How you can establish whether there is a public sewer within the vicinity of your proposed building works?

To obtain a copy of Anglian Water’s sewer records please log on to the digdat website www.digdat.co.uk or call 0845 026 7676. There is a charge for the provision of this information and please note that the location of the sewer on our sewer records is provided as a guide only. The exact line, depth and size of the sewer must be established on site, by you before you provide us with details of your proposed works.

Please note that some public sewers are not indicated on the sewer records and this is especially likely in the following situations:

- If your property was constructed prior to 1st October 1937. Sewers that serve two or more properties built before this date are often referred to as Section 24 sewers; however they are effectively public sewers and must be treated the same way as a public sewer indicated on the sewer records.

- If the sewer or lateral drain serving your property was built and connected to the public sewer on 1st July 2011, it is likely to have become a public sewer/lateral drain on 1st October 2011 as part of the Private Sewer Transfer.

Exceptions to the second scenario are foul sewers discharging to a privately owned sewage treatment/collection facility (septic tank/cess pit) and surface water sewers which discharge to a watercourse (ditch, stream, river etc).

If one of above scenarios is relevant to you and there are no public sewers indicated within your boundary, please be aware that unmapped public sewers may exist within the vicinity of your proposals.

The ‘Big Switch Over’ page of the Anglian Water website includes guidance regarding the responsibility for sewers and drains adjacent to properties after 1st October 2011. If our sewer record indicates a public sewer within the vicinity of your property and you are paying a sewerage charge to Anglian Water there are likely to be public sewers on or adjacent to your property.

We recommend that you click on the following link to access ‘The BIG switch over – How it affects you’ or go to www.anglianwater.co.uk/household/water-recycling-services/Private-sewers-and-lateral-drains.aspx. Add in the type of property, when it was built, click next and look at the ‘after 1st October’ tab to view post sewer transfer responsibilities.

If there is a public sewer within the vicinity of your proposed works, the Building Control Body may choose to consult us regarding your proposals.