



YorkshireWater

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Our reference KW/JAC/

Dear Ms Creasy

### Surface Area Water Charges

Thank you for your letter dated 5 January 2009 relating to charging community groups for surface water drainage.

In Yorkshire the surface water drainage is charged on a banded tariff based on the surface area of the premises. There is no allowance or capping of charges given for charitable organisations. Our non-domestic customers were moved to a tariff based on area in 2001/02, therefore Scout groups in the Yorkshire region already pay based on this method. As there is no change in policy, there will consequently be no change to customer bills.

Our current policy is in accordance with our licence agreement. Under condition E we must ensure that our surface water drainage charges are neither unduly preferential nor unduly discriminatory towards any class of customer. Ofwat also asks companies to demonstrate that charges reflect the overall costs incurred in providing a service to these groups of customers.

Whilst we are unable to reduce the charges for Scout Groups in Yorkshire, we would be happy to consider any other form of assistance you may require. Please contact Dean Stewart on 01274 691111 if you wish to progress this further.

Yours sincerely

**Kevin Whiteman**  
**Chairman & Chief Executive**