

Cllr Mael Garrec
c/o Penryn Town Council
The Library
St Thomas Street
Penryn
Cornwall
TR10 8JN



07.09.2026

Dear Sir,

On behalf of Saltash Town Council, thank you for your email regarding the Dowr Glan Campaign.

I write to advise that the content of your email and requests were discussed at the Full Saltash Town Council meeting on September 3rd 2026.

The Town Council noted your requests to introduce a motion based on the below three key points:

1. "This Council notes with grave concern the systemic failure of South West Water to manage the sewage system in Cornwall. Despite record bills and government intervention, raw sewage continues to impact our environment and public health. Therefore, this Council resolves:
2. To formally declare a Vote of No Confidence in South West Water.
3. To sign the collective letter to the Secretary of State demanding the removal of South West Water's management through a Special Administration Order."

Your email also includes a proposed letter that is asked to be sent to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) as a "formal demand". It includes the paragraph below:

"Our Formal Demand: We call upon the Government to intervene and make this situation stop at once, using powers such as those granted by the Water (Special Measures) Act to remove the offending company from operating in Cornwall. We demand that South West Water be placed into Special Administration, stripping the current management of their mandate. We call upon the Government to transition Cornish sewage and water assets into



The Guildhall
12 Lower Fore Street, Saltash, Cornwall PL12 6JX
Tel: (01752) 844846
e-mail: enquiries@saltash.gov.uk
gdpr@saltash.gov.uk

a publicly owned organisation, run as a public service, answerable to elected representatives of Cornish voters, that will prioritise the Cornish environment and its people over private profit.”

After discussion between Councillors during our meeting, it was agreed that the Town Council supports the above points 1 and 2 and agrees your concerns about South West Water’s performance. However, it cannot agree to sign the letter requested at point 3 due to the content stated above in bold.

Additionally, it was agreed that it is not the Town Council’s position to instruct or request that the government take a private company into state ownership. Nor was it universally agreed in the room that state ownership of utility companies was desirable.

If you were to revise your letter to exclude this element, we would be happy to consider it again at the next meeting of Saltash Town Council on October 1st 2026.

Yours sincerely,



Sinead Burrows
Town Clerk / Responsible Finance Officer
On behalf of Saltash Town Council

