

WHOLESALE CHARGES DEFERRAL SCHEME

The Commission brought into force the Wholesale Charges Deferral Scheme (WCDS) on 14th May 2020. It was one of two Charges Relief Schemes aimed at assisting non-household customers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission's final decision on the schemes can be found at:

<https://www.watercommission.co.uk/UserFiles/documents/Charges%20Relief%20Schemes.pdf>

Under the WCDS licensed providers must apply, if requested by their customer, to Scottish Water for a deferral of volumetric charging for water and sewerage. Additionally, non-household premises with a 25 mm or smaller meter and non-household unmeasured premises and those premises with surface water drainage only can also require their licensed provider to apply to Scottish Water for a 60% deferral of their wholesale fixed charges. Inclusion in the WCDS can be backdated to 24 March 2020.

After further discussion and consideration, the Commission released an update "COVID-19 Measures in Support of Non-household customers - Additions to the Wholesale Deferral Scheme" which can be found at:

<https://www.watercommission.co.uk/UserFiles/documents/Additions%20to%20the%20Wholesale%20Deferral%20Scheme.pdf>

This gave licensed providers further options in relation to the implementation to the WCDS.

Licensed providers were asked to respond to the Commission by 8th of June indicating which option they had chosen to implement. Any licensed provider not opting for one of these three options must prominently highlight this on its website and write to all potentially affected customers explaining why it has not opted into these schemes. Licensed providers not opting into the Scheme must allow any customer to switch to an alternative licensed provider without any penalty or cost to the customer - irrespective of the contract that is in place. The licensed provider must draw the attention of their customers to the list of licensed providers that have opted into the schemes that will be on the Scotland On Tap website.

The list of license providers who opted into the scheme by adopting one of the 3 options were:

Affinity for Business (Retail) Ltd
Aimera Ltd
Anglian Water Business
Blue Business Water Ltd
Castle Water Limited
Clear Business Water Limited
Commercial Water Solutions Ltd
Earls Gate Water Ltd
Everflow Ltd
Lettermay Ltd
NWG Business Ltd
Pure (CGV) Ltd
Scottish Water Business Stream Limited
Smarta Water Limited
Source For Business Ltd

South Staffordshire Water Business Limited
Sutton and East Surrey Water Services Ltd.
The Water Retail Company Ltd
Veolia Water Projects Limited
Water 2 Business Limited
Water Plus Ltd
Water Plus Select Ltd