



Budleigh Salterton Town Council

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Ref: AGW/20

16 January 2026

Dear Cllr Olive and Strategic Planning Committee,

Alignment with the East Devon Local Plan and Water Cycle Study

EDDC's Water Cycle Study provides an important evidence base to support the emerging East Devon Local Plan, particularly in relation to Strategic Policy AR02 (Water Quality and Efficiency) and the requirement to ensure that development does not compromise wastewater infrastructure or the health of receiving water bodies.

While the study identifies a number of Waste Water Treatment Works that are forecast to approach or exceed their Dry Weather Flow limits as planned growth is delivered, it does not explicitly assess the capacity or resilience of key wastewater network assets serving Budleigh Salterton, notably the Lime Kilns Pumping Station.

Although not a treatment works, the Lime Kilns Pumping Station is a critical component of the wastewater system serving Budleigh Salterton. Its ability to accommodate additional flows arising from development is fundamental to the effective operation of downstream infrastructure and to the protection of the River Otter, Otter Estuary and adjacent coastal waters. Any capacity constraint or operational failure at this location would have direct implications for water quality, engaging the objectives of Strategic Policy AR02 and the wider environmental safeguards within the Local Plan.

The Water Cycle Study recommends that new development should be phased to align with wastewater infrastructure upgrades, ensuring that homes are not occupied in advance of essential improvements. In the absence of a specific assessment of the Lime Kilns Pumping Station, it is not possible to demonstrate that this principle can be applied robustly in Budleigh Salterton.



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Accordingly, Budleigh Salterton Town Council considers that the Local Plan evidence base should be strengthened by explicitly including the Lime Kilns Pumping Station within the Water Cycle Study. This would ensure that growth proposed in Budleigh Salterton is supported by adequate wastewater infrastructure, is capable of being appropriately phased, and is fully consistent with Strategic Policy AR02 and the Local Plan's commitment to protecting water quality and environmentally sensitive locations.

We look forward to your comments on this important matter.

For and on behalf of Budleigh Salterton Town Council

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alice Gater-Wildgust'.

Alice Gater-Wildgust

Town Clerk