**Developer services**

**Self-laying of water mains and services**

**Information for self-lay providers and developers working in the Wessex Water region**

This document states Wessex Water’s self-lay water mains and service pipes policy and provides information for developers and self-lay providers (SLPs).

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1.1 Purpose

This document sets out the terms and conditions under which Wessex Water will allow other bodies to install new water mains and make service connections for the servicing of new development using water for domestic purposes under the provisions of the Water Industry Act 1991 as subsequently amended by the Water Act 2003. Such other bodies will be referred to in this document as self-lay providers (SLPs).

This policy should be read in conjunction with a document entitled Code of Practice for the self-laying of Water Mains and Services – England And Wales Edition 3.1 – May 2017 www.water.org.uk/developer-services/selflay-code-practice

The policy should also be read in conjunction with Ofwat publication ‘Competition in providing new water mains and service pipes: guidance to companies – version 3’ which is available at www.ofwat.gov.uk

Part 2 details amended and supplementary clauses to the Code of Practice [CoP] which the SLP must adhere to in order to comply with Wessex Water’s self-lay policy.
1.2 Background

Wessex Water is the licensed water supply provider in the area shown on page 3. We supply more than 1.25 million people in an area covering around 7,350 km². We are a regulated business. Our principal regulators in relation to self-lay water mains and service connections are:

- Ofwat (The Water Services Regulation Authority) - for prices and general service standards
- Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI) - for the quality of water we supply.

Traditionally, Wessex Water has installed all mains and made all service connections to provide new developments with a domestic water supply. This has been undertaken in accordance with requisitioning arrangements set out in the Water Industry Act 1991. Domestic use is broadly defined as the use of water for drinking, cooking, washing, central heating and sanitary purposes.

Under these requisitioning arrangements, Wessex Water provides the mains and other necessary works (which might include a service reservoir, a pumping station or network reinforcements) and the developer funds, for up to 12 years, the annual financing costs for these works less the annual water charges Wessex Water collects from the properties served by the works. Security in the form of a deposit, bond or surety is normally required. Where developers prefer they may make a one off commuted sum payment as an alternative to deficit payments.

As an alternative to requisitioning, and as permitted by the Water Act 2003, SLPs may now install water mains and make service connections. Wessex Water will take over responsibility for (adopt) self-laid mains that meet the terms of its agreement with the developer or SLP which undertakes the work. Service pipes, which may also be laid by an SLP, will not be adopted by Wessex Water apart from any length which falls within a street. This length is generally known as the communication pipe.

Ownership, operation and maintenance of the water mains rest with the developer until the issue of a vesting certificate. Ownership, operation and maintenance of the service connection and communication pipe rests with Wessex Water from the time of connection to the new main. The developer/SLP remains responsible for any defective materials and workmanship for an agreed defects liability period (DLP). See section 1.12 for further details.

1.3 Our commitment

We are committed to developers having choice in the way their sites are provided with a water supply and to complying with all the requirements of competition legislation.

Whenever a new supply is sought, we will advise the developer or the SLP of the different ways of securing that supply – requisitioning or self-lay. Upon receipt of all the necessary information, we will give a quotation or estimate, as appropriate, in a timely manner. We will also identify any offsite reinforcement works which will be necessary to make a supply available.

We will treat SLPs in the same manner as we treat our own contractors and we will not require a higher specification of workmanship or materials than we employ for our own work.

For SLPs seeking accreditation the number of inspections we will carry out will reflect the experience we have of the SLP. We would expect that as we gain confidence of the work undertaken by an SLP in our area, the level of inspection and checking would reduce to no greater than that employed for our own contractors. For accredited SLPs the level of inspection would then match that of our own contractors.

We will pay to the SLP upon satisfactory commissioning of the works an appropriate amount reflecting the value of the assets to Wessex Water.

In permitting self-lay, our overriding objective is to safeguard public health and ensure we continue to provide wholesome water which complies with the Drinking Water Regulations.

1.4 Gaining approval to be a self-lay provider

Developers can appoint an SLP to design and install new water mains and lay service supply pipe. This must be undertaken by a partial or fully accredited SLP with the Lloyd’s Register (LR) Water Industry Registration Scheme (WIRS) before any self-lay works may be undertaken, see www.lloydsofregister.co.uk/wirs

SLPs’ performance will be fed back to LR. Failure to perform to the required standards and to follow correct procedure may result in accreditation being cancelled by LR.
1.5 Work that may be undertaken by SLPs (contestable work)

It will be for an SLP to decide which work it wishes to undertake but we will permit an SLP to do any or all of the following contestable works under a self-lay agreement.

- Design of on-site water systems in accordance with the Code of Practice and Wessex Water specifications but not including the sizing of pipework which will at all times remain the responsibility of Wessex Water.
- Installation of on-site mains for domestic supplies on a development site.
- Installation of off-site mains that extend to a point of connection to the existing network to be determined by Wessex Water. Such works may be undertaken by an SLP unless there are valid engineering or public health concerns.
- Reasons why Wessex Water should undertake them. Installation is subject to the SLP having obtained all necessary easements and street authority approvals and satisfied any other legal requirements. The SLP may also design such off-site mains but Wessex Water reserves the right to modify the route or sizing of the mains (see 1.11).
- Routine in-line mains connections (often referred to as piece-throughs) subject to the relevant safeguards and accreditation.
- Installation of mains extensions and the new-laid part of mains diversions on new development sites where the developer or SLP has the necessary permissions, where no existing customers will be affected and where there are no engineering reasons why this work should be non-contestable.
- Installation of service pipes to new mains.
- Connection of service pipes to new mains once those mains have been commissioned by Wessex Water provided the appropriate standards are met and there are no risks to existing customers. Note that an SLP may also make service connections to a new main laid on a development site either by Wessex Water or by another SLP.
- Connection of service pipes to existing off-site mains subject to the appropriate accreditation and caveats.
- Swabbing, pressure testing and disinfection of new mains, under the supervision of Wessex Water.
- Provision of as-laid drawings to Wessex Water specifications.
- Installation of water meters to Wessex Water specifications and subject to Wessex Water approval.
- Water sampling and quality testing prior to connection of newly laid mains to Wessex Water’s existing network.
- Meter fitting.

1.6 Work which Wessex Water will always undertake (non-contestable work)

Wessex Water will retain responsibility for the following non-contestable items for reasons of network security and public health. We will undertake these activities and, where appropriate, make a charge to recover our reasonable costs.

- Sizing of on-site water mains.
- Approval of all on-site water system designs.
- Design of off-site water systems to reinforce the existing network.
- Inspection and auditing of SLP work.
- Off-site work to reinforce the existing network – unless we are satisfied that work by an SLP would not affect existing customers during construction and commissioning.
- Mains connections that involve undue risk to existing customers.
- Mains connections other than those specified as contestable work.
- Determination of the timing of service pipe connections to new or existing mains that involve risks to existing customers.
- Decommissioning of redundant mains following a mains diversion.
- Assessment and ongoing audit of an SLP’s competence to the same degree that Wessex Water’s own staff or contractors might be assessed or audited.

1.7 Stages in the process and target levels of service

These are as detailed in the CoP.

1.8 Phased implementation

Where the developer plans to phase the development, details of the phasing and phased adoption of the new mains must be contained within the legal agreement. If the new main is laid and commissioned in more than one phase, we must be notified of each section made ‘live’ in turn and the final section must be clearly identified to denote the conclusion of a specific agreement. Furthermore, ‘as-laid’ drawings as per Section 3.7.5 of the CoP, should be supplied at the same time.

For each notice received, we will issue a vesting certificate of interim or overall commencement of the defects liability period.
1.9 Off-site mains
Where SLPs can obtain the necessary street authority approvals/third party easements, they can install off-site water mains. These are new mains that need to be installed as part of the development but are not within the boundaries of the developers’ land.
Where the off-site mains cross private third party land, the SLP must obtain Deeds of Grant of Easement which will be assigned to Wessex Water before adoption of the new mains.
Where difficulty is encountered in obtaining third party easements, the developer should contact Wessex Water for further advice.

1.10 Network reinforcement
Demands from a new development may affect the capacity of the existing infrastructure to an extent where reinforcement of the network (eg, by construction of new mains, tanks, service reservoirs, pumping stations) is required to maintain service levels to customers.
We will inform the SLP as soon as this is known that reinforcement is required.
There may be occasions, for example on large development sites, where it is more efficient for us to phase off-site reinforcements in line with development progress.

1.11 Upsizing on-site and off-site mains
We may ask the SLP to lay a larger main than is necessary for the current development, in anticipation of meeting future demand. In this situation, we will specify the material, size and depth of pipes and pay the SLP the reasonable extra expense it incurs by meeting these requirements.

1.12 Defects liability period
A defects liability period (DLP) of one year shall apply to the water mains and services.

1.13 The legal agreement
Before the commencement of the works, Wessex Water will enter into a legal agreement with the SLP for the self-laying of water mains and service pipes.
We will not be responsible for any obligations established by contract or otherwise between the SLP and the developer.

1.14 Financial arrangements
1.14.1 General
Wessex Water is committed to transparency in charging so that developers and SLPs can readily understand what we will charge for and how the total cost is made up.
Each estimate and quotation for self-lay, and service connections where appropriate, will provide a breakdown of our charges for the non-contestable items. We will also give a breakdown for any contestable items that the SLP wishes us to undertake. Should the SLP subsequently vary the contestable works it wishes to undertake and request us to do the remainder, we may amend the charges for individual items and asset value payable accordingly to reflect variations in economies of scale and complexity.
If requested we will also provide charges for specified contestable items if a developer or SLP wishes to decide whether to ask us to undertake some contestable elements.
As of April 2018 our developer charges for 2018-19 are changing significantly from the previous year in response to new rules published by our economic regulator, Ofwat.
The services and charges affected include, new water mains, income offsetting, and infrastructure charges. The developer and SLP can now calculate the asset value by using our online calculator at wessexwater.co.uk/charging-arrangements
1.14.2 Charges

What charges are payable?

The table below sets out the charges for different elements of work required to make a connection to our mains. If you know the number of connections (new properties) that you require, and the services you require, you can be confident about the charges you will incur in making the connection to your new development.

For example, if you plan to connect 10 new connections to our network and you have asked us to undertake this work for you, you will pay £341, being £53 for the first connection and £288 (9 x £32) for the other nine connections.

Table A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charge Item</th>
<th>Charge unit</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Charge</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mains design approval where designed by third party</td>
<td>per requisition</td>
<td></td>
<td>£160</td>
<td>£160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mains connection for connecting 50 properties or less that involves heightened risk to existing assets or could affect supplies to existing customers</td>
<td>per connection</td>
<td></td>
<td>£2,660</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mains connection for connecting greater than 50 properties that involves heightened risk to existing assets or could affect supplies to existing customers</td>
<td>per connection</td>
<td></td>
<td>£3,440</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income offset</td>
<td>percentage discount</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The table below shows our charges if we undertake the contestable works you require. Contestable works are those that can be done by another provider so you might want to compare our charges with a firm quotation from another provider.

**Table B  Adopting self-laid mains (non-contestable) Section 51**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charge item</th>
<th>Charge unit</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Charge</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-commencement fee</td>
<td>per application</td>
<td></td>
<td>£74</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-inspection fee</td>
<td>per site visit</td>
<td></td>
<td>£37</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal fees</td>
<td>per adoption</td>
<td></td>
<td>£460</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income offset</td>
<td>percentage discount</td>
<td></td>
<td>N/A 15%</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service connection administration fees (where an SLP) is providing these</td>
<td>per connection</td>
<td></td>
<td>Table 4-1 N/A</td>
<td>(\text{N/A})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We recognise that you may need help understanding what works you require. We are happy to help and can arrange a free site visit so that we can assess what you need to make the connection to your new development.

**Table C  Adopting self-laid mains (non-contestable) Section 51**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charge item</th>
<th>Charge unit</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Charge</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mains design work</td>
<td>per design request</td>
<td></td>
<td>£341</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing and/or commissioning company specific telemetry for assets offered for adoption</td>
<td>per installation</td>
<td></td>
<td>£2,350</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income offset</td>
<td>percentage discount</td>
<td></td>
<td>N/A 15%</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charge Item</td>
<td>Charge unit</td>
<td>Quantity</td>
<td>Charge</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point of connection enquiry (where the customer has not selected the point of connection)</td>
<td>per enquiry</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-design fee where layout subsequently amended</td>
<td>per request</td>
<td>£171</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and lay pipe where developer digs and reinstates the trench</td>
<td>per linear metre</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>£74</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excavate, supply and lay additional pipe in verge/ unmade ground and reinstate (per linear metre)</td>
<td>per linear metre</td>
<td></td>
<td>£117</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excavate, supply and lay additional pipe in footpath and reinstate (per linear metre)</td>
<td>per linear metre</td>
<td></td>
<td>£191</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excavate, supply and lay additional pipe in road and reinstate (per linear metre)</td>
<td>per linear metre</td>
<td></td>
<td>£233</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and fit district meter/ leakage meter (required where more than 500 linear metres of pipe is laid or the development is for more than 50 units)</td>
<td>per meter</td>
<td></td>
<td>£1,300</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing a booster where a developer desires guaranteed pressure greater than 0.7 bar at any point on the site</td>
<td>per booster</td>
<td></td>
<td>£63,600</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Routine in-line mains connections</td>
<td>per connection</td>
<td></td>
<td>£1,000</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressure testing</td>
<td>per test</td>
<td></td>
<td>£612</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorination</td>
<td>per phase</td>
<td></td>
<td>£306</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampling and undertaking standard analysis</td>
<td>per sample</td>
<td></td>
<td>£85</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic management (requiring traffic lights)</td>
<td>per week or part thereof</td>
<td></td>
<td>£350</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road closure fees</td>
<td>per installation</td>
<td></td>
<td>£1,350</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>£0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Asset payment | percentage | N/A | 15% | £0.00 |
**Income offset**

Our philosophy in setting these charges has been to set charges on a cost reflective basis so that developers pay the full cost of any work undertaken by us. Historically, we have discounted our requisition charges by taking account of future income received from new households connected to our network (referred to as the income offset).

This income offset arrangement was applied in accordance with the requirements of the legislation and means that our other customers contribute towards the cost of new development where it includes requisitioned work.

To ensure that the balance of charges between developers and other customers is broadly maintained, we will therefore continue to apply an income offset for requisitions and make asset payments for asset adoptions from SLPs.

To improve transparency, we will set the income offset to ensure it recovers the monies paid towards new development by our existing customers. For 2018-19, we will contribute 15% towards the cost of requisitioned works relating to our mains network.

**Inset appointments (NAVs)**

Where your development is to be served by a NAV, the NAV will own the mains and will take on responsibility for the assets. NAVs connecting to our network will need to purchase bulk supply and discharge services as required to serve the development.

To ensure a level playing field for NAVs, we will provide a one-off payment to NAVs in our bulk supply agreements, equivalent to the 15% discount provided to developers/SLPs.

**Adoption of assets**

Mains built by the developer/SLP will, subject to satisfactory design and installation, become part of our network and we will take over responsibility for those assets. Service pipes will not be adopted by Wessex Water apart from any length which falls within a street, the ‘communication pipe’.

**Fees and deposit payable for vesting of mains assets**

Where we adopt sewers, we charge fees for services provided and require developers to pay a refundable deposit. We are aligning the arrangements where we adopt the mains.

**Table E  Wessex Water non-contestable charges for adopting self-laid mains**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charge Item</th>
<th>Charge unit</th>
<th>Charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-commencement fee</td>
<td>per application</td>
<td>£74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-inspection fee</td>
<td>per site visit</td>
<td>£37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal fees</td>
<td>per adoption</td>
<td>£460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service connection administration fees (where an SLP) is providing these</td>
<td>per connection</td>
<td>Table A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table F  Wessex Water contestable charges for adopting self-laid mains**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charge Item</th>
<th>Charge unit</th>
<th>Charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mains design fee</td>
<td>per design request</td>
<td>£341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing and/or commissioning company specific telemetry for assets offered for adoption</td>
<td>per installation</td>
<td>£2,350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ownership, operation and maintenance of the new mains

Ownership, operation and maintenance of the water mains rest with the developer until the issue of a vesting certificate. Ownership, operation and maintenance of the service connection and communication pipe rests with us from the time of connection to the new main. The developer/SLP remains responsible for any defective materials and workmanship for an agreed defects liability period (DLP).

Asset payments

We realise our approach to maintaining the balance of payments by retaining the income offset means that only developers requisitioning work benefit from this approach but the rules do not allow us to offset these monies against all new development.

We will continue to make asset payments to developers/SLPs when adopting assets. The asset payment will be 15% of our estimated cost of the works. Please refer to Table 6-2.

Diversion of mains

If mains cross a new development site and the layout cannot be designed to avoid them, they must be diverted if technically possible. You can propose a scheme and ask us to consider whether a diversion is possible.

What charges are payable?

The appraisal fee covers our costs of determining how best to divert the mains, which may require us to undertake a detailed assessment of works required. This fee is refundable in full. If the work is not undertaken but we have incurred costs, we will refund part of the fee.

The table below sets out our charges.

Table G Diverting a water main (section 185 diversion)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charge item</th>
<th>Charge unit</th>
<th>Charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration fee</td>
<td>per application</td>
<td>£74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design fee (where a mains is to be diverted) (refundable in part or full)</td>
<td>per design</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical assessment fee (where the design for the diversion is provided by the developer)</td>
<td>per assessment</td>
<td>£160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspection fee (where the diversion work is provided by the developer)</td>
<td>per inspection</td>
<td>£170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decommissioning redundant pipe</td>
<td>per hour</td>
<td>£135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excavate supply and lay pipe (and reinstate where required)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.15 How to contact us

All enquiries and requests relating to the provision of water supplies for new development should be made to:

Telephone 01225 526 273
Letter Developer Services, Wessex Water, Claverton Down, Bath BA2 7WW
Email self.lay@wessexwater.co.uk

1.16 Putting things right

If you feel we have not met the standards of service you would have expected, you can contact us in one of three ways:

Telephone 0345 600 4 600 for Emergency Only
Letter Developer Services, Wessex Water, Claverton Down, Bath BA2 7WW
Email operational.enquiries@wessexwater.co.uk

On receipt of your complaint we will aim to make a substantive response within 10 working days.
PART 2  Design and construction guidance

Please see Wessex Water requirements below.

2.1 Design drawings
All design drawings to be submitted in .DWG file format for use with Auto Cad.

2.2 Mains design
Can be undertaken by an accredited SLP or accredited 3rd party and must be in accordance with the street works guidelines which can be found at www.streetworks.org.uk formally known as NJUG. All other requirements refer to COP 3.1 May 2017.

2.3 Depth of cover
Where the SLP is prepared to lay water mains without kerb, kerb race or permanent finished level markers in place, they accept full responsibility for the accuracy of all setting out to ensure that the pipes laid are to the correct line and level as shown on the agreed drawing. The excavated trench dig must allow for 150mm bed under the pipe.
Any covers within soft ground areas should have a concrete apron around them for protection and ease of location.
Upon completion, the main will have not less than 900mm and not more than 1200mm cover from finished ground level.

2.4 Valves
Sluice valves should be Close anti clockwise.

2.5 Service design
Connection to the main will be by electrofusion saddle or mechanical (gunmetal) ferrule strap.

2.6 Meter/meter boxes
Wessex Water’s preferred metering option is the use of boundary boxes.
The boundary box should consist of a stop tap and meter facility to accommodate a standard meter.
Wessex Water will provide meters to be fitted by the SLP, currently:
Make Elster
Model type V210P volumetric 15mm
Model number (for Stores) MET3200001).
These will be provided at our current rate, please see 1.14.2 page 7.
Where wall mounted stop tap and meters are used, the service pipe should be installed in a continuous duct (minimum 50mm internal diameter) from the main to the entry point of the building.
Contaminated land – sealed boundary box must be used that is WRAS approved.

Boundary boxes

| Standard Install – single manifold Talbot Matrix unsealed ¼” turn standard + mini in 25mm & 32mm pushfit |
| Contaminated land – single manifold sealed ¼” turn contaminated ¾” BSP poly or gunmetal |
| Wall mounted meter box |

2.7 Construction

2.7.1 Excavation
The minimum trench width should be the external pipe diameter plus 150mm either side. All trenches and connection holes should be kept clear of water. No new or existing pipes should be used for carrying water away from the excavations.

2.7.2 Pipe surround
Pipes and fittings should be bedded on and surrounded with a minimum of 150mm granular material either graded 3mm to 6mm size or 6mm single size.

2.7.3 Completion of pipe surround
The material should be compacted by hand.
It is not acceptable to lay the pipes on the trench bottom, cover with bedding material and lift the pipes to form the bed.

2.7.4 On-site welding of polyethylene pipes
All electrofusion fittings shall be of integral wire construction. All fittings shall be of automatic type and fitted with recognition resistors, identifiable by an automatic electrofusion control box, complete with electronic data acquisition facility for joint data analysis and quality assurance.
Electrofusion and butt fusion are acceptable.

2.7.5 Location of other utility equipment
Water mains must have a separation of a minimum of 300mm in all directions from other pipes, ducts or cables.
Testing of ductile iron, PVC, GRP and steel pressure pipelines in accordance with BS EN 805
Ductile iron or rigid plastic pipes shall be subject to a 1-hour static test at a pressure of 1.5 times the working pressure or 12 bar, whichever is the greater.
Test certificates shall be supplied upon completion of each test, detailing the method, location, monitoring and pressure readings.
During and on completion of the test all valves shall be checked and adjusted as necessary. During pressure testing, air valves shall be isolated and valve gland packing tightened down. Air valves shall be re-adjusted and opened upon completion of the successful test.

### 2.7.6 Testing of polyethylene pressure pipelines

The whole test should be recorded by a pressure logging system attached to a suitable hydrant and set to record pressures at one minute intervals over the period required by the manufacturer's instructions. The pressure decay method is preferable.

### 2.7.7 Swabbing of water mains

Clear wash water shall be defined as having a turbidity of less than 1 NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units). Prior to hydraulic testing, each length and branch of the main should be swabbed with foam swabs driven by water fed into the main by an approved system of temporary pipework which must incorporate a double check valve to ensure there is no possibility of back siphonage into the existing main.

### 2.7.8 Foam swabs

Swabs have a density of 20 - 25 kg/m³, minimum tensile strength 95 kN/m² and a hardness (at 50% deflection to BS 4443 Parts 1, 2 and 4) of 19 to 23 kg. The diameter of the swab shall be as follows:

- **hard swabs**: nominal bore of main
- **soft swabs for mains less than 200 mm**: nominal bore + 50mm
- **soft swabs for mains greater than 200 mm**: nominal bore + 75mm.

The length of the swab shall be 1.5 times its diameter.

### 2.7.9 Disinfection, sampling and operation of water mains

Please see **WWDS-SLM3G**

### 2.8 Hydrants

Hydrants shall comply with BS 750, and be screw down Type 2. The direction of closing shall be CLOCKWISE. The outlet shall be 2½” London gunmetal or copper alloy, and the body ductile iron. An automatic frost valve shall be incorporated in the body. The stem shall be one-piece with integral collar in stainless steel, and fitted with a fixed jumper. Sandwich valves to be fitted to all hydrants and washouts
Appendix 1 Glossary

**Adoption**: this is the process by which water companies take over responsibility for infrastructure such as mains.

**Brownfield site**: a site that has previously been built upon (as opposed to a greenfield site that has never been built upon).

**Commissioning**: the process of filling the mains with water so that the supplies are available for customers to use. This will be after the necessary quality tests have taken place.

**Communication pipe**: that part of the service pipe owned by the water utility.

**Contestable**: open to competition.

**Developers**: those who organise the purchase of land, construction of new buildings and their sale.

**Disinfection**: the process of treating water with, for example, small amounts of chlorine to ensure that it complies with water quality regulations.

**Easement**: a legal right of way over another person’s property, which may cover the laying of pipes in that land.

**Extension to the network**: a single pipe that is laid from the existing network to serve new customers.

**Existing mains/existing network**: the parts of the system already in place before a SLP starts installing pipes. These will include off-site and on-site pipework, some of which may supply existing customers.

**Live main**: a main connected to the water network and filled with water.

**Multi-utility infrastructure provision**: this is where one SLP installs more than one utility service to a site (which could include gas, electricity, water and telecommunications), sometimes in a single trench.

**Network reinforcement**: modifications necessary to an existing network in order to provide the required water to a new development without compromising existing levels of service to existing customers. Network reinforcement can include such things as mains reinforcement/upsizing, booster station and service reservoir construction etc.

**New main**: a main laid by the SLP as part of a development.

**Non-contestable**: not open to competition.

**Off-site**: in the public highway or in land owned by people other than the developers.

**On-site**: land owned by developers.

**Pressure testing**: Testing to make sure that the new mains have been constructed and joined correctly and that they will carry the working pressure required.

**Piece-ups**: pipes connecting one phase of a development site to another phase.

**Reinstatement**: work carried out to restore the surface of the ground to its original condition; for example, resurfacing a road after work to lay water mains.

**Requisition**: water companies must provide water mains that are sufficient for domestic purposes when required to do so by a notice under sections 41 to 44 of the Water Industry Act 1991. This is known as a requisition. Water companies must provide the mains once the financial conditions of compliance are satisfied and the water company has agreed the places for connecting the new pipes to its existing main or network.

**Self-lay**: where developers, or their contractors, install new water mains and service pipes instead of asking the water company to do the work.

**Self-lay providers (SLPs)**: contractors and multi-utility infrastructure providers laying mains for the developers.

**Service pipes**: A pipe supplying water from a main to any premises (whether in the highway or in private land).

**Supply pipe**: that part of the service pipe owned by the property owner.

**Swabbing**: a process to clear mains of dirt and materials before they are filled with water.

**The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2000 and any subsequent amendments**: these Regulations specify the standards used to define the wholesomeness of drinking water and also specify, under regulation 31, the requirements for using approved substances and products. The DWI enforces the Regulations.

**The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999**: these regulations are requirements for the prevention of contamination of water supplied, and it is the statutory duty of the water companies to enforce them.

**Upsizing mains**: When a water company decides to lay a larger main than is needed to supply a new development. This might be because the water company considers that the demand for water will increase in the future.
Submit point of connection enquiry form WWDS-SLMS POCE to Wessex Water Developers Group.

Submit missing information

Received response from Wessex Water for proposed development

Proceed to design and application stage (refer to code of practice), or request Wessex Water to provide design

Check application is complete

Is the application complete?

Yes

Acknowledge full application

Carry out network assessment and modelling. Confirm any reinforcement off-site, diversion and a budget cost and confirm validation period

No

5 calendar days

21 calendar days
Appendix 3 Application and terms issue procedure (including design)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Developer/SLP</th>
<th>Wessex Water</th>
<th>Standard level of service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Utilise point of connection enquiry response (See Appendix 4)</td>
<td>Receive application</td>
<td>5 calendar days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design prepared/provided</td>
<td>Check application is complete?</td>
<td>&lt;500 plots and 'non-complex' 14 days or &gt;500 plots and 'complex' 28 days or longer by agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design approval and terms request application made WWDS-SLM1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submit missing information</td>
<td>Acknowledge application, and provide Wessex Water reference</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(For design by SLP) liaison with Fire and Rescue Authority</td>
<td>Design in scope from a SLP approved to 'self-certify' design</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amend design</td>
<td>Design to company specification?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receive Wessex Water terms</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceed to terms acceptance stage</td>
<td>Provide terms offer (including design approval and details of all payments/allowances) and adoption agreement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note – Terms offer valid for 6 months from date of issue
Appendix 5  Process for routine in-line mains connections

**Developer/SLP**

- SCRM activities should have been agreed at application stage
  - New main laid approved for connection (see appendices 5 and 6)
  - Provide applications with risk assessment and method statement (RAMS)
    - Senior competent person (SCP) confirms connection arrangements. Submit **WWDS-SLM5**
    - Review reason for rejection

  - On-site planning competent person
    - Site conditions are different to those expected?
      - Yes
        - Notify WW of connection being undertaken **WWDS-SLM5**. Carry out connection
      - No
        - Connection work completed with no issues?
          - Yes
            - Notification of completed connection/abort within 24hrs **WWDS-SLM6**
          - No
            - Agree solutions with SLP

  - Connection approved?
    - Yes
      - Authorise SLP to proceed
    - No
      - Review submitted documentations
        - No
          - Connection approved?
            - Yes
              - Authorise SLP to proceed
            - No
              - Inform water company and agree whether to proceed
        - Yes
          - Advise of any changes
Appendix 6  Process for self-laying services

Developer/SLP

Request for service connections

Ensure connection charges paid and new main commissioned and vested

Notification of proposed service connections. Send self-inspection form WWDS-SLS1 and WWDS-SL2

WW advised SLP connections rejected. SLP to submit new WWDS-SLS1

Carry out service connection and fit meters as required

Send form WWDS-SLS3 notification of completed service connection

Wessex Water

Undertakes site inspection

Property complies with water regulations?

Yes

Authorisation given to proceed with service connections.

No

Arrange meter installation if not done by SLP

Standard level of service

5 calendar days if self-certified or 10 working days if inspection required

3 working days
## Appendix 7  Self-lay terms acceptance procedure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Developer/SLP</th>
<th>Wessex Water</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In possession of valid terms offer</td>
<td>Receive signed agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accept offer and return signed agreement</td>
<td>Acknowledge signed agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If SLP undertake design confirm fire authority requirements</td>
<td>Provide any remaining information including confirming date of when water will be available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If required update on-site mains drawing and submit to water company with fire authority requirement details</td>
<td>Progress to design of the associated works (mains connection) and any off-site works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme works and notify water company. Also provide any outstanding information</td>
<td>Provide any remaining information including confirming date of when water will be available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceed to construction stage</td>
<td>Progress provision of off-site and associate works</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The SLP should verify that the water company offer is valid and the new development proposals are unchanged before returning the acceptance documentation, including a signed self-lay agreement, to the water company.

Note: where the terms offer has expired, or the new development layout has changed, the SLP should request updated terms.
## Appendix 8  Example of information to be sent Lloyds

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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