



Councillor Sally Povolotsky
Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Environment
Vale of Whitehorse District Council

Sally.Povolotsky@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

By email only

04 November 2022

Dear Sally,

Thank you for your letter of 3rd November. I am waiting to hear back from Emily Smith's office about a date for the meeting. In the meantime, I can answer the questions in your first paragraph now.

It is only our abstraction at Childrey Warren which would affect flows in the Letcombe Brook and we have not applied for a drought permit for that site. We apply for drought permits in a fixed order and Farmoor, Meysey Hampton, Baunton, Axford and Ogbourne all come before Childrey Warren.

We are hoping that the applications we have made so far will be sufficient and are not anticipating to need Childrey Warren, unless there is a deterioration in the drought situation. Although we are still not out of the drought, and there is much more rainfall needed for groundwater levels to recover, the current rainfall is enabling us to make good gains in storage at Farmoor (which has increased from 60% full to 73% full over the last ten days).

We should discuss the Heyford Hill and Botley incidents when we meet. Your questions about leakage and reservoir levels come under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR). I have therefore forwarded them to our specialist EIR team who will respond to you separately.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Aylard".

Richard Aylard CVO
Sustainability Director