



The Aire Rivers Trust
Albion Mills Business Centre,
Albion Road,
Greengates,
Bradford BD10 9TQ

26 October 2020

Dear CMA Special Reference Group,

Many thanks for the opportunity to comment on the provisional determination you published on 29 September 2020.

In my role as Chair of The Aire Rivers Trust I welcome the additional investment which has been provisionally allowed for Yorkshire Water's Water Industry National Environment Programme schemes and the recognition that investment is needed to tackle the challenges of climate change.

As the biggest discharger to our watercourses, the biggest abstractor and one of the largest landowners, Yorkshire Water's performance is critical to sustaining the improvements in catchment quality that we have seen over recent decades and to further improvements in line with government's 25-year plan.

I understand how important it is for Ofwat to see value for money for customers. I agree that water companies should be challenged to continually improve and deliver for their customers and the environment. But I also believe that it is vital that all parties think long-term and innovatively to meet the climate change challenge and the expectations that Yorkshire Water's customers and stakeholders have for the company to support the resilience of our region.

We are grateful for the investment and support that Yorkshire Water has made in their own assets and in related environmental projects such as our own [DNAire project](#). Our Rivers Trusts and Catchment Hosts will continue to work closely with Yorkshire Water to release the benefits of their infrastructure and help the public, their customers, recognise the value derived from their water bills.

Yours sincerely,

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