

Centre City Tower, 7 Hill Street, Birmingham B5 4UA
11 Westferry Circus, Canary Wharf, London E14 4HD

The Rt Hon Alistair Carmichael MP
Chair, Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee

19 August 2026

OFFICIAL – SENSITIVE

Dear Mr Carmichael

Possible unauthorised disclosure of confidential correspondence to the EFRA committee

I refer to your letter of 12 August. We share your concern.

We have undertaken a thorough investigation into who had access to the letter we received from Sir Adrian Montague or otherwise details of its contents. Given the sensitivity, this was a very narrow group of individuals within Ofwat.

I can assure you that no unauthorised disclosure has been identified, with no evidence of any contact by any individual with sight of the letter or its contents with Sky News, the author of the article, any other media organisation or any external organisation before the Committee published it.

Our communications team responded to a small number of media queries about the article after it was published on 10 August. In response, they referred more broadly only to Ofwat policy on remuneration. They were not contacted prior to that.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely



Iain Coucher
Chair