



# Policy Statement

## Alternative Sewerage Discharge Arrangements

This policy sets out our approach to providing and charging for any alternative means of discharging wastewater when there is insufficient capacity in the local sewer network to meet the demand from new development sites.

To minimise the potential need for alternative discharge arrangements, we urge all developers and NAVs to engage with us at the earliest opportunity on their development proposals. This will ensure that all options to serve the site are fully assessed, well in advance of a connection being required.

### Alternative Connections

#### Alternative Permanent Point of Connection

When we receive an application under section 98 of the Water Industry Act 1991, or an application to discharge wastewater from a NAV, we will assess all the potential options for connecting the new development to the existing public sewer network. In some cases, it may be possible to avoid the need for enhancement of the existing network by permanently connecting at an alternative location, where additional capacity exists. Where the cost of connecting at this alternative location exceeds the cost of connecting at the preferred point of connection, we will pay the difference.

#### Temporary Point of Connection

If network reinforcement is unavoidable, we may provide either of the following types of temporary connection, to provide limited capacity, until such time as the capacity required for the entire development is available at the preferred, permanent point of connection:

- A temporary connection at the preferred permanent point of connection
- A temporary connection at an alternative location to the preferred permanent point of connection

Any flow, volume or property capacity limits for temporary connections will be specified in a bulk service agreement between us and the developer or NAV, following modelling of the impact of the new development on our network.

Where a temporary connection is installed, capacity modelling assumptions on factors such as misconnections can be reasonably excluded from the modelled flows to maximise the temporary capacity, in accordance with our Network Capacity Modelling Policy.

## Network Reinforcement

Where reinforcement of the local network is necessary to provide sufficient capacity for your development, we will commit to delivering this within 24 months of outline planning permission being granted and a confirmed commitment to build.

Where we cannot provide sufficient capacity to service the development within the agreed timeframe, alternative supply and discharge arrangements will be required.

Where a strategic upgrade to the existing network is required to provide sufficient capacity for a new development, we will mutually agree delivery timescales on a case-by-case basis with you. We do not anticipate this will be necessary in the vast majority of cases and should only apply in exceptional circumstances.

Where possible, we will endeavour to notify you of the capacity threshold, expressed in terms of the total number of residential properties that can be connected to the network, before a network reinforcement scheme is triggered. These enhancement works are our responsibility.

## Off-Peak Discharging and Real Time Control

Our preference is for wastewater to be discharged into the local sewer network outside of the hours of peak demand. Please refer to our Off-Peak Discharge – Particular Specification document for further information.

A more sophisticated system of Real Time Control (RTC) may also be considered to allow the capacity of the sewer network to be maximised by optimising the timing of the discharge of wastewater into the local sewer network using automatic control of pumps and actuated valves.

## Wastewater Tankering

Where the use of RTC and discharging to an alternative point in the network is impracticable, and we cannot provide sufficient capacity to service the development within the timeframe agreed, collection and disposal of wastewater by tanker might be required.

We understand that disposing of wastewater by tanker is far from a satisfactory situation and will be proactive and collaborate with developers and NAVs, in consultation with local planning authority, to ensure the need for it is minimised as far as practicably possible.

Where a need for tankering arises prior to the completion date for any network enhancement, the Developer or NAV will be responsible for organising and paying for this. Where this need arises after the agreed timeframe for completing the enhancement of the existing network, the burden of responsibility for providing the tankering services shifts to us.

## References

- Network Capacity Modelling Policy
- Off Peak Discharge – Particular Specification
- Water Industry Act 1991

Version	Date	Author	Amendments
0.1	03/09/2019	Mat Brown	-
0.2	05/09/2019	Mat Brown	Removed reference to 18-month timeframe for network reinforcement starting when an application is received.
0.3	09/09/2019	Mat Brown	Minor formatting amendments following review by Stuart Ward, Dan Witcher and Chris Nelson. Added reference to Section 98 sewer requisition.
0.4	12/09/2019	Mat Brown	Included reference to requests from NAVs for bulk applications and added section on temporary connections, with reference to temporary flow capacity modelling assumptions, following review by Dylan Freeman.
1.0	13/09/2019	Mat Brown	Minor amendments following final review by Dylan Freeman. Document issued.