

How we do it

As part of our continuing commitment to improve the supply and quality of water to all our customers, we are replacing our network of cast iron pipes with plastic ones.

Corroded cast iron water pipes, some of which were installed over 100 years ago, are often the cause of discolouration. We use a variety of methods to replace these existing pipes dependent on local conditions and suitability. The technique we are using here is known as slip lining.

Slip lining is an efficient and economical method of pipe rehabilitation as it reduces the number of holes needed in roads and footpaths which allows us to complete this work as quickly as possible and minimise disruption to you.

The procedure inserts a new pipe inside the existing pipe by pulling it through with a winch. The new pipe is of a smaller diameter than the existing pipe and to allow for a trouble free insertion the existing pipe is often cleaned first.

The diagram below shows the slip lining process:

- The existing pipe is exposed, cut and capped at two points
- The open section of the existing pipe is cleaned
- A nose cone is placed on the new pipe and drawn through the existing pipe via a winch
- The new plastic pipe is tested before being connected to the water network.

So now you know there is more to it than just digging holes in the road!

Slip lining process

