

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for environmental information. We appreciate your interest, and we want to let you know that your request has been carefully considered in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR).

Your request:

I live in Wrenbury, Nantwich, Cheshire, [REDACTED]. In the last 50 years the village has doubled in size but still has the existing sewerage system would it be possible to obtain a report on the condition and capacity of the existing system. I am interested to see if it has the capacity for another 100 dwellings (200 300 people). Any help you can give would be greatly appreciated.

Our response:

United Utilities (UU) regularly analyse the ability of our treatment works and drainage areas to accommodate future population growth. This process is contained within our drainage and wastewater management plans (DWMP) for the region published in May 2023, the landing page for which can be found here:

[Drainage and wastewater management plan](#)

Wrenbury is located in the Weaver Gowy catchment, and UU considers that it currently has sufficient hydraulic capacity at Wrenbury WwTW, and in its associated sewer network, to deal with existing treatment demands. Likewise, the risk of flooding in a storm is currently ranked as 'no concern'. Details of the Weaver Gowy assessments can be found in this document on the DWMP portal:

[SPA 13 Weaver Gowy DWMP.docx](#)

We are currently working on DWMP cycle 2, with the first draft due in November 2027 and the final publication in August 2028. As part of this activity, we will again undertake a detailed growth assessment on the catchment and potentially look to target investment accordingly. This assessment will be done utilising the latest available datasets.

In addition to the future assessments undertaken in the DWMP, we also do an annual Dry Weather Flow (DWF) assessment at each of our treatment works with a flow limit stated within the environmental permit, to help us understand environmental impact, plant capacity and regulatory compliance. This is known as a 'Q90'.

The Q90 is a statistical flow metric representing the daily volume of wastewater treated at the works



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that is exceeded 90% of the time. The theory being that the lowest 10% will be the flows received by the works under 'dry' conditions, and therefore just be a representation of the domestic/commercial flows, without the impact of rain.

The Q90 is typically calculated by gathering a full year (365 days) of total daily volume (TDV) data from a site, then sorting the 365 individual values from lowest to highest. The Q90 is then the 10th percentile value within that list of ascending data. This means that this flow rate over a year, that is exceeded 90% of the time.

For the 2025 calendar year we have calculated the Q90 at Wrenbury WwTW as 631 m³ against the permitted value of 734 m³, set by the Environment Agency. This means the site was operating well within its hydraulic capacity.

We hope that this response answers your request. However, if you're not satisfied with how we've handled it, you can request an internal review. To do this, please write to us at Environmental Information Office, Haweswater House, Lingley Mere, Warrington, WA5 3LP or email us at EIRRequests@uuplc.co.uk, addressing your request to [REDACTED], and explaining why you're unhappy with our response. We'll be very happy to review your request and ensure we've done everything we can to assist you.

Any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this response, and we will reply within 40 working days from receipt of the request for internal review.

Many thanks



EIR Team

United Utilities

We'd love to hear your feedback on how we handled your request! If you have a moment, please complete our short survey [here](#) – your input helps us improve our service.