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**Subject:** RE: For Dr. Razaq \ Fressingfield Sewerage

Dear Dr Castro

Thank you for your emails. I would agree that the situation relating to sewage leaks is not acceptable and unpleasant. The legal powers sit with environmental health departments and so I have ensured that Mid Suffolk District Council know of your concerns, but from your email it seems both they and the water company are fully aware of the situation. I have also informed Public Health England of the situation although they are advisory only and have no legal powers.

If sewage leakage does occur I am sure that you realise that it is important to avoid exposure and if exposure does occur scrupulous personal hygiene is essential. The following is general advice for exposure to flooding/sewage contaminated areas

- Keep children and pets away from the flooded areas
- Wash children's hands frequently - particularly after playing outdoors and always before meals.
- Wear protective clothing such as rubber gloves if you're cleaning up and cover up any cuts and grazes
- Food which may have been in contact with flood water should be thrown away
- If you show any symptoms such as diarrhoea or vomiting after a flood, call your doctor straight away.
- The Food Standards Agency advises people not to eat any food that has been touched or covered by floodwater or sewage. This includes advice not to eat any produce grown on an allotment or garden that has been flooded.

The following sites also give information:

Public Health England includes this advice in its flooding guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/flooding-health-guidance-and-advice>

There is also a leaflet from the Consumer Council for Water:

<https://www.ccwater.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Flooding-from-Public-Sewers.pdf>

It may be worth making contact with this organisation, if not already in place.

Also the advice page on sewers from the Citizens Advice Bureau

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/water/water-supply/sewerage/who-is-responsible-for-repairing-drains-and-sewers/>

Kind regards,

**Abdul Razaq**

**Director of Public Health and Protection**

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