

A guide to working in close proximity to our water pipes



Trial Holes

Trial hole hand excavations should be carried out to locate apparatus BEFORE using mechanical excavation methods or vibrating compacting equipment. To avoid possible damage and / or disruption of service and repair costs, you are advised NOT to use mechanical excavations or boring plant within 1000mm in any direction or vibrating compacting equipment within 600mm in any direction, but these distances may want to be extended under your own ground excavation. In the event of any damage to Anglian Water's apparatus, or to any lateral connections as a result of your operations, you will be held responsible for any costs arising therefrom.

Once trial holes have been excavated...

If cover is Greater than 500mm, the main can be left in situ

If cover is between 500mm and 200mm, then the main will need be protecting

If cover is less than 200mm then the main will need diverting

Note: Minimum depth requirements are to Anglian Waters discretion and may be subject to review. This will depend on the pipe material and size, the excavation methods being used, and any potential impact on the water network.

Protection details

Protection of water main by casting of concrete slab

Protective concrete slabs are required when works are within 200 - 500mm of water apparatus, please discuss further with our mains team so that your plans can be agreed and permission granted. Protective slabs are to be used for road crossings and access roads that cross perpendicular to the pipeline. We generally do not protect longer and parallel sections of main as this is not an ideal solution, as this hinders leakage detection and makes excavations for repairs more difficult. When water fittings (i.e. Sluice Valves, Hydrants, etc) are present within your works we will need to make the necessary arrangements for these fittings to be diverted to a suitable location outside of your works. If this is the case visit [here](#) for further details.

Typical arrangement:

Road construction

C30 Concrete slab with
single layer A142 Mesh

MOT type 1

Flexible layer



Water main

Required dimensions:

Main Ø size (mm)	Width A (mm)	Depth B (mm)	Depth C (mm)
90 - 125	800		
180 - 300	1500	150	100
300 and above	2000		