

**CROSS
SECTOR
INFRASTRUCTURE
ACCESS
STATEMENT**

INTRODUCTION

Essex & Suffolk Water is committed to working with stakeholders to support growth and enable development within our operating area. Essex & Suffolk Water part of Northumbrian Water provide water services to 1.8 million people in the south east of England and to ensure continuity of these essential services it is vital we protect existing assets and access to them.

The operating area of Essex & Suffolk Water includes the major population centres of Chelmsford, Southend and the London Boroughs of Barking, Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge as well as rural areas with the biggest towns being Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft.



Assets within this area include:

- 25 water treatment works
- 90 water pumping stations
- 99 water service reservoirs
- 9,221 km water mains

Purpose

This access statement presents practical information necessary for third parties when crossing or working in the vicinity of Essex & Suffolk assets. Its purpose is to enable any person or business that needs Essex & Suffolk Water's permission or cooperation when installing their own infrastructure or undertaking works on land in which Essex & Suffolk Water have existing assets to minimise risk to these assets. The company is passionate about providing customers with an excellent service and this document will contribute to this by providing important information which includes.

- How to locate Essex & Suffolk Water assets
- Who to contact for advice
- Timescales
- Processes
- Costs
- How disputes will be resolved

LOCATING ASSETS

You can obtain drawings of Essex & Suffolk Water's assets by visiting <http://www.linesearchbeforeudig.co.uk/>

All information provided on these records is indicative only and it is your responsibility to prove the actual location of the assets. You must note and act on the text at the bottom of all hard copies of drawings and "Standard Conditions for Working near Essex & Suffolk Water's Apparatus a copy of which is provided with responses.

You should also bear in mind that no service pipes are shown on plans.

The actual position of apparatus must be established by taking trial holes in all cases. No machine excavation will be permitted within 1 metre either side of an Essex & Suffolk Water asset without written approval from Essex & Suffolk Water. The actual position of any apparatus must be found by hand excavation. The Company must be given two working day's notice before any works, including trial holes, are carried out within their easements.

MAJOR HIGHWAYS SCHEMES

The New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 provides a process for the protection of assets covered by this act.

Stage C2 – Preliminary enquiry - drawings of water mains records can be obtained by emailing plans@nwl.co.uk. If appropriate a charge will be made for the provision of these plans.

Stage C3 – Budget estimates - If works are identified as being required to protect Essex & Suffolk Water's apparatus a budget estimate is prepared by Essex & Suffolk Water and sent to the applicant within 20 working days.

Stage C4 – Detailed estimate – If the budget estimate is accepted by the applicant and works are to progress, on request a detailed estimate is provided by Essex & Suffolk Water within 25 working days, if this is not possible the applicant is informed.

All contact relating to C3 and C4 activity should be forwarded to carolyn.archat@nwl.co.uk or by telephone on 01268 664905.

The applicant must submit the appropriate fee with the application.

CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS OVER OR NEAR WATER MAINS

As water mains operate at pressure it is not permissible to build over or within the easement area of them, therefore if you are building something over or near to a water main, or changing the ground level, then the main may need to be diverted.

DIVERSIONS OF WATER MAINS

The work involved and cost to divert an existing water main or ancillary asset can be discussed with Carolyn Archat on 01268 664905.

PROTECTION OF STRATEGIC ASSETS

Strategic assets are pipes or other infrastructure critical to the provision of water services. Due to the Health & Safety, environmental, customer service and financial implications of failure of strategic assets Essex & Suffolk Water require additional asset protection discussions and actions prior to any activity commencing on site where potential conflicts exist. Essex & Suffolk Water liaise with planning authorities to identify potential conflicts at an early stage and will proactively contact applicants. Early engagement is welcomed from developers and landowners to agree how strategic assets can be protected.

Contact can be made with the following:

Essex:

David Sayer **01268 664771**

dave.sayer@nwl.co.uk

Suffolk:

Jonathan Critoph 01502 735585

jonathan.critoph@nwl.co.uk

This process will help ensure developers meet their CDM obligations, are adequately insured for site activity and are not liable for Essex & Suffolk Water losses under Civil Liability of Undertakers for Escapes of Water legislation.

Timescales and process will be agreed with stakeholders on a site specific basis and all costs incurred by Essex & Suffolk Water will be rechargeable to the applicant.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Essex & Suffolk Water follow the National Joint Utilities Group guidelines on Co-ordination, Co-operation & Communication, which is a document detailing cross-industry agreed best practice on working with other utilities. This should minimise the number of disputes.

Any disputes can be referred to Julie Maxwell (Developer Services Team Leader) by calling 01268 664460 or emailing julie.maxwell@nwl.co.uk.

Any disputes that cannot be resolved by the Developer Services Team Leader will be passed on internally to Essex & Suffolk Water's Developer Services Manager who will be able to co-ordinate a case review with infrastructure providers.

Any infrastructure provider disputing an unsuccessful application to divert a water main or sewer has the right to appeal directly to Ofwat.

Case Management Office

Ofwat

Centre City Tower

7 Hill Street

Birmingham B5 4UA

casemanagementoffice@ofwat.gsi.gov.uk