



Albion Water

News Release

Albion Water on track to become the provider of wastewater services at Knowle Village, Fareham, Hampshire

Albion Water Limited (Albion) announces today (Saturday 15th November 2008) that its application to take over responsibility for the provision of wastewater services at Knowle Village has now entered a public consultation period.

Albion is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Albion Water Group Limited (AWGL) and is an innovative player in the water sector. It was the first new water company to pass Ofwat's stringent "fit and proper" tests and has been providing exceptional water services for almost a decade. Since 1999, Albion has provided seven million cubic metres of water a year to a major paper mill in North Wales and has delivered and operated stand-alone sewage treatment facilities, such as the innovative scheme pioneered at the BedZED development at Beddington in South West London.

Since 2003, sewerage and wastewater operations at Knowle Village have been provided by a sub-contracted service provider, working on behalf of Berkeley Homes, the developer of the Knowle Village site.

As the provision of wastewater and sewerage services is not a core activity for Berkeley Homes, it has been seeking to pass on this responsibility to a licensed water company, which can provide residents with the highest standards of service.



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Having carefully evaluated all the options, Berkeley Homes has asked Albion to take over this function from spring 2009.

Commenting on the new agreement, Dr. Jerry Bryan, Managing Director of Albion Water Limited said, "We have been working with Berkeley Homes and all the water industry regulators to provide a long-term sustainable solution for the residents.

"Since the official public notice announcing the new arrangement appeared, we have also liaised closely with the local Residents' Association and an open meeting with Knowle Village residents and local businesses has now been organised. It is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 2nd December 2008 in the evening over two sessions, to allow as many residents as possible to attend.

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"With our strong track record in the sector, I am confident that residents will benefit from Albion's appointment as their sewerage company. We have committed to keeping our charges below those of Southern Water and will enhance future serviceability through increased levels of investment in the facilities," confirmed Jerry Bryan.

Albion's approach will improve the sustainability of the village's wastewater management systems and enhance the biodiversity of the area. With Berkeley Homes' full support, Albion's ambition is also to improve the amenity and educational value of the land given over to wastewater treatment, for the benefit of all residents.



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Commenting on the new arrangement, Gary Hodges, Managing Director of Berkeley Homes (Southern) Limited said, "We wanted to ensure a satisfactory outcome for the residents of Knowle Village and have been very impressed with Albion Water's innovative approach to the sewerage and wastewater challenges we face here.

"I am confident that Albion can deliver an improved service offer to our customers at Knowle Village and we look forward to working with Albion at other Berkeley Homes developments," he added.

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For further information, please contact:

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Notes for Editors

The open meeting will take place in the Village Hall at Knowle Village on Tuesday 2nd December.

Main presentation: 6.30pm

Repeat presentation: enquiries to David Knaggs, Albion Water.