SEWAGE & INFRASTRUCTURE – KEY ISSUES

Quick Summary

- The sewage system is already under pressure
- The treatment works is operating close to capacity
- Sewage discharges are already happening
- No major upgrades are planned
- New development will worsen the situation

1. Treatment Works Capacity is Limited

- Permitted Dry Weather Flow: 2,200 m^3/day
- Actual flows recorded: approx. 1,772–1,900 m^3/day
- Very limited remaining headroom
- Equivalent to only a small number of additional homes

Evidence: STW EIR Internal Review response (headroom and DWF data)

2. Sewage Discharges Already Occur

- Storm overflows are regularly activated
- Discharges occur during rainfall events
- Local data shows repeated spill events
- Some incidents suggest discharge even in low rainfall conditions

Evidence: FloodMapper EDM data, STW EIR responses, local monitoring project

3. Permit Breaches Confirmed

- STW has acknowledged breaches of environmental permits
- Discharges beyond permitted conditions have occurred
- This indicates the system is already failing under current load

Evidence: STW EIR responses confirming permit breaches

4. No Major Upgrades Planned

- No significant capital investment planned in AMP7 (2020–2025)

- No confirmed major upgrades in AMP8 (2025–2030)
- Only minor works such as optimisation and small storm tank (~200 m^3)
- No evidence of full capacity expansion

Evidence: STW EIR Internal Review, AMP7–AMP8 investment disclosures

5. Sewer Network Already Under Stress

- Reports of sewer surcharge during heavy rainfall
- Combined sewer system increases risk
- Surface water enters foul system during storms
- Backflow and odour issues reported locally

Evidence: Resident reports, incident records, STW EIR responses

6. Cumulative Impact of Development

- Multiple developments planned in Broughton Astley
- All connect to the same sewage system
- Combined flows will exceed current capacity
- Impact not fully assessed in planning applications

Why This Matters

- Infrastructure must be in place before development
- Systems must be capable of handling additional load
- Environmental protection laws require control of discharges
- Current situation suggests risk to public health and environment

Example Objection

I object to this development due to insufficient sewage infrastructure capacity. Evidence from STW EIR responses confirms limited headroom at the treatment works, existing sewage discharges, and confirmed permit breaches. There are no major upgrades planned, meaning additional development will increase pressure on an already failing system. This conflicts with planning policy requiring adequate infrastructure and environmental protection.