



Tel: 0131 244 0190
Email: dwqr@gov.scot
www.dwqr.scot

Director of Scientific Services, Scottish Water

Public Analyst
Aberdeen City Council
City of Edinburgh Council
Glasgow Scientific Services
Tayside Scientific Services

Our ref: A49346022

22 July 2024

Dear Colleagues

Information Letter 02/2024

Uncertainty of Measurement: Colour Parameter

1. Purpose

The purpose of this letter is to inform Scottish Water of the addition of a minimum performance characteristic for the colour parameter.

Area 3-F South
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ



2. Introduction

The Public Water Supplies (Scotland) Regulations 2014 (“the 2014 Regulations”) introduced minimum performance characteristics for the analysis of prescribed chemical parameters as the ‘Uncertainty of measurement as a percentage of the prescribed concentration or value’. These are given in Table 1 in Schedule 3.

The Public Water Supplies (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2022 added new parameters and uncertainty of measurement performance characteristics for these.

The Water Intended for Human Consumption (Private Supplies) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (“the 2017 Regulations”) proscribes minimum performance characteristics in Table 1 in Schedule 4. No uncertainty of measurement was given in the above regulations for the parameter of colour, despite having a parametric value of 20mg/l Pt/Co.

This Information Letter will prescribe the minimum performance characteristic for colour until this can be added to legislation.

3. Minimum Performance Characteristic for Colour

The uncertainty of measurement for colour to be added to Table 1 in Schedule 3 of the 2014 Regulations; and Table 1 in Schedule 4 of the 2017 Regulations is given below:

| <i>Parameter</i> | <i>Uncertainty of measurement (% of parametric value)</i> |
|------------------|---|
| Colour | 20 |

4. Application

This uncertainty of measurement should be incorporated into your procedure for regulatory testing of colour meeting the requirements of The Drinking Water Testing Specification (DWTS).

5. Further Information

If you have any questions relating to the content of this letter please contact Moira Malcolm moira.malcolm@gov.scot .

Yours sincerely



Moira Malcolm
Drinking Water Specialist