Important information – changes effective from 9 May …

The content of the Law Society’s CON29DW is being updated to reflect changes to legislation impacting the water industry. In summary, from 9th May the key changes to both the CON29DW and CommercialDW enquiries will be as follows:

1. Inclusion of details on private pumping stations (Q. 2.4.1 and 2.5.1)
2. Impact of sustainable drainage systems (SUDs) on newly adopted sewerage networks (Q. 2.2)
3. Removal of water quality information as this is not property specific; however this information will still be available on individual water companies’ websites (was Q. 3.5)
4. Provision of water hardness information will become the new Q. 3.5

For further information please visit www.thameswater-propertysearches.co.uk
## Maps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Summary Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Where relevant, please include a copy of an extract from the public sewer map.</td>
<td>Map Provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Where relevant, please include a copy of an extract from the map of waterworks.</td>
<td>Map Provided</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Drainage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Does foul water from the property drain to a public sewer?</td>
<td>Connected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Does surface water from the property drain to a public sewer?</td>
<td>Connected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Is a surface water drainage charge payable?</td>
<td>Charge Payable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Does the public sewer map indicate any public sewer, disposal main or lateral drain within the boundaries of the property?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4.1 Does the public sewer map indicate any public pumping station or any other ancillary apparatus within the boundaries of the property?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Does the public sewer map indicate any public sewer within 30.48 metres (100 feet) of any buildings within the property?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5.1 Does the public sewer map indicate any public pumping station or any other ancillary apparatus within the 50 metres of any buildings within the property?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6 Are any sewers or lateral drains serving, or which are proposed to serve the property, the subject of an existing adoption agreement or an application for such an agreement?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7 Has a sewage undertaker approved or been consulted about any plans to erect a building or extension on the property over or in the vicinity of a public sewer, disposal main or drain?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8 Is the building which is or forms part of the property, at risk of internal flooding due to overloaded public sewers?</td>
<td>Not At Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.9 Please state the distance from the property to the nearest boundary of the nearest sewage treatment works.</td>
<td>3.436 Kilometres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Is the property connected to mains water supply?</td>
<td>Connected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Are there any water mains, resource mains or discharge pipes within the boundaries of the property?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3 Is any water main or service pipe serving or which is proposed to serve the property, the subject of an existing adoption agreement or an application for such an agreement?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4 Is the property at risk of receiving low water pressure or flow?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 What is the classification of the water supply for the property?</td>
<td>Hard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6 Please include details of the location of any water meter serving the property.</td>
<td>See Details</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Charging

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1.1 Who are the sewerage undertakers for the area?</td>
<td>Thames Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.2 Who are the water undertakers for the area?</td>
<td>Thames Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Who bills the property for sewerage services?</td>
<td>Thames Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3 Who bills the property for water services?</td>
<td>Thames Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4 What is the current basis for charging for sewerage and/or water services at the property?</td>
<td>Metered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5 Will the basis for charging for sewerage and water services at the property change as a consequence of a change of occupation?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Search address supplied: Sample Building Name, Sample Road, Sample Town, Sample County, RG1 8DB

Any new owner or occupier will need to contact Thames Water on 0800 316 9800 or log onto our website www.thameswater.co.uk and complete our online form to change the water and drainage services bills to their name.

The following records were searched in compiling this report: - the Map of Public Sewers, the Map of Waterworks, Water and Sewer billing records, Adoption of Public Sewer records, Building Over Public Sewer records, the Register of Properties subject to Internal Foul Flooding, the Register of Properties subject to Poor Water Pressure and the Drinking Water Register. Thames Water Utilities Ltd (TWUL), Clearwater Court, Vastern Road, Reading RG1 8DB, holds all of these.

TWUL, trading as Property Searches, are responsible in respect of the following:-

(i) any negligent or incorrect entry in the records searched;
(ii) any negligent or incorrect interpretation of the records searched;
(iii) any negligent or incorrect recording of that interpretation in the search report
(iv) compensation payments

Please refer to the attached Terms & Conditions.

Thames Water Property Searches is an Executive member of CoPSO (Council of Property Search Organisations).
Interpretation of CON29DW Drainage and Water Search

Appendix 1 contains definitions of terms and expressions used in this report.

For your guidance:

- Thames Water Property Searches Complaints Procedure:
  - Thames Water Property Searches offers a robust complaints procedure. Complaints can be made by telephone, in writing, by email (searches@thameswater.co.uk) or through our website (www.thameswater-propertysearches.co.uk)

As a minimum standard Thames Water Property Searches will:

  - endeavour to resolve any contact or complaint at the time of receipt. If this isn’t possible, we will advise of timescales;
  - investigate and research the matter in detail to identify the issue raised (in some cases third party consultation will be required);
  - provide a response to the customer within 10 working days of receipt of the complaint;
  - provide compensation, if no response or acknowledgment that we are investigating the case is given within 10 working days of receipt of the complaint;
  - keep you informed of the progress and, depending on the scale of investigation required, update with new timescales as necessary;
  - provide an amended search, free of charge, if required;
  - provide a refund if we find your complaint to be justified; take the necessary action within our power to put things right.

If you want us to liaise with a third party on your behalf, just let us know.

If you are still not satisfied with the outcome provided we will refer the matter to a Senior Manager for resolution who will respond again within 5 working days.

If you remain dissatisfied with our final response you may refer your complaint for consideration under The Property Ombudsman scheme (TPOs). Please refer to the final page of the search for further details.
Maps

1.1 – Where relevant, please include a copy of an extract from the public sewer map.

A copy of an extract of the public sewer map is included, showing the public sewers, disposal mains and lateral drains in the vicinity of the property.

For your guidance:
- The Water Industry Act 1991 defines Public Sewers as those which Thames Water have responsibility for. Other assets and rivers, watercourses, ponds, culverts or highway drains may be shown for information purposes only.
- The company is not generally responsible for rivers, watercourses, ponds, culverts or highway drains. If any of these are shown on the copy extract they are shown for information only.
- Any private sewers or lateral drains which are indicated on the extract of the public sewer map as being subject to an agreement under Section 104 of the Water Industry Act 1991 are not an ‘as constructed’ record. It is recommended these details be checked with the developer.
- Assets other than public sewers may be shown on the copy extract, for information.

1.2 – Where relevant, please include a copy of an extract from the map of waterworks.

A copy of an extract of the map of waterworks is included, showing water mains, resource mains or discharge pipes in the vicinity of the property.

For your guidance:
- The “water mains” in this context are those, which are vested in and maintainable by the water company under statute.
- Assets other than public water mains may be shown on the plan, for information only.
- Water companies are not responsible for private supply pipes connecting the property to the public water main and do not hold details of these. These may pass through land outside of the control of the seller, or may be shared with adjacent properties. The buyer may wish to investigate whether separate rights or easements are needed for their inspection, repair or renewal.
- If an extract of the public water main record is enclosed, this will show known public water mains in the vicinity of the property. It should be possible to estimate the likely length and route of any private water supply pipe connecting the property to the public water network.
Drainage

2.1 – Does foul water from the property drain to a public sewer?

Records indicate that foul water from the property drains to a public sewer.

For your guidance:

- Water companies are not responsible for any private drains that connect the property to the public sewerage system and do not hold details of these. The property owner will normally have sole responsibility for private drains serving the property. These may pass through land outside the control of the seller and the buyer may wish to investigate whether separate rights or easements are needed for their inspection, repair or renewal.
- If foul water does not drain to the public sewerage system, the property may have private facilities in the form of a cesspit, septic tank or other type of treatment plant.
- An extract from the public sewer map is enclosed. This will show known public sewers in the vicinity of the property and it should be possible to estimate the likely length and route of any private drains and/or sewers connecting the property to the public sewerage system.

2.2 – Does surface water from the property drain to a public sewer?

Records indicate that surface water from the property drains to a public sewer.

For your guidance:

- Sewerage Undertakers are not responsible for any private drains that connect the property to the public sewerage system, and do not hold details of these.
- The property owner will normally have sole responsibility for private drains serving the property. These private drains may pass through land outside of the control of the seller and the buyer may wish to investigate whether separate rights or easements are needed for their inspection, repair or renewal.
- In some cases, ‘Sewerage Undertakers’ records do not distinguish between foul and surface water connections to the public sewerage system.
- At the time of privatisation in 1989, Sewerage Undertakers were sold with poorly-kept records of sewerage infrastructure. The records did not always show which properties were connected for surface water drainage purposes. Accordingly, billing records have been used to provide an answer for this element of the drainage and water search.
- Due to the potential inadequacy of ‘Sewerage Undertakers’ infrastructure records with respect to surface water drainage, it is the customer’s responsibility to inform the Sewerage Undertaker that they do not receive the surface water drainage service. If on inspection, the buyer finds that surface water from the property does not drain to a public sewer, then the property may be eligible for a rebate of the surface water drainage charge. For further information, please contact Thames Water on Tel: 0800 316 9800, or refer to the website at www.thameswater.co.uk.
- If surface water from the property does not drain to the public sewerage system, the property may have private facilities in the form of a soakaway or private connection to a watercourse.
- An extract from the public sewer map is enclosed. This will show known public sewers in the vicinity of the property and it should be possible to estimate the likely length and route of any private drains and/or sewers connecting the property to the public sewerage system.
2.3 – Is a surface water drainage charge payable?

Records confirm that a surface water drainage charge is payable for the property and the charge is £26.19 for the current financial year.

For your guidance:
• If surface water from the property drains to a public sewer, then a surface water drainage charge is payable.
• Where a surface water drainage charge is currently included in the property’s water and sewerage bill but, on inspection, the buyer finds that surface water from the property does not drain to a public sewer, then the property may be eligible for a rebate of the surface water drainage charge. For further information, please contact Thames Water on Tel: 0800 316 9800 or refer to the website www.thameswater.co.uk.
2.4 – Does the public sewer map indicate any public sewer, disposal main or lateral drain within the boundaries of the property?

The public sewer map indicates that there are no public sewers, disposal mains or lateral drains within the boundaries of the property. However, from the 1st October 2011 there may be lateral drains and/or public sewers which are not recorded on the public sewer map but which may prevent or restrict development of the property.

For your guidance:
- Thames Water has a statutory right of access to carry out work on its assets. Employees of Thames Water or its contractors may, therefore, need to enter the property to carry out work.
- Please note if the property was constructed after 1st July 2011 any sewers and/or lateral drain within the boundary of the property are the responsibility of the householder.
- The approximate boundary of the property has been determined by reference to the Ordnance Survey Record or the map supplied.
- The presence of a public sewer running within the boundary of the property may restrict further development. The company has a statutory right of access to carry out work on its assets, subject to notice. This may result in employees of the company, or its contractors, needing to enter the property to carry out work.
- Any private sewers or lateral drains which are indicated on the extract of the public sewer map as being subject to an agreement under Section 104 of the Water Industry Act 1991 are not an ‘as constructed’ record. It is recommended these details be checked with the developer.

2.4.1 – Does the public sewer map indicate any public pumping station or any other ancillary apparatus within the boundaries of the property?

The public sewer map included indicates that there is no public pumping station within the boundaries of the property.

For your guidance:
- Private pumping stations installed before 1 July 2011 will be transferred into the ownership of the sewerage undertaker.
- The approximate boundary of the property has been determined by reference to the Ordnance Survey Record or the map supplied.
- The presence of a public Pumping station running within the boundary of the property may restrict further development. The company has a statutory right of access to carry out work on its assets, subject to notice. This may result in employees of the company, or its contractors, needing to enter the property to carry out work.
- Any private sewers or lateral drains which are indicated on the extract of the public sewer map as being subject to an agreement under Section 104 of the Water Industry Act 1991 are not an ‘as constructed’ record. It is recommended these details be checked with the developer.
2.5 – Does the public sewer map indicate any public sewer within 30.48 metres (100 feet) of any buildings within the property?

The public sewer map included indicates that there is a public sewer within 30.48 metres (100 feet) of a building within the property.

For your guidance:
- From the 1st October 2011 there may be additional lateral drains and/or public sewers which are not recorded on the public sewer map but are also within 30.48 metres (100 feet) of a building within the property.
- The presence of a public sewer within 30.48 metres (100 feet) of the building(s) within the property can result in the local authority requiring a property to be connected to the public sewer.
- The measurement is estimated from the Ordnance Survey record, between the building(s) within the boundary of the property and the nearest public sewer.
- Any private sewers or lateral drains which are indicated on the extract of the public sewer map as being subject to an agreement under Section 104 of the Water Industry Act 1991 are not an ‘as constructed’ record. It is recommended these details be checked with the developer.

2.5.1 – Does the public sewer map indicate any public pumping station or any other ancillary apparatus within 50 metres of any buildings within the property?

The public sewer map included indicates that there is no public pumping station within 50 metres of any buildings within the property.

For your guidance:
- Private pumping stations installed before 1 July 2011 will be transferred into the ownership of the sewerage undertaker.
- The presence of a public pumping station within 50 metres of the building(s) within the property can result in the local authority requiring a property to be connected to the public sewer.
- The measurement is estimated from the Ordnance Survey record, between the building(s) within the boundary of the property and the nearest public sewer.
- Any private sewers or lateral drains which are indicated on the extract of the public sewer map as being subject to an agreement under Section 104 of the Water Industry Act 1991 are not an ‘as constructed’ record. It is recommended these details be checked with the developer.
2.6 – Are any sewers or lateral drains serving or which are proposed to serve the property the subject of an existing adoption agreement or an application for such an agreement?

Records confirm that Foul sewers serving the development, of which the property forms part are not the subject of an existing adoption agreement or an application for such an agreement.

The Surface Water sewer(s) and/or Surface Water lateral drain(s) are not the subject of an adoption agreement.

For your guidance:
- Any sewers and/or lateral drains within the boundary of the property are not the subject of an adoption agreement and remain the responsibility of the householder. Adoptable sewers are normally those situated in the public highway.
- This enquiry is of interest to purchasers of new homes who will want to know whether or not the property will be linked to a public sewer.
- Where the property is part of a very recent or ongoing development and the sewers are not the subject of an adoption application, buyers should consult with the developer to ascertain the extent of private drains and sewers for which they will hold maintenance and renewal liabilities.
- Final adoption is subject to the developer complying with the terms of the adoption agreement under Section 104 of the Water Industry Act 1991 and meeting the requirements of ‘Sewers for Adoption’ 6th Edition.

2.7 – Has a sewerage undertaker approved or been consulted about any plans to erect a building or extension on the property over or in the vicinity of a public sewer, disposal main or drain?

There are no records in relation to any approval or consultation about plans to erect a building or extension on the property over or in the vicinity of a public sewer, disposal main or drain. However, the sewerage undertaker might not be aware of a building or extension on the property over or in the vicinity of a public sewer, disposal main or drain.

For your guidance:
- From the 1st October 2011 most private sewers, disposal mains and lateral drains were transferred into public ownership and the sewerage undertaker may not have been approved or consulted about any plans to erect a building or extension on the property over or in the vicinity of these.
- Buildings or extensions erected over a sewer in contravention of building controls may have to be removed or altered.
2.8 – Is the building which is or forms part of the property at risk of internal flooding due to overloaded public sewers?

The property is not recorded as being at risk of internal flooding due to overloaded public sewers.

From the 1st October 2011 most private sewers, disposal mains and lateral drains were transferred into public ownership. It is therefore possible that a property may be at risk of internal flooding due to an overloaded public sewer which the sewerage undertaker is not aware of. For further information it is recommended that enquiries are made of the vendor.

For your guidance:

- For reporting purposes buildings are restricted to those normally occupied and used for residential, public, commercial, business or industrial purposes.
- A sewer is “overloaded” when the flow from a storm is unable to pass through it due to a permanent problem (e.g. flat gradient, small diameter). Flooding as a result of temporary problems such as blockages, siltation, collapses and equipment or operational failures are excluded.
- “Internal flooding” from public sewers is defined as flooding, which enters a building or passes below a suspended floor. For reporting purposes, buildings are restricted to those normally occupied and used for residential, public, commercial, business or industrial purposes.
- “At Risk” properties are those that the water company is required to include in the Regulatory Register that is presented annually to the Director General of Water Services. These are defined as properties that have suffered, or are likely to suffer, internal flooding from public foul, combined or surface water sewers due to overloading of the sewerage system more frequently than the relevant reference period (either once or twice in ten years) as determined by the Company’s reporting procedure.
- Flooding as a result of storm events proven to be exceptional and beyond the reference period of one in ten years are not included on the At Risk Register.
- Properties may be at risk of flooding but not included on the Register where flooding incidents have not been reported to the Company.
- Public Sewers are defined as those for which the Company holds statutory responsibility under the Water Industry Act 1991.
- It should be noted that flooding can occur from private sewers and drains which are not the responsibility of the Company. This report excludes flooding from private sewers and drains and the Company makes no comment upon this matter.
- For further information please contact Thames Water on Tel: 0800 316 9800 or website www.thameswater.co.uk
2.9 – Please state the distance from the property to the nearest boundary of the nearest sewage treatment works.

The nearest sewage treatment works is READING STW which is 3.436 kilometres to the south of the property.

For your guidance:
- The nearest sewage treatment works will not always be the sewage treatment works serving the catchment within which the property is situated.
- The sewerage undertaker’s records were inspected to determine the nearest sewage treatment works.
- It should be noted that there may be a private sewage treatment works closer than the one detailed above that has not been identified.
- As a responsible utility operator, Thames Water Utilities seeks to manage the impact of odour from operational sewage works on the surrounding area. This is done in accordance with the Code of Practice on Odour Nuisance from Sewage Treatment Works issued via the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). This Code recognises that odour from sewage treatment works can have a detrimental impact on the quality of the local environment for those living close to works. However DEFRA also recognises that sewage treatment works provide important services to communities and are essential for maintaining standards in water quality and protecting aquatic based environments. For more information visit www.thameswater.co.uk
Water

3.1 – Is the property connected to mains water supply?

Records indicate that the property is connected to mains water supply.

For your guidance:
• The Company does not keep details of private supplies. The situation should be checked with the current owner of the property.

3.2 – Are there any water mains, resource mains or discharge pipes within the boundaries of the property?

The map of waterworks does not indicate any water mains, resource mains or discharge pipes within the boundaries of the property.

For your guidance:
• The boundary of the property has been determined by reference to the plan supplied. Where a plan was not supplied the Ordnance Survey Record was used. If the Water company mentioned in 4.1.2 is not Thames Water Utilities Ltd the boundary of the property has been determined by the Ordnance Survey.
• The presence of a public water main within the boundary of the property may restrict further development within it. Water companies have a statutory right of access to carry out work on their assets, subject to notice. This may result in employees of the company, or its contractors, needing to enter the property to carry out work.

3.3 – Is any water main or service pipe serving or which is proposed to serve the property the subject of an existing adoption agreement or an application for such an agreement?

Records confirm that water mains or service pipes serving the property are not the subject of an existing adoption agreement or an application for such an agreement.

For your guidance:
• This enquiry is of interest to purchasers of new homes who will want to know whether or not the property will be linked to the mains water supply.
3.4 – Is the property at risk of receiving low water pressure or flow?

Records confirm that the property is not recorded on a register kept by the water undertaker as being at risk of receiving low water pressure or flow.

For your guidance:
- The boundary of the property has been determined by reference to the plan supplied. Where a plan was not supplied the Ordnance Survey Record was used.
- “Low water pressure” means water pressure below the regulatory reference level, which is the minimum pressure when demand on the system is not abnormal.
- Water Companies are required to include in the Regulatory Register that is presented annually to the Director General of Water Services, properties receiving pressure below the reference level, provided that allowable exclusions do not apply (i.e. events which can cause pressure to temporarily fall below the reference level).
- The reference level of service is a flow of 9 litres/minute at a pressure of 10metres / head on the customer’s side of the outside stop valve (osv). The reference level of service must be applied on the customer's side of a meter or any other company fittings that are on the customer's side of the main stop tap. The reference level applies to a single property. Where more than one property is served by a common service pipe, the flow assumed in the reference level must be appropriately increased to take account of the total number of properties served. For two properties, a flow of 18 litres/minute at a pressure of 10metres/head on the customers’ side of the osv is appropriate. For three or more properties the appropriate flow should be calculated from the standard loadings provided in BS6700 or the Institute of Plumbing handbook.
- **Allowable exclusions** The Company is required to include in the Regulatory Register properties receiving pressure below the reference level, provided that allowable exclusions listed below do not apply.
  - **Abnormal demand:** This exclusion is intended to cover abnormal peaks in demand and not the daily, weekly or monthly peaks in demand, which are normally expected. Companies should exclude from the reported figures properties which are affected by low pressure only on those days with the highest peak demands. During the report year companies may exclude, for each property, up to five days of low pressure caused by peak demand.
  - **Planned maintenance:** Companies should not report low pressures caused by planned maintenance. It is not intended that companies identify the number of properties affected in each instance. However, companies must maintain sufficiently accurate records to verify that low-pressure incidents that are excluded because of planned maintenance are actually caused by maintenance.
  - **One-off incidents:** This exclusion covers a number of causes of low pressure; mains bursts; failures of company equipment (such as pressure reducing valves or booster pumps); firefighting; and action by a third party. However, if problems of this type affect a property frequently, they cannot be classed as one-off events and further investigation will be required before they can be excluded.
  - **Low-pressure incidents of short duration:** Properties affected by low pressures, which only occur for a short period, and for which there is evidence that incidents of a longer duration would not occur during the course of the year, may be excluded from the reported figures.
  - Please contact your water company mentioned in Question 4.1.2 if you require further information on water pressure.

Please contact your water company mentioned in Question 4.1.2 if you require further information on water pressure.
3.5 – What is the classification of the water supply for the property?

The water supplied to the property has an average water hardness of 129mg/l calcium which is defined as Hard by Thames Water.

For your guidance:
- Water hardness can be expressed in various indices for example the hardness settings for dishwashers are commonly expressed in Clark’s degrees, but check with the manufacturer as there are also other units. The following table shows the normal ranges of hardness.
- Sample table for information only:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hardness category</th>
<th>Calcium (mg/l)</th>
<th>Calcium carbonate (mg/l)</th>
<th>English Clarke degrees</th>
<th>French degrees</th>
<th>General/German degrees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soft</td>
<td>0 to 20</td>
<td>0 to 50</td>
<td>0 to 3.5</td>
<td>0 to 5</td>
<td>0 to 2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately soft</td>
<td>21 to 40</td>
<td>51 to 100</td>
<td>3.6 to 7</td>
<td>6 to 10</td>
<td>2.9 to 5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slightly hard</td>
<td>41 to 60</td>
<td>101 to 150</td>
<td>8 to 10.5</td>
<td>11 to 15</td>
<td>5.7 to 8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately hard</td>
<td>61 to 80</td>
<td>151 to 200</td>
<td>10.6 to 14</td>
<td>16 to 20</td>
<td>8.5 to 11.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard</td>
<td>81 to 120</td>
<td>201 to 300</td>
<td>15 to 21</td>
<td>21 to 30</td>
<td>11.3 to 16.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very hard</td>
<td>Over 120</td>
<td>Over 300</td>
<td>Over 21</td>
<td>Over 30</td>
<td>Over 16.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.6 – Please include details of the location of any water meter serving the property.

Records indicate that the property is served by a water meter, which is not located within the dwelling-house which is or forms part of the property.

For your guidance:
- Where a meter does not serve the property and the customer wishes to consider this method of charging, they should contact the water undertakers mentioned in Question 4.1.2.
Charging

4.1.1 – Who is responsible for providing the sewerage services for the property?

Thames Water Utilities Limited, Clearwater Court, Reading, RG1 8DB is the sewerage undertaker for the area.

4.1.2 – Who is responsible for providing the water services for the property?

Thames Water Utilities Limited, Clearwater Court, Reading, RG1 8DB is the water undertaker for the area.

4.2 – Who bills the property for sewerage services?

The property is billed for sewerage services by:

Thames Water Utilities Limited
Clearwater Court
Vastern Road
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 8DB

Tel: 0845 9200 888
Website: www.thameswater.co.uk.

4.3 – Who bills the property for water services?

The property is billed for water services by:

Thames Water Utilities Limited
Clearwater Court
Vastern Road
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 8DB

Tel: 0845 9200 888
Website: www.thameswater.co.uk.
4.4 – What is the current basis for charging for sewerage and/or water services at the property?

The property is charged based on actual volumes of water measured through a water meter ("metered supply").

For your guidance:
- Water and sewerage companies’ full charges are set out in their charges schemes which are available from the company free of charge upon request.
- The Water Industry Act 1991 Section 150, The Water Resale Order 2001 provides protection for people who buy their water or sewerage services from a person or company instead of directly from a water or sewerage company. Details are available from the Office of Water Services (OFWAT) website is www.ofwat.gov.uk.
- Where charges are given these are based on the data available at the time of the report.
- The Company may install a meter at the premises where a buyer makes a change of use of the property or where the buyer uses water for:
  - Watering the garden other than by hand (this includes the use of sprinklers).
  - Automatically replenishing a pond or swimming pool with a capacity greater than 10,000 litres.
  - A bath with a capacity in excess of 230 litres.
  - A reverse osmosis unit.

4.5 – Will the basis for charging for sewerage and water services at the property change as a consequence of a change of occupation?

There will be no change in the current charging arrangements as a consequence of a change of occupation.

For your guidance:
- Water and sewerage companies’ full charges are set out in their charges schemes which are available from the company free of charge upon request.
- The Water Industry Act 1991 Section 150, The Water Resale Order 2001 provides protection for people who buy their water or sewerage services from a person or company instead of directly from a water or sewerage company. Details are available from the Office of Water Services (OFWAT) website is www.ofwat.gov.uk.
- It is policy to meter all new water connections. This would result in charges being levied according to the measured tariff.
- The Company may install a meter at the premises where a buyer makes a change of use of the property or where the buyer uses water for:
  - Watering the garden other than by hand (this includes the use of sprinklers).
  - Automatically replenishing a pond or swimming pool with a capacity greater than 10,000 litres.
  - A bath with a capacity in excess of 230 litres.
  - A reverse osmosis unit.
Payment for this Search

A charge will be added to your suppliers account.

Please note that none of the charges made for this report relate to the provision of Ordnance Survey mapping information.

All prices are in accordance with the standard terms of Property Searches; discounts are available, please contact us on 0845 070 9148 to obtain further details.
The width of the displayed area is 200m

The position of the apparatus shown on this plan is given without obligation and warranty, and the accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Service pipes are not shown but their presence should be anticipated. No liability of any kind whatsoever is accepted by Thames Water for any error or omission. The actual position of mains and services must be verified and established on site before any works are undertaken.

Based on the Ordnance Survey Map with the Sanction of the controller of H.M. Stationery Office, License no. 100019345 Crown Copyright Reserved.
Residential Drainage & Water Search Sewer Key

Public Sewer Pipes (Operated & Maintained by Thames Water)

- **Foul Sewer**: A sewer designed to convey waste water from domestic and industrial sources to a treatment works.
- **Surface Water Sewer**: A sewer designed to convey surface water (e.g. rain water from roofs, yards and car parks) to rivers, watercourses or a treatment works.
- **Combined Sewer**: A sewer designed to convey both waste water and surface water from domestic and industrial sources to a treatment works.
- **Trunk Sewer**: A strategic sewer which collects either foul or surface water flow from a number of subsidiary catchments and transfers this flow to a pumping station, river outfall or treatment works.
- **Storm Overflow Sewer**: A sewer designed to convey excess rainfall to rivers or watercourses so that the flow does not exceed the capacity of normal sewers (which could cause flooding).
- **Biosolids**: A sewer designed to convey sludge from one treatment works to another.
- **Vent Pipe**: A section of sewer pipe connected between the top of a sewer and vent column, used to prevent the accumulation of gas in a sewer and thus allowing the system to operate properly.
- **Rising Main**: A pipe carrying pumped flow under pressure from a low point to a high point on the sewerage network. Line style / colour and direction of fleck indicate sewer purpose and direction of flow within the pipe.
- **Vacuum**: A foul sewer designed to remove foul sewerage under pressure (vacuum sewers cannot accept direct new connections).
- **Proposed Foul Sewer**
- **Proposed Surface Water Sewer**

Other Sewer Types (Not Operated or Maintained by Thames Water)

- **Foul Sewer**: Any foul sewer that is not owned by Thames Water.
- **Surface Water Sewer**: Any surface water sewer that is not owned by Thames Water.
- **Combined Sewer**: Any combined sewer that is not owned by Thames Water.
- **Gulley**: A sewer designed to convey surface water from large roads, motorways, etc. to watercourses or to public surface water sewers. These sewers are generally maintained by the relevant highway authority.
- **Culverted Watercourse**: A watercourse running through a culvert or pipe which is the responsibility of the property owner or the Environment Agency.
- **Abandoned Sewer**: A disused sewer. Usually filled with cement mixture or removed from the ground.

Other Symbols

- **Undefined Ends**: These symbols represent the point at which a pipe continues but no records of its position are currently held by Thames Water. These symbols are rare but may be found on any of the public sewer types.
- **Public/Private Pumping Station**: Foul or Surface water pumping station.

Notes:

1) All levels associated with the plans are to Ordnance Datum Newlyn.
2) All measurements on the plans are metric.
3) Arrows (on gravity fed sewers) or flecks (on rising mains) indicate direction of flow.
4) Most private pipes are not shown on our plans, as in the past, this information has not been recorded.
5) ‘na’ or ‘0’ on a manhole level indicates that data is unavailable.
6) The text appearing alongside a sewer line indicates the internal diameter of the pipe in milimetres. Text next to a manhole indicates the manhole reference number and should not be taken as a measurement. If you are unsure about any text or symbology present on the plan, please contact a member of Property Searches on 0845 070 9148.

Thames Water Utilities Ltd, Property Searches, PO Box 3189, Slough SL1 4W, DX 151280 Slough 13
T 0845 070 9148 E searches@thameswater.co.uk I www.thameswater-propertysearches.co.uk
The width of the displayed area is 200m

The position of the apparatus shown on this plan is given without obligation and warranty, and the accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Service pipes are not shown but their presence should be anticipated. No liability of any kind whatsoever is accepted by Thames Water for any error or omission. The actual position of mains and services must be verified and established on site before any works are undertaken.

Based on the Ordnance Survey Map with the Sanction of the controller of H.M. Stationery Office, License no. 100019345 Crown Copyright Reserved.
Residential Drainage & Water Search Water Key

Public Water Pipes (Operated & Maintained by Thames Water)

- **Distribution Main**: The most common pipe shown on water maps. With few exceptions, domestic connections are only made to distribution mains.
- **Trunk Main**: A main carrying water from a source of supply to a treatment plant or reservoir, or from one treatment plant or reservoir to another. Also a main transferring water in bulk to smaller water mains used for supplying individual customers.
- **Supply Main**: A supply main indicates that the water main is used as a supply for a single property or group of properties.
- **Fire Main**: Where a pipe is used as a fire supply, the word FIRE will be displayed along the pipe.
- **Metered Pipe**: A metered pipe indicates that the pipe in question supplies water for a single property or group of properties and that the quantity of water passing through the pipe is metered even though there may be no meter symbol shown.
- **Transmission Tunnel**: A very large diameter water pipe. Most tunnels are buried very deep underground. These pipes are not expected to affect the structural integrity of buildings shown on the map provided.
- **Proposed Main**: A main that is still in the planning stages or in the process of being laid. More details of the proposed main and its reference number are generally included near the main.

Pipe fittings and controls (Operated & Maintained by Thames Water)

- **Hydrant**: A point on a water main which is used by the fire services or for operational purposes by Thames Water.
- **Meter**: Used to measure water flowing through a water main for domestic metering or operational purposes by Thames Water.
- **General Purpose Valve**: Valves allowing control of water flow or pressure within the system.
- **Air Valve**: A valve which allows the release of trapped air within a water pipe.

Other Water Pipes (Not Operated or Maintained by Thames Water)

- **Private Main**: Indicates that the water main in question is not owned by Thames Water. These mains normally have text associated with them indicating the diameter and ownership of the pipe.
- **Other Water Company or Unknown Main**: Occasionally other water company water pipes may overlap the border of our clean water coverage area. These mains are denoted in purple and in most cases have the owner of the pipe displayed along them.

Depth of Water Pipes (Normal Cover)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PIPE DIAMETER</th>
<th>DEPTH BELOW GROUND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 300mm (12&quot;)</td>
<td>900mm (3')</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300mm - 600mm (12&quot; - 24&quot;)</td>
<td>1100mm (3' 8&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600mm and bigger (24&quot; plus)</td>
<td>1200mm (4')</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:**
Most private pipe work and assets i.e. stopcocks, are not shown on our plans (in the past this information had not been recorded).
Appendix 1 - terms and expressions in this report

“the 1991 Act” means the Water Industry Act 1991(1);
“the 2000 Regulations” means the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2000(2);
“the 2001 Regulations” means the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2001(3);
“adoption agreement” means an agreement made or to be made under section 51A(1) or 104(1) of the 1991 Act(4);
“bond” means a surety granted by a developer who is a party to an adoption agreement;
“bond waiver” means an agreement with a developer for the provision of a form of financial security as a substitute for a bond;
“calendar year” means the twelve months ending with 31st December;
“discharge pipe” means a pipe from which discharges are made or are to be made under section 165(1) of the 1991 Act;
“disposal main” means (subject to section 219(2) of the 1991 Act) any outfall pipe or other pipe which—
(a) is a pipe for the conveyance of effluent to or from any sewage disposal works, whether of a sewerage undertaker or of any other person; and
(b) is not a public sewer;
“drain” means (subject to section 219(2) of the 1991 Act) a drain used for the drainage of one building or of any buildings or yards appurtenant to buildings within the same curtilage;
“effluent” means any liquid, including particles of matter and other substances in suspension in the liquid;
“financial year” means the twelve months ending with 31st March;
“lateral drain” means—
(a) that part of a drain which runs from the curtilage of a building (or buildings or yards within the same curtilage) to the sewer with which the drain communicates or is to communicate; or
(b) (if different and the context so requires) the part of a drain identified in a declaration of vesting made under section 102 of the 1991 Act or in an agreement made under section 104 of that Act(5);
“licensed water supplier” means a company which is the holder for the time being of a water supply licence under section 17A(1) of the 1991 Act(6);
“maintenance period” means the period so specified in an adoption agreement as a period of time—
(a) from the date of issue of a certificate by a sewerage undertaker to the effect that a developer has built (or substantially built) a private sewer or lateral drain to that undertaker’s satisfaction; and
(b) until the date that private sewer or lateral drain is vested in the sewerage undertaker;
“map of waterworks” means the map made available under section 198(3) of the 1991 Act(7) in relation to the information specified in subsection (1A);
“private sewer” means a pipe or pipes which drain foul or surface water, or both, from premises, and are not vested in a sewerage undertaker;
“public sewer” means, subject to section 106(1A) of the 1991 Act(8), a sewer for the time being vested in a sewerage undertaker in its capacity as such, whether vested in that undertaker—
(a) by virtue of a scheme under Schedule 2 to the Water Act 1989(9); and
(b) by virtue of a scheme under Schedule 2 to the 1991 Act(10);
(c) under section 179 of the 1991 Act(11); or
(d) otherwise;
“public sewer map” means the map made available under section 199(5) of the 1991 Act(12);
“resource main” means (subject to section 219(2) of the 1991 Act) any pipe, not being a trunk main, which is or is to be used for the purpose of—
(a) conveying water from one source of supply to another, from a source of supply to a regulating reservoir or from a regulating reservoir to a source of supply; or
(b) giving or taking a supply of water in bulk;
“sewerage services” includes the collection and disposal of foul and surface water and any other services which are required to be provided by a sewerage undertaker for the purpose of carrying out its functions;
“sewerage undertaker” means the company appointed to be the sewerage undertaker under section 6(1) of the 1991 Act for the area in which the property is or will be situated;
“surface water” includes water from roofs and other impermeable surfaces within the curtilage of the property;
“water main” means (subject to section 219(2) of the 1991 Act) any pipe, not being a pipe for the time being vested in a person other than the water undertaker, which is used or to be used by a water undertaker or licensed water supplier for the purpose of making a general supply of water available to customers or potential customers of the undertaker or supplier, as distinct from for the purpose of providing a supply to particular customers;
“water meter” means any apparatus for measuring or showing the volume of water supplied to, or of effluent discharged from any premises;
“water supplier” means the company supplying water in the water supply zone, whether a water undertaker or licensed water supplier;
“water supply zones” in relation to a calendar year means the names and areas designated by a water undertaker within its area of supply that are to be its water supply zones for that year; and
“water undertaker” means the company appointed to be the water undertaker under section 6(1) of the 1991 Act for the area in which the property is or will be situated.
In this report, references to a pipe, including references to a main, a drain or a sewer, shall include references to a tunnel or conduit which serves or is to serve as the pipe in question and to any accessories for the pipe.

(1) 1991 c. 56.
(2) S.I. 2000/3184. These Regulations apply in relation to England.
(3) S.I. 2001/3911. These Regulations apply in relation to Wales.
(4) Section 51A is inserted by section 92(2) of the Water Act 2003 (c. 37). Section 104(1) is amended by section 96(4) of that Act.
(5) To which there are various amendments made by sections 102 and 104 by section 96 of the Water Act 2003.
(6) Inserted by section 56 of and Schedule 4 to the Water Act 2003.
(7) Subsection (1A) is inserted by section 92(5) of the Water Act 2003.
(8) Section 106(1A) is inserted by section 99 of the Water Act 2003.
(9) 1989 c. 15.
(10) To which there are various amendments made by section 101(1) of and Schedule 8 to the Water Act 2003.
(11) To which there are various amendments made by section 101(1) of and Schedule 8 to the Water Act 2003.
(12) Section 199 is amended by section 97(1) and (8) of the Water Act 2003.
CON29DW DRAINAGE & WATER ENQUIRY (DOMESTIC) TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Customer the Client and the Purchaser are asked to note these terms, which govern the basis on which this drainage and water report is supplied

Definitions
‘Order’ means any request completed by the Customer requesting the Report.
‘Report’ means the drainage and/or water report prepared by The Company in respect of the Property.
‘Property’ means the address or location supplied by the Customer in the Order.
‘Customer’ means the person, company, firm or other legal body placing the Order, either on their own behalf as Client, or, as an agent for a Client.
‘Client’ means the person, company or body who is the intended recipient of the Report with an actual or potential interest in the Property.
“Purchaser” means the actual or potential purchaser of the Property including their mortgage lender.

Agreement
1. The Company agrees to supply the Report to the Customer and the Client subject to these terms. The scope and limitations of the Report are described in paragraph 2 of these terms. Where the Customer is acting as an agent for the Client then the Customer shall be responsible for bringing these terms to the attention of the Client and the Purchaser.

1.1 The Customer the Client and the Purchaser agree that the placing of an Order for a Report and the subsequent provision of a copy of the Report to the Purchaser indicates their acceptance of these terms.

The Report
2. Whilst The Company will use reasonable care and skill in producing the Report, it is provided to the Customer the Client and the Purchaser on the basis that they acknowledge and agree to the following:-

1.2 The information contained in the Report can change on a regular basis so The Company cannot be responsible to the Customer the Client and the Purchaser for any change in the information contained in the Report after the date on which the Report was produced and sent to the Client.

1.3 The Report does not give details about the actual state or condition of the Property nor should it be used or taken to indicate or exclude actual suitability or unsuitability of the Property for any particular purpose, or relied upon for determining saleability or value, or used as a substitute for any physical investigation or inspection. Further advice and information from appropriate experts and professionals should always be obtained.

1.4 The information contained in the Report is based upon the accuracy of the address supplied by the Customer or Client.

1.5 The Report provides information as to the location & connection of existing services and other information in relation to drainage and water enquiries and should not be relied on for any other purpose. The Report may contain opinions or general advice to the Customer the Client and the Purchaser. The Company cannot ensure that any such opinion or general advice is accurate, complete or valid and accepts no liability therefore.

1.6 The position and depth of apparatus shown on any maps attached to the Report are approximate, and are furnished as a general guide only, and no warranty as to its correctness is given or implied. The exact positions and depths should be obtained by excavation trial holes and the maps must not be relied on in the event of excavation or other works made in the vicinity of The Company’s apparatus.

Liability
3.1 The Company shall not be liable to the Client or the Purchaser for any failure defect or non-performance of its obligations arising from any failure of or defect in any machine, processing system or transmission link or anything beyond The Company’s reasonable control or the acts or omissions of any party for whom The Company are not responsible.

3.2 Where a report is requested for an address falling within a geographical area where two different companies separately provide Water and Sewerage Services, then it shall be deemed that liability for the information given by either company will remain with that company in respect of the accuracy of the information supplied. A company supplying information which has been provided to it by another company for the purposes outlined in this agreement will therefore not be liable in any way for the accuracy of that information and will supply that information as agent for the company from which the information was obtained.

3.3 The Report is produced only for use in relation to individual domestic property transactions which require the provision of drainage and water information and cannot be used for commercial development of domestic properties or commercial properties for intended occupation by third parties. When the Report is used for land only transactions the Company’s entire liability (except to the extent provided by clause 3.4) in respect of all causes of action arising by reason of or in connection with the Report (whether for breach of contract, negligence or any other tort, under statute or statutory duty or otherwise at all) shall be limited to £5,000.

3.4 The Company shall accept liability for death or personal injury arising from its negligence.

Copyright and Confidentiality
4.1 The Customer the Client and the Purchaser acknowledge that the Report is confidential and is intended for the personal use of the Client and the Purchaser. The copyright and any other intellectual property rights in the Report shall remain the property of The Company. No intellectual or other property rights are transferred or licensed to the Customer the Client or the Purchaser except to the extent expressly provided.

4.2 The Customer or Client is entitled to make copies of the Report but may only copy Ordnance Survey mapping or data contained in or attached to the Report, if they have an appropriate licence from the originating source of that mapping or data.

4.3 The Customer the Client and the Purchaser agree (in respect of both the original and any copies made) to respect and not to alter any trademark, copyright notice or other property marking which appears on the Report.

4.4 The maps contained in the Report are protected by Crown Copyright and must not be used for any purpose outside the context of the Report.

4.5 The enquiries in the Report are protected by copyright by the Law Society of 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL and must not be used for any purpose outside the context of the Report.

4.6 The Customer the Client and the Purchaser agree to indemnify The Company against any losses, costs, claims and damage suffered by The Company as a result of any breach of either of them of the terms of paragraphs 4.1 to 4.4 inclusive.

Payment
5. Unless otherwise stated all prices are inclusive of VAT. The Customer shall pay for the price of the Report specified by The Company, without any set off, deduction or counterclaim. Unless the Customer or Client has an account with The Company for payment for Reports, The Company must receive payments for Reports in full before the Report is produced. For Customers or Clients with accounts, payment terms will be as agreed with The Company.

General
6.1 If any provision of these terms is or becomes invalid or unenforceable, it will be taken to be removed from the rest of these terms to the extent that it is invalid or unenforceable. No other provision of these terms shall be affected.

6.2 These terms shall be governed by English law and all parties submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.

6.3 Nothing in these terms and conditions shall in any way restrict the Customer the Clients or the Purchasers statutory or any other rights of access to the information contained in the Report.

6.4 These terms and conditions may be enforced by the Customer the Client and the Purchaser.

These Terms & Conditions are available in larger print for those with impaired vision.
Payment Terms and Conditions

All sales are made in accordance with Thames Water Utilities Limited (TWUL) standard terms and conditions unless previously agreed in writing.

1. All goods remain in the property of Thames Water Utilities Ltd until full payment is received.
2. Provision of service will be in accordance with all legal requirements and published TWUL policies.
3. All invoices are strictly due for payment 14 days from due date of the invoice. Any other terms must be accepted/agreed in writing prior to provision of goods or service, or will be held to be invalid.
4. Thames Water does not accept post-dated cheques–any cheques received will be processed for payment on date of receipt.
5. In case of dispute TWUL’s terms and conditions shall apply.
6. Penalty interest may be invoked by TWUL in the event of unjustifiable payment delay. Interest charges will be in line with UK Statute Law ‘The Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998’.
7. Interest will be charged in line with current Court Interest Charges, if legal action is taken.
8. A charge may be made at the discretion of the company for increased administration costs.

A copy of Thames Water’s standard terms and conditions are available from the Commercial Billing Team (cashoperations@thameswater.co.uk).

We publish several Codes of Practice including a guaranteed standards scheme. You can obtain copies of these leaflets by calling us on 0800 316 9800.

If you are unhappy with our service you can speak to your original goods or customer service provider. If you are not satisfied with the response, your complaint will be reviewed by the Customer Services Director. You can write to him at: Thames Water Utilities Ltd. PO Box 492, Swindon, SN38 8TU.

If the Goods or Services covered by this invoice falls under the regulation of the 1991 Water Industry Act, and you remain dissatisfied you can refer your complaint to Consumer Council for Water on 0121 345 1000 or write to them at Consumer Council for Water, 1st Floor, Victoria Square House, Victoria Square, Birmingham, B2 4AJ.

Ways to pay your bill:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit Card</th>
<th>BACS Payment</th>
<th>Telephone Banking</th>
<th>Cheque</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call 0845 070 9148 quoting your invoice number starting CBA or ADS.</td>
<td>Account number 90478703 Sort code 60-00-01 A remittance advice must be sent to: Thames Water Utilities Ltd., PO Box 3189, Slough SL1 4WW. or email <a href="mailto:ps.billing@thameswater.co.uk">ps.billing@thameswater.co.uk</a></td>
<td>By calling your bank and quoting: Account number 90478703 Sort code 60-00-01 and your invoice number</td>
<td>Made payable to ‘Thames Water Utilities Ltd’ Write your Thames Water account number on the back. Send to: Thames Water Utilities Ltd., PO Box 3189, Slough SL1 4WW or by DX to 151280 Slough 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thames Water Utilities Ltd Registered in England & Wales No. 2366661 Registered Office Clearwater Court, Vastern Rd, Reading, Berks, RG1 8DB.
Search Code

IMPORTANT CONSUMER PROTECTION INFORMATION

This search has been produced by Thames Water Property Searches, Clearwater Court, Vastern Road, Reading RG1 8DB, which is registered with the Property Codes Compliance Board (PCCB) as a subscriber to the Search Code. The PCCB independently monitors how registered search firms maintain compliance with the Code.

The Search Code:
• provides protection for homebuyers, sellers, estate agents, conveyancers and mortgage lenders who rely on the information included in property search reports undertaken by subscribers on residential and commercial property within the United Kingdom
• sets out minimum standards which firms compiling and selling search reports have to meet
• promotes the best practise and quality standards within the industry for the benefit of consumers and property professionals
• enables consumers and property professionals to have confidence in firms which subscribe to the code, their products and services.

By giving you this information, the search firm is confirming that they keep to the principles of the Code. This provides important protection for you.

The Code’s core principles
Firms which subscribe to the Search Code will:
• display the Search Code logo prominently on their search reports
• act with integrity and carry out work with due skill, care and diligence
• at all times maintain adequate and appropriate insurance to protect consumers
• conduct business in an honest, fair and professional manner
• handle complaints speedily and fairly
• ensure that products and services comply with industry registration rules and standards and relevant laws
• monitor their compliance with the Code

Complaints
If you have a query or complaint about your search, you should raise it directly with the search firm, and if appropriate ask for any complaint to be considered under their formal internal complaints procedure. If you remain dissatisfied with the firm’s final response, after your complaint has been formally considered, or if the firm has exceeded the response timescales, you may refer your complaint for consideration under The Property Ombudsman scheme (TPOs). The Ombudsman can award compensation of up to £5,000 to you if he finds that you have suffered actual loss as a result of your search provider failing to keep to the Code.

Please note that all queries or complaints regarding your search should be directed to your search provider in the first instance, not to TPOs or to the PCCB.

TPOs Contact Details
The Property Ombudsman scheme
Milford House
43-55 Milford Street
Salisbury
Wiltshire SP1 2BP
Tel: 01722 333306
Fax: 01722 332296
Email: admin@tpos.co.uk

You can get more information about the PCCB from www.propertycodes.org.uk

PLEASE ASK YOUR SEARCH PROVIDER IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE SEARCH CODE