

Our Ref: JM/JL/FL/
ORG13-A3014
Your Ref: -

Water and Sewerage Charges – Vacant Properties
Water Industry Team
Scottish Government
Area 1-D (South)
Victoria Quay
EDINBURGH
EH6 6QQ

08 July 2015

By email: waterindustry@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

CONSULTATION FOR WATER AND SEWERAGE CHARGES: CHARGES FOR VACANT NON-HOUSEHOLD PROPERTIES

Thank you for providing the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) with the opportunity to comment on the above consultation document.

Our response is set out in the questionnaire (attached) together with the completed Respondent Information Form.

As a public body committed to openness and transparency, SEPA feels it is appropriate that this response be placed on the public record. If you require further clarification on any aspect of this correspondence, please contact Jennifer Leonard, Quality and Standards Unit Manager, SEPA Stirling Office, at the address shown below.

Yours faithfully



Janice Milne
Head of National Operations

Enc



Chairman
David Sigsworth
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4. Written Responses – Questions

The Government's Proposal

1) Do you agree, in principle, that vacant non-household properties should be charged for water, sewerage and drainage services?

Yes



No

These services are still required for vacant properties.

2) Do you agree that water and sewerage charges for vacant properties should be the same as those for occupied properties regardless of the reason for the vacant status?

Yes



No

Comments

Charges – Drainage Services

3) Do you agree that drainage charges should be the same as those for occupied properties?

Yes



No

Drainage is still required for vacant properties. SEPA would ask Scottish Government to progress proposals for incentivising retrofitting of sustainable urban drainage measures for all non-household properties during the next review of Scottish Water's charging scheme and to consider how these charges could be used to drive forward sustainable surface water management plans in these areas.

Timetable for introduction

4) Do you agree that the current exemption should be removed from 1 April 2017?

Yes



No

Comments