

Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

12 June 2025

Member's Item: Southern Water

Report from: Bhupinder Gill, Assistant Director - Legal and Governance

Author: Nicola Couchman, Democratic Services Officer

Summary

This report sets out a response to a Member's item raised by Councillor Field, in relation to Southern Water.

1. Recommendation

- 1.1. The Committee is asked to note the comments from Southern Water in response to the Member's item.

2. Budget and policy framework

- 2.1. Under Medway Constitution Overview and Scrutiny rules (Chapter 4, Part 5, Paragraph 9.1) Councillor Field has requested that an item on this matter is included on the agenda for this meeting.

3. The Issue

- 3.1. Councillor Field has requested that an item be placed on the agenda and the reasons are set out below.

Members have requested the following information from Southern Water:

- Southern Water to provide an update on current operational performance and planned investment in the Medway Council area.
- To hear from local representatives with regard to the operation of Southern Water in their areas, and how Medway residents experience their service and interact with the organisation.

- To discuss operational investment and how this interacts with other key infrastructure (in particular the road network) and how impacts are assessed, co-ordinated and mitigated.
 - To hear from Southern Water about their short term plans to upgrade the existing infrastructure to reduce the incidence of emergency repairs.
 - To hear Southern Waters views on the challenge of building 28,000 new homes in Medway over the next 20 years.
- 3.2. At the request of Councillor Field, representatives from Southern Water will be in attendance at the meeting to address the committee.
- 3.3 The Committee can use any of its powers in dealing with this Member's item, including making recommendations to officers or the Cabinet.
4. Response from Southern Water
- 4.1 Representatives from Southern Water will be in attendance at the Committee and will provide a presentation to Members.
5. Risk Management
- 5.1. There are no significant risks to the Council arising from this report.
6. Legal and Financial Implications
- 6.1. There are no legal or financial implications for the Council arising from this report.

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Appendices

None

Background papers

None