

# Annual Contestability Summary

For Severn Trent Water Ltd

Issue Date: 1 April 2026

WONDERFUL ON TAP



## Introduction

This document sets out the contestable (Green) and non-contestable (Red) activity. It also sets out activity deemed contestable where the water company can indicate its requirements to allow the SLP to carry out the task (Amber). The document is designed to be read in conjunction with Appendix D, Design and Construction Specification (DCS).

Set out below in Table 1.0 is the standard summary that all Water Companies are required to publish at the date of implementation of this DCS and at least annually thereafter. This will be known as an “Annual Contestability Summary” (ACS) and it will be a Water Company specific variant of the standard template detailed in Table 3.2 of the Sector Guidance (Table 9.3 in the DCS).

Severn Trent Water will, with input from Self Lay Providers (SLPs), review the ACS on an annual basis and will publish amendments in accordance.

	Work Categories by number of properties potentially affected by work or strategic nature of Existing Main			
	>49	50 – 199	200 – 499	500+/Strategic main
Selection of a proposed POC to serve a Site/Development from records of Existing Mains	Green	Green	Green	Green
Construction of new mains and service connections	Green	Green	Green	Green
Construction of new mains as part of reinforcement of Network extension or associated Site diversion work	Green	Green	Green	Green
Design of new water network	Green	Green	Green	Green
Chlorination and pressure testing of Self-lay Works	Green	Green	Green	Green
Meter installation in conjunction with new service connections	Green	Green	Green	Green
Undertaking Water Quality samples	Green	Green	Green	Green
Analysing Water Quality samples (subject to paragraph 17.3)	Green	Green	Green	Green
Construction of routine mains connections (CRMC) connections	Green	Green	Green	Green
<b>Under Pressure Connections for new main or large diameter service pipe up to 90mm PE/Barrier pipe to:</b>  Parent Network: <12” nominal bore* DI/CI/SI/PE/AC/Barrier pipe/steel  Permanent Connections (Piece through).	Green	Green	Green	Yellow
<b>Under Pressure Connections for new main or large diameter service pipe 90mm to 300mm PE/Barrier pipe to:</b>  Parent Network: <12” nominal bore* CI/SI/DI/AC/PE/Barrier pipe/steel  Operational pressure: up to 50m	Red	Red	Red	Red

<p><b>Under Pressure Connections for new main or large diameter service pipe 90mm to 300mm PE/Barrier pipe to:</b></p> <p>Parent Network: 12" nominal bore* to 18" nominal bore* / 300mm to 450mm nominal bore* DI/CI/SI/AC/PE/Barrier pipe/steel</p> <p>Operational pressure: 50m to 75m</p>				
<p><b>Under Pressure Connections for new main over 300mm to:</b></p> <p>Parent Network: 18" nominal bore* and above, or high risk parent Network: material (such as steel)</p> <p>Operational pressure: above 75m</p>				
Valve operation in relation to commissioning new Self-Lay Works*				
Self-certification of SLP for Site water distribution systems designs				
Any size connection to GRP / PVC Network				
Design of Network Reinforcement (upsizing of existing assets) and/or design of Network diversion(s)				
Pipe sizing criteria, and the approval of design by others				
Assessment of network risk, & operating live network				
Commission telemetry links (meters/ field equipment)				
Connection, commissioning and/or decommissioning of diverted Network				

**\*Notes:**

1. All references to PE are to all Polyethylene pipe materials.
2. PE pipe sizes are identified by outside (OD) diameter and other pipe materials and sizes refer to internal (nominal bore) diameters
3. Strategic mains will be defined by Severn Trent Water with reference to potential impact of any work or intervention on domestic customers and key customers such as a hospitals and public amenity organisations.
4. See further paragraph 11.7 in the DCS.

## Activities Shaded Green in the ACS

All activities shaded green in Table 1.0 are available for SLPs to undertake, provided that the SLP has the relevant accreditation from WIRS or other accreditation (see section 7 of the Sector Guidance – Competency and Accreditation). Where further activities are accredited by WIRS, such activities shall be marked as green in the above table by agreement with the Codes Panel.

The Water Company will set out the procedures it has in place relating to connections to the mains network and the forms supporting this. These will be published on the Water Company's website.

All activities shaded green in the above table are capable of being performed by SLPs.

These green-shaded activities will apply where the SLP has the relevant WIRS or other accreditation (see section 7 of the WSG). Where further activities are accredited by WIRS, such activities shall be marked as green in the above table once approved by the Codes Panel.

The Water Company will set out the procedures it has in place relating to connections to the Existing Main and the forms supporting this. These will be published on the Water Company's website.

Changes will be brought about by the procedures set out in the Water Sector Guidance Section 11 – Governance.

References to the Final Connection of the Self-Laid Main to the Existing Main on the Network are;

- a) of an under-pressure type connection and/or,
- b) a connection to previously installed temporary valve-controlled washout installed in conjunction with the connection to the Existing Mains Network at the POC to supply the Site or Development, and/or
- c) a connection to a previously installed valve-controlled washout, which has been installed on a Self-Laid Main for a future connection off such main.

Where references to the Final Connection of the Self-Laid Main to the Existing Main on the Network require a section to be isolated by a shut (to enable it to be cut-out to install a connection point), and/or if a new branch tee is required to be cut into a Self-Laid Main and the relevant assets are subsequently adopted by the Water Company (and therefore forms part of the Network), then such connections are excluded from activities shaded green.

## **Activities Shaded Amber in the ACS**

The activities shaded amber shall be capable of being performed by an SLP in the area of an individual Water Company where the SLP complies with the requirements of the Water Company as set out below. Such publication shall include information about control measures required to allow the work to be performed. The following paragraphs set out how publication of such information is to be approached.

The Water Company may require additional evidence of competence to carry out activity and/or require the SLP to follow an operational process equivalent to one that the Water Company's direct labour or term contractor would be required to follow.

The Water Company's requirements will relate to the specific site and will take account of the type of connection involved; the location of the connection; the strategic importance of the main Network to be connected to; the potential impact on end user customers; risk to water quality and regulatory impact/consideration; and the resources the SLP proposes to use.

The company will set out the information it needs from the SLP regarding its Accreditation and how its general and specific operations, resources, and procedures will protect the company from any risk of interruption of supply to its end-user customers and/or to water quality. These requirements will be equivalent to those that the Water Company's direct labour or term contractor would be required to follow.

The SLP will need to demonstrate its competence or relevant experience to undertake this activity. This may be demonstrated where the Water Company has previously observed relevant Self-lay Works having been carried out by the SLP or by the SLP providing details of similar work that it has carried out to a satisfactory standard for other Water Companies.

Water Company requirements relative to valve operation in relation to commissioning of Self-Lay Works, a contestable activity, shall apply as set out in in paragraph 11.7

The Water Company will set out below the procedures it has in place to allow connections to the Existing Main and the forms supporting this. These will be published on the Water Company's website

The SLP may apply to Severn Trent Water to undertake activities which are indicated amber in Table 1.0. Severn Trent Water will require additional evidence of competence to carry out activity and require the SLP to follow an operational process equivalent to one that Severn Trent Water's term contractor would be required to follow.

Severn Trent Water's requirements will relate to the specific site and will take account of the type of connection proposed; the location of the connection; the strategic importance of the mains network to be connected to; the potential impact on end user customers; risk to water quality; continuity of supply; regulatory impact and the resources the SLP proposes to use. The SLP will need to provide Risk Assessment and Method Statements for all network connections greater than 50mm nom diameter.

Severn Trent Water has set out in the DCS the information required from the SLP regarding its Accreditation. The SLP will need to demonstrate its competence to undertake this activity.

Severn Trent Water will risk assess the proposed connection based on information provided by the SLP and will specify any requirements with which the SLP will need to comply to gain approval to undertake the work. More detail on the requirements are detailed in the DCS.

## **Activities Shaded Red in the ACS**

The Water Companies have concluded that connections shaded red in table 9.3 are of such a high risk that they are unlikely to be contestable in most conceivable circumstances

However, if an SLP wishes to carry out this work, it shall contact the Water Company directly to determine whether conditions can be agreed that enable the SLP to carry out the requested activity

## Version Control

Date	Signed off by
1 April 2020	Dawn Quinn Regulation, Customer & Compliance Manager
1 April 2021	Dawn Quinn Regulation, Customer & Compliance Manager
1 April 2022	Dawn Quinn Regulation, Customer & Compliance Manager
1 April 2023	Dawn Quinn Regulation, Customer & Compliance Manager
1 April 2024	Dawn Quinn Regulation, Customer & Compliance Manager
1 April 2025	Dawn Quinn Regulation, Customer & Compliance Manager
1 April 2026	Dawn Quinn Regulation, Customer & Compliance Manager