

Victoria Rutt
Clerk and RFO
Alfriston Parish Council
11 Highfield Road
Horam
East Sussex
TN21 0ED

Dear Victoria,

Thank you for your letter dated 12th August.

I understand your concerns in regards to the timing of the works but South East Water has a statutory duty to supply water to our customers. As the main through Alfriston is nearing the end of its working life, we need to replace this asset to ensure we continue to supply our customers in Alfriston and the surrounding areas with water of the highest quality. We have looked to time our works in a period which will be of least disruption to the local community. We have to consider all the requirements of the works including effects on businesses, schools, bus services, traffic, environmental elements etc. as well as looking at the physical restrictions we face when laying the main.

From the survey work we have undertaken, this has identified an abundance of services within the carriageway that we will need to work around to lay the new main. The information has also identified pinch points where there are high volumes of other stats within a condensed area (especially at road junctions). This helps us to plan as to how we can get through these and if we may need to dig excavations deeper. This takes time to ensure that we are safely manoeuvring these other services and ensuring the Health and Safety of our teams and road users is maintained at all times.

We have been able to review are programme and currently we have been able to reduce this so that we have a completion of the work by the end of May. This includes for unknown risks when excavating so we would look to try to complete before this date. Please rest assured that we are looking at the programme continuously to reduce timescales where possible but to achieve a late March completion given the site conditions and the stipulations placed on us regarding the phased closures and maintaining access, will not be possible.

We have started conversations with businesses to provide them with as much information as we have to date and we will continue this process through the planning phase of this project. We will investigate ways as to how we can ensure that we do not have a negative impact upon trade and visitors to the

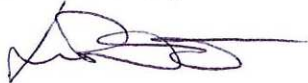
Customer enquiries: 0333 000 1122
Water supply - 24 hour emergencies: 0333 00 00 365
Business switchboard: 0333 000 2244
Web contact: southeastwater.co.uk/contact



High Street. The conversations we had have provided us with some good feedback which we will look to take away and discuss to see what elements we can implement.

Having visited the High Street last week, the paint is fading with the recent rainfall. We did consider the historical nature of the village when looking at the surveys and the paint used. We chose a water based paint that would wash away quicker than most that are used for these types of surveys. We had a number of other options we could have taken forward but we felt the paint used would meet our requirements for the survey but would also be the least intrusive as it was the one option where the markings would fade the quickest. We do understand the village's historical importance and we are ensuring that we have this in mind for all the works we are and will be undertaking.

Yours sincerely



Jeremy Dufour

Project Manager

Copy to: Chris Laming – SEW Communications Officer
 Steve Anthony – Clancy Docwra Customer Liaison
 Chris Love, SEW Delivery Manager