

s101a - First Time Sewerage

Frequently Asked Questions

Anglian Water has a legal duty to assess the most economical and practical way to provide effective drainage where current private drainage for two or more properties is unsatisfactory.

Below are some of the common questions we receive relating to sewerage existing properties not connected to the Anglian Water sewerage system.

More information, including the application process for first time sewerage can be found by reading the **‘Q&A Guide - Your guide to first time sewerage for existing properties’** which is available on the ‘First time sewerage system - S101A’ section of our website. Or contact us on **0345 606 6087** or by email s101a@anglianwater.co.uk.

Remember: If you want to connect to our sewers and there are sewers near your property, contact our Development Services Team to discuss a new connection on **0345 606 6087** during office hours, Monday to Friday 08.00 - 17.00 or by email to drainage@anglianwater.co.uk.

1. **When is Anglian Water going to sewer my village?**

We do not have an overarching plan to extend our sewerage network. However, a public sewer can be provided to existing properties in locations where one doesn't exist. An application can be made, requesting a public sewer under section 101A of the Water Industry Act 1991 where existing domestic sewerage systems which are not connected to the public sewer are creating problems affecting the environment and amenity and the provision of a public sewer is the most appropriate solution.

You can find out more and apply on the ‘First time sewerage system - S101A’ section of our website. Or contact us on **0345 606 6087** during office hours, Monday to Friday 08.00 - 17.00 or by email to s101a@anglianwater.co.uk.

2. **You're sewerage a nearby village, will our village be next?**

No. The nearby village benefitting from a first time sewerage scheme was successful in their application to have a public sewer installed to resolve environmental/amenity problems. The scheme came about after residents/the parish council/district council made an application to Anglian Water for first time sewerage. This application was successful and put into our ‘first time sewerage’ programme of works, for funding.

3. **I've just moved and my new house is served by a septic tank. It's not working well, how can I connect to the mains sewer?**

If there is a public sewer in close proximity to the property (i.e. in the road) you can request a ‘new connection’ by contacting our Development Services Team on **0345 606 6087** or by email drainage@anglianwater.co.uk. If you are unsure, it may be worth asking your neighbours if they are connected to the public sewer.

If there are no public sewers nearby, you can apply for mains drainage (first time sewerage connection) under section 101A of the Water Industry Act 1991. In order for an application to be valid, a minimum of two properties need to be listed. Therefore it is advised an application is made with a neighbour or you contact your Parish Council to request their assistance. Please read **‘Q&A Guide - Your guide to first time sewerage for existing properties’** for more information (see ‘First time sewerage system - S101A’ section of our website). Or contact us on **0345 606 6087** or by email s101a@anglianwater.co.uk.

4. You've accepted to carry out a first time sewerage scheme in my village but I'm moving house. Can I have evidence of the scheme to pass onto my solicitor/estate agents for the future owners?

Of course. Please email s101a@anglianwater.co.uk with the property address and your contact details. We shall confirm our obligation, if the property will be able to benefit from the sewerage scheme, and when the scheme is scheduled to start (if known).

5. There isn't anything wrong with my private system but I want to be connected to the mains sewer. How can I do this?

If there is a public sewer in close proximity to the property (i.e. in the road) you can request a 'new connection' by contacting our Development Services Team on **0345 606 6087** or by email drainage@anglianwater.co.uk. If you are unsure, it may be worth asking your neighbours if they are connected to the public sewer.

If there are no public sewers nearby and your private system is working appropriately, you will not qualify for mains drainage (first time sewerage connection) under section 101A of the Water Industry Act 1991. Applications are assessed on the basis of need rather than one of convenience.

Continue to operate and maintain your private system in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

6. I want to apply for mains sewerage but my neighbour doesn't want to, can I still apply?

Two or more properties need to be named on the application to make it valid. We suggest asking another neighbour or asking your parish council to submit an application on behalf of their parishioners.

7. What does it cost to apply?

There is no charge for applications.

If an application is successful, we bear the cost of the sewer installation. Please read '**Q&A Guide - Your guide to first time sewerage for existing properties**' for more information on what costs you will be liable for in making a connection. (see 'First time sewerage system - S101A' section of our website).

8. More housing is planned for/being built in my village, will this help with my first time sewerage application?

No. First time sewerage schemes under section 101A of the Water Industry Act 1991 are only to provide effective drainage where the **current** drainage is unsatisfactory. It is to resolve **existing** environmental problems caused by existing properties' private drainage arrangements, not new builds.

As part of any new development, the local planning authority and the Environment Agency (as statutory consultees) would have assessed the suitability of the private drainage solution as part of the decision making process to grant planning permission. Conditions would be put in place on planning approval with regards to drainage if it was found to be a limiting factor to the development. New builds should therefore not cause or contribute to environmental issues in an area.

9. I can't wait for a first time sewerage application to be assessed; I need to replace/upgrade my private treatment system now. Which model/brand would you recommend?

We cannot favour one brand over another, however whichever system you go for, you need to make sure it is sized appropriately to treat the receiving flow from your property. The Environment Agency's website and also the British Water Code of Practice are useful references.

10. My village has already been assessed for first time sewerage but was unsuccessful, can I re-apply?

Yes. If there has been a material change, for example the environmental conditions have changed in the area, you can re-apply.

You can also re-apply if a long period of time has passed since the first application. The earlier rejection decision would not be a factor in the new assessment.

If your question hasn't been answered above, please contact us via email: s101a@anglianwater.co.uk or phone **0345 606 6087.**