



**Scottish  
Water**

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# Objectives

## Welcome to Scottish Water's information event about plans for the waste water treatment works in Gairloch

Scottish Water is planning to invest £800,000 in Gairloch Waste Water Treatment Works which serves around 1,000 Customers in Wester Ross.

The investment will improve the reliability and sustainability of the facility whilst continuing to protect the environment.

The objectives of the session are:

- To provide information on the planned work
- To gather feedback from the community

We have information on:

- Where the site is located
- What we need to do and why
- Regulatory process and standards
- Licence Application process
- What happens next

We want to continue to speak and listen to you throughout the project and will post regular updates on our dedicated webpage: [www.scottishwater.co.uk/gairloch](http://www.scottishwater.co.uk/gairloch)



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# Where is the site located?







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# What we need to do and why

The existing membranes are reaching the end of their lifespan, are unreliable and difficult to operate and maintain due to frequent blockages. Our experience of the membranes performance at this site has been significantly different to our original expectations in terms of performance, cost, complexity and frequency of cleaning.

As part of Scottish Water's commitments to reduce the carbon footprint associated with waste water treatment and to help keep customer charges down, we have reviewed the long term treatment requirements at Gairloch and will replace the existing membrane plant with a new modern septic tank system.

The septic tank system can address the problems experienced with the membranes and while still meeting regulatory standards with a lower operational carbon footprint. The improved reliability and sustainability of the process will use much less electricity. We are also taking the opportunity to renew the pumps and controls at Lonemore Wastewater pumping Station.

Following an independent study using accepted analytical methods, it has been identified that a 25 metre extension to the existing outfall pipe is required which will take the pipe 80 metres out from the shore.



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# Regulatory Process and Standards

Scottish Water will work with its environmental regulator, SEPA, to ensure that the discharge of treated waste water from the site meets the standards set for a discharge of this nature to Loch Gairloch. Our current proposal will meet the current standards required and we have provided supporting information to SEPA to justify our application for a CAR Licence.

We have also provided further information on our webpage  
[:www.scottishwater.co.uk/gairloch](http://www.scottishwater.co.uk/gairloch)

If the standards required for a discharge to Loch Gairloch are tightened in the future, perhaps as a result of the recent application for a Bathing Water designation, Scottish Water will carry out the necessary work to comply with the tighter standard once details of the new standards are known and mitigating actions identified and agreed with all stakeholders.



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# Licence Application Process

We have applied to SEPA for a CAR Licence relating to the discharge of effluent to Loch Gairloch. This was advertised in the Ross-shire Journal on the Friday 8th July 2016 giving a brief description of the work and details of how to find out more and make any representations. The documents relating to the CAR licence application can be viewed on SEPA's website. The closing date for representations to SEPA in respect of this application is Friday 5th August 2016.

We have also applied for a marine construction licence from Marine Scotland. This was also advertised in the Ross-shire Journal on the Friday 8th July 2016 giving a brief description of the work and details of how to find out more and make any representations.

The documents relating to the marine licence application are available to view at Gairloch Library. The closing date for representations to Marine Scotland in respect of this application is also Friday 5th August 2016.

At the end of these processes the relevant authorities will determine whether or not they grant approval of these licences.



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# What happens next?

Provided we are granted the licences we require, it is planned to commence construction in late autumn 2016 with a view to completing work by late spring 2017.

We will continue to keep you informed and should any change be required to the current plans, we will make the required changes.