

# Wirral Local Plan – Main Modifications Response Form

## Part A

### 1. Personal details

(if an agent is appointed, please complete only the title, name and organisation in the boxes below but complete the full contact details of the agent in section 2 below)

<b>Title</b>	
<b>First name</b>	
<b>Last name</b>	
<b>Organisation (where relevant)</b>	United Utilities Water Limited
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Postcode</b>	
<b>Telephone number</b>	
<b>Email address</b>	
<b>Objective ID number (if known)</b>	

### 2. Agent's details (if applicable)

<b>Title</b>	
<b>First name</b>	
<b>Last name</b>	
<b>Job title (where relevant)</b>	
<b>Organisation (where relevant)</b>	
<b>Who are you representing?</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Postcode</b>	
<b>Telephone number</b>	
<b>Email address</b>	
<b>Objective ID number (if known)</b>	

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## 3. Data Protection Notice

✓	Please tick this box to confirm that you understand that your name and your response will be published, that your full name and details will be passed to the Planning Inspectors, and that you have read and understood the Council's privacy notice.
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Please note that all comments will be held by Wirral Council and made available in accordance with our privacy notice, which can be viewed at <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/planning-and-building/local-plans-and-planning-policy/forward-planning-privacy-notice> or obtained from one of the addresses below.

Please read all the information related to this consultation on the Council's webpage at <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/new-local-plan> or which has been placed in public libraries, and the Wirral Local Plan Modifications Response Form Background Note before you make your representations.

## 4. Completed Responses

Please submit your completed Response Form/s **to arrive at one of the addresses below no later than 5pm on Friday 8 November 2024.**

- by email to: [localplan@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@wirral.gov.uk), clearly marked as 'Wirral Local Plan – Consultation on Main Modifications'  
or
- by post to: Wirral Local Plan - Main Modifications, Wirral Council, PO Box 290, Wallasey CH27 9FQ

Please note that comments received after this deadline will not be accepted.

Please use a separate Response Form for each modification that you wish comment on.

If you require any further information, please contact the Council's Forward Planning Team by e-mail at [localplan@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@wirral.gov.uk) or by telephone on 0151 691 8235.

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## Part B

1. **To which Modification does your representation relate?** (please insert as appropriate)

Main Modification Reference number: MM [61]

Policies Map Reference number: PM [ ]

Additional Modification Reference number: AM [ ]

2. **If your comment is on a Main Modification, do you consider that the Main Modification is:**

Legally Compliant – ~~Yes~~/ No (please delete as appropriate)

Sound – ~~Yes~~ / No (please delete as appropriate)

3. **Please explain why you consider a Main Modification does not assist in achieving legal compliance or soundness or provide any other comments on it in the box below. Please be as precise as possible.**

United Utilities notes the amendments to Policy WM6 relating to Waste Management. United Utilities wishes to highlight that investment associated with our water and wastewater infrastructure is influenced by a number of drivers including the construction of new facilities to take account of new environmental requirements, growth, the need to respond to the carbon challenge, or the need to invest in new updated infrastructure. In our next investment period (2025-30), we are proposing the biggest investment in water and wastewater services across the North West in over 100 years. Our recent submission to Ofwat proposes £13.7 billion of planned investment between 2025-30.

The drivers for investment include the Environment Act 2021, which has set a requirement to progressively reduce storm spills into the environment. Such investment will be constrained by engineering circumstances to determine the most appropriate location for additional storage to reduce spills. This may necessitate investment in constrained locations in our urban and rural environments such as in/on land in protected locations (green belt, local green space and open countryside). Consistent with meeting this obligation, U UW requests that the future local plan includes support for investment in water and wastewater infrastructure that is ultimately beneficial to the environment, biodiversity and our watercourses so it can be delivered in the most timely and effective manner. Specifically, we request that policy supports investment in our infrastructure in constrained locations such as local green space, open countryside and green belt.

With regard to sites which may be situated in the Green Belt, National policy within the NPPF allows for:

- the extension or alteration of a building provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building; and
- limited infilling or the partial or complete redevelopment of previously developed sites (brownfield land), whether redundant or in continuing use (excluding

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temporary buildings), which would not have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt and the purpose of including land within it than the existing development. On this basis, National Policy is broadly supportive of expansion of key sites of operational infrastructure in the Green Belt. However, we ask for this to be specifically referred to in WM 6 given the huge investment that is now proposed in wastewater infrastructure.

4. Please set out in the box below the changes you consider necessary to make the Main Modification legally compliant and sound.

United Utilities requests inclusion of a new criterion B to Policy WM 6 as set out below:

*'B. The Council will support wastewater infrastructure investment, including investment in green belt and open space locations, where it is demonstrated to be necessary to respond to future growth and environment drivers and obligations.'*

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5. Do you have any comments on the Sustainability Appraisal or to the Habitats Regulations Assessment in respect of this particular Main Modification? Please provide them in the box below.

No comment.

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**6. Do you have any comments on a Proposed Change to the Policies Map? Please provide them in the box below.**

No comment.

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## Part C

**Do you have any comments on one of the Councils Additional Modifications? Please provide them in the box below.**

No comment.

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Thank you for completing this form.

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