

**From:** Dominic Collyer

**Sent:** 18 February 2021 13:24

**To:** David Watson (Cllr) <David.Watson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Information on Little Marlow Sewage Treatment Works

Dear Councillor Watson,

I am writing to update you on an ongoing issue at our Little Marlow sewage treatment works (STW). On Friday part of our final treatment process failed meaning we are currently emptying one of our final settlement tanks so we can safely carry out the repair. Once we have completed the work, we will be able to bring the tank back into service. This is expected to take place on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February.

While we carry out the repair, we will have reduced treatment capacity at Little Marlow STW. We have agreed with the Environment Agency that the best way to minimise any impact to the community is to use our storm tanks. This will mean that we are unable to fully treat all flows coming into the site and at times our storm tank, although filtered, will discharge directly into the river. We are monitoring this daily and to date the discharge is diluted to such an extent that there have been no signs of damage to the river. We have advised the Environment Agency of the situation and we are providing them with water quality data daily.

Please accept my assurance that putting untreated sewage into rivers is unacceptable to us and we are doing all we can to bring Little Marlow STW back to normal operation as soon as we can. Following the repair work we will assess the integrity of the other remaining three tanks on site for future resilience. This is precautionary work which we plan to carry out when the weather conditions improve and the flows in the sewer network are lower.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will of course update on progress with the repair work over the next few days.

Kind regards

Dominic



**From:** Dominic Collyer

**Sent:** 25 February 2021 09:59

**To:** David Watson (Cllr) <David.Watson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Update on Little Marlow Sewage Treatment Works

Dear Cllr Watson,

I am writing to update you on the ongoing issue at our Little Marlow Sewage Treatment Works (STW). As mentioned last Wednesday, part of our final treatment process failed and we were in the process of emptying the tank to understand why this happened. I can confirm that we have now drained the tank and have carried out our investigations into why the process failed. This inspection has highlighted that the repair will be complex and more challenging than first thought and will not be fixed by Friday as first indicated. I will provide an updated timescale shortly.

Please be assured we continue to monitor the river daily and can confirm that the discharge continues to be diluted to such an extent that there continues to be no signs of damage to the river. Please accept my assurance that putting untreated sewage into rivers is unacceptable to us and we are doing all we can to bring Little Marlow STW back to normal operation as swiftly as possible.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will of course update you on the progress with the repair work.

Kind Regards

Dominic

From: Dominic Collyer  
Sent: 02 March 2021 16:24  
To: David Watson (Cllr) <David.Watson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk>  
Subject: Update on Little Marlow Sewage Treatment Works

Dear Councillor Watson,

I am writing to update you about the issues we have at Little Marlow Sewage treatment works (STW). We previously advised that part of the final treatment process on site had failed. Specifically, the rotational elements on one of the final settlement tanks (FST), there are four in total on site.

In agreement with the Environment Agency we have mitigated the effects of the failed asset and continue to treat as much flows as we can through the site. The site is being manned 24/7 and we are monitoring/sampling both the site and the watercourse continue liaising with the Environment Agency.

On inspection of the drained FST we found that the failed asset requires a replacement bespoke part which, requires a specialist order for manufacturing. This has therefore had a knock on effect to the repairs and we now estimate the works to be completed by the end of next month. We appreciate these dates are later than originally hoped and that discharging untreated sewage into the environment is unacceptable. We have of course explored alternative options for the tank, however no suitable options are available.

Please be assured we are doing all we can to bring Little Marlow STW back to normal operation as soon as we can.

We will of course update you should timescales change and if have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. In the meantime we will continue working closely with the Environment Agency as the incident progresses towards resolution.

Kind regards  
Dominic