

Dear Resident,

Update on Mains Drainage Charges

As a resident of New Romney, you may be aware that you are likely to be affected by the new mains drainage system to be installed by Southern Water.

I have discovered that Southern Water have now confirmed that residents wishing to connect to the new scheme may face costs of **up to £6,000** to connect. I believe that this is a staggering amount of money! The cost of connecting is so high because Southern Water are insisting that residents pay for the lateral pipe that runs from their property to the new sewer in the road.

What is astonishing is that my research shows that other water companies in other parts of the country are installing similar schemes - and **not** charging the residents to connect. Not only that, companies such as Anglia Water are putting in new mains drainage systems, **NOT** charging for the laterals **AND** giving a **FREE** year without any sewage charges to residents!

I am writing to Southern Water to demand that they look again at this outrageous situation. I understand that Southern Water is a company and needs to make a profit. However, if companies like Anglia can come up with such a good deal - **why can't Southern Water do something similar?** I believe that if the cost of the connection was reduced, more people would connect, so Southern Water would have more paying customers and in the end they would still make money.

If you support me in asking Southern Water to look at this again, please let me know either by writing to me or by emailing me at: peter@shepwaylibdems.org.uk

I will let you know what reply I get from Southern Water. I intend to press this point at every opportunity - including at the forthcoming exhibition of the new scheme planned for later this month.

Best wishes,



Peter Carroll,
Parliamentary Spokesman for Shepway Lib Dems

