



Dŵr Cymru
Welsh Water

September 2018

Surface Water Incentive Scheme

Surface Water Incentive Scheme Guidance Notes

As your not-for-profit water and sewerage company, Welsh Water remains committed to playing our part in the new development process. Supporting development is one of our primary objectives, alongside the delivery of safe drinking water and effective sanitation to the customers we serve.

To further enhance and support development through the planning process, we want to work with our developer customers to explore opportunities to remove surface water which currently enters our wastewater network across our operational area. To support this objective, provided that existing surface water is removed from our network as part of the development of a housing site, we will offer a surface water removal incentive.

📍 Removing surface water from the wastewater network

As part of developing your site proposals you will need to consider surface water management in line with sustainable drainage principles and building regulations. As part of this process you may identify surface water currently entering our system, or might be able to identify areas off-site that also discharge to our network. The removal of surface water helps to reduce risks to our system and may also create the foul discharge capacity for your development to connect without the need for off-site works to mitigate these risks.

The amount of flow entering our system will need to be quantified and an agreed solution to remove this flow and divert it into a sustainable outlet (i.e. soakaway, water course or surface water/highway system) will also need to be implemented.

📍 How our policy works

Once you have identified the opportunity to remove surface water, and have an outlet to discharge the diverted flows into, we can assist in calculating the incentive payment.

Scenario A

The site has existing surface water runoff completely removed from the wastewater network and the new foul flow discharge from the new development is connected to the wastewater network.

- Sewerage infrastructure charges only payable for any additional demand (compared to the preceding five years).
- You receive an incentive payment of £100 per house.

Scenario B

The site connects foul flow to the wastewater network and removes surface water from an alternative site/area that is connected to the same network in the vicinity of the new development.

- Sewerage infrastructure charges only payable for the additional demand (compared to the alternative site's surface water discharge and the new development's foul discharge)
- You receive an incentive payment of £100 per house.

📍 Our policy principles

To benefit from this policy the following criteria will need to be met:-

- The policy only applies to proposed housing sites – it does not apply, for example, to sites that include apartment blocks, commercial, retail or industrial development.
- We will consider these other types of development on a case by case basis and may offer to make an incentive payment on a bespoke basis so please discuss these types of opportunities with us.
- Retrospective applications for partly or completed developments will not be entitled to benefit from this policy.
- Existing impermeable areas which are planned to be removed from combined sewers must be verified in advance by us.
- It will not take account of attenuated flows (gravity or pumped) into our network. The surface water has to be completely removed from the wastewater network to qualify for the incentive payment.
- Where surface water is removed from an alternative site or area (i.e. not the site being developed), the alternative site or area must be in the vicinity of the site being developed and connected to the same section of our wastewater network.
- Where the site continues to discharge surface water runoff to our wastewater network and discharges foul flows from the new development, sewerage infrastructure charges will be payable in full.
- Planning permission must be in place for the development site.
- The surface water scheme will need to be completed, and verified by us, before any incentive payment can be made.

Surface Water Incentive Scheme Application Form

Customer:

If residential, number of units proposed:

Name:

Company: Anticipated date of first occupancy:

Address:

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Proposed development drainage strategy:

Proposed foul discharge connection point (manhole reference number):

Email:

Telephone: Proposed foul discharge (in litres per second)*:

Development site:

Welsh Water pre-planning reference number:

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Proposed method of surface water disposal from new development site:

Planning application reference number (if applicable):

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Development site address:

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Nature of development (Residential/Commerical etc):

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 Please note that any survey or investigatory work on our network will need to be approved in advance by following our access to assets procedure.

Proposed surface water removal scheme:

Location of surface water removal opportunity:

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Location of point of connection where surface water currently communicates with the combined sewer (manhole reference number):

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Total impermeable area (in m²) to be removed from public sewer*:

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Total volume of surface water to be removed:

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Location of revised discharge point of surface water:

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Method of disconnection and diversion of surface water flows:

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Any additional detail to support this proposal:

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Application checklist:

- Development site location plan
- Development site proposed foul and surface water discharge points
- Location plan displaying area for proposed surface water removal
- Supporting plans displaying new surface water discharge arrangements
- Flow calculations provided (including new foul flow and the amount of surface water being removed)

*The defined calculation values for the purposes of assessing existing and new demands per site:

— House dry weather flow = 0.007 litres/second

— Typical contributing surface water run off from 1m² = 0.013 litres/second

Contact us

To discuss our policy and opportunities to remove surface water from our systems, please contact our Developer Services team who will be able to review your proposals.

You can contact us on 0800 917 2652 or developer.services@dwrwymru.com

*We reserve the right to withdraw the scheme at any point in time.