

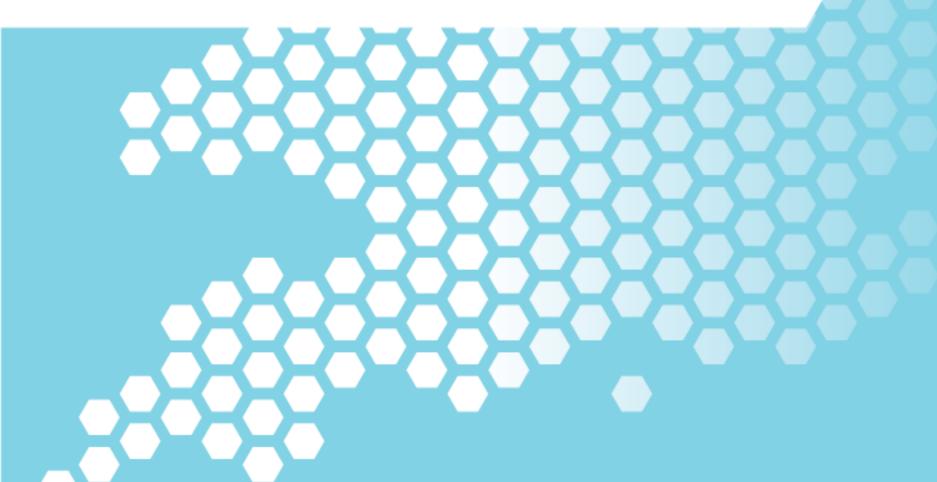
AGENDA

- 9:55am 10:00am Welcome Mark Jarvis, Severn Trent Searches
- 10:00am 10:45am Update on the Local Land Charges Programme Sam Heath, The Land
 Registry
- 10:45am 11:45am Which risk report? Anthony Rollason, Landmark Information Group
- 11:45pm 12:00pm Coffee Break
- 12:00pm 1:00pm The CON29DW and latest developments in sewerage legislation Owen Davies, Severn Trent Searches
- 1:00pm Finish and lunch



Severn Trent CPD- October 2015

Sam Heath





Local Land Charges – 2015-16





Current Status

- Infrastructure Act 2015
- Royal Assent Feb 2015
- Outline Business Case (OBC)
- Local Authority Advocates
- Major Projects Authority (MPA)
- LLC Advisory Board



The next 12 months

- Secondary Legislation consultation and rules
- Procurement of solutions/services
- Design and build the register
- Complete the detailed analysis of data in local authorities
- Complete New Burdens Assessment
- Develop migration plans



LLC Advisory Board

- Been established for:
 - Key stakeholders to contribute their knowledge and expertise ensuring that their views, and those of their respective industries, are represented as the policy develops and the service is migrated and implemented.
- Inaugural meeting held in June 15
- Agreed members are:

– LGA	Land Data
– LLCI	Land Registry
- CoPSO	 LA CEO Representative



Major Projects Authority (MPA)

- Cabinet Office
- LLC forms part of the Government Major Projects Portfolio (GMPP)
- Top 200 Government programmes
- Series of gates to give added assurance to the Programme
- Provides commercial and operational support
- Publishes annual reports on major projects



Local Land Charges

Stakeholders

- Maintain and build on current relationships
- Collaborate with stakeholders
- Encourage constructive consultation responses
- Local Authority Advocates



Local Land Charges

Secondary Legislation

- Representation by the market
- Inform LLC policy creation
- Consultation (expected Jan 2016)
- Rules in place April 17



Procurement

- Further Market Engagement 4 November 2015
- Pre-procurement ends
- Three distinct procurements:
 - 1. Planning & Delivery Partner
 - 2. Register Creation:
 - Holds the data
 - Updates to the register
 - Access to data.
 - 3. Digitisation and Migration
 - Prepare data
 - Data profiling/Q & A
 - Data transformation.



Local Land Charges

Timeline

Key milestones

March 2015 Royal Assent:

Granted for LLC and Wider Powers policies as part of the Infrastructure Act 2015.

May - Dec 2015 Engagement and Data Collection:

Local authority visits to understand existing data sets and processes.

2015 - 2016* Procurement:

Process to secure external suppliers for Digitisation and Migration, and a Planning and Delivery Partner. Land Registry will also start to build the Register Services solution.

2016 - 2017* Secondary legislation:

We will conduct a 12 week public consultation on the LLC Rules as legislation is required to implement the changes to the service.

2017 - Onwards* Digitisation:

LLC entries held by local authorities will be transferred into a standardised digital format. This may involve local authorities undertaking a range of data preparation activities. Robust data checks will ensure the accuracy of data uploaded into the new system.

2017 - Onwards* Migration of data:

There will be an agreed period of phased migration of data from local authorities to Land Registry.

End*

Following the successful migration of LLC data, search results and access under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 will be provided from our single digital database.

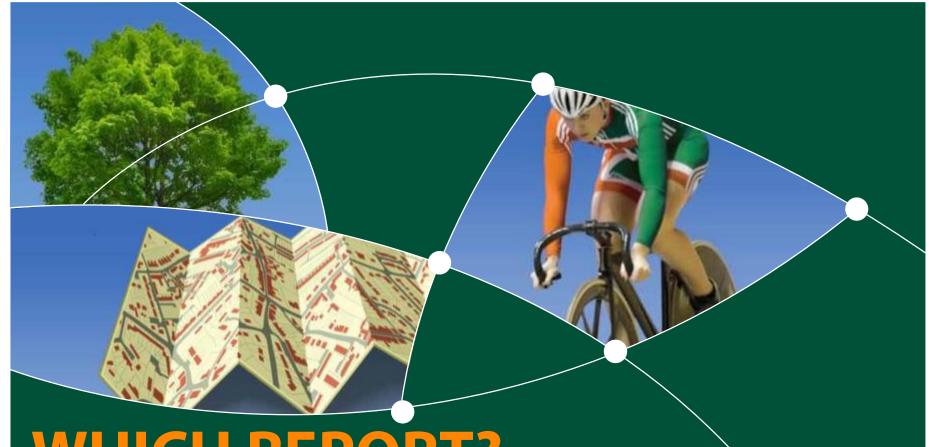
^{*}These dates are subject to change



Local Land Charges

Questions?





WHICH REPORT?

THE RIGHT REPORT FOR THE RIGHT TRANSACTION

Anthony Rollason – Regional Manager (Legal) Oct 2015



dmg::information

WE WILL LOOK AT...



- **01** Contaminated land & reports
- **02** Planning (& case studies)
- 03 Flooding
- **04** Energy & Infrastructure



COMPLIANCE, DUE DILIGENCE & CLIENT CARE





Manage Risk – Due diligence

Law Society – Contaminated Land practice note

Law Society - Flood practice note



SRA – Compliance & Client care

- •Demonstrate compliance, acting clients best interest 'across the firm' policy
- •Should have written rules & guidelines on searches



•"Must make all usual and necessary searches ... in addition .. other searches which may be appropriate ... taking into account [the Property] locality and other features"





WHICH SEARCHES SHOULD I USE?





Contaminated Land

When alerted as a risk

Planning

Flood Risk

Energy & Infrastructure





CONTAMINATED LAND



dmg::information



GUIDANCE: LAW SOCIETY PRACTICE NOTE



Consider whether land contamination is an issue in all conveyancing transactions.

Advise of the consequences of acquiring interests in contaminated land.

- Potential liability ("A" & "B" class persons)
- Complying with a remediation notice.
- Next steps that can be taken to assess the risks.

Obtain an independent site report from a commercial provider (Landmark desktop report)

If necessary, enquire of statutory and regulatory bodies.

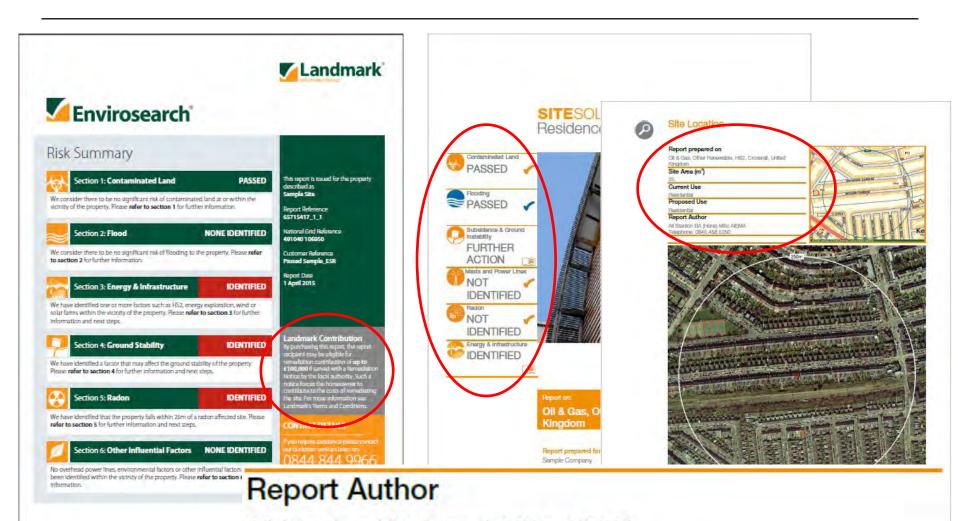
Pass this information back to Landmark for a free re-review

Consider and advise your client of environmental insurance policy



RESIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS





Ali Stanton BA (Hons) MSc AIEMA Telephone: 0845 458 5250

WHICH SEARCHES SHOULD I USE?



In every transaction

Contaminated Land

When alerted as a risk Planning Flood Risk Energy & Infrastructure



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PLANNING



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PLANNING REPORTS





Plansearch Plus Sitecheck Planning

- Development Plans
- Planning Applications
- Land use designations
- Mobile phone masts
- Rights of way
- Housing & neighbourhood including:-
- Schools (including results), insurance claims and population demographics

Plansearch Plus: £31+vat

Sitecheck Planning: £115+vat







How can a planning application affect a purchase?





HOLLINGWORTH, HYDE





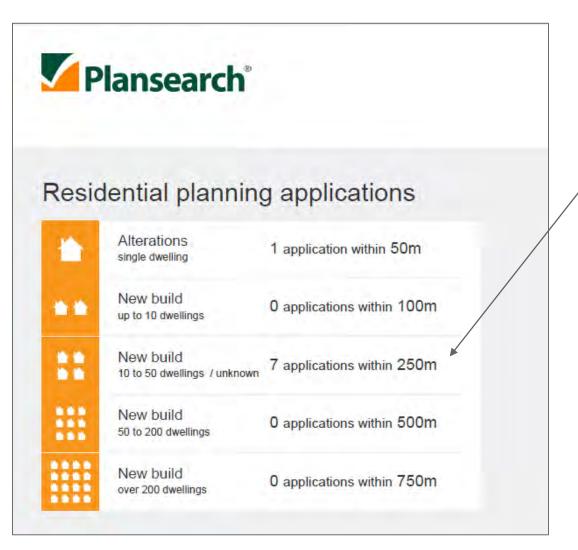
This property currently enjoys the use of the football pitch and also the views over the Peak District.





PLANSEARCH PLUS REPORT REVEALS





7 planning applications within 250m where:

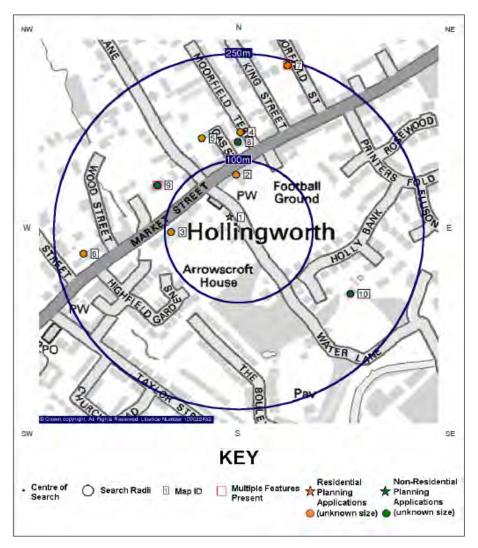
 1. 10-50 New Build dwellings are being built

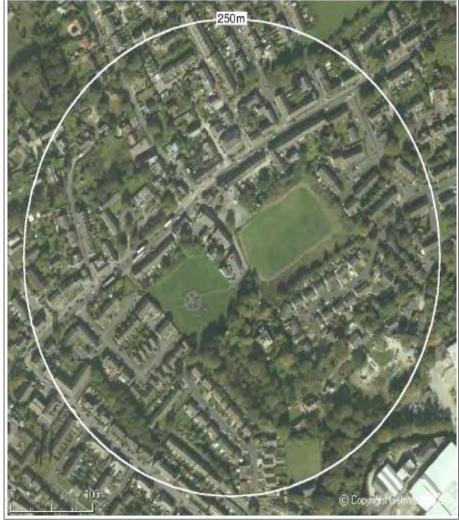
Unknown means development would cost over £100,000



MAP SHOWING APPLICATIONS AND AERIAL VIEW





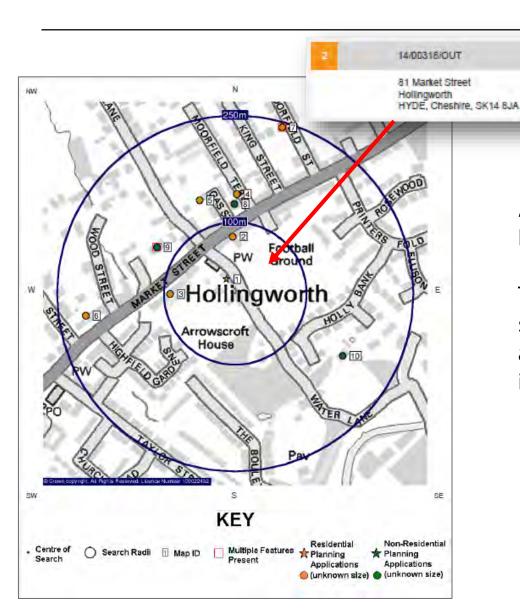


PLANNING APPLICATIONS WITHIN REPORT



14400m²

14th April 2014



Application 2 description: Former Organ Inn – 38 houses

80m N

C3

This application may cause significant impact on use, enjoyment and value of the property and further investigation is needed.

Good

Description: Former Organ Inn - 38 Houses

New Bulld

FURTHER INVESTIGATION



2	14/00318/OUT	80m N	Good	14400m²
	81 Market Street	C3	New Bulld	14th April 2014
	Hollingworth HYDE, Cheshire, SK14 BJA	Description: Former Organ Inn - 38 Houses		

Searching the council website using the application number on the Plansearch Plus report showed the following, along with detailed plans...

Application Number		14/00318/OUT	Date of Application	14/04/14	
Case Officer		Miss E Knowles			
Proposal Demolition of The Organ PH and erection of 38no. 2, 3, 4 bed houses on land including that to the rear of the public house with associancess and car parking - OUTLINE (Approval for Access, Landscaping, Layout and Scale)			of the public house with associated landscaping,		
Site		Organ Inn 81 Market Street Hollingworth Tameside SK14 8JA			
Applicant		Frederic Robinson	C/O Agent		
Agent		Leith Planning Limited	14 South Clifton Street Lytham St Annes Lancashire FY8 5HN		
Status		Pending	Comment On This Application		
		Show Progress	View Document	s View Site Map	



FURTHER INVESTIGATION





The image on the left shows the plans for these 38 houses over the football pitch.

This means that the owner will no longer enjoy use of the field and the properties will also block the view of the Peak District.



PROPERTY IN HOLLINGWORTH, HYDE





Without a Plansearch Plus, a buyer may not have been aware of the development being built opposite their property.

This could affect both the use and enjoyment of the property and also the value





DEVELOPMENT IMPACT – PLANNING CASE STUDY









WHAT PLANSEARCH PLUS SHOWS...



Plansearch Plus®



Residential New Build

10 to 50 dwellings / unknown (within 250m)

"Unknown" planning applications refer to those that have been identified as having a financial value in excess of £100,000 however their scale cannot be determined.

	ID	Reference (Application No.)	Distance & Direction	Location Accuracy	Site Area	
		Address	Use Class	Туре	Submission Date	Decision
		11/01336/FUL	17m N	Good	1406.1m²	
		39 Archers Road Southampton SO15 2NB	C3 Description: 20 Flats	New Build	13th September 2011	Detail Planning Granted
1		08/00383/FUL	17m N	Good	1400m²	
		39 Archers Road Southampton SO15 2NB	C3 Description: 11 Flats	New Build	19th March 2008	Detail Planning Refused



New build over 200 dwellings

0 applications within 750m







What else does a Plansearch Plus offer the purchaser?

- Land Use Designations
- Rights of Way and Mobile Phone Masts
- Education
- Local Amenities





Landmark Planning Reports





Residential: Plansearch Plus £31+vat

Discount offered when purchased with a Landmark Environmental report



FLOOD

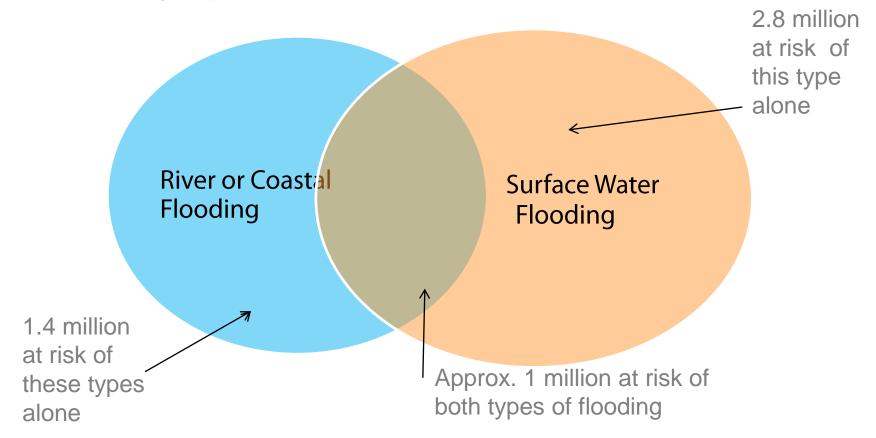


dmg::information

FLOODING – SCALE OF THE PROBLEM



Environment Agency Report 2009/CCC 2012









DEFRA report identified flooding as Britain's biggest climate risk

Putting it right:

- Residential property average cost £40,000-£45,000
- Commercial property average cost- £75,000-£115,000
- Costs increase dramatically with increased depth
- Every 10cms increase in depth doubles cost



LAW SOCIETY "FLOOD" PRACTICE NOTE



- Published May '13, and updated Dec.'14
- "Should" mention flood risk to clients
- Consider further investigations
 - Don't rely on EA website alone
 - Screening reports not property specific
 - Ensure you cover all the main risks
 - Risk assessment
- Consider cost of insurance
- Discuss with surveyor





STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND 'FLOOD RE'



Fixes insurance for homes at greatest risk.

Flood Re - £10.50 (+IPT) on all households

Further Levy based on council tax bandings



There is no cap on excesses (originally proposed cap of £250-£500)

Flood Re's premiums are capped in line with council tax band (£210 Band A to £1200 Band H (Band I in Wales)),

NOTE THAT:

- Not implemented until April 2016
- SMEs & Commercials excluded
- Post 2009 residential excluded
- Leasehold flats, private rented and buy to let excluded









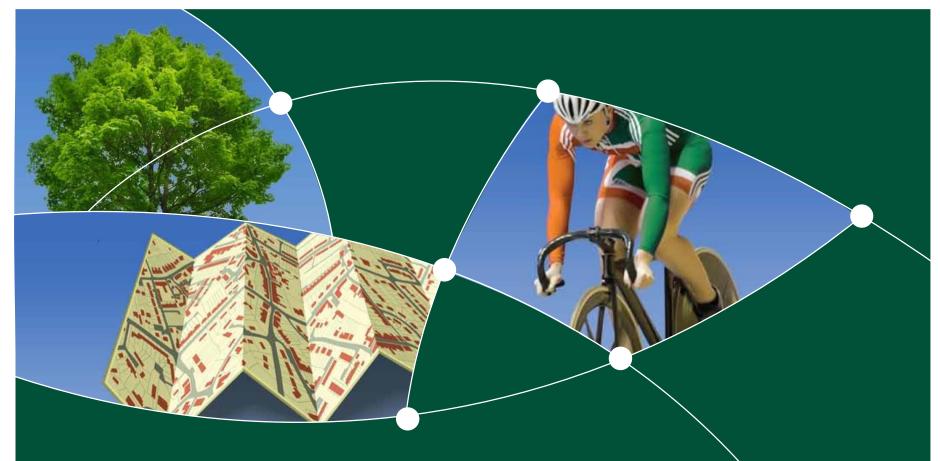
infor	urrence. The property does not need to be near a sea or river for flooding to occur. Furth matter about flooding can be found at: www.defra.gov.uk.				
7.1	Has any part of the property (whether buildings or surrounding garden or land) ever been flooded? If Yes, please state when the flooding occurred and identify the parts that flooded;	☐ Yes	□ No		
		- 40	3		
		1			
If No	to question 7.1 please continue to 7.3 and do not answer	r 7.2 below.			
	NAME AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE PA				
7.2	What type of flooding occurred?				
7.2	(a) Ground water	☐ Ves	□ No		
7.2		☐ Yes	□ No		
7.2	(a) Ground water				
7.2	(a) Ground water (b) Sewer flooding	☐ Yes	□ No		
7.2	(a) Ground water (b) Sewer flooding (c) Surface water	☐ Yes	□ No		
7.2	(a) Ground water (b) Sewer flooding (c) Surface water (d) Coastal flooding	Yes Yes	□ No □ No		
7.2	(a) Ground water (b) Sewer flooding (c) Surface water (d) Coastal flooding (e) River flooding	Yes Yes	□ No □ No		
7.2	(a) Ground water (b) Sewer flooding (c) Surface water (d) Coastal flooding (e) River flooding	Yes Yes	□ No □ No		
7.2	(a) Ground water (b) Sewer flooding (c) Surface water (d) Coastal flooding (e) River flooding	Yes Yes	□ No □ No		



FLOOD REPORTS







ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE



dmg::information

ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE



- Oil & Gas inc. Fracking
- Wind Energy
- Solar Energy
- Renewable Power Plants
- HS2
- Crossrail
- CCS Pipeline
- £25+vat





FRACKING - BACKGROUND

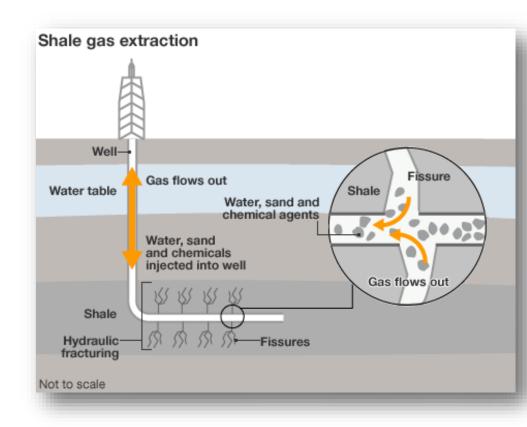


Hydraulic fracturing

A technique where typically water is mixed with sand and chemicals and injected at high pressure into a wellbore to create small fractures

Fractures are typically less than 1mm

The rock to splits, releases the gas into the well so it can be brought up to the surface





WHY WOULD A BUYER BE CONCERNED?



- Access to and from land
- Increased Traffic
- Noise and vibrations from site
- Abstraction licences limit to amount of water that can be removed
- Contaminating ground water
- Use and value may be affected

A test drilling site for shale gas on the outskirts of Southport, Lancashire

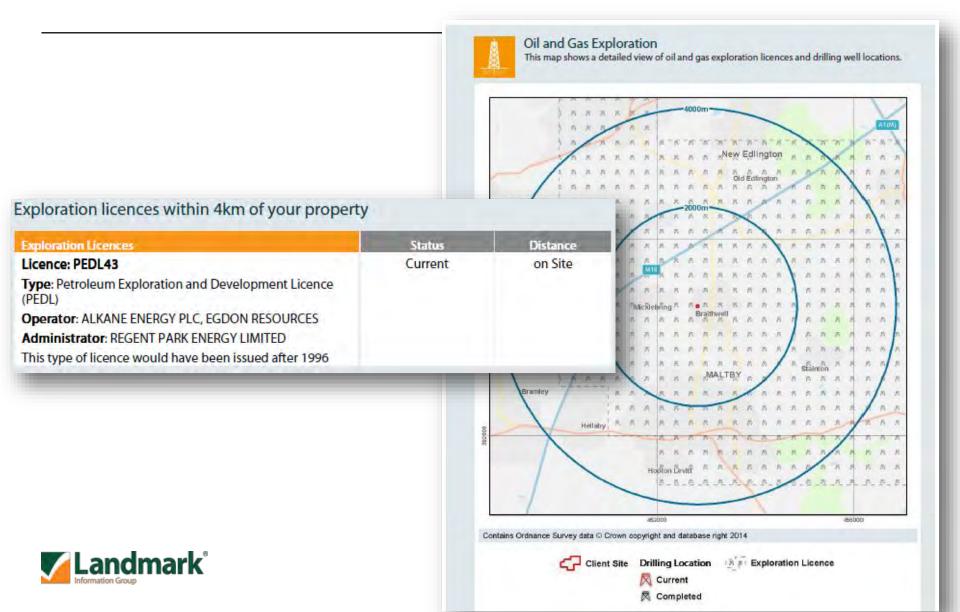






WHAT DOES THE REPORT SHOW?







BACKGROUND TO WIND FARMS

- UK has one third of Europe's wind resource
- UK's largest source of renewable energy generation
- Now over 400 wind farms nearly 4000 wind turbines
- These figures will continually grow
- No Compensation No formal government compensation schemes currently exist for property owners located close to wind farms.





WHAT IS THE EFFECT ON PROPERTY PRICES?



- LSE report Feb 2014
- Properties in close proximity to large wind farm average value **fell 12%**
- Properties in close proximity to small wind farm could lose up to 7% value







WIND TURBINE CASE STUDY





WHY WOULD A BUYER BE CONCERNED?



Plans for 44 acre solar farm in heart of picturesque Cotswold village

A German firm has unveiled plans for a 44 acre solar farm in a picturesque Cotswold village which locals claim could threaten the very heart of their community.



Locals fear that the solar farm will be an "eye sore". The Lieberose solar farm in Germany, pictured, is the world's second largest Photo: REUTERS



Glare from panels

Increase traffic during construction

Potential loss in property value





WHY WOULD A BUYER BE CONCERNED?



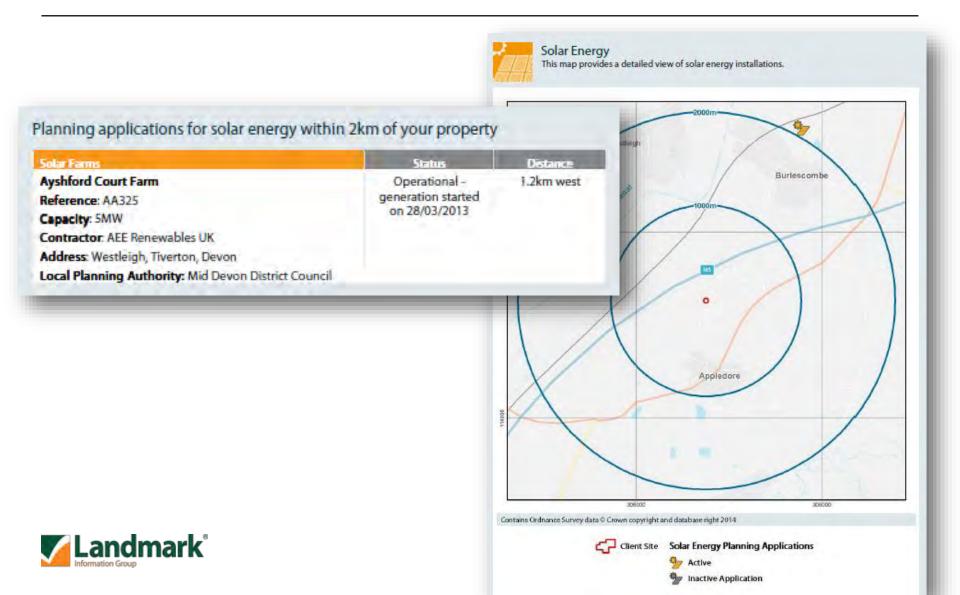
- > Access to, from and over the land
- > Increased Traffic during construction
- > Noise and vibrations during construction from site
- > Glare from the sun
- > May affect both use, enjoyment and value of property





WHAT DOES THE REPORT SHOW?

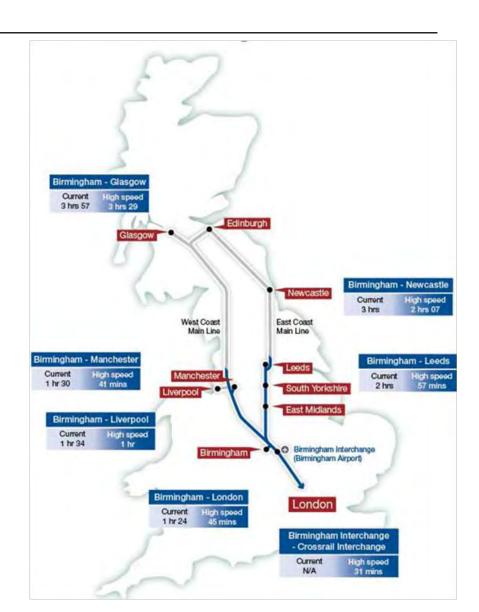








- Phase 1 London Euston to Birmingham confirmed January 2012
- Phase 2 Birmingham to Manchester and Leeds announced Feb. 2013
- Construction due to commence 2017
- Phase 1 to be completed by 2026
- Phase 2 to be completed by 2033
- Estimated cost of all HS2 over £50 billion
- Speeds up to 250mph
- Carriages 400m long





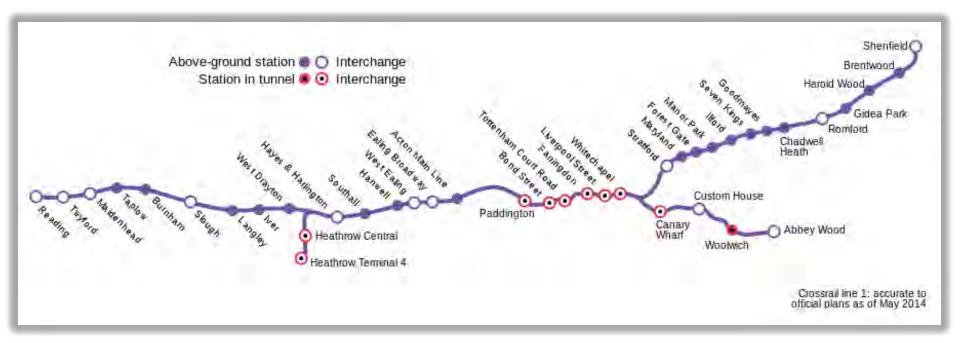
CROSSRAIL - BACKGROUND



Reading to Shenfield
Cost £15 billion +

Some controversy over compulsory purchases

Predicted to cause property hotspots



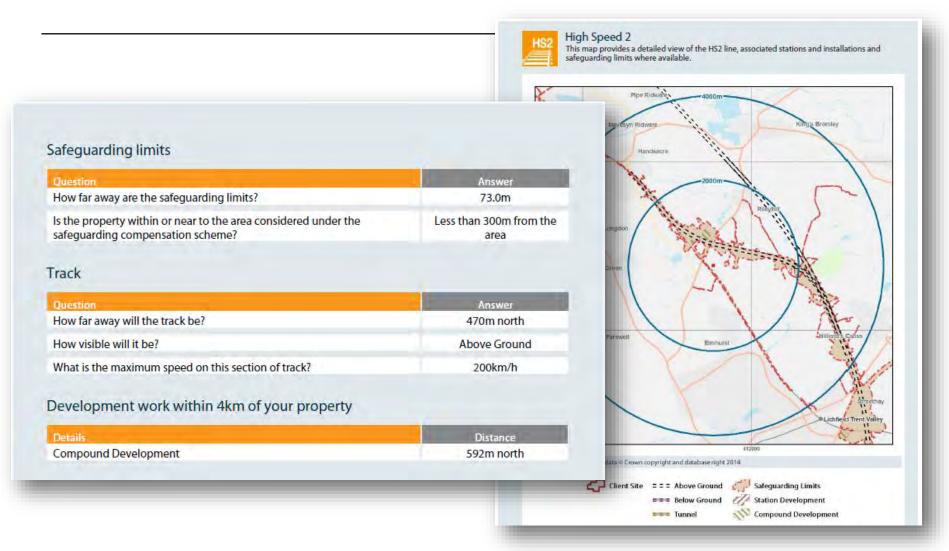






WHAT DOES THE REPORT SHOW?











All Landmark reports are available through:

SEVERN TRENT SEARCHES

a part of



This course is not intended to give legal advice and should not be relied on. It is not to be regarded as a full statement of law and practice in this area and specific advice should be taken on matters of concern.

Coffee break.....

CON29DW

Owen Davies

Business Development Manager

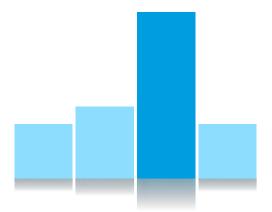
CON29DW

DRAINAGE AND WATER ENQUIRY

STEAM INCET

1

WHO WE ARE



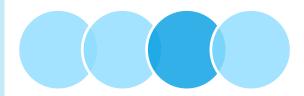
Severn Trent Searches is one of the largest search providers in the region



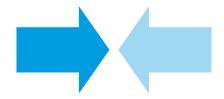
We compile the official CON29DW Drainage and Water Enquiry



To date we have completed over 1.5M CON29DW searches



We are part of Severn Trent PLC, which also includes Severn Trent Water



We work directly with Severn Trent
Water to compile the CON29DW,
ensuring the most accurate,
comprehensive search available



We also provide an extensive range of other searches, including local authority, environmental, mining, chancel liability and flood

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

This CPD will:

- Look at the purpose and implications of the questions and answers within the CON29DW
- Look at some common questions asked regarding the CON29DW
- Highlight any additional risks which may arise as a result of information provided within the CON29DW
- Provide an update on the Private Drains and Sewers (PDaS) transfer, proposed changes to sewer adoption procedures, and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)
- Provide an overview of the CON29DW Flood+

Attendees should subsequently:

- Understand the rationale behind all of the questions and answers
- Advise clients of the need (or otherwise) for further action
- Understand possible additional implications for clients as a result of the transfer

THE CON29DW



Contains 23 questions and answers

Introduced in 2002, it was expanded with the advent of HIPs in 2007

Divided into four sections – maps, drainage, water supply and billing

Produced directly from Severn Trent Water records

We also work alongside other Water Companies for properties in border areas

Unlimited liability

Recommended by the Law Society

CON29DW: THE QUESTIONS

Maps:

Sewer plans

Water plans

Water:

Connections

Location of mains

Adoption agreements

Water pressure and flow

Water quality

Water meters

Drainage:

Foul and surface water connections

Location of mains

Adoption agreements

Build overs

Internal flooding

Treatment works

Billing:

Sewerage and water undertakers

Who bills the property

Basis of charging

Changes in charging

CON29DW: MAPS



DRAINAGE AND WATER ENQUIRY

ON FRONT COVER.

MAPS:

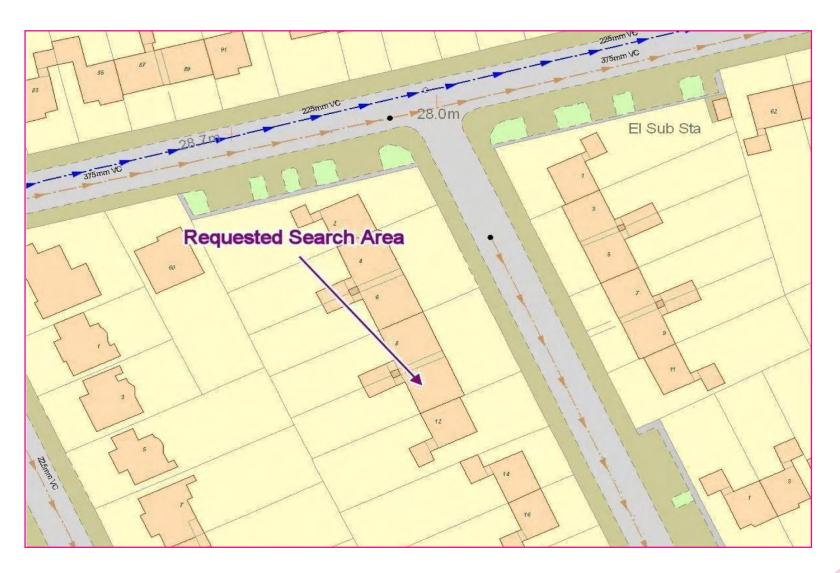


- The CON29DW features plans showing the sewer and water mains serving a property
- This allows homebuyers to see how close the services are, as well as there are likely to be any issues

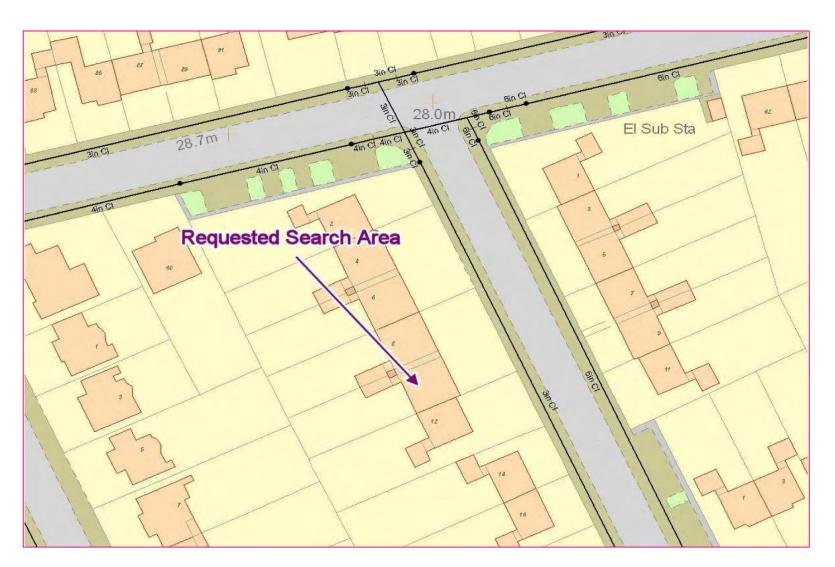


- Some properties in border areas have different companies responsible for drainage and water supply. In these instances, the CON29DW will provide plans from both companies
- Unlike sewers, water mains are rarely located within property boundaries, and water companies will not allow them to be built over

SEWER MAPS:



WATER MAPS:

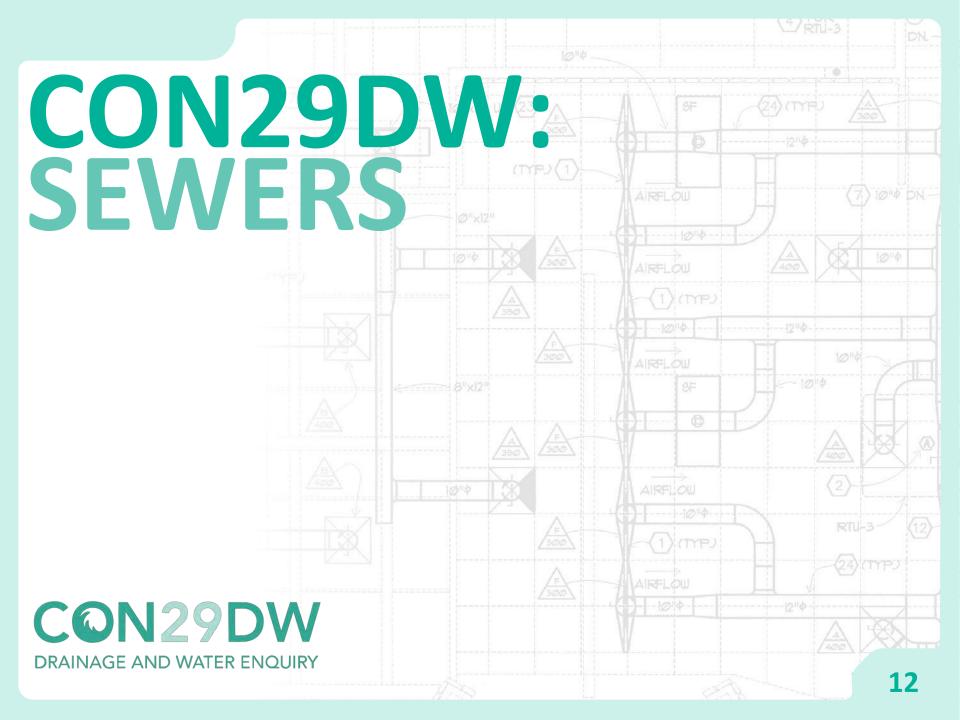


COMMON SEWERAGE NETWORK SYMBOLOGY

Foul Anything from inside a property + trade waste	
Surface water Rainwater & other natural sources	
Combined Both foul & surface water	
Rising main Pressurised main from pumping station	
Pumping station Pumps sewage uphill	
Manhole Sewer access point	

COMMON WATER NETWORK SYMBOLOGY

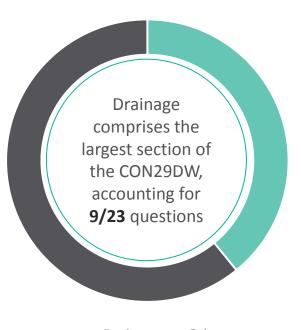
Distribution main Up to 300m	
Trunk main Up to 600m	
Aqueduct Anything up to 2000m	
Abandoned main Disused water main	*************************************
Pumping station Pumps water uphill	



SEWERS: GENERAL INFORMATION

It is the area of the CON29DW that generates the most queries

CON29DW



DID YOU KNOW?

A sewer is any disposal pipe serving two or more properties. A drain serves only a single property. A drain lying outside a property boundary is referred to as a lateral drain

Areas covered include:

Connections for foul and surface water drainage

Sewers within property boundaries

Proximity of sewers to property

Build over agreements

Section 104 adoption agreements

Sewer flooding

Proximity to treatment works

LOCATION OF SEWERS:

Sewers within property boundaries

- Remain the property of water companies
- Companies have statutory rights of access for maintenance and repair of their assets
- Can have restrictions on development water companies are routinely consulted on developments over or near their assets, and have the right to veto or demand changes to proposed developments

Building over sewers

- Historically, building over agreements between water companies and property owners have been required
- Nowadays this is done as part of a standard planning application

Sewers within 100ft (30.48m)

- Local authorities have powers to force properties to connect to the public network if there is a sewer within 100ft
- Property owners can also be responsible for a substantial length of private pipe, although this is less common following the private sewer transfer

CASE STUDY

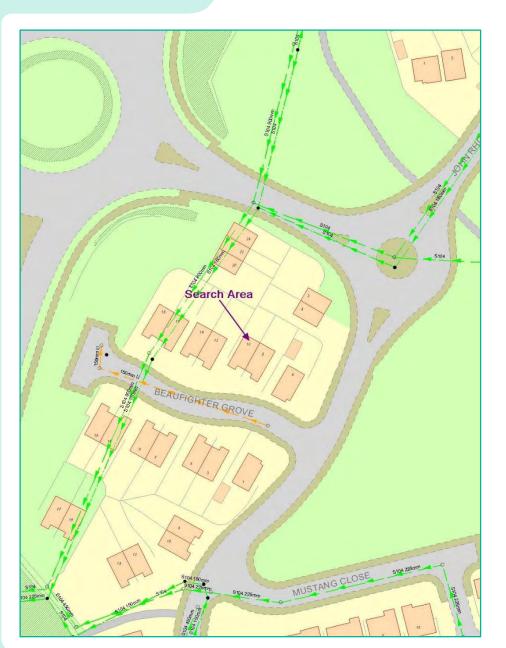


Sewer within 100ft and the danger of assuming you're connected

- A customer of ours bought a property assuming it drained to the public sewer
- 2. The current owner believed it did, Severn Trent Water billed the property for sewage, and the CON29DW informed him it was connected
- Unfortunately, it wasn't. It drained to a cess pit in the garden, and Severn Trent Water had been incorrectly billing the property
- 4. When the cess pit started to leak, polluting the garden, the owner had to pay to fix the damage, as well as connecting the property to the public sewer
- 5. Under S21 of the Building Act (1984), where there's an environmental risk, the local authority has the power to force a homeowner to connect their property to the public sewerage system, providing there's a sewer within 100ft (30.48m)
- 6. As the owner had a CON29DW, we reimbursed the cost of the connection almost £4000

SECTION 104 ADOPTION AGREEMENTS

- Sewers are generally adopted under Section 104 of the Water Industry Act (1991)
- This is a currently a voluntary agreement between a developer and the water company
- Water company agrees to adopt sewers after they are laid, and after a maintenance period,
 where they will monitor performance
- During this period, they remain the responsibility of the developer, and the water company has
 no obligations regarding repair or maintenance of the sewers
- This can have implications for homeowners should the developer cease trading, or not fulfil their obligations regarding upkeep of the sewers



SECTION 104 EXAMPLE:

Notes:

- Unadopted sewers may not be plotted accurately, as in this case
- Transferred sewers, as shown here,
 may be incomplete

PRIVATE SEWER TRANSFER:

- In October 2011, the majority of private sewers and lateral drains in England and Wales were transferred into public ownership
- The last such transfer occurred in 1937
- The transfer included the majority of apparatus connected to the public network prior to July 2011
- Exceptions included sewers on Crown Land, successful appeals, networks within a single curtilage, and pipes which don't discharge into the public system
- Changes in sewer adoption procedures will be implemented, the key feature of which is mandatory adoption. No date has yet been confirmed for implementation
- These new adoption procedures will be followed six months later by a secondary transfer, covering any assets laid after July 2011
- New adoption procedures and secondary transfer have already been implemented in Wales
- Private pumping stations are also transferring on a gradual basis prior to October 2016

SEWERS: PRE OCTOBER 2011



Key

Combined sewer (public):

Private sewer

Private drain:

Private lateral drain:

- In this situation, everything in private land is privately owned
- The water company is only responsible for the sewers in the public highway

SEWERS: POST OCTOBER 2011



Key

Combined sewer (public):

Public sewer

Private drain:

Public lateral drain:

- Private sewers and lateral drains have now been transferred into public ownership
- Drains within property boundaries remain private

PRIVATE SEWER TRANSFER EXAMPLE:



- Water companies have plotted some of these transferred sewers from local authority and developer records. The majority will be plotted during the course of normal operations
- Because of the two stage transfer, depending on when they were connected to the public system, some estates have a mixture of adopted and unadopted sewers, as in this example

BUILDING OVER PUBLIC SEWERS



- Historically if you wanted to build over a sewer you would have to enter into an agreement under Section 18 of the Building Act 1984 & Building (Amendment) Regulations 2001 Part H
- 2. This was usually a tri-partite agreement between the water authority (as was), the local authority and the homeowner. There are about 3,500 of these in the Severn Trent region
- 3. We haven't signed a section 18 agreement since last century. This is now covered by part of the building control process

SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS



- The CON29DW will tell you the distance and direction of the nearest treatment works
- Properties close to works can experience problems with odours, as well as insects
- Tankers and other water company vehicles may also be disruptive

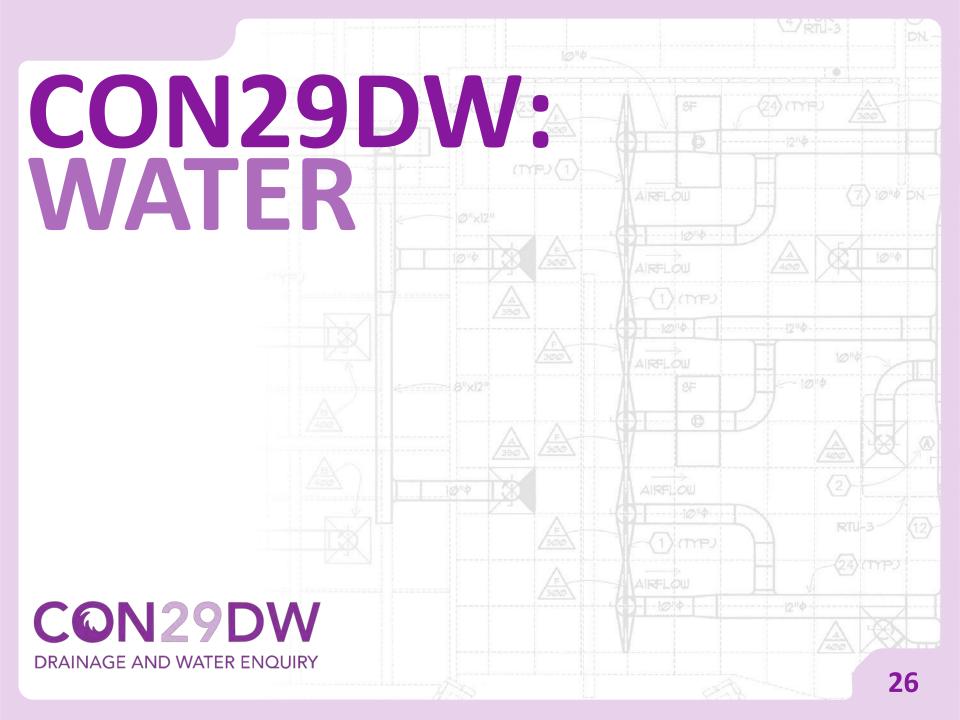
SEWER FLOODING

- Is the property at risk of internal flooding?
- Occurs when sewers are overwhelmed by heavy rainfall, due to a permanent problem, such as small diameter or flat gradient
- Water companies are required to maintain a register of properties at risk of flooding once every ten years
 - This risk register is not fixed properties are added and removed all the time
 - Following the Private Sewer Transfer, many inadequate formerly private sewers are now public, so the size of the register will grow over the next few years
- Where a public sewer is prone to flooding, the CON29DW includes a bespoke report detailing proposed actions to reduce or remove the risk

SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

- Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) provide
 alternative methods for the disposal or rainwater,
 such as balancing ponds and permeable paving
- DEFRA has been working towards including SuDS in new developments for some time, under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010)
- Controversy over who would maintain and charge for these services, with no single solution in place
- Since April 2015, major developments defined as 10 properties or more – must use SuDS, unless demonstrated to be inappropriate





WATER SUPPLY: MAIN TO FRONTAGE



Key

Water main (public):

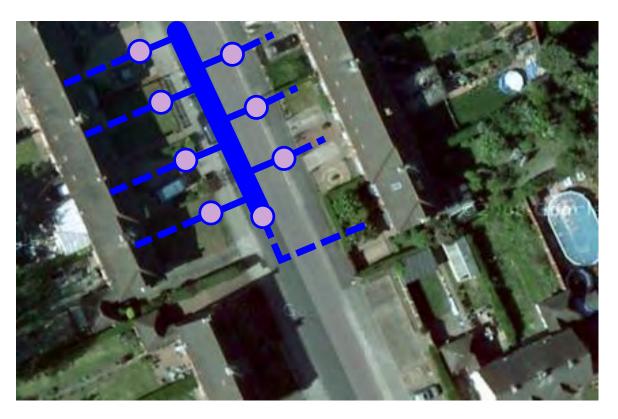
Communication pipe (public):

Supply pipe (private):



- This is the typical situation with urban properties
- Water companies retain responsibility for pipework up to the stopcock, typically at the property boundary

WATER SUPPLY: NO MAIN TO FRONTAGE



Key

Water main (public):

Communication pipe (public):

Supply pipe (private):



- Less common, sometimes properties may not have a public main outside their property
- In these circumstances, all pipework beyond the public main will be the homeowner's responsibility
- This can include pipework located in the public highway

WATER SUPPLY: SHARED SUPPLY



Key

Water main (public):

Communication pipe (public):

Supply pipe (private):



- In this situation, a row of houses are fed off a single, private supply
- This can affect water pressure, depending on usage in the other properties
- Also, with the stopcock located in the first property, turning off their supply will affect all properties in the run

WATER SUPPLY: MAIN TO GABLE



Key

Water main (public):

Communication pipe (public):

Supply pipe (private):



- In this situation, a private supply pipe passes through a neighbouring property
- Homeowners do not have automatic access to neighbouring land, and can therefore experience difficulty accessing their pipes for repair

WATER SUPPLY: MAIN IN PRIVATE LAND



Key

Water main (public):

Communication pipe (public):

Supply pipe (private):



- This is known as the 18 metre rule WIA S159
- If the main is within 18m of the centre of the highway, the lateral pipe, up to the property boundary will be public, as normal
- If however, it is more than 18m, the entire supply pipe will be private

LOW WATER PRESSURE

- OFWAT rules state that water companies "must maintain a minimum pressure in the communication pipe of seven metres static head (0.7 bar)"
- Water pressure can be affected by the altitude of properties, demand on the system, inadequate pumping facilities, inadequate water mains and leakage
- The number of properties is decreasing all the time. In 1991 the figure stood at 380,000. By 2008 it was just under 5,000.
- Where a property is at risk, the CON29DW includes a bespoke report detailing proposed actions to reduce or remove the risk

WATER QUALITY ANALYSIS

- Does the water comply with water quality standards as defined by Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2000 and 2001?
- The Severn Trent region is divided into many water supply zones, each comprising thousands of properties
- The CON29DW will inform you if any property in the zone has failed under any provision of the regulations
- Water quality analysis looks at, amongst other things, levels of lead, nitrates and aluminium
- The vast majority of failures are due to contamination on taps



CON29DW

DRAINAGE AND WATER ENQUIRY

STUD 8-04 34

BASIS OF CHARGING

- The CON29DW informs you whether a property is billed on a measured on unmeasured basis
- Unmeasured applies to pre 1991 properties, and is based on the rateable value of the property
- Properties built from 1991 onwards are fitted with water meters
- These are also installed on request from homeowners,
 who can revert back within a certain time period
- Water companies have the right to install a meter on change of occupation, and to insist that properties fitted with a meter are billed on that basis



On the rare occasions a meter can't be fitted, properties can be billed on assessed volume

BORDER AREAS

- Severn Trent shares borders with several other water companies
- Boundaries for water supply and drainage are not identical
- Therefore, in border areas, different companies may provide different services
- Within the Severn Trent region, there are also some regional water companies operating, most notably South Staffordshire Water
- Companies are sometimes responsible for sewage disposal outside their area, as with Severn Trent's venture in Aldershot
- In border areas, the CON29DW will be provided by the company responsible for drainage



COMING SOON...

- The CON29DW Flood+ is a brand new search developed by Severn Trent Searches in partnership with Landmark
- The search contains all 23 questions from the CON29DW, covering the four existing areas – maps, drainage, water supply and charging
- In addition, there is a new section containing five new questions regarding flooding. These cover:
 - Whether the property is at risk from river, coastal, surface water or groundwater flooding
 - Flood defences in the vicinity of the property
 - Insurance claims for flooding
- Completely redesigned, more modern search
- "Client care letters" included as standard, explaining any potential issues with the property



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DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

