

Please accept my apologies for the late response, in the current COVID-19 emergency, I have not been monitoring my email as regularly as I would usually do, I hope that it is possible to consider my late response on behalf of the Anglia (Eastern) Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC).

On behalf of the Anglia Eastern RFCC, I provided the attached letter of support for Anglia Waters business plan last year, I have attached a copy for your reference. The key elements of our concern should Anglia Waters business plan not be accepted, both then and now, are that this will result in significant inefficiencies that in turn result in additional costs for the bill / taxpayer.

I remain very concerned that it would be a dramatic step backwards if we were not able to continue the positive partnership approach, we have developed to ensure that public and private monies are used as efficiently and effectively as possible in addressing matters of joint concern.

I appreciate that not all water companies have modernised their approach to partnership working, despite having a statutory duty to incorporate as set out in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Far from punishing Anglia Water, and the customers it serves, by requiring them to work less efficiently, I believe they should be congratulated and those other water companies yet to modernise their approach should be compelled to do so.

I remain of the opinion that it would be a matter of great public and political concern to learn that the collaborative approach we have developed here in the Anglian Region to ensure "joined up" investment was not already standard practice across all Water Companies and Risk Management Authorities, resulting in lost opportunities to maximise benefits, uncoordinated investments and failure to deliver projects as cost effectively as possible.

I would be happy to provide further information or comment should this be useful.

Regards,

Paul Hayden

Paul Hayden OBE, QFSM

Chair, Anglia (Eastern) Regional Flood and Coastal Committee