



# Responsibilities for the provision of long service pipes, guidance given by **anglianwater**

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## 1. Introduction

In some circumstances when applying for a new water connection, the nearest Anglian Water main may be some distance from the property to be supplied. This fact sheet gives guidance on the responsibilities where this may be the case.

## 2. Anglian Water's responsibilities for laying the service pipe

Anglian Water's legal responsibility under Section 46 of the Water Industry Act 1991 is that we are responsible for laying 'so much of the service pipe to be connected with the water main as it is necessary, for the purpose of making that connection, to lay in a street.'

When the property to be supplied is situated beyond the end of the main, it is not **necessary** for the service pipe to be laid in the street – the service pipe could be laid in private land by or on behalf of the applicant for connection. However, Anglian Water could **choose** to lay a length of service pipe in a street that it was under no legal obligation to lay. This could be done to facilitate connection when, for example, the applicant was unable to negotiate an easement to lay the pipe in private land or when laying a pipe in, for example, private gardens, would be disruptive to the owners.

Anglian Water has very limited powers to lay service pipes in private land, please refer to our 'New water service connections in private land' fact sheet.

Anglian Water is responsible for:

- Excavation and connection to the existing water main. If the water main is in private land please refer to our 'New water service connections in private land' fact sheet.
- Laying the water service from the water main to the agreed point. On receiving an application for a new water connection, Anglian Water will arrange for an on site survey to be carried out to ascertain the amount of work required, and who is responsible for what work. We would strongly recommend that the developer is present at the time of the survey to agree the point of connection. Please refer to our 'Getting connected to a water supply' fact sheet for more details on the steps required to get a water connection.
- Installing a meter.
- Connecting to the pipe provided by the applicant.

## 3. Applicant's responsibilities

The applicant is responsible for:

- Laying the part of the service pipe from the property to the agreed point.
- Arranging chlorination and testing of the service pipe where required, please refer to our 'Disinfection, pressure testing, and commissioning of private supply pipes and mains' fact sheet.
- Ensuring that a highway approved contractor is used for any part of the service pipe that will be in public highway and the necessary street works licence obtained from the Highway Authority.
- Ensuring that the necessary approvals and easements are obtained if the service pipe crosses third party land



#### 4. Vesting of service pipes and future maintenance responsibilities

Section 179 of the Water Industry Act 1991 deals with the vesting of pipes. Anglian Water is responsible for maintaining pipes vested in it. Anglian Water is generally responsible for all pipes laid by Anglian Water or its predecessors using its statutory powers.

One exception is service pipes in Section 179(3) of the Water Industry Act 1991: *'(3) Subsection (1) above shall not apply to a service pipe laid in a street other than the street in which the water main with which it connects is situated.'* This means that:

- If Anglian Water lays a service pipe in the same street as a water main, but beyond the end of the water main, Anglian Water would be responsible for the maintenance of the service pipe laid in that street beyond the end of the main.
- If a service pipe is laid in a different street to the water main, Anglian Water would not be responsible for the maintenance of that pipe.

A street ceases to be the street in which the main is laid, if there is a junction, a change of name, or a change of route.

The applicant would have **two options** on how to supply the property.

**Option A** – Applicant would pay Anglian Water to lay new service pipe along the public highway.

**Option B** – Applicant would lay service pipe across private land to Anglian Water main.

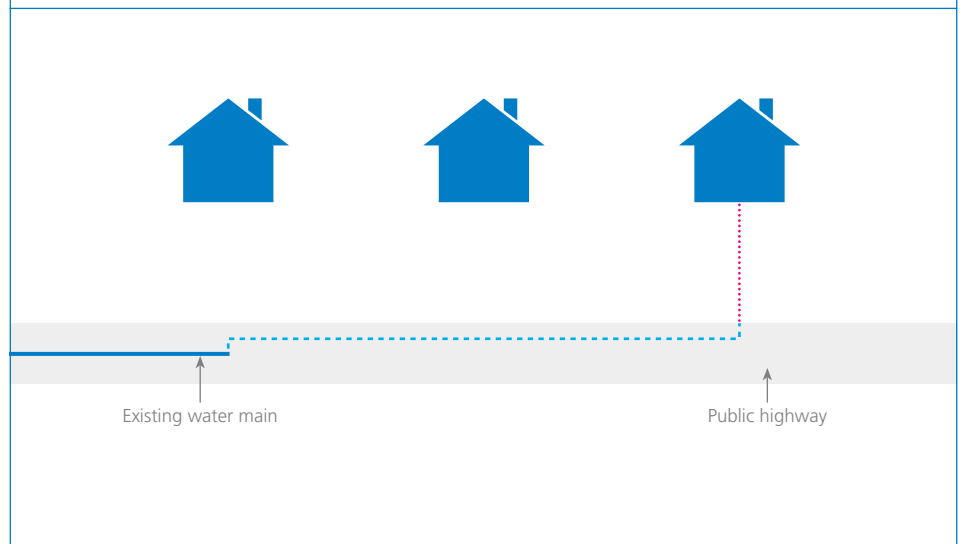
#### 5. Examples of responsibility

The following examples show the responsibilities for common scenarios.

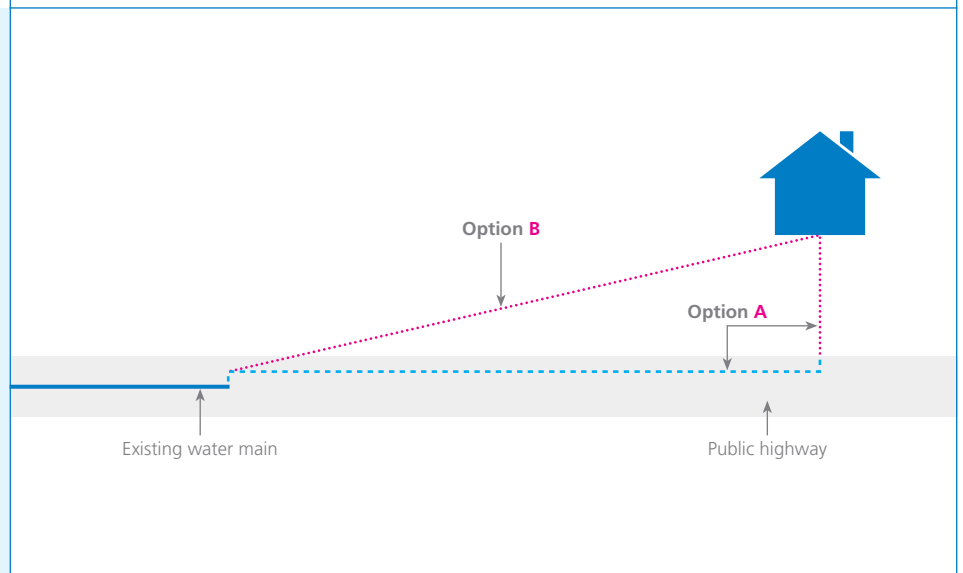
The following key is applicable to all examples:

- Existing water main
- - - Service pipe to be installed by **Anglian Water**
- ⋯ Service pipe to be installed by **Applicant**

**Diagram 1: Where property to be supplied is in the same street as the main, beyond the end of the main but reasonably close to the end of the main**

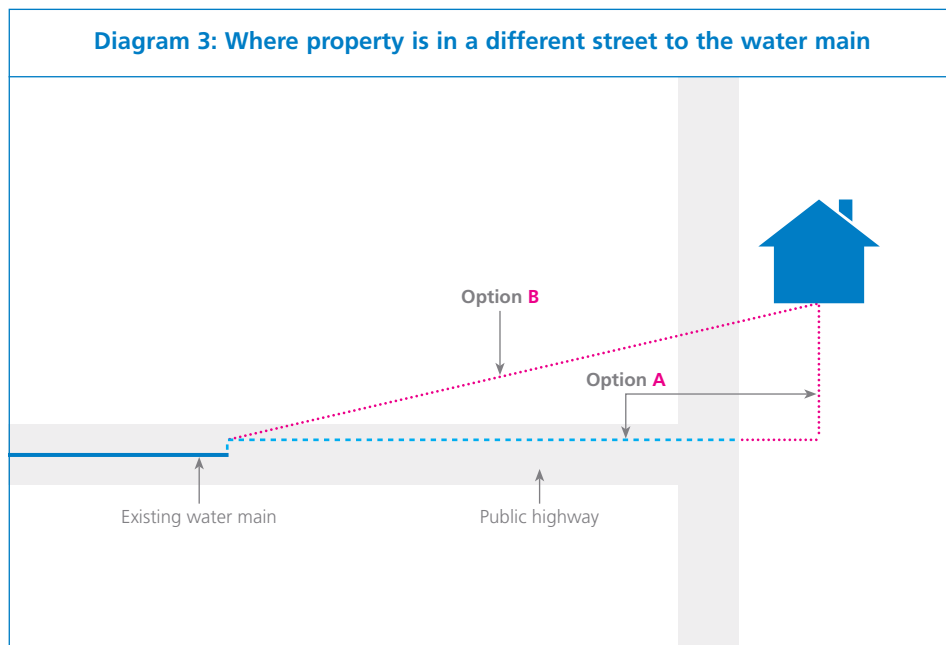


**Diagram 2: Where property is some distance from the end of the main**



The following key is applicable to all examples:

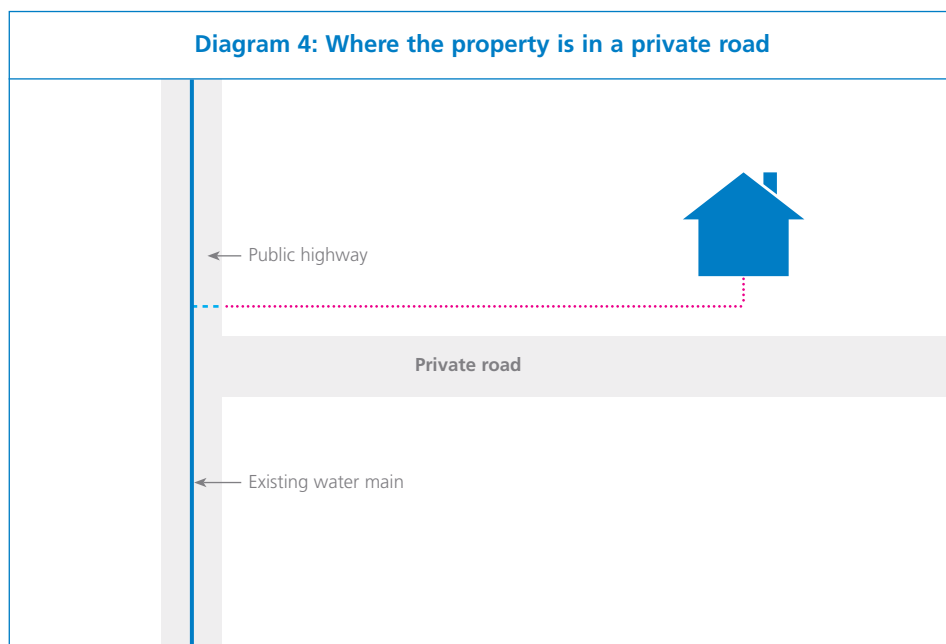
- Existing water main
- - - Service pipe to be installed by **Anglian Water**
- ⋯ Service pipe to be installed by **Applicant**



The applicant would have **two options** on how to supply the property.

**Option A** – Applicant would pay Anglian Water to lay new service pipe along the public highway.

**Option B** – Applicant would lay service pipe across private land and public highway to Anglian Water main.



## 6. Water main in lieu of service pipe

In some cases Anglian Water may decide to lay a new water main instead of a long service pipe. This may be done if there is more than one service connection required, or there could potentially be further service connections requested in the future.

Where a water main is laid in lieu of a long service pipe the applicant will only pay the same cost as if we were to lay the long service pipe. Anglian Water will meet the additional cost for upsizing to a water main.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact us by:

- Phone on 0845 6066087
- Fax on 01223 201261
- Email  
developerservices@anglianwater.co.uk
- Write to Developer Services, PO Box 495,  
Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE29 6YY