

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 17 January 2022 19:10  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: Acknowledgement of Receipt of Fluoridation Questions  
**Attachments:** UU Letter to Cumbria County Council\_Redacted.pdf; Letter to The Right Honourable Sajid Javid MP from Colin Cox - Director of Public Health - Cumbria - 20211005.pdf

**Categories:** Response required

Dear [REDACTED]

I hesitate to remind you that there is a reply outstanding to the email below.

I realise how busy you are and appreciate, very much, the work you and your team are doing in tackling this terrible pandemic. Thank you.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 24 December 2021, 15:43:02 GMT  
**Subject:** Re: Acknowledgement of Receipt of Fluoridation Questions

Dear [REDACTED]

Good Afternoon.

Thank you for your email and the attached United Utilities and Cumbria County Council letters.

I note from your letter to the Secretary of State dated 5th October 2021 that you requested an opinion within 14 days and you are still awaiting his reply. I assume you have followed this up and would be grateful if you will forward confirmation of this and the reply once you receive it along with any other associated correspondence.

I will also be obliged if you will advise me how and when you intend to deal with the county wide public consultation requirements of this process.

Once again my sincere thanks for you assistance.

With kind regards

and

Wishing you and your family a very Happy Christmas and all the best for 2022.

[REDACTED]

On Friday, 24 December 2021, 09:30:58 GMT, [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Please find attached copies of the letter from United Utilities to Cumbria County Council and the subsequent letter sent from Cumbria County Council to the Secretary of State, as requested. Please note that the letter from United Utilities has been redacted at their request to remove the names of individuals as they consider this to be personal data.

As I have already stated, I have no information about the costs of plant, machinery or operating costs. The latter in particular are variable year to year in any case. However efficiencies could be expected from moving to a single plant rather than running two.

All the best, and have a good Christmas.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Director of Public Health

Cumbria County Council

Cumbria House

107-117 Botchergate

Carlisle

CA1 1RZ

Mobile: [REDACTED]

**Please be aware that I work flexible hours, so while this is a convenient time for me to send this email to you I do not expect a response from you outside your normal working hours.**



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 22 December 2021 19:38  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Acknowledgement of Receipt of Fluoridation Questions

Dear [REDACTED]

Many thanks for your reply of 21st. December and confirmation that Cumbria County Council has written to the Secretary of State and I look forward to receipt of a copy of this letter and the associated correspondence I requested in my previous email along with a copy of the SoS reply when received.

In order to determine whether the Williamsgate variation is "operable and efficient" the Secretary of State will require details of costings of plant, machinery and operating costs from United Utilities. I would be obliged if you will provide me with these details which will need to be taken into account in the decision making process and will therefore be readily available.

Many thanks again for your assistance.

Wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy 2022.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On Tuesday, 21 December 2021, 17:50:31 GMT, [REDACTED]

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thanks for prompting me – as you say it's got a bit busy in recent days. I'm sending a partial answer now so you get a rapid response to your prompt, and then I'll be able to dig out the documents etc that you've asked for (at least any that I hold) later.

We have initiated the process you describe and have written to the [REDACTED] to ask his view on whether the variation is "operable and efficient". We currently await his reply.

With regard to the plant at Williamsgate – I have no documentation on this nor any information on the capital cost as it is not something that is funded by the County Council. The matter of what technical facilities are in place at Williamsgate is one for United Utilities to decide on; I would assume that rather than getting permission to build it they sought assurance that the capital cost would be met by Public Health England (as it was – now the DHSC Office for Health Improvement and Disparities) before they went ahead.

I hope that's helpful and I will endeavour to provide you with the letters in the coming day or two.

All the best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Director of Public Health

Cumbria County Council

Cumbria House

107-117 Botchergate

Carlisle

CA1 1RZ

Mobile: [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 21 December 2021 17:03  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Acknowledgement of Receipt of Fluoridation Questions

Dear [REDACTED]

I realise that you will be extremely busy ,for obvious reasons, but not having had an acknowledgement to the email below, which I sent on the 8th. December, worries me and I am concerned that it may have gone astray as sometimes happens with electronic communications.

Please be so kind as to acknowledge safe receipt of my emails and respond to the questions contained therein in a timely fashion.

If I may take this opportunity to thank you and your NHS team for the outstanding work you and they have done ,and are doing , to tackle Covid-19 and the Omicron variant. Well done indeed.

I am hoping you will get to spend some time with your family over the Christmas period and wish you a happy time and all the best for 2022.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your confirmation that the water fluoridation scheme from Williamsgate water treatment works is a "VARIATION" of an existing scheme and not a "NEW SCHEME" and that you, [REDACTED] as the Director of Public Health are the responsible person and the appointed point of contact for the local authority Cumbria County Council ( CCC) in this matter.

We should be grateful if you would provide the information requested and answers to the following questions.

Our understanding is that under current legislation (Water Industry Act 1991) and The Water Fluoridation(proposals and consultation)(England) regulations 2013 that the statutory process for seeking approval of the "variation" is for the local authority to submit a proposal to the Secretary of State (SoS) for Health and Social Care showing the scheme to be operable and efficient. If the SoS agrees, permission is granted to proceed to the next stage of consultation. Based on the results of the public consultation, and following a request from the local authority, the SoS could then give the go-ahead for the scheme.

Will you please advise:

If CCC intend to follow this process? If not why not?

If the process has already started, how far CCC have progressed in this process?

Provide the documentary evidence for each stage of the process(eg: confirmation from United Utilities that the scheme is operable and efficient, letter requesting SoS approval etc.)

Who gave the approval for the fluoridating equipment to be installed in the Williamsgate WTW (...."as the capital works at the Williamsgate treatment plant were met by central government) Page 47 of the report below ?

<https://councilportal.cumbria.gov.uk/documents/g11486/Public%20reports%20pack%2024th-Nov-2021%2010.00%20Scrutiny%20Management%25%20s.pdf?T=10>

When was this approval given?

Provide documentary evidence for this approval.

How much did the capital equipment cost?

I would expect to have your reply within the next seven working days IE: by the 17th. December 2021.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**WARNING:** Email attachments may contain malicious and harmful software. If this email is unsolicited and contains an attachment **DO NOT** open the attachment and advise the ICT Service Desk immediately. Never open an attachment or click on a link within an email if you are not expecting it or it looks suspicious.