What is added to untreated water during the treatment process at the Water Treatment Works?

The following are used within the water treatment process employed at Sulby and Douglas:-

Lime	Used to adjust the pH of the water throughout the treatment process.
Ferric Sulphate	Used as a coagulant in the treatment process. It is removed along with organic material and other impurities during filtration.
Carbon Dioxide	Injected into the untreated water to improve the "treatability" of the water which is naturally soft and acidic upland water. Removed within the filtration process.
Sodium Di-hydrogen Orthophosphate	Introduced into the treated water. The phosphate reacts with lead used in the household's pipework and thus reduces the amount of lead which is dissolved and consumed by our customers.
Chlorine (in the form of Sodium Hypochlorite)	Introduced at various stages within the treatment process and specifically at the end of the process to disinfect the final treated water and ensure that the water is free from any bacteria.

Some or all of the above may be used in the treatment process, only essential minimal levels of sodium di-hydrogen orthophosphate and chlorine will be present in the treated water. All other chemicals contribute to the treatment process and are removed within the filtration process.

Fluoride

There is no statutory requirement for the Authority to fluoridate the Island's water supplies and it is not currently a policy of the Isle of Man Government. The Authority would only be permitted to add fluoride to the Island's water supplies on instruction and following amendments by Tynwald to the current legislation.