

STAFFORD BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK
MEETING WITH THE SEVERN TRENT WATER (WATER SUPPLY)
AND STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

DATE OF MEETING – 4 MARCH 2008

Officers in attendance

Brian Jones	-	Severn Trent Water
Alex Yendole	-	Stafford Borough Council

Details

- Notes of the previous meeting held on 22 November 2007 were agreed as a correct record.
- Within Stafford Borough the town of Stafford has the most complex clean water distribution network with significant development potentially requiring major new infrastructure. Severn Trent Water provided a report for Stafford regarding water. The market town of Stone's clean water distribution network is currently being assessed through Severn Trent Water's synergy model and a report will be produced by the end of March 2008. Nevertheless no significant constraints would affect the provision of clean water to the development areas proposed in Stone and no major infrastructure required to meet future demand. Severn Trent Water also consider this to be the situation in the rural areas of the Borough outside of Stafford and Stone.
- With regards to Severn Trent Water's report for Stafford town the development locations identified have been modelled, in terms of clean water, and 5 year (AMP) periods defined as follows: AMP5 = April 2010 start date, AMP6 = April 2015 start date, AMP7 and AMP 8 = April 2020 start date.
- Requirements for clean water to provide for Stafford's future demand can be provided from the Sugnall area as well as Peasey Bank between Stafford and Stone which are sources of potential supply. In general terms the provision of clean water will not be an issue for Severn Trent Water in Stafford Borough provided sufficient notice has been given to Severn Trent Water to prepare for significant new development at Stafford, such as beyond the M6 motorway and in South Staffordshire District. However other new developments around Stafford can be adequately supplied through existing abstraction regimes, as detailed in the report. Abstraction levels vary with the time of year as well as the times of day with the average and maximum levels shown currently together with predicted average and maximum levels based on new development scenarios in the future. Currently there is headroom between the average and upper limits although if all the new development at Stafford took place, excluding the M6 and South Staffordshire District locations, clean water provision could reach capacity.

- Severn Trent Water use 'group licences' to abstract different quantities of water from different boreholes around the area based on a balance of individual parameters. The Environment Agency and Ofwat are content with this approach as long as the overall abstraction levels comply with the licence. Within the report the figures in brackets relate to the licence capacity but it may not be possible to physically abstract this level of water due to technical restrictions such as size of treatment pumps or pipes. Currently the existing water resources are adequate for the area, although new development will put pressure on the upper limits of abstraction licences in the future. Some water resources exist to the north of Stafford Borough at Hanchurch Hills, which are currently not fully utilised and could provide future capacity.
- BJ stated that there are continuing discussions with the Water Resources team regarding clean water issues including the fact that across Staffordshire and Shropshire some pockets of supply provision is restricted during the Summer. This particular part of the West Midlands is not linked into the national water network and can therefore be prone to local supply problems. However this does not significant effect Stafford Borough.
- BJ stated a revised report for Stafford would be forwarded to AY in the next few days including confirmation about the clean water supply situation for Stone and the rural area. BJ to provide the Stone report by the end of March 2008. Severn Trent Water's Business Plan for the period 2010 to 2015 (AMP5) has incorporated investments to address Stafford's future growth. Furthermore Severn Trent Water wish to place an infrastructure charge for each new property built, to be paid for by the developer during the construction phase.
- A further internal meeting will take place in April 2008 to consider the Staffordshire and Shropshire clean water supply position, including the growth predictions for Stafford and Telford.
- Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 22 April 2008 at 10.00 a.m.

Note prepared by Alex Yendole
 Date last revised: 08/01/2009
 Forward Planning Section, Stafford Borough Council