

New Water Main Guidance Notes



from
**Southern
Water** 

Guidance for a Water Main (Requisition) and on-site water connections

(Section 41 of the Water Industry Act 1991)

Southern Water provides water to 2.4 million people via our water mains. Water mains are pipes that distribute water to a number of buildings in an area and are the responsibility of Southern Water. If you are constructing more than one property and these are not adjacent to an existing water main, it is likely that you will need to requisition a new water main prior to applying for water connections.

Legislation

The law covering the requisition of a water main is set out in the Water Industry Act 1991. Section 41 and Section 45 deals with the duty of the water company to comply with water main requisitions and to make connections with the water main.

Southern Water does not guarantee that a particular flow or pressure will be provided beyond criteria set out in the current legislation.

In accepting our offer of terms for a water supply we are appointed as a designer for your development. Under the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (CDM) 2015 we have a responsibility to inform you of your duties as detailed within Approved Codes of Practice (ACOPs).

Scope of Guidance Notes

The following guidance notes relate to the application for a water main and the associated on-site water connections and are provided to assist in completing Southern Water's application form.

Applications will be processed by the Developer Services Team who will prepare an offer of terms to provide the necessary water mains to serve the development. The turnaround time depends upon the complexity of the proposed works.

Providing as much information as you can at this stage will help in developing an offer of terms efficiently.

Section B: Applicant details

Provide details for the person or company applying for the water supply. These details shall be used for all correspondence relating to the application.

Section C: Site / Location Details

Provide a brief description of the proposal along with the address and postcode (where known).

Section D: Developer / Contractors Details

Provide details if different to Section B.

Section E: Owners Details

Only the owner or occupier is entitled to request a water supply for any locality and contact information is required in this section if different to any of the previous sections.

Section F: Former use of Land

Information provided will help us determine the previous water demand for the site. This information will be used to review the impact on the water distribution network.

Section G: New Developments

This information will assist us in preparing an offer of terms for the installation of water mains. Main laying will be programmed at your request following completion of an agreement. Lead in times are normally 6–7 weeks. For commercial developments anticipated domestic and process water total instantaneous demand is also required.

Section H: Road, Footpath and Service Strip Corridor Details

We need to ascertain public and private ownership of land and the establishment of appropriate service strips to enable access/ easement agreements to be made. In order to avoid any future excavation within the Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) infrastructure, all Southern Water apparatus will be kept outside any impermeable membrane, with the only exception of ducted service strips. A continuous 1.5m minimum width service strip, with “traditional” sub-base, should be provided at least one side of the street. Horizontal clearance with structures and other utilities should be provided as per NJUG.

Section I: Tree Details

Location details of trees will assist in the route planning of the water main. In general, it is not recommended to excavate a trench within the plan area of a tree canopy.

Submission Pack

This application form is to be accompanied by three types of plans presented at appropriate scales:

- A. Site Location Plan: Showing the site location relative to key surrounding features and OS Grid Reference. (1 No. required)
- B. Site Layout Plan: Showing the extent of the proposed development and to show the incoming water supply point to each property. In addition we need you to email an electronic copy of the layout plan. (1 No. required)
- C. Plans showing details required in Section G and H. (1 No. each required). To include construction details.
- D. CAD: CAD drawing in .dwg file type, to be under 15MB in size and to include new development buildings, roads etc. and existing structures that are in close proximity. All cross references to be included and layers to be editable.

Failure to provide all the information requested in the submission pack will result in delays in the design and offer

Section J: Occupancy Programme

Details of the build programme provided by you will be used in the financial calculation of our offer.

Section K: Commercial / Industrial Occupancy Programme

As above, understanding the phasing of your development will help us plan the supply requirements including any additional supply infrastructure to meet the proposed demand.

Section L: Water Fittings Table

Information supplied in this table will help us determine the previous water supply demand and review against the proposed demand which will be identified in Sections J and K above. Infrastructure charge credits will be calculated if applicable.

Section M: Construction (Design Management) Regulations 2015

Pre-Construction Information is required before our design can be undertaken. For additional guidance please refer to the Approved Code of Practice, Managing Health & Safety in Construction, published by Health & Safety Commission.

Contaminated Land Check

We need to assess whether there is a risk of contaminants in the ground that could result in contamination of the drinking water supply.

Please see the Guidance information and Risk assessment for Water Pipes:

[Contaminated land assessment - guidance notes.pdf](#)

For further information and guidelines to contaminated land, please see the following Water UK link:

<https://www.water.org.uk/guidance/contaminated-land-assessment-guidance/>

Application Fee

The application fee is as detailed on the Application Form.

Declaration

Check that you have supplied all the information required including the development plans. Please ensure that you sign and date the application.

What happens next?

Where no valid capacity check for the development exists, one will be undertaken to ascertain whether any off-site or reinforcement work is necessary in order to supply the proposed demand. A site survey will be carried out to determine the scope of work required before an estimate of costs can be prepared and an offer issued to the applicant.

For terms and conditions click [here](#).