

NON-MAINS DRAINAGE INFORMATION

If your development proposals include the use of a non-mains foul drainage system, you should complete the following questions and submit it to the Local Planning Authority in support of your planning application in order that the Council can adequately assess the suitability of the proposals. All relevant information requested below must be supplied. Failure to do so may result in the application not being registered until such time as the information is received or there being a delay in making a decision about your planning proposals.

When drawing up sewerage proposals for any new development, the first presumption must always be to provide a system of foul drainage discharging into a public sewer which will transport the effluent to a public sewage treatment works. The ability to make such a connections should always be discussed with the Sewerage Undertaker in the area. They should be asked to provide information about the distance to the nearest main sewer and its location. The cost of making that connection needs to be weighed against the total cost of the overall development and the practicability of making the connection.

Where a public sewer connection is not feasible on cost and practicability grounds, consideration should then be given to the installation of a package sewage treatment plant. This modern type of plant offers the highest standard of treatment available for sewage effluent and is the **only** acceptable type of sewage treatment system where the foul discharge is to be to a watercourse or to a soakaway in an area where there are drinking water abstractions and groundwater is vulnerable to pollution. It should be noted that package plants may not be suitable if used intermittently and this should be a consideration in the choice of the most appropriate sewage system. A separate Discharge Consent is required from the Environment Agency should planning permission be granted. This will set minimum standards for the quality of the foul discharge to ensure that ground and surface water is kept free of pollution. This applies to discharges to ground via a soakaway or to a watercourse.

If you are proposing to install a septic tank, which provides a far lower level of treatment of the foul effluent, a more detailed non-mains drainage assessment of the likely effects on the environment will be required to be carried out. The details of the requirements are explained with the appendix to the circular. Your Local Planning Authority may require additional information from you relating to matters including health hazards, nuisance and amenity. It should be noted that completion of this form does not in itself amount to compliance with the requirements to undertake a non-mains drainage assessment specified in Department of the Environment Transport and the Regions Circular 03/99.

Where your proposals include the development of a site which has an **existing** septic tank or other system, consideration needs to be given to the opportunities which may now exist to make a mains connection or to upgrade the system to the use of modern technology. At the planning stage of your development proposals, checks need to be made to find out if the existing system has the capacity to deal with additional loads to be placed on it and that the outfall of the system can cope with those additional loadings. Soakaway drainage systems may need to be enlarged. Information needs to be provided to show that these factors have been taken into account. Any Discharge Consent may also need to be varied to take account of the new factors.

A sealed cess tank or cesspool does not provide any treatment of waste and has to be emptied by tanker and taken to a sewage treatment works at regular intervals, the cost of which can considerable. Their use is not considered to be environmentally sustainable and will only be considered appropriate in **exceptional** cases, which must be fully justified.

You may wish to seek advice from :

The Environment Agency, Coverdale House, Aviator Court, Amy Johnson Way, Clifton Moor, York, YO3 4UZ
Telephone – 01904 822607

An independent Drainage Consultant

The Council's Building Control Department – 0845 1211555

You local Internal Drainage Board:

Cod Beck/Lower Swale/River Wiske – 01845522724 Bedale & Upper Swale – 01677 422422
Foss – 01904 658763

Yorkshire Water Services Ltd, Western House, Western Way, Halifax Road, Bradford, BD6 2LZ

1. Please indicate distance to and location of the nearest mains drainage.....

(Note: the Sewerage Undertaker can be contacted for this information).

2. Please indicate by ticking which method of foul drainage is proposed:

Package treatment plant to soakaway []

Package treatment plant to watercourse []

Septic tank to soakaway []

Septic tank to watercourse []

Sealed Cess tank []

Other method such as reed bed. Please specify

(Please indicate the position of equipment and outfall on the site plan to be submitted as part of the planning application.

3. Is this a new or existing system?

4. What is the capacity of the system?

5. If this is an **existing** system, how many additional people will regularly be expected to use it? If this is a domestic property, what is the number of bedrooms now and how many bedrooms will be provided by the development proposed?
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6. If this is an **existing** system, do you have Consent to Discharge from the Environment Agency?
YES/NO

If Yes, please give the reference number:

7. If you intend to discharge to a watercourse, what is the name of the watercourse?
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Please indicate the discharge position on your site plan submitted with the planning application, clearly marked as such.

(Note: the watercourse must be capable of sufficient dilution (ten fold) to accept the flow. Without such dilution, there is the possibility of the build up of poor water quality during dry periods.)

8. If the discharge is to a soakaway, indicate on your site plan its position and size.

9. Are there any wells, springs or boreholes within 50 metres of the soakaway or point of discharge into the watercourse? YES/NO.

Please mark the location of these features on the site plan to be submitted as part of the planning application.