

## **CAR/L/1002928 – Gairloch WWTW – Technical Variation**

### **Non-technical summary of proposals**

Scottish Water is working hard to always do the right thing for the environment and our customers in Scotland and we are currently reviewing the waste water treatment arrangements for the Gairloch catchment area.

The existing membrane treatment process used at the works has proven un-reliable to operate and maintain. We therefore want to change how we treat the waste water to make it more reliable and sustainable. The new septic tank process will achieve the environmental discharge quality requirements, with a lower carbon footprint, using a more sustainable and proven technology with an extended outfall.

We have recently obtained planning approval for the re-development of the existing waste water treatment site. We are now applying to the SEPA for a CAR licence to extend the current outfall to a suitable discharge point. We have already consulted SEPA as part of the pre-application review process. In parallel with the CAR Licence we will also apply to Marine Scotland for a Marine Licence construction consent. Subject to approval of the licences, work will begin on site in late autumn 2016 and last until late spring 2017.

We have assessed the impact of the proposed changes to the treatment and extension of the outfall and confirmed that it will comply with the current environmental designations (please see the attached supporting information capturing results from Anderson Marine Survey). Bathymetry has shown the co-ordinates of the existing end of pipe to be 177074, 877405. Scottish Water proposes, as part of the current project, to extend the end of pipe 25m to 177062, 877383 in order to meet the required dilutions for septic tank treatment.

We now understand that the community has applied for bathing water designation on the beaches nearby. This application is still to be determined, but Scottish Water will work with SEPA to ensure our discharge meets their environmental standards.