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Farthing Cottage 71 St Andrew Street Tiverton EX16 6PL

Masterplan Consultation Forward Planning Mid Devon District Council Phoenix House Tiverton EX16 6PP



12th January 2014

Dear Sir,

## THE EAST TIVERTON MASTER PLAN

I visited the exhibition regarding Tiverton's new neighbourhood at Post Hill on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January. In response to a question I was concerned to hear that South West Water had informed the developers that the pipework at present delivering surface water and foul sewage to Collipriest has the capacity for a further 500 homes before there will be a need for further works to be carried out.

At present the residents of St Andrew Street have raw untreated sewage in their gardens and homes following heavy and prolonged rainfall and the field at the bottom of St Andrew Street adjacent to the Tumbling Fields pumping station regularly has foul sewage spouting up through it access covers.

While a part of this can be attributed to poor maintenance on the part of South West Water it is quite clear that the more recent sewers which have been added to the Victorian system passing under the River Lowman have pushed the Victorian system beyond its limits.

Nowhere in the exhibition or associated literature can I find any assurance that the increasing overloading of Tiverton's sewage system is to be relieved during the new development process. With the prospect of development at Farley Meadows and the Post Hill development it is probable that around 2,000 new are to be built in the town over the next ten years. Unless serious renewal work, including new sewers under the River Lowman the lives of the residents in St Andrew Street will become intolerable as sewage will regularly flow through our homes.

The idea of tanking the sewage from these developments and moving by night on the roads to the Collipriest works is also untenable given South West Water's reluctance to contribute to the maintenance of the private road.

Please can you reassure us that proper consideration is given to problem of the overloaded system prior to any major development in the town. Manifestly South West Water is unwilling to undertake any real improvements, denying there are problems at present. Five hundred new homes will have intolerable consequences for residents in St Andrew Street.