Modification of the conditions of appointment (licences) of Dee Valley Water and Dŵr Cymru

On 14 November 2013, Ofwat issued notice of its proposal to modify the conditions of appointment of Dee Valley Water and Dŵr Cymru (the Welsh companies). The notice (issued under section 13 of the Water Industry Act 1991) can be viewed here. The companies agreed to the modification which was set out in the section 13 notice.

This notice confirms Ofwat has modified licence condition A for Dee Valley Water and Dŵr Cymru and that this modification had effect from 1 April 2014.

The modified condition A for Dee Valley Water and Dŵr Cymru can be viewed on our website. The background and the reasons for the modification are set out below.

Background and reasons for the modifications

Responsibility for water policy and legislation in Wales is largely devolved to the Welsh Government. The Welsh Government’s jurisdiction under the Water Industry Act 1991 covers those companies which serve areas that are wholly or mainly in Wales. Dee Valley Water and Dŵr Cymru operate water (and, for Dŵr Cymru, wastewater) networks in areas that are mainly in Wales.

The modification recognised within the Welsh companies’ licences the existence of a separate policy, legislative and regulatory framework in Wales. The modification makes sure that these licences reflect the way in which this framework applies in practice.

The modification inserted a new sub-paragraph into condition A of each of the licences stating that all licence conditions will, so far as is consistent with other statutory duties and powers, be construed in accordance with relevant considerations specific to Wales.

End