

Attn: Nick Clark

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For immediate release

Media Release

Southern Water acts to improve water quality in Tunbridge

Southern Water has undertaken an intensive flushing and scouring program of water mains in the Midlands township of Tunbridge to improve water quality for local residents.

Executive Manager Service Delivery, Mr Ian Dunbabin, said the local reservoir, which services the town, had also been refilled to raise the quality of the water.

“We are now getting acceptable results from the program and I would encourage local residents to flush their own domestic systems by running taps for a period of up to 15 minutes to clear any turbidity from their pipes,” he said.

“While the water is perfectly safe, we have provided bottled water to affected households as a short term measure.”

Mr Dunbabin said the problems affecting Tunbridge were long-running and reflected the difficulties faced by many rural communities where water systems had been developed on an ad hoc basis over a long period of time.

“In the case of Tunbridge, water is drawn from the river and held in a reservoir before being distributed through the mains,” he said.

“The quality of water provided to households can be impacted by the weather and activity in the local catchment area. Problems do occur from time to time and we’re closely monitoring the performance of the system.

“We’ll continue the program of regular flushing to keep the water supply at an acceptable standard.” Mr Dunbabin said Southern Water sincerely regretted any inconvenience to Tunbridge residents. “We are aware of their concerns and have done everything we can to address them as promptly as possible,” he said.

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