

What requires Notification

The Table in Regulation 5 (see grey panel right) details a list of operations that require advanced notification to the local water supplier.

Who should Notify

Regulation 5 stipulates; any person who proposes to install a water fitting in connection with any of the operations listed in the Table shall: -

- give notice to the water supplier that he proposes to begin work, and
- not begin that work without the consent of that water supplier which shall not be withheld unreasonably, and
- comply with any conditions to which the water supplier's consent is subject.

This requires anyone involved with a notifiable scope of works must ensure Notification has been served and they comply with any conditions or requirements of the consent. The most logical person to Notify would be the mechanical designer or plumber making the detailed design or specification of the system.

Notification does not apply to the installation by an Approved Plumber of water fitting falling within paragraph 2 or 4(b) in the Table.

The term Approved Plumber is more commonly used to denote a member of an Approved Contractor scheme (as designated under Section 1(2) of the Regulations) and as such is authorised to carry out such work as an Approved Contractor and will issue a certificate to certify the work is compliant upon completion. This gives owners and occupiers additional reassurance the work has been carried out by a competent person and meets the requirements of the Regulations

Most UK water suppliers either operate their own or support the national Approved Contractor scheme. Anglian Water operates its own scheme known as Aplus. Details of Approved Plumbers can be found on our website, www.anglianwater.co.uk.

What is to be included

With the Notification form included must be a number of plans drawings and schedule of fittings to enable the water supplier to fully understand the proposed scope of works.

These include: -

- schematic diagram; a drawing showing the configuration of the pipework, fittings or appliances to be installed.
- map; showing where the site to be worked on is located.
- location plan; showing the parts of the building or site where the work is to be carried out.
- list of fittings and appliances to be used indicating if they have been approved by WRAS and if so their approval number.

What do we do with the Notice

Upon receipt of a notification we will:

- review the proposal and consider if any conditions are to be applied.
- make comments regarding any part that is incomplete, require clarification or would be non-compliant.
- endeavour to respond within 10 working days upon receipt of the Notice and either grant or refuse consent.

Once consent is granted you may proceed with the work. Should we fail to respond within the 10 working days consent is deemed to be given and you are entitled to start work. However deemed consent does not carry any guarantees the proposal would comply with the regulations if it were to be installed; the onus is on the installer to ensure all work complies and any non-compliance found will have to be rectified.

Table (Operations where Notification is required)

1. The erection of a building or other structure, not being a pond or swimming pool.
2. The extension or alteration of a water system on any premises other than a house.
3. A material change of use of any premises.
4. The installation of: -
 - (a) a bath having a capacity, as measured to the centre line of overflow, of more than 230 litres;
 - (b) a bidet with an ascending spray or flexible hose;
 - (c) a single shower unit (which may consist of one or more shower heads within a single unit), not being a drench shower installed for reasons of safety or health, connected directly or indirectly to a supply pipe which is of a type specified by the regulator;
 - (d) a pump or booster drawing more than 12 litres per minute, connected directly or indirectly to a supply pipe;
 - (e) a unit which incorporates reverse osmosis;
 - (f) a water treatment unit which produces a waste water discharge or which requires the use of water for regeneration or cleaning;
 - (g) a reduced pressure zone valve assembly or other mechanical device for protection against a fluid which is in fluid category 4 or 5;
 - (h) a garden watering system unless designed to be operated by hand; or
 - (i) any water system laid outside a building and either less than 750mm or more than 1350mm below ground level.
5. The construction of a pond or swimming pool with a capacity greater than 10,000 litres which is designed to be replenished by automatic means and is to be filled with water supplied by a water undertaker.