



**Scottish
Water**

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Welcome

Thank you for attending today's information event about the next phase of work to upgrade Ardersier Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW).

The work Scottish Water is doing in Ardersier is needed to protect the environment and support economic growth in the area – including at Castle Stuart, the airport business park and Tornagrain.

In 2017, a project was carried out to add ultraviolet treatment to the waste water treatment process and this is now operating. Around a year ago, a new pumped rising main was completed between Tornagrain and Ardersier. Since last summer, construction work has also been underway to upgrade the capacity of the WWTW.

The focus of today's event is the final main element of Scottish Water's work, to extend the sea outfall from the WWTW, which is due to start next month. This work will be carried out by Scottish Water's alliance partner, amey-Black & Veatch (aBV), and their specialist marine subcontractor ABCO Marine.

The objectives of today's event are:

- To present details of the outfall extension project
- To answer questions and discuss any concerns

Scottish Water will continue to work with the Community Liaison Group which exists to allow community issues to be discussed and resolved. You can also contact us directly - and updates will be provided on our project webpage:

www.scottishwater.co.uk/Ardersier



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Marine outfall extension

The map below shows the location where work will be taking place to extend the outfall pipe by around 300 metres.



Outfall extension site layout and area of restricted access (February to May).

This extension to the outfall pipe will take the treated final effluent from the upgraded Waste Water Treatment Works further out to sea and into deeper water. This will ensure it disperses quickly and that the quality of the Moray Firth's aquatic environment is protected.

Marine Scotland has granted a licence to allow construction of the outfall on the seabed. The licence details conditions to be followed, including monitoring arrangements to protect the Moray Firth's resident bottlenose dolphin population while work is ongoing.



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Construction process

Construction of the outfall pipe is expected to take place between February and the end of May 2019.

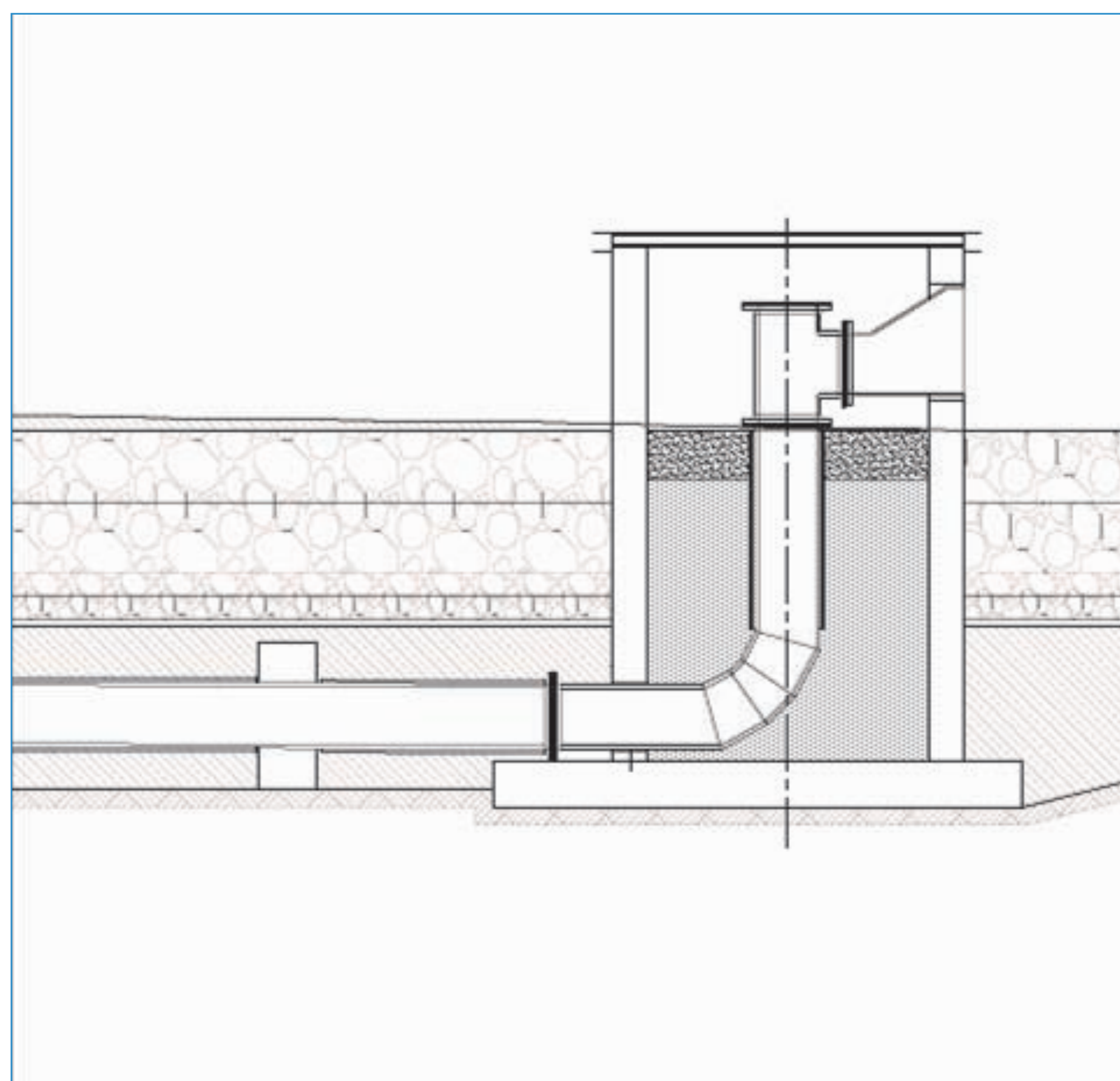
The construction process will involve excavation of a length of trench on the seabed over a sequence of tide cycles. Most of this work will be carried out by a long-arm excavator, operating from a jack-up barge offshore.

Once a section of trench is complete, the pipe will be floated into position and then lowered into the trench using pre-attached concrete weight collars. The trench will then be backfilled.

A diffuser will also be fitted at the end of the pipe. This includes a non-return valve which is designed to close at high tide. Some rock armour will be installed to protect the diffuser from the effects of storms. At a distance of approximately 300 metres from the shore, the effluent will be rapidly dispersed.



Jack-up barge and long-armed excavator (ABC Marine)



Cross-section of diffuser on the seabed at the end of pipe



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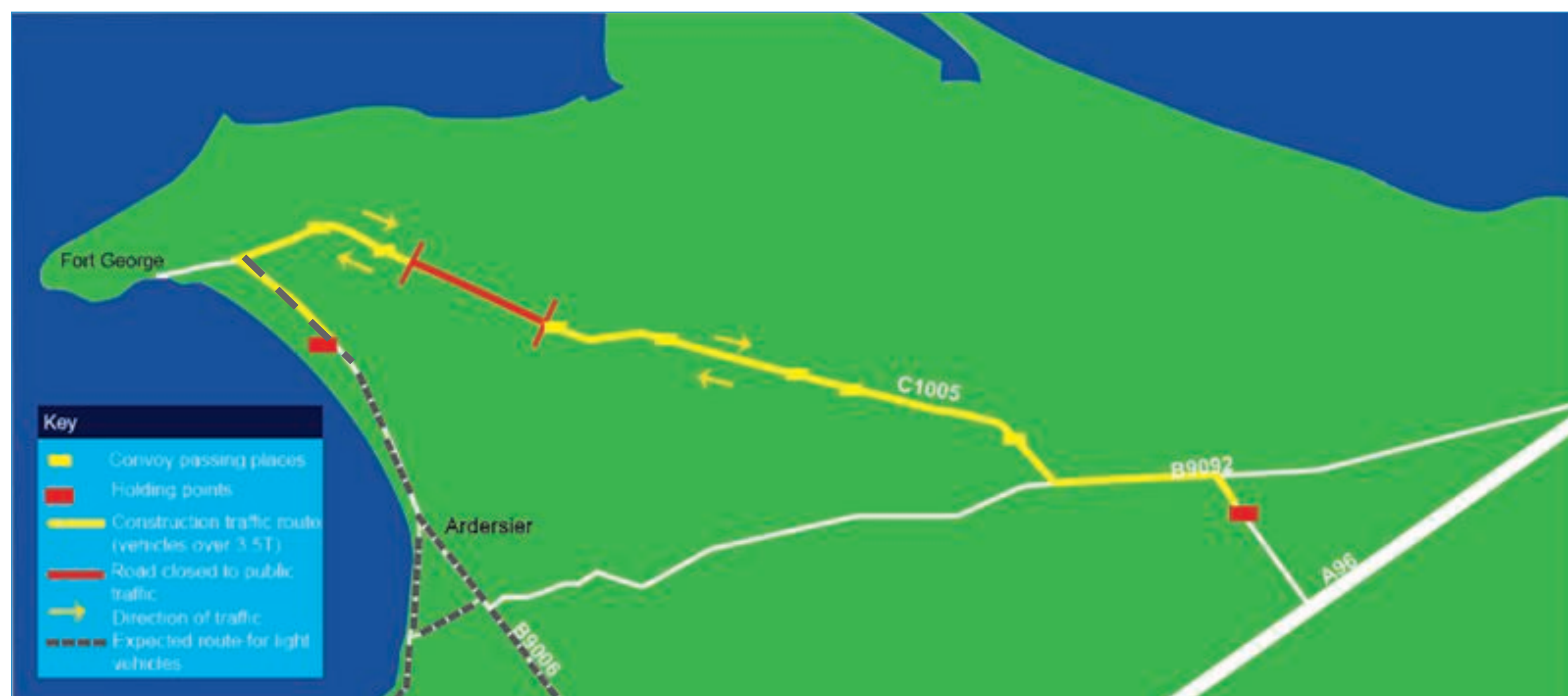
Minimising impact

Scottish Water is committed to working with residents in and around Ardersier to inform them about its work and minimise the impact of construction activity.

Most of the construction materials for the marine outfall extension will be delivered to site by barge, reducing the need for construction traffic to use local roads.

Some deliveries will be required to the onshore site, as well as light vehicle access. These traffic movements are included in the Traffic Management Plan which was agreed with Highland Council.

The map below shows the routes and arrangements which will be used on public roads. The entrance to the Ministry of Defence land at the junction of the C1005 and the B9006 will be upgraded to allow HGVs to turn into and out of the site using the C1005.



Overview of Traffic Management Plan routes and arrangements, which are already operating for the continuing work at the Waste Water Treatment Works site.



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Access to the coast

While the outfall extension is built, it is necessary in the interests of safety for public access to be restricted in the vicinity of the construction site.

A sign has been displayed at the Fort George Car Park since late last year, giving advance notice to users of the area.

Updated signage will be displayed once work begins, highlighting the area which will not be accessible. Other parts of the coastline can continue to be used, subject to the restrictions operated by the Ministry of Defence.

Scottish Water and aBV apologise for any inconvenience that is caused by this temporary access restriction.

Community Liaison Group

Scottish Water continues to work with the Community Liaison Group which was formed to enable regular dialogue with community representatives and resolution of issues while work in the area is underway. The Group currently meets every two months to review progress.

As previously, issues can be raised by residents by emailing ardersier@scottishwater.co.uk at any time or call 0800 077 8778, quoting reference 'Capital/Ardersier'.



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Working with the community

Scottish Water has also been working with the Community Liaison Group to make a lasting contribution to the area.

Following ideas submitted by residents in 2017, a number of projects were prioritised. These included new benches on the coastal path and the gifting of Speed Indicator Signs to the community, so that they can continue to be used in Ardersier once Scottish Water's construction work is complete.

Some maintenance work was funded at Ardersier Common last spring to cut back overgrown gorse, opening up footpaths and improving the habitat for butterflies and other invertebrates. Work is also planned to create new interpretation boards for the Common - watch out for further details in the spring.



Clockwise from top-left: Scottish Water has funded new benches along the coastal path. The 3 Speed Indicator Signs currently in the village have been gifted to the community so they can continue to be used in Ardersier once construction work is finished. Maintenance work took place last year to keep Ardersier Common at its best for use by the community and for wildlife.



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Keeping in touch

Scottish Water is committed to keeping you and the local community fully informed about the work we are doing.

We will continue to work with the Community Liaison Group and listen to feedback that we receive.

Our first responsibility is to provide our customers with water and waste water services that are reliable, sustainable and affordable - 24 hours a day and 365 days a year.

We are a publicly owned company, accountable to the Scottish Parliament and to the people of Scotland. We operate within a policy and regulatory framework, but that makes it no less important that we listen to our customers.

Volunteering programme



Every Scottish Water employee can take up to 2 days a year to get involved in education, conservation or community activities.

Last year, a team worked with JAPES to give the Pocket Garden a revamp.

Contact details

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us:

Telephone: **0800 077 8778** (quote reference: Capital / Ardersier)

Email: **ardersier@scottishwater.co.uk**

Website: **www.scottishwater.co.uk/Ardersier**