

**COUNCILLOR STEPHEN BRADY, OBE**  
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Our Ref: SB/SAD

23 October 2020

Dear Minister

### **CMA Water Redeterminations (Yorkshire Water decision)**

Thank you for forwarding your provisional findings of the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to both Hull City Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council for comment. Both Councils wrote to you previously when Yorkshire Water took the difficult decision to challenge OFWATs findings and both Councils considered it essential to comment on your provisional findings.

Both Councils were very pleased to see the specific reference to the importance of the Living with Water Partnership within your provisional findings, which is referenced in detail from paragraphs 5.177 to 5.213 and, in particular, the weight which is attached to the third party views within this section where the representations from both Hull City Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council are referenced, along with some others.

The strength of the Living with Water Partnership is critical to the effective management of the water across Hull and East Yorkshire and, in particular, the links between Hull and the Haltemprice settlements. It is also positive to note in paragraph 5.201 the unique condition of Hull and Haltemprice is recognised and in particular the significance this means in terms of surface water flooding. All authorities on the Living with Water Partnership (Hull City Council, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Yorkshire Water and the Environment Agency) have investment significantly in improving the water infrastructure in the area in recent years and have also embraced more innovative approaches over sole reliance in grey hard engineering solutions. In addition the resilience of communities and education is critical to the sustainable long term management of water in a location significantly at risk from climate change.

It is in this context the need for investment was made and both Councils support the provisional findings you have reached that sees an increase of £6.6m into Hull and Haltemprice with a specific performance measure to ensure this investment is tailored to Living with Water outcomes. Having read in detail your justification for awarding £23m both Councils support this provisional finding. It is identified the level of detail does not exist to justify the full £28.7m, but clearly the evidence is sufficient to justify a £6.6 uplift which is welcome.


We have continued to work with Yorkshire Water throughout this challenge period and this is already leading to investment in much needed water infrastructure across the city and the additional £6.6m will ensure much needed future investment into physical infrastructure and resilience measures will be capable of being delivered.

It was a difficult decision for both Councils to involve ourselves in this challenge but given the severity of the matter to both councils and the support of our communities to see investment into flood resilience and infrastructure we considered it essential you understood how important this matter is to Hull and Haltemprice and we welcome the provisional findings you have reached.

Yours sincerely



**Councillor Stephen Brady, OBE  
Leader, Hull City Council**



**Councillor Richard Burton  
Leader, East Riding of Yorkshire  
Council**