

# A guide to making a **complaint**

#### Can I make a complaint?

You can make a complaint if you're dissatisfied with Stonewater's services, including if:

- You have told Stonewater about a service that you need and we've not responded appropriately.
- One of our contracting partners has failed to fix an issue or acted inappropriately.
- Stonewater has mishandled a report of antisocial behaviour.
- A Stonewater policy has been breached or incorrectly followed.

In some circumstances, we won't be able to investigate your complaint, this includes if we're already investigating or if there's another process you can follow to resolve the issue. We outline both when we can and can't investigate your complaint in our Complaints, Compliments and Comments Policy\*.

If we can't investigate your complaint for you, we'll explain why and direct you to the Housing Ombudsman Service for support.

\*You can read our Complaints, Compliments and Comment Policy at www.stonewater.org/about-us/policies/

## Can someone else complain on my behalf?

Yes - someone else can complain on your behalf. This may be a friend, family member, a local councillor or MP. We'll need you to share written permission with us so we can discuss your case with them.

# 16 & 17 year-olds in our supported accommodation

At any time, you can ask the Children's Commissioner's Office for help with your complaint and ask them to provide an advocate. They can help with any aspect of your complaint about the services you've received from us or your home and can look at how we've handled the complaint. Customers aged 16 & 17 are entitled to an independent advocate who can help and support you with your decisions and help you to speak out if things go wrong. These can be provided through the Child's Commissioners Office. Let us know if you need help contacting them.

#### childrenscommisioner.gov.uk

#### Call 020 7783 8330

Children's Commissioner for England Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street London SW1P 3BT

# How do I make a complaint?

You can make a complaint in any of the following ways:

- By visiting our website <u>stonewater.org/</u> <u>supporting-you/making-a-complaint/</u>
- By calling our Customer Service Centre on 01202 319 119
- By emailing us at customerfeedback@stonewater.org
- By sending us a **private message** on our social media channels. For your privacy, we cannot process your complaint via public posts or comments.
- By writing to us at Stonewater, Suite C, Lancaster House Grange Business Park Enderby Road Whetstone Leicester LE8 6EP

### Putting things right

There are lots of things we can do to put things right if they go wrong.

We can:

- Say sorry and give you an explanation or more information
- Make sure that any repairs needed are carried out
- Learn from your complaint to improve our services
- Make sure our colleagues have extra guidance and support to help other customers

#### Adjustments

We're committed to making our services work for our customers. When taking your complaint, we'll ask you for your preferred method of contact to help us to stay in touch throughout the complaint process. If you need any adjustments or additional support, we encourage you to talk these through with your complaint handler.

#### The complaints process

#### Stage One

When we receive your complaint, you'll receive contact from a complaint handler to discuss your complaint and how we can put it right. We'll write this up in an acknowledgement letter, which will be sent out within **five working days**. Then we'll work with service areas to complete an investigation into what has happened and how we can put it right. This response will be sent to you within **10 working days**. In cases where more time is needed, we'll keep you updated.

#### Stage Two

If you're not satisfied by the outcome of your stage one complaint, you can escalate to stage two of our complaints process. A member of our senior team will review your case, aiming to get back to you within **20 working days**. In cases where more time is needed, we'll keep you updated.

### The Customer Complaints Learning Panel (CCLP)

The Customer Complaints Learning Panel helps Stonewater and our customers by looking at complaints data and information to see where our services could be improved.

If you're interested in joining the panel please visit <u>stonewater.org/get-involved</u>

#### The Housing Ombudsman

You can, at any stage, refer your complaint to the Housing Ombudsman Service for support and guidance. If you're not happy with our stage two response to your complaint, you can ask the Housing Ombudsman Service to investigate our handling of your complaint. The Housing Ombudsman Service will then review your concern and how we've responded before making a determination about whether we've responded appropriately and in line with the Complaint Handling Code and our policies.

You can contact the Housing Ombudsman Service via:

- Their website:
  housing-ombudsman.org.uk
- By email: **info@housing-ombudsman.org.uk**
- By phone: 0300 111 3000 (9:15am - 5:15pm, Monday to Friday)
- By post: Housing Ombudsman Service, PO Box 1484, Unit D
   Preston, PR2 0ET

To learn more about how Stonewater treats complaints or for more information and advice, including our complaints policy visit

stonewater.org/complaints

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### English

This guide is available in other languages - if you require a translation you can find these on our website at www.stonewater.org/supportingyou/making-a-complaint/, or contact us on customers@stonewater.org

#### اللغة العربية

هذا الدليل بلغات أخرى - إذا كنت بحاجة إلى ترجمة يمكنك العثور عليها على موقعنا /supporting-you/making-a-complaint/، أو التواصل معنا على customers@stonewater.org

#### বাংলা

এই নির্দেশিকাটি অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায় - যদি আপনার অনুবাদের প্রয়োজন হয় তবে আপনি আমাদের ওয়েবসাইটে এটি পেতে পারেন www.stonewater.org/supportingyou/making-a-complaint/বা এখানে আমাদের সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন customers@stonewater.org

### ગુજરાતી

આ ગાઈડ અન્ય ભાષાઓમાં ઉપલબ્ધ છે - જો તમને ભાષાંતરની જરૂર હોય તો તમે અમારી વેબસાઇટ પર આ શોધી શકો www.stonewater.org/ supporting-you/making-a-complaint/, અથવા customers@stonewater.org પર અમારો સંપર્ક કરો

#### Limba română

Acest ghid este disponibil în alte limbi - dacă aveți nevoie de o traducere, o puteți găsi pe website-ul nostru la www.stonewater.org/supporting-you/ making-a-complaint/, sau ne puteți contacta la customers@stonewater.org

#### Polski

Niniejszy przewodnik jest dostępny w innych językach – w razie potrzeby możesz przeczytać tłumaczenie na naszej stronie internetowej pod adresem www.stonewater.org/supporting-you/ making-a-complaint/ lub skontaktować się z nami, pisząc na adres customers@stonewater.org

### ਪੰਜਾਬੀ

ਇਹ ਗਾਈਡ ਦੂਜੀਆਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ - ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹਨਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਸਾਡੀ ਵੈਬਸਾਈਟ www.stonewater.org/supporting-you/ making-a-complaint/ 'ਤੇ ਵੇਖ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ, ਜਾਂ customers@stonewater.org 'ਤੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ

### Español

Esta guía está disponible en otros idiomas; si necesita una traducción, podrá encontrarla en nuestro sitio web: www.stonewater.org/ supporting-you/making-a-complaint/, o poniéndose en contacto con nosotros a través de customers@stonewater.org

#### Português

Este guia está disponível noutros idiomas — se precisar de uma tradução, pode encontrá-la no nosso website, em www.stonewater.org/supporting-you/makinga-complaint/, ou contactar-nos através do email customers@stonewater.org

#### Italiano

Questa guida è disponibile in altre lingue: le traduzioni si trovano sul nostro sito web all'indirizzo www.stonewater.org/supporting-you/ making-a-complaint/ oppure è possibile richiederle scrivendo a customers@stonewater.org

#### اردو

یه گائیڈ دیگر زبانوں میں بھی دستیاب ہے - اگر آپ کو اس کے ترجمه کی ضرورت ہو تو یه ہماری ویب سائٹ پر مل سکتی ہے: /www.stonewater.org/supporting-you /making-a-complaint/، یا ہم سے اس پر رابطه کریں customers@stonewater.org

