

Long Stratton Foul Sewer Survey 2007

As part of the works to understand the operation and performance of foul sewers in The Street and Swan Lane, Long Stratton, a closed circuit television survey (CCTV) was completed during December 2007.

In response to the findings of this survey the following works are proposed:

- Continuation of the regular cleansing of the sewers using high-pressure water jetting equipment. These works have been proven to be required on a 6 monthly basis, as is currently the case. It is anticipated that the cleaning will take place during February, assuming that entry to the busy A140 can be agreed with Norfolk County Council Highways Department. Completion of these works will ensure the maximum capacity of the sewers and reduce the risk of blockages.
- Two sections of sewer have been identified as being in poor structural condition. Whilst they are not at immediate risk of collapse, these will be promoted for rehabilitation works and consideration for inclusion in our capital programme during the next financial year (08/09).
- South Norfolk Council and Anglian Water staff will visit local food outlets jointly, in an effort to raise awareness to the importance of considerate disposal of oils, fats and greases from cooking processes. This again will assist in the maintenance of sewer capacity and reduce the likelihood of blockages.
- Sewage from the outlying parishes of Wacton and Aslacton is pumped into Long Stratton sewers. These discharges give rise to odour complaints and during rainfall can take up valuable capacity within the system. To minimise these impacts it is proposed to review the septicity control equipment at the pumping stations involved and try to identify any surface water flows that can be removed from the network. It is not known if any such discharges exist, but every effort will be made to reduce the flows from these villages.
- In a joint effort with South Norfolk Council it is proposed to undertake a general campaign to raise customer awareness of the importance of controlling the waste that is disposed of to sewers. The disposal of certain products and especially fats, oils and greases as domestic refuse would assist greatly in reducing sewer blockages by minimising the build up of debris within sewers.
- Anglian Water is keen to monitor flows within its sewers, such that proactive action can be taken when these flows begin to reach the sewer's capacity. Trials are currently taking place of new technologies to enable this monitoring over wider areas and Long Stratton will be considered as a suitable location for the longer-term use of this equipment, should it become available.
- The consideration of the impact of growth within catchments is a concern to Anglian Water and its customers. All planning applications are reviewed when received and comments returned to either the developer or the planning authority. Anglian Water is not a statutory consultee on planning issues (i.e. Anglian Water has no legal obligation to comment), but we make every effort to ensure that customers are protected from flooding and regularly request delays in construction, so as to allow time for sewer improvement works to be designed and constructed, before new houses are built.
- Before a case for investment can be made it is vital that our records accurately reflect the performance of our assets. A primary source of this evidence is customer calls to report blockages and flooding incidents. The reports are essential if we are to understand the nature and frequency of such events and help with the prioritisation of investments. It is therefore essential that customers report all incidents where our assets fail to provide the service that is expected. When calling our customer services department a job will be raised and the job number should be requested for future reference.