



Codes for Adoptions

Annual contestability
summary

Annual contestability summary

Introduction

The connection activity that is open to competition is known as 'contestable' work. This category includes the majority of work a developer needs to serve a new development and includes all work to lay and test new mains and services.

Because we have a responsibility to maintain wholesome water supplies to customers, some higher risk work may be defined as 'non-contestable' and may only be carried out by us.

This document sets out the work that you can do, may be able to do, and work only we are able to do.

We will, as a minimum update this summary annually. This document should be referenced with table 9.3 in the design construction standards.

Colour coding system explained

Activities shaded green

All activities in green in the table can be carried out by you provided you have the appropriate accreditation. Please see section 7 in the Water Sector guidance.

Activities shaded amber

Activities in amber will be considered on a case-by-case basis where you would like to complete the work.

The company will set out the information it needs from the SLP regarding its Accreditation and how its general and specific operations, resources, and procedures will protect the company from any risk of interruption of supply to its end-user customers and/or to water quality. These requirements will be equivalent to those that the Water Company's direct labour or term contractor would be required to follow.

All SLP's must hold the CRUPC endorsement to be able to carry out connections onto an existing main. Any connection to an existing main must be carried out under pressure. The Water Company must provide a 'Permit to Work' operation number before work can commence. The contact details of the relevant Duty Manager will be provided, and they must be contacted on the day when work is about to start and again when the work has been completed.

The Water Company's requirements will relate to the specific Site and will take account of the type of connection involved; the location of the connection; the strategic importance of the main Network to be connected to; the potential impact on end user customers; risk to water quality and regulatory impact/consideration; and the resources the SLP proposes to use.

The SLP will need to demonstrate its competence or relevant experience to undertake this activity. This may be demonstrated where the Water Company has previously observed relevant Self-lay Works having been carried out by the SLP or by the SLP providing details of similar work that it has carried out to a satisfactory standard for other Water Companies.

Water Company requirements relative to valve operation in relation to commissioning of Self-Lay Works, a contestable activity, shall apply as set out in in paragraph 11.7 of the Design and Construction Guidance.

The Water Company as set out in 9.5.2 of the Design and Construction Guidance will set out the procedures it has in place to allow connections to the Existing Main and the forms supporting this. These will be published on the Water Company's website.

The Water Company may require additional evidence of competence to carry out activity and/or require the SLP to follow an operational process equivalent to one that the Water Company's direct labour or term contractor would be required to follow.

[Activities shaded in red](#)

The work in this category has been determined to be too high risk that we would not allow you to complete the work.

Thames Water annual contestability summary	Work categories by number of properties potentially affected by work or strategic nature of existing main			
	>49	50-199	200-499	500+/Strategic main
Selection of a proposed POC to serve a Site/Development from records of Existing Mains				
Construction of new mains and service connections				
Construction of new mains as part of reinforcement of Network extension or associated Site diversion work				
Design of new water network				
Chlorination and pressure testing of Self-lay Works				
Meter installation in conjunction with new service connections				
Undertaking Water Quality samples				
Analysing Water Quality samples (subject to paragraph 17.3)				
Construction of routine mains connections (CRMC) connections				
Main and/or service connection: up to 63mm PE/Barrier pipe to: Parent Network: <12" nominal bore* DI/CI/SI/PE/AC/ Barrier pipe/ steel Permanent Connections (Piece through).				
Connection: 63mm to 300mm PE / Barrier Pipe to: Parent Network: <12" nominal bore * CI/SI/DI/AC/PE/Barrier pipe/steel Operational pressure: up to 50m				
Connections: 63mm to 300mm PE / Barrier pipe to: Parent Network: 12" nominal bore * to 18" nominal bore * / 300mm to 450mm nominal bore * DI/ CI/ SI/ AC/ PE/ Barrier pipe/Steel Operational pressure: 50m to 75m				

Connections: over 300mm to: Parent Network: 18" nominal bore * & above, or high-risk parent Network: material (such as steel) Operational pressure: above 75m				
Valve operation in relation to commissioning new Self-Lay Works *				
Self-certification of SLP for Site water distribution systems designs				
Any size connection to GRP / PVC / uPVC / uPC / MoPVC or any other material Network				
Design of Network Reinforcement (upsizing of existing assets) and/or design of Network diversion(s).				
Pipe sizing criteria, and the approval of design by others				
Assessment of network risk, & operating live network				
Commission telemetry links (meters / field equipment)				
Connection, commissioning and/or decommissioning of diverted network				

*Notes:

1. All references to PE are to all polyethylene pipe materials.
2. PE pipe sizes are identified by outside (OD) diameter and other pipe materials and sizes refer to internal (nominal bore) diameters.
3. Strategic mains will be defined by reference to potential impact key customers such as hospitals.
4. See further paragraph 11.7 in the DCS relating to valve operations.

Version Control

Version	Sign-off By	Date	Comments
1	Tom Pitts	1/12/2020	
2	Mark Cooper	04/12/2023	

