

When you need to apply to 'the Sewerage Undertaker' for a sewer connection

If you are proposing to carry out one of the following as part of your proposed building works, you are required to apply to the Sewerage Undertaker for a sewer connection under Section 106 of The Water Industry Act 1991, before work takes place:

- i. Connecting new, existing or altered premises **directly** to the public sewer for the purposes of discharging foul and/or surface water flows.
- ii. Connecting new, existing or altered premises **indirectly** to the public sewer for the purposes of discharging foul and/or surface water flows.
- iii. Making additional direct or indirect connections to the public sewer for existing or altered premises for the purposes of discharging foul or surface water flows.

Please note the following exceptions to i, ii and iii above. Should your proposal comply with **all** the following criteria you are not required to apply for a sewer connection:

- The connection will service altered residential premises, with an existing sewer connection and a new postal address will not be created.
- The connection will be made indirectly to the public sewer.
- The connection is for foul only, with no proposals to discharge surface water to the public sewer.

If you've established that an application to connect to the sewer is required for your project, please visit our [webpage](#) for details on how to apply.

Please be aware it is an offence under Section 106 of the Water Industry Act 1991 to connect directly or indirectly to the public sewer without approval and where necessary, without giving reasonable notice for subsequent inspections to take place. Under Section 109 of the same act, the Sewerage Undertaker has the right to remove such connections and recover all associated costs from the offending party.

Please also be aware that your water provider will make us aware that a water connection has been made and we may deduce from this that a sewer connection has also been made without our knowledge/approval.

Definitions

Direct sewer connection is a connection made directly to the public sewer by physically breaking into the pipe/manhole or by constructing a new manhole on the public sewer.

Indirect sewer connection is a connection made to an existing private drain/sewer that is already connected to the public sewer.

In the context of the above, premises relates to residential, commercial or industrial buildings.

The Sewerage Undertaker is the water company responsible for providing a sewerage service within your area, however, please note that this maybe a different company to the water undertaker that provides the water service.

If your proposed building works are taking place within the Affinity Water or Cambridge Water area, the Sewerage Undertaker will be Anglian Water. If your proposed building works are within the southern fringes of the Essex & Suffolk Water area or the Three Valleys Water area, the Sewerage Undertaker will be either Anglian Water or Thames Water.

The contact details for Anglian Water and Thames Water are as follows:

Anglian Water

Development Services
PO Box 495
Huntingdon PE29 6YY

T 0345 60 66 087

E drainage@anglianwater.co.uk

W anglianwater.co.uk/developing/drainage-services

Thames Water

Developer Services
Clearwater Court
Vastern Road
Reading
Berkshire RG1 8DB

T 0800 009 3921

E developer.services@thameswater.co.uk

W thameswater.co.uk/developers