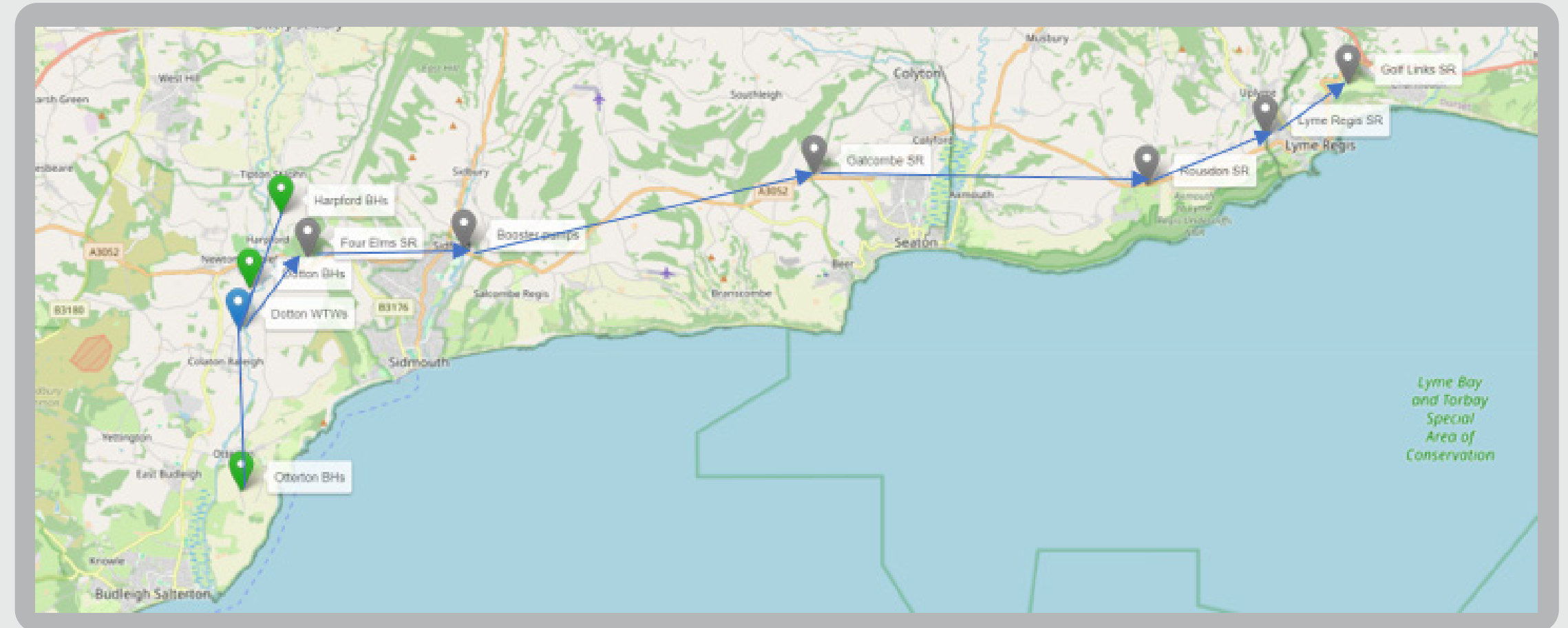


# Lyme Regis' drinking water

## Where does our drinking water come from?

Water supplied to Lyme Regis is predominantly treated at **Dotton Water Treatment Works (WTW)**. Water supplied from Dotton is sourced from boreholes drilled deep into the ground.

**Dotton WTW treats approximately 25MI/d (25 million litres per day, that is 10 Olympic sized swimming pools)**



## Our local quality water

Water quality in East Devon is amongst the best in the country. Small amounts of calcium and magnesium that are naturally present in the sandstone and limestone in East Devon are dissolved into the water as it progresses its journey through the ground and these minerals give the water its hardness.

## Protecting supply resilience

Strategies in place for water supply resilience (during drought) of the water network in the South West is complex. Support to East Devon can be provided by reconfiguring the network and supply water treated from other parts of the East Devon region, which include water treated as far away as Tiverton!

## Future investment plans

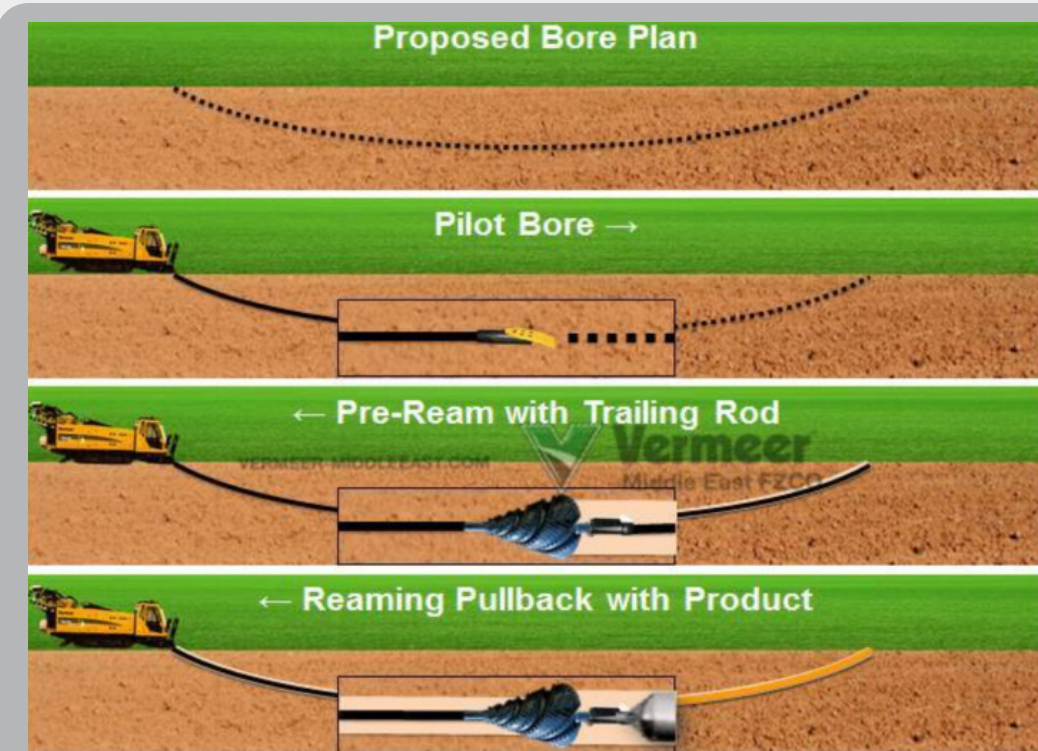
In the next investment period (2025-2030) we are investing to improve the appearance of supplies in East Devon. As part of this plan the treated water from Dotton will benefit from the construction of enhanced manganese removal processes.

# Operational activity in Lyme Regis

## Uplyme Rising Main repair

Work to repair the burst rising main at Uplyme is now complete. The replacement section of the Rising Main was designed with increased capacity to help ensure future resilience.

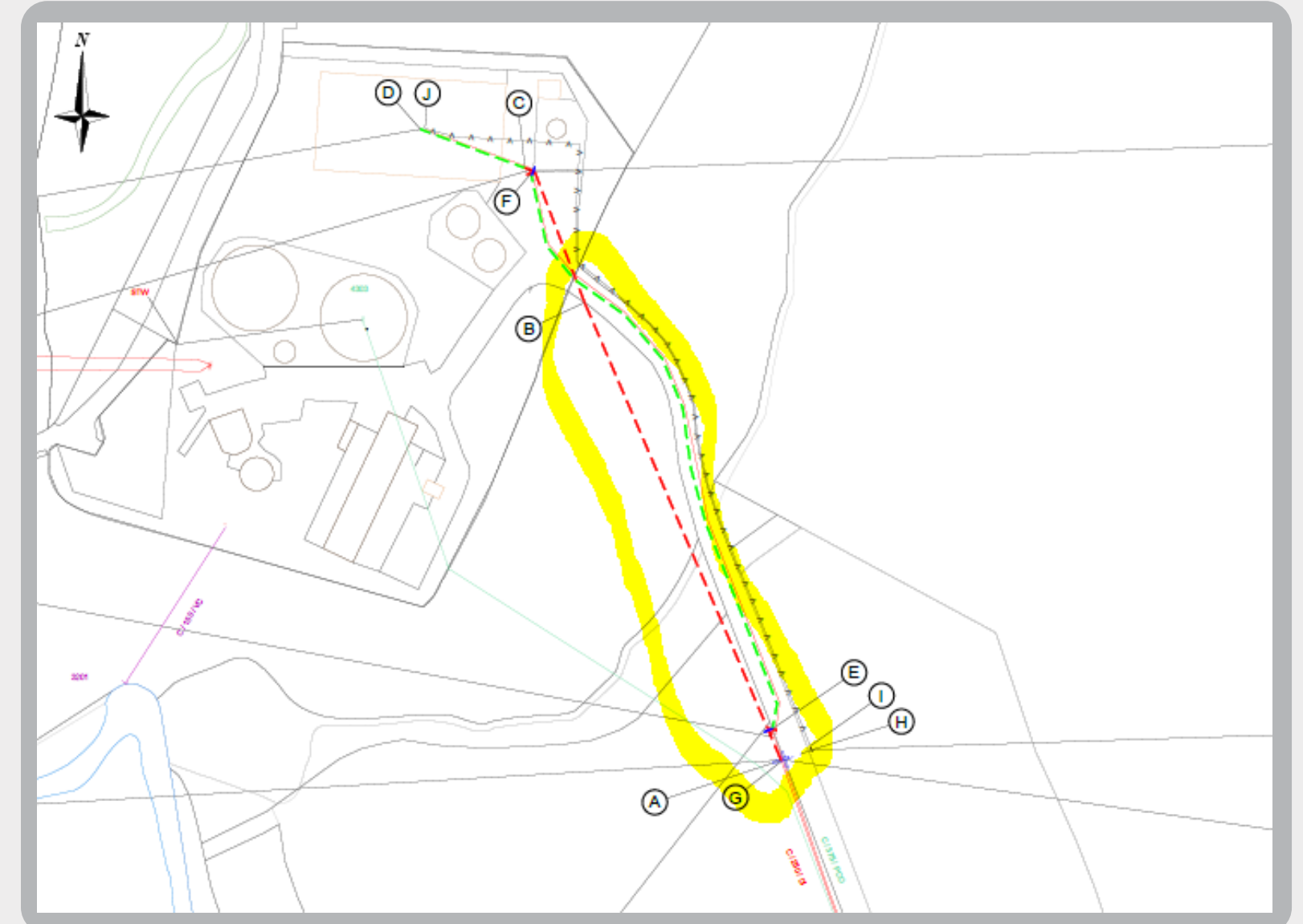
The replacement was installed using directional drilling, a trenchless technology now commonly adopted to limit environmental impact and avoid open cut installation. The directional drilling process meant that the new pipework was welded to form a continuous length, pulled through the hole drilled underground and then connected to the existing service.



**Directional drilling**



**The temporary overland solution used for the Uplyme Rising Main**



### Uplyme Rising Main repair

The red dotted line shows the route of the replacement section of pipe, now in place.

The green line shows the route of the original pipe.

The black line shows the route of the temporary overlander.

## Sewer network cleansing programme

We have a programme of proactive cleansing of key parts of the network in Lyme Regis. This activity helps us keep the network flowing smoothly. As is always the case, these cleanses require dry weather in order to take place.

Current planned cleansing work in the catchment for 2024 include

- Uplyme Sewage Treatment Works storm tanks programmed to happen before end April
- Gun Cliff Pumping Station, Marine Parade large storm tank clean at the end of the bathing season (Oct)
- Gore Lane to Tappers Knapp (Sept).
- Marine Parade (Sept/Oct)

# Investing in the Lyme Regis wastewater network

## Investing to reduce storm overflow spill numbers in Lyme Regis

South West Water have begun an Impermeable Areas Survey of the whole area in and around Lyme Regis. This will help us build and refine our hydraulic model of the catchment. From the model we will be able to identify suitable areas where we can carry out surface water separation and infiltration reduction to remove excess flows currently entering the combined network.

Removal of excess non-foul flows will be a key part of our storm overflow spill reduction strategy for Lyme Regis. This is likely to include a combination of surface water separation and storm storage solutions, as well as some infiltration reduction through sewer rehabilitation.

## Improving the River Lim storm overflows

Our investment programme will see us improve all storm overflows discharging to the River Lim by 2027. Improvements will target each overflow achieving 2 or less spills in the bathing season (May to Sept) or 10 spills or less a year as per Storm Overflow Reduction Plan targets. The costs to achieve our spill targets will be calculated once the modelling of the catchment has been completed and the suitable interventions have been designed.

The storm overflows in this programme are; Mill Lane CSO, Uplyme STW SSO, Goslings Bridge CSO, Jericho CSO, Hornbridge PS CSO, Guncliff SPS CSO

## River Lim storm overflows

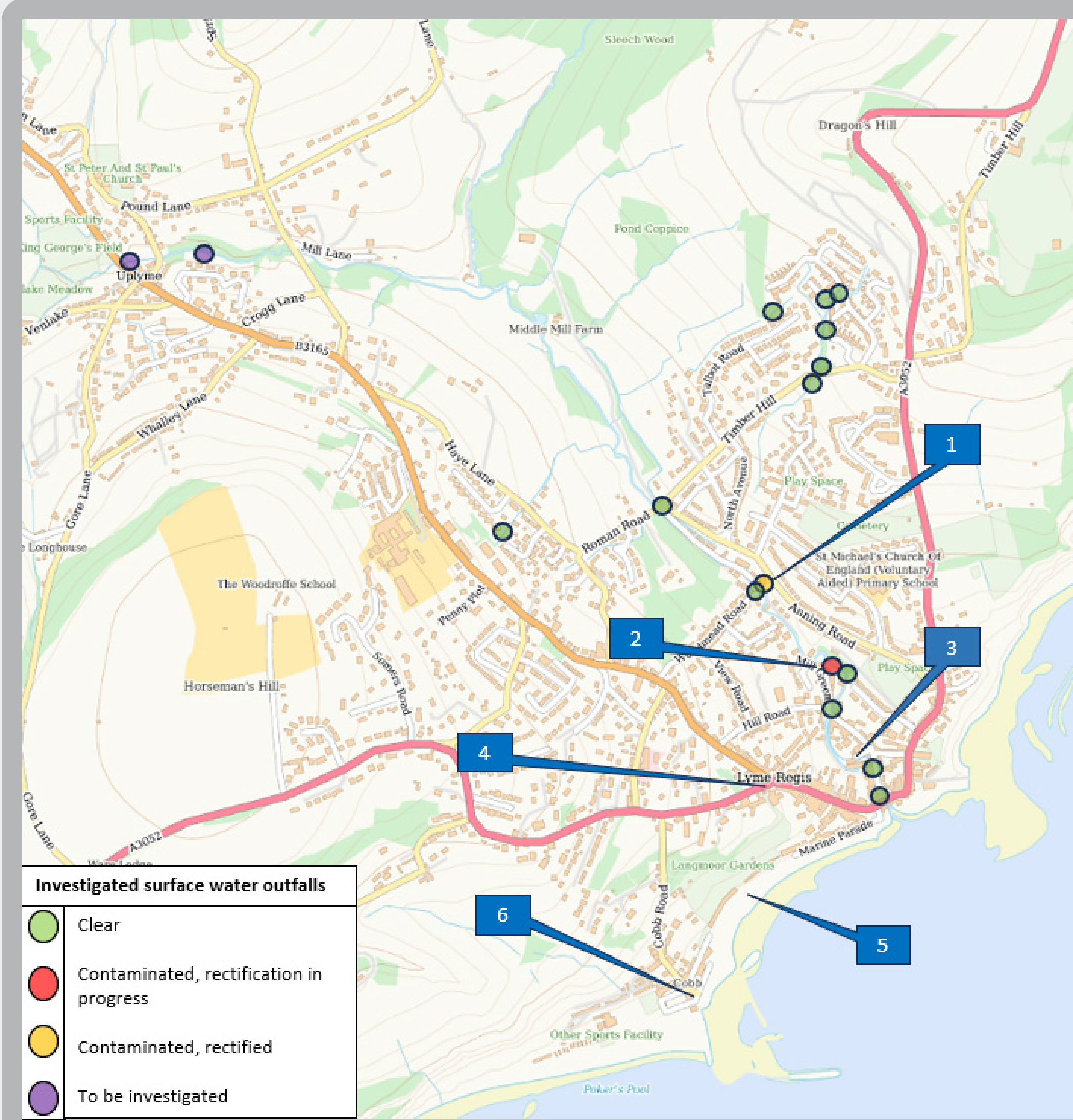
| Name                               | Type                                         | Location   |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------|
| Goslings Bridge                    | Combined Storm Overflow                      | Lyme Regis |
| Gun Cliff Pump Station             | Combined Storm Overflow & Emergency Overflow | Lyme Regis |
| Horn Bridge Pump Station           | Combined Storm Overflow & Emergency Overflow | Lyme Regis |
| Jericho                            | Combined Storm Overflow                      | Lyme Regis |
| Mill Lane                          | Combined Storm Overflow                      | Uplyme     |
| Uplyme Waste Water Treatment Works | Emergency Overflow                           | Uplyme     |
|                                    | Storm Tank Overflow                          | Uplyme     |

**The Cobb Pumping Station**  
Work at the Cobb Pumping Station (associated with Lyme Regis Front Beach Bathing Water) is scheduled for completion by 2030.

**Horn Bridge Pumping Station**  
We are completing upgrades at Horn Bridge Pumping Station under Water Fit (up to 2025). With further investment up to 2027 to ensure the overflow meets Storm Overflow Reduction Plan targets alongside the other River Lim overflows.

# Lyme Regis and the River Lim catchment

## Investigation and survey locations in Lyme Regis



### Key

- 1. Contaminated Surface water outfall 9506**  
Investigations led to 35 properties being dye tested to check for misconnections, identifying 2 misconnected properties, which were rectified by the property owners. Further investigations identified defects on SWW's combined sewer that were contaminated the surface line, these defects were repaired in June 2023, stopping the pollution.
- 2. Contaminated Surface water outfall 1410**  
Proactive investigations found contamination at surface water outfall 1410. Investigations found defects in the foul and surface line caused by ground movement. Sewer defects have since been repaired. Further investigations have observed a reduction but continuation in contamination (from >6mg/l to 3mg/l). Further investigations to identify other sources.
- 3. Discharge from Wall into River Lim**  
The Misconnections Team found a high ammonia discharge from the wall beside the River Lim, no SWW assets present to cause the discharge. Information has been passed to the nearby business to investigate.
- 4. Regent Cinema**  
Our Misconnections team identified third party damage to the combined sewer outside Regent Cinema, this was possibly allowing sewage to enter the nearby highways line, but no contamination was observed at the highway's outfall. Repairs completed 26/01/2024.
- 5. Marine Parade**  
CCTV survey of SWW combined sewer and Highways surface water line. No defects on the sewer found. Evidence of a possible misconnection found on the highways line, with Highways to investigate.
- 6. West end of Marine Parade**  
CCTV of SWW's combined sewer identified sewer defects, these were repaired. Highways

# Lyme Regis and the River Lim catchment

## Water quality in the River Lim

Water quality in the River Lim catchment has been extensively monitored since June 2023.

This monitoring has shown the River Lim to be a river of good water quality, subject to short-lived transient inputs of highly turbid water during periods of heavy rainfall. The most frequent and largest of these inputs being upstream of South West Water infrastructure and most likely comprises of agricultural runoff combined with re-suspended sediment.

A small number of intermittent discharges from storm overflows cause only a localised and quickly diluted input of ammonium during very large storm events.

Presence of faecal bacteria e.coli and intestinal enterococci throughout the river is consistent with our conclusions that agricultural inputs are a significant input to the river. They also suggest an element of contamination that continues to occur during both wet and dry weather.

## Water quality monitoring locations on the River Lim



## The designation of Church Beach as a Bathing Water

The local community have put a proposal forward to designate Church Beach as a Bathing Water. We are now awaiting the decision by DEFRA, likely to be made before the 2024 bathing season starts in May.

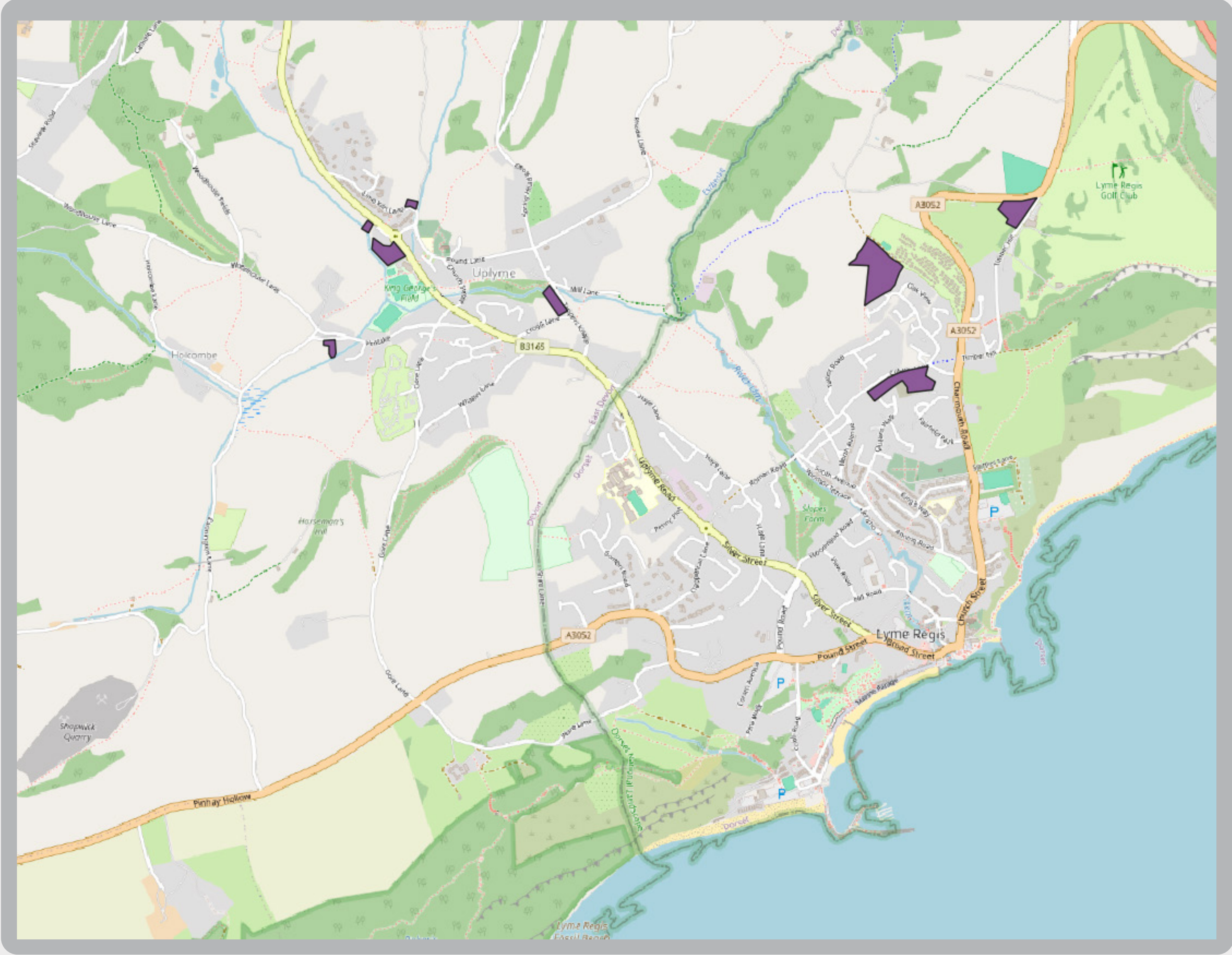
The designation (or not) of Church Beach does not change any decision South West Water have already made to improve storm overflows in Lyme Regis.

## Investigations into misconnections in Lyme Regis

Our team have also been carrying out work to identify and rectify misconnections in and around Lyme Regis. As misconnections can introduce non-foul flows to the network, they can contribute to storm overflow activity. We have already delivered a substantial catchment-based investigations programme, working closely with the Town Council and the local community group, the River Lim Action Group.

# Future proposed development in Lyme Regis (Local Plan)

Areas of proposed new development in and around Lyme Regis



| Site Name                   | Dwellings |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Timber Hill                 | 15        |
| Land West of Heron's Brook  | 4         |
| Woodberry Down Extension    | 40        |
| Mrs Ethelstone's CE Academy | School    |
| Land at End of Mastes Close | 5         |
| Land off Kiln Road          | 4         |
| Land at Tappers Knapp       | 14        |
| Colway Lane                 | 46        |

# Lyme Regis Front Beach



## Impacts on bathing water quality

2023 - Good  
★★

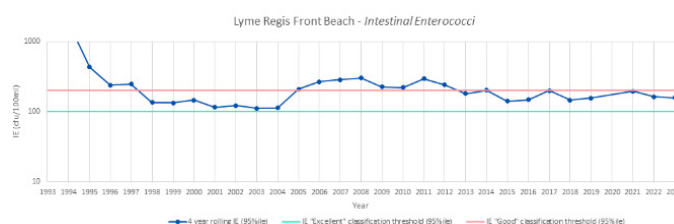
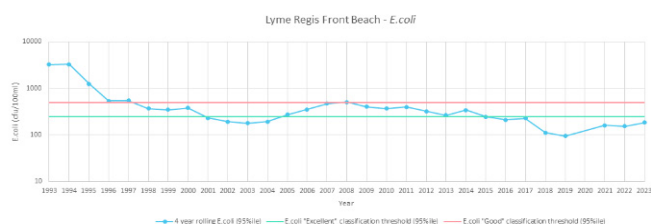
2022 - Good  
★★

2021 - Good  
★★

## Delivering Excellent bathing water quality

The graphs below show the reduction in harmful bacteria in the Environment Agency's (EA) water samples since the 1990s. Escherichia coli and Intestinal enterococci exist in all open water - they are found in human and animal poo, and get into the water via sewage spills, road drainage, agricultural livestock, or wildlife and birds. The EA uses the levels of these bacteria to decide whether to award this beach bathing water status.

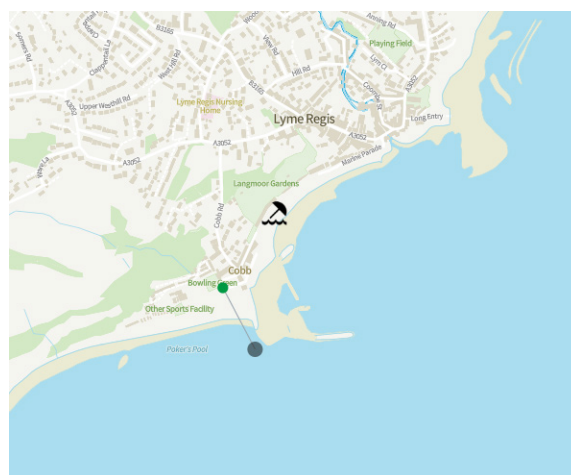
In 1989, when the water industry was privatised, water quality at Lynmouth did not meet EA standards. The water quality at this site has been rated Good or Excellent since 2014.



## Reducing spills into the Sea

There is one storm overflow located near Lyme Regis Front Beach, all designed to protect homes from sewer flooding in extreme weather.

|                                               | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
|-----------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| The Cobb pumping station overflow, Lyme Regis | 13   | 9    | 18   | 7    |



The dots show where the overflows and EDMs are located

## Investment highlights for up to 2025

separating sewers

Stopping rainwater and groundwater entering the sewers