

Pre-Planning Enquiry Wastewater Guidance Notes



from
**Southern
Water** 

Guidance for a wastewater pre-planning enquiry

Southern Water offers a pre-planning enquiry service to help developers understand any potential issues that might affect how a site can be serviced with water and sewer connections. This service is optional but can help developers see how their project might impact our sewer networks before buying land or submitting a planning application.

The enquiry is a simple check to see if the necessary capacity is available near the planned development. However, the results are for guidance only. They do not mean that your plans have been approved or rejected and shouldn't be used as the basis for detailed designs.

The assessment only covers the piped networks upstream of treatment plants or surface water outfalls. In some cases, if we don't have enough information, we might ask you to carry out and fund surveys of the drainage in the area. If there is a lack of capacity, we'll let you know the closest point where capacity is available. If that doesn't suit your needs, Southern Water may need to upgrade the network, depending on connection charging rules set by Ofwat.

Please refer to our webpages for more information which may affect your development:

- [Planning Your Development](#)
- [Planning – handbooks and technical guidance](#)

We aim to provide a written response within 21 working days after receiving your completed application.

There is a fee for this service, which is detailed in our [Connection Charging Arrangements](#). Please note that repeat enquiries will incur additional charges

Important Notes:

The pre-planning enquiry is not a guarantee that the development can be serviced. It only provides an indication of whether capacity is available.

The report is confidential and for the applicant's use only. You can only share it with others if you get written permission from Southern Water. Third parties who receive the report cannot share it further without our consent.