

PRESS RELEASE



10/09/2026

Saltash Town Council Formally Declare a Vote of No Confidence in South West Water

The Town Council received a report on the Dowr Glan Clean Water Campaign in the Full Town Council Meeting on 3 September 2026.

Dowr Glan is a Cornwall-wide grassroots campaign bringing together town and parish councils, community organisations and residents concerned about sewage pollution, declining water quality and rising water bills. The campaign aims to unite councils across Cornwall in calling for meaningful reform of the management and oversight of water and wastewater services in the county.

As part of its 'Clean Water' campaign, Dowr Glan is encouraging town and parish councils to support the submission of a formal letter to Cornwall's Members of Parliament, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Ofwat and Cornwall Council. The correspondence seeks to represent not simply a protest, but a formal challenge to South West Water's continued suitability to operate under its existing licence.

Members welcomed the aims of the Dowr Glan campaign and supported efforts to improve water quality across Cornwall. While they did not support the proposal to transfer water and wastewater services to a publicly owned organisation, as this falls outside the Town Council's remit, Members shared concerns about the ongoing management of Cornwall's sewage infrastructure and its impact on the environment and public health. The Town Council unanimously voted to support the formal declaration of a Vote of No Confidence in South West Water.

Members also agreed to delegate to Saltash Town Councillor Scott Slavin to write to the Dowr Glan Clean Water Campaign, responding directly to Cllr Mael Garrec of Penryn Town Council, who contacted the Town Council regarding the campaign. [A copy of this official letter is available on the Town Council's website.](#)

By supporting a vote of no confidence in South West Water and recognising concerns surrounding the current management of Cornwall's sewage infrastructure, Saltash Town Council has demonstrated its commitment to protecting public health, safeguarding the environment and supporting the wellbeing of people in Saltash.

“

Clean water and a healthy environment are priorities for our community. While the Town Council did not support all aspects of the motion, we share the concerns about sewage pollution and its impact on Cornwall's environment and public health.

— Mayor Cllr Brian Stoyel

”

“

I have written to the Dowr Glan Clean Water Campaign on behalf of Saltash Town Council. The Town Council shares concerns about sewage pollution and water quality and supports efforts to ensure greater accountability and improvements for communities across Cornwall. It cannot, however, advocate for public utility companies being taken into state ownership.

— Cllr Scott Slavin

”

ENDS



Saltash Town Council – Contact Information

The Guildhall, 12 Lower Fore Street, Saltash, Cornwall PL12 6JX

Telephone: 01752 844846

Email: enquiries@saltash.gov.uk

Notes To Editor

Saltash Town Council forms the first tier of local government and works with Cornwall Council who are our Unitary Authority. We are the largest Town Council in the south-east area of Cornwall.

The Town Council is committed to providing excellence in the Services and Facilities which it delivers. We aim to be responsive, accessible, and transparent in our approach and in the work delivered.

There are sixteen Councillors representing three Wards – Essa, Tamar and Trematon. Councillors are elected from the community every four years. Spaces are filled via by-elections, or by means of the Town Council choosing new Councillors via co-option.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman are elected by Members of the Town Council annually at the Annual Town Council meeting held in May. The Chairman also undertakes the role of Mayor representing the Town Council and community at official engagements, with their consort.