

## Groundworker/developer guide to new water service connections

In order for a new water connection work to start on a scheduled date\*, the groundworker/developer must meet the following requirements:

- Label – before the connections are requested it is important that all service pipes are clearly labelled as to which plot they serve, and the end of the pipe to be connected to the main must be sealed off with a mechanical watertight stop end (not tape or plastic bags).
- Depth – service pipes must be laid at a minimum depth of 750mm (maximum 1350mm).
- Number in single trench – a maximum of five standard service pipes in a trench (0.5m wide)
- Excavation size at connection point – for a single service connection (up to 32mm), an excavation of approximately one metre square is required at the connection point with a clearance of at least 250mm below the main.
- All service pipes must be brought out to the relevant connection point.
- The area must be safe and clear from obstructions. If South West Water apparatus is obstructed by other utility apparatus or by other obstructions eg scaffolding etc we reserve the right to abort the individual service connections until the correct access is provided.
- Meter position and excavation size – meter boxes are to be installed as per the South West Water drawing unless agreed in advance by South West Water. For a single, standard meter box installation, an excavation of approximately one metre square is required.
- Barrier pipe/contamination - If the site has been deemed as potentially contaminated, you must install the service pipes using a suitable barrier pipe. If Egeplast [SLA] barrier pipe is not used, you must advise South West Water at the earliest opportunity of the barrier pipe manufacturer and size. For new sites this should be stipulated at the start of the application. Failure to do so will result in your connection being delayed.
- Chlorination - if service pipes are greater than 50 metres in length or greater than 50mm in diameter, they must be chlorinated and tested before connection. *We will need confirmation of this before a connection can be made.*
- Internal checks – when the connection is made, a site representative will be required to check the internal pipe work or make sure that the stop tap will be left turned off.

Failure to meet the requirements set out above may result in delays to connections and may be subject to abortive/additional costs which South West Water reserves the right to recover from the applicant.

\* Please note a connection date may only be requested once all pre connection criteria have been satisfied (including payment received, trench inspection and Water Regulations), the domestic property must be secure to prevent damage or misuse of supply and a suitable stop valve installed as close as possible to where the pipe enters the building. Temporary building supplies should be installed to the required specification (typical inclusions: fixed to post or outside wall, double check valve, protection and insulation).

### **Meter Boundary Box Installation**

These guidelines are to ensure all newly installed Water Meters are easily accessible for our mutual customers and installed at the correct depths.

Compliance ensures ease of water meter reading and access to the controlling stop tap at all times.

- Depth – **750 mm** from pipe inlet and outlet to **finished surface**.
- Tubing must be cut to the necessary size to achieve the depth.
- Each Tube is designed for use on 2 boundary box installations.
- Ensure the boundary box is installed in upright position and not at an angle.
- Boundary box shall be positioned a minimum 200mm and as near as practicably possible to the back edge of the footpath/service strip (the applicant is responsible for ensuring the box and footpath position is clear on the day of installation)

