



I am writing this evening to all those affected by the burst that occurred this morning on Havant Road, Hayling Island, and the significant impact on residents and other road users.

Following a failure of a Pressure Controlling Valve at around 3am this morning, pressures increased in the mains serving Hayling Island, causing a significant burst. Not only has this affected water supplies and pressure throughout the day, but its location and severity has meant that Havant Road has been closed most of the day, having only just re-opened.

I have spent much of the day on site and have personally witnessed the impact of this event on the local community. Whilst I have had some very difficult conversations, I have taken heart by the attitude and community spirit on Hayling Island on what has been an exceptionally difficult day.

By tomorrow morning, I expect all supplies to be fully restored, allowing people to go about their normal business.

Whilst I can never categorically say that this will never happen again, I make a personal commitment to ensure that the risk is absolutely minimised, as this level of disruption is far from acceptable and must be avoided. It is too soon for me to suggest how this may be achieved in the future, but I will do my utmost to prevent a recurrence.

Thank you to all affected for your forbearance today.

Bob Taylor, CEO, Portsmouth Water

14th June 2019