growth-related investment during AMP8.

Mott MacDonald Bentley (MMB) is pleased to confirm its confidence in the capability, capacity and resilience of the supply chain to support delivery of the proposed additional programme alongside the baseline AMP8 commitments. As a long-standing delivery partner to United Utilities, an Enterprise Partner for AMP8 and a key supplier in the UK water sector, MMB has mature plans in place to ensure sufficient, appropriately skilled resources across both design and construction disciplines. These plans are underpinned by forward workload forecasting, early recruitment and retention activity, and the flexible deployment of multi-disciplinary teams across the Enterprise. We are a platinum member of the "5% Club", meaning that more than 10% of our workforce are on 'earn and learn' schemes, demonstrating our commitment to investing in skills and capacity for the long term.

From a materials and supply perspective, MMB operates established procurement and supply-chain management arrangements aligned to AMP8 delivery. Engagement with key suppliers is already in place, enabling early confirmation of material availability for foreseeable demand. Where constraints or volatility may arise, associated risks are well understood and are actively managed through framework agreements, alternative specifications where appropriate, and forward ordering strategies.

Contingency and resilience form a core element of our delivery approach. We have robust arrangements in place to respond to unforeseen constraints, whether relating to resource availability or material supply. These include access to wider group capability, the ability to re-sequence work, and the use of alternative suppliers or delivery routes to maintain programme momentum where required.

Taking these factors together, MMB is confident that the additional growth investment proposed by United Utilities is deliverable alongside the baseline AMP8 programme. The proposed profile of work aligns well with our longer-term capacity planning and supports a more stable and predictable delivery pipeline across the regulatory cycle. We see clear benefits in this approach, including improved workforce retention, better utilisation of plant and equipment, and continued efficiency gains through standardisation and team continuity.

We would welcome the opportunity to continue working closely with United Utilities as plans are developed further.

Yours sincerely,



David Marsh, Director

Craig Jones
Haweswater House,
Lingley Mere Business Park,
Lingley Green Avenue,
Great Sankey,
Warrington,
WA5 3LP

Our Ref: MWHT/PW/SG

Your Ref:

Date: 15 April 2026

Dear Craig,

United Utilities AMP8 Growth Investment Submission

Further to our discussions regarding United Utilities' proposed submission to Ofwat for approval of additional growth-related investment during AMP8, we welcome the opportunity to provide independent assurance in support of the deliverability of the proposed programme.

In our role as an Enterprise partner, we have reviewed the indicative scale, phasing and nature of the proposed works and can confirm that our forward resource and capability planning provides sufficient capacity to support both the design and construction activities required, alongside our baseline AMP8 programme. Our delivery model incorporates scalable design and delivery teams, supported by established governance, technical assurance and programme controls, which enables efficient mobilisation and ramp-up as would be required later in the AMP.

From a supply chain and materials perspective, we have undertaken high-level assessments against anticipated demand profiles across all our UK Frameworks. Key material streams are supported by existing framework and supplier relationships, with known lead times and capacity constraints understood. Where potential risks to availability may exist, due to market conditions or increased sector demand, these are considered manageable through early procurement, supplier engagement, alternative sourcing strategies and specification flexibility where appropriate.

We also confirm that contingency arrangements are embedded within our delivery and supply chain strategies to address unforeseen constraints. These include access to alternative resource pools, the ability to reprofile works where necessary, and established escalation and mitigation processes designed to maintain programme resilience and protect critical delivery milestones.

Based on our current assessment, we are confident in the technical and operational deliverability of any proposed additional investment alongside the baseline AMP8 programme. The proposed work profile aligns effectively with our capacity planning assumptions, particularly during the latter stages of the AMP when baseline activity would typically reduce. A steadier delivery profile across the AMP cycle also supports improved resource retention, continuity of skills, optimised utilisation of plant and equipment, and more efficient supply chain performance, all of which contribute to improved productivity and value for money.

We are pleased to provide this letter in support of United Utilities' submission and confirm that it may be included within any submission provided to Ofwat. Should further technical detail or clarification be required, we would be happy to engage further.

Yours Sincerely



Paul Weaver
Divisional Director
MWH Treatment

c.c. Tony Slater

Craig Jones
Head of Commercial (Capital Programmes)
United Utilities
Lingley Mere Business Park
Lingley Green Avenue
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VolkerStevin Infrastructure Limited

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14 April 2026

Dear Craig

We acknowledge that United Utilities is preparing its formal submission to Ofwat for approval of additional growth related investment to be delivered during AMP8, in supplement to its base programme. Whilst we are incumbent on United Utilities' AMP8 Construction Delivery Partner through our C2V joint venture (which has written to you separately), I would also like to reaffirm our support independently as VolkerStevin Infrastructure Limited, backed by the considerable resources of the £1.5 billion VolkerWessels UK Group.

VolkerWessels UK is a leading multidisciplinary contractor delivering innovative engineering and construction solutions across the water, environment, energy, rail, highways, aviation, ports and defence sectors. We bring together best practice through our five main business units: VolkerStevin, VolkerLaser, VolkerFitzpatrick, VolkerRail and VolkerHighways. Each of our business units have a long and successful heritage built on delivering quality and bespoke projects as well as providing specialist skills, plant and equipment. Our success is founded on our ability to deliver in challenging environments and regularly winning repeat business from established clients.

As one such client, we would wish to assure United Utilities that we have sufficient capacity, capability and resilience to support delivery of the additional programme. Whilst VolkerStevin (and C2V) will be the primary entity within our Group which leads on this, some of our other business units, such as VolkerLaser, will have an important role to play.

VolkerLaser is a specialist contractor which works to protect, repair, strengthen and refurbish the built environment for clients across the UK. Their structural solutions include crack repair and jointing; steelwork repair; carbon fibre wrapping; structural monitoring; cathodic protection; coating and impregnations; concrete repair; waterproofing; proprietary access systems and temporary works. Working in collaboration with VolkerStevin and/or C2V, VolkerLaser will add significant value to United Utilities' existing and emerging work bank.

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No. 07877543

[Registered office](#)

Hertford Road, Hoddesdon

Hertfordshire, EN11 9BX

 **VolkerWessels**

In addition to VolkerLaser, a number of our other specialist businesses are primed to support your plans, including VolkerSite Services (design, installation, fit-out and facilities management of semi-permanent and permanent modular buildings) and VolkerMarine Services, who offer comprehensive steel fabrication services out of their local facilities in Morecambe.

Our confidence with respect to resources and capability extends to both the design and delivery stages of the additional investment you are seeking. Furthermore, we are confident in the availability of the required plant and materials, and have mitigation plans in place to respond to the various domestic and geopolitical challenges we currently face.

In summary, we welcome the additional growth related investment United Utilities is seeking and are confident we can deliver these works alongside our existing AMP8 commitments.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Cox'.

John Cox
Managing Director

Registered in England & Wales
No. 07877543
Registered office
Hertford Road, Hoddesdon
Hertfordshire, EN11 9BX

 **VolkerWessels**

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Water for the North West