

HUW MERRIMAN MP  
(Bexhill and Battle)



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr David Black  
Chief Executive  
OFWAT  
11 Westferry Circus  
Canary Wharf  
London  
E14 4HD

Our Ref: HM31969

17 August 2023

Dear David,

**Re: South East Water Ltd**

Thank you for the response to my letter of 11<sup>th</sup> August, I was pleased to read that an urgent meeting with South East Water was held to discuss their resilience and how they can work to ensure they uphold their general duty to customers.

This year, SE Water customers were levied an additional 9.48% on their bills to pay for infrastructure improvements. Also this year, my constituents were impacted by a hosepipe ban when reservoirs were full after a month of dry weather. This ban remained in place during the wettest July for many years. These circumstances would seem to indicate that the infrastructure of SE Water in East Sussex is woefully inadequate to meet demands of local householders.

I should welcome your comment on whether OFWAT considers that plans from SE Water to improve resilience and infrastructure are commensurate with the price increase and will deliver required improvements. I should also like to hear how OFWAT will scrutinise and monitor delivery of the water

I look forward to receiving your response which I can share with my constituents.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Huw Merriman".

Huw Merriman  
Member of Parliament for Bexhill and Battle

Please reply to: Constituency Office, 29-31 Sea Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, TN40 1EE  
Telephone: 01424 734910  
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