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Our ref: EIR/ID446
Date: 02/09/2025
Email: EIRRequests@uuplc.co.uk

Dear [redacted]

EIR Reference: EIR/ID/466

Thank you for your request for environmental information. We appreciate your interest, and we want to let you know that your request has been carefully considered in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR).

Your request

In a 2013 report, a CCTV survey (done under the Windermere catchment study project No. 80027625) was completed looking at the Grasmere sewer network.

Please can I be provided all evidence collected in this survey as well as the final report and recommendations produced.

Our response

As requested, we have attached a copy of the final report from the 2013 CCTV survey looking at the Grasmere sewer network that was referenced within the 2013 Windermere Catchment study.

We have been unable to locate the actual "visual recordings," which will have been made over ten years ago and would most probably have been provided on DVDs to the project team. At this time, it was not usual for these videos to be loaded onto corporate systems such as business collaborator, due to the size of the files.

Therefore, although we have looked on a platform called "SewerViewer" as well as a cloud based video platform called "VAPAR" which we use for storing CCTV information, we have unfortunately not been able to locate anything of this information on our corporate systems. We have also looked for copies of the original DVDs in potential local offices where they may once have existed, but again we have been unable to locate the recordings.

The final report that we have attached, is the same file that was referenced within the 2013 report (page 113). This reference points to reference document 69 "*Grasmere CCTV of network. [name redacted] 12/12/12*", within "*Section 21 References*", of the 2013 report . This document is an excel report providing manhole lengths and defect records, for approximately 1.1km of CCTV survey.

The excel report does not directly provide recommendations. The recommendations produced from this report are however, set out within the 2013 report itself, which you have a copy of. I

would draw your attention to:

Page 5 Table of project numbers: The Grasmere PR14 Level 2 Study (Including Storm Overflows) issue 1089. We have attached this report. The report is in Excel and contains a number of Tabs/worksheets, the "issues log and scope" tab sets out the following Recommendations / Scope of Engineering "*Integrated solution looking to remove infiltration from the network, to reduce storm spills back to EA acceptable frequency, and meeting the load reduction in P required by EA. Solution for achieving treatment standards is potentially in the network by removing the infiltration/ reducing flows to works and hence not needing to provide excessive storm storage/ or increase flows to treatment excessively to meet the P removal requirements*".

Section 12 Reiterates the overall project needs for the Windermere catchment, the final bullet from which is "*In addition to the above it should be noted there will be additional investment in the region driven by local drivers for example at Grasmere and Outgate*."

Section 16.1 Grasmere Issue No. 1089 addressed the treatment and network issues in the catchment. With respect to the network aspects, it was stated that at that time: "*The Grasmere network is known to be in very poor condition. A recent CCTV survey (done under the Windermere catchment study project No. 80027625) of the network showed many cracks to be present where ingress of water was high (69[1]). In fact, in some locations, it was not possible to complete the survey since the network was always full. It is known that the network goes under a river at several points and it is thought that the river water enters the sewer here. In addition, the network was shown to be full of FOG.*

The ingress of water to the sewer is further highlighted by the fact that infiltration rates are approx. 34l/s. This means that although theoretically the DWF should be approx. 3l/s it is actually up at 38l/s".

In terms of a required solution, the report stated that in addition to addressing the phosphate removal aspects, "*any solution developed must bring the plant back to within the flow conditions of the existing consent. An updated network model was developed during AMP5 under the Windermere Catchment Study (project 80027625). This study also did a full flow and load survey for the works."*

We understand that you have previously been provided with the network models that are referred to within the 2013 catchment study.

Section 16.1.2 states that "*Full details of the option with all relevant reports from the various engineering disciplines can be found in the level 2 summary report for Grasmere (70*)". This references the report, which is also referred to on page 5 and which we have provided as part of this response.

The 2013 report states that the "*first stage will be to reline the entire sewer network. (approx. 8km)"* and then talks about the practical difficulties and relative benefits of relining sewers. The reference to lining the entire network is taken from the prestart meeting minutes tab of the level 2 summary report and was used as a basis for scoping out potential workload for review as part of the detailed project assessment, rather than as a recommended solution*"*.

The required outcome in both the 2013 report and the supporting level 2 summary report is to reduce infiltration sufficiently to take the flows arriving at Grasmere WwTW back to within dry weather flow consent levels.

[1] The reference here is to the CCTV report that has been provided.

An AMP6 NEP scheme (80040327) was developed to address the combined needs at Grasmere. This first phase of this scheme was to undertake additional targeted CCTV investigations and implement relining/repair works to reduce the infiltration levels sufficiently, so that the works would be able to comply with the dry weather flow consent that was required by the Environment Agency.

This project was successfully completed within the AMP6 period, and the works is still complying with both the flow and qualitative aspects of its new consent.

It is also worth highlighting that we are currently investigating additional work within the Grasmere catchment. These schemes are designed to provide further reductions to phosphorus discharges, provide additional flow monitoring at Grasmere WwTW and to reduce discharges from the storm overflow at the inlet to Grasmere WwTW to ≤10 spills/year.

The work required to reduce spills will require additional CCTV and other investigations to be undertaken in the area to identify infiltration hotspots or other areas where infiltration reduction could be an effective part of the solution.

We hope that this response answers your request. However, if you're not satisfied with how we've handled it, you can request an internal review. To do this, please write to us at Environmental Information Office, Haweswater House, Lingley Mere, Warrington, WA5 3LP or email us at EIRRequests@uuplc.co.uk, addressing your request to [redacted], and explaining why you're unhappy with our response. We'll be very happy to review your request and ensure we've done everything we can to assist you.

Any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this response, and we will reply within 40 working days from receipt of the request for internal review.

Kind regards