

Dear Tony

Further to your email of 15 May, apologies that it has taken us so long to respond.

The following information applies:

We would not wish to see the discharge of polluted water to the River Wensum. The waste water will be quite polluted with particulate matter (suspended solids). This should not be allowed to enter surface water drains which will discharge to the river. The waste water should either be collected and directed to the foul sewer, with Anglian Water's agreement, or treated to a satisfactory standard which may be suitable for discharge. The developer should seek the agreement of Anglian Water should they wish to use their foul or surface water sewers.

In terms of water abstraction: the requirement for a licence will depend on the source of the water and how much you need to use. Anyone can abstract a maximum of 20m³ per day from either a surface water or a groundwater source without needing a licence. For the Anglia Square development, it looks as if your only option would be to source groundwater, which means drilling a borehole. The cost of this would likely be prohibitive for the volumes and duration of the project. In their position I would use mains water, and so no licence would be required. For the property off Oak Street - the same principles apply. We don't know if the site backs onto the Wensum, if it does you may be able to take 20m³ per day of water from the Wensum without a licence. Otherwise you would also need a borehole and again the cost would be prohibitive. If you need any more water than 20m³ per day you would need an abstraction licence, and I can tell you that with the current state of water resources in the Wensum catchment, neither a surface water nor groundwater licence that would suit your needs would be granted.

If you need any further information please do get in touch.

Kind regards

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