

To whom it may concern

Water is not a luxury but a necessity - without it we humans will die - yet the cost of providing water to us goes up and up irrespective of what our income does

I am in the autumn of my life - over the hill and no longer employable - 65 and it is all down hill from here

Yet I am faced with a diminishing income and ever increasing costs of surviving - everything is increasing at a much greater amount than my income which is now below the poverty line

We used to get an allowance of water each year at no extra cost - now that our deluded government/over paid public servants decided to sell the farm and put our water in the hands of self interested greedy privateers we are expected to pay for infrastructure we don't use, expensive water we cannot afford but cannot live without and with no recognition of the mess public servants and governments have made of our lives.

My once lovely garden is no more - I could not afford to water the plants so they died. I had eight silver birch trees and a liquid amber growing in my garden - all dead now due not being able to afford the water especially in the time of drought.

I have put in all sorts of water catching ways, recycled all my grey water and gone without - showered for less than 3 minutes every second or third day - until it has hurt over and over again. My once lovely clean toilet bowl is permanently stained with uric acid from "leaving it be" and only flushing when it was "brown" - disgusting and horrid - but with the drought I did all I could while the water companies put UP THE WATER COSTS even tho we were going without so they didn't suffer any losses due to our diligence in saving water.

Now you want to allow the greedy PRIVATE water companies to put the prices up again.

Are they making a profit of any kind and if so why should I have to go without this necessity so they can make MORE profit????

Pensioners and self funded retirees should NOT have to pay for water at all. If our income is below the poverty line our water, gas and electricity should be free.

Over 65's are becoming the medium number of the population, ignore us at your peril. Consider us when making decisions or you may not be in a position to adversely effect our lives for much longer.

Yours in disgust

Dianne Cowling