

DWQR Newsletter to Local Authorities

Private Water Supplies

Hello. Welcome to the first newsletter for local authorities on private water supplies. We thought it would be worth getting in contact a bit more often, rather than just our Information Letters and data return emails (these will still continue!). Instead this is our opportunity to let you know of new developments in the world of private water supplies and where we are going with regard to changes in legislation. We hope you like it!

ANNUAL RETURN

Thank you for sending back your annual returns. We are now finalising the data and working on the production of the Annual Report, which you will receive (in electronic format only) by the autumn.

Remember: PWS grant claims can be submitted throughout the year – you don't have to wait until the last minute to submit them!

Our website is now a 'one stop shop' for all of our activity – both public and private. You can find everything including updated technical factsheets and an electronic version of the new leaflet at: www.dwqr.org.uk/

Connecting private supplies to the mains.

Scottish Water have produced some information to assist single properties and small developments with connecting to the public network. You can find more information at:

<https://www.scottishwater.co.uk/Business/Connections/Connecting%20your%20property/Single%20House%20Connections>

LEGISLATION

Useful guidance on nominating Relevant Persons can be found on our website: <http://www.dwqr.org.uk/private-supply/regulatory-guidance-and-information/relevant-person/>

Radon

We are committed to adopting the new EC EURATOM Directive regarding radon in drinking water. With assistance from Scottish Water we will be taking samples and constructing a radon map for Scotland. The consultation paper to incorporate this into Scottish legislation for both public and private supplies will be available from July.



Single House New Connections
A Quick Reference Guide

On-going Research

Colour and UV

We have commissioned some research into the effect of maintenance and different raw water parameters on UV which should be available soon. We will produce a factsheet on this and the contractors will produce guidance and arrange a workshop for local authorities and DWQR.

Regulation and Governance

Our research partners are evaluating regulation for water quality in Scottish private water supplies. The study will evaluate how well the current governance model supports measures to maintain water quality and will compare it with other models applied elsewhere to identify possible improvements to its application in Scotland. As part of this they shall be contacting local authorities and owners/users shortly to find out your views, with a workshop planned for September to share our findings of the research.



Communication

In addition to this newsletter we would like better engagement with you and other private water supply stakeholders.

We want to raise awareness of the health risks associated with poor pws and encourage grant uptake. We also want to help you with your enforcement of private supplies.

We hope you found the Health Awareness leaflet produced last year helpful. More copies can be printed from the website.

OUR TEAM

As referred to in our last Information Letter, we have split our operations team into four with responsibility for both Scottish Water and private supplies by area. If you want a chat you can contact them via our usual mailbox.

We also have two new team members: Dave Brown replaces Lynn McMinn as our Policy Manager, and Alison Seton has joined us as our Drinking Water Technician.

FEEDBACK

We hope this newsletter is useful to you. If you have any suggestions as to how we could improve our communications or any other aspect of our work please let us know.

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