

L68/10/09

CLLR. ROBIN NEWTON MBE, MLA

PLEASE REPLY TO:

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Northern Ireland  
Assembly




The Utility Regulator  
Water Service  
Queens House  
Queen Street  
Belfast  
BT1 6ED

Our Ref: RN/CN/GEN  
28<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Dear Sir/Madam

*So*  
*Pl. draft for my signature. (note that Robin also also Minister.)*

 <b>Utility Regulator</b> ELECTRICITY GAS WATER <b>NIAUR WATER GROUP</b>		
For		
03 NOV 2009		
To Act		
Reply		File
To See	CC	

I am pleased to be able to comment on Northern Ireland Water's Business Plan for the period 2010-2013. This is an important plan in determining the strategy and the priorities for the coming years and is of particular significance to my East Belfast constituency.

Over the period of "The Troubles" there has been a significant underinvestment in the sewerage and water infra-structure and this has resulted in major problems for householders and businesses across the east of the city. Following short but intensive periods of rainfall the flooding occurs with the areas being very identifiable and predictable. You will understand the concerns of my constituents within this time of climate change.

I am sure you are aware of the Connswater Community Greenway Project and the potential that exists for this community based project to work alongside Northern Ireland Water's Flood Alleviation Scheme for the betterment of my constituents. I would therefore encourage a working partnership with this project.

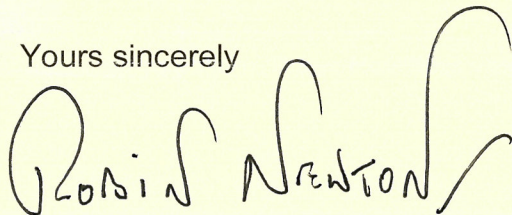
**IMPORTANT – Please quote our reference on all correspondence**



In short the Connswater Community Greenway and Flood Alleviation Scheme would be considerably enhanced if Northern Ireland Water were able to address the combined sewer outfalls and out of sewer flooding during the Connswater Community Greenway programme 2010-2013. Northern Ireland Water has applied for £20m under PC10 for works in East Belfast. We are keen that the regulator supports this application.

East Belfast should be a priority area for investment to address the flooding issue. A failure to do so will see the area becoming blighted with a loss of confidence from both the business community and residents.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Robin Newton'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

**CLLR. ROBIN NEWTON MBE, MLA**  
**ASSEMBLY MEMBER FOR EAST BELFAST**