

UNITED UTILITIES

Company
specific
addendum to:
"Code of
Practice for
the self laying
of water mains
and services -
England
and Wales,
2nd Edition
May 2009"

Version 1.0
July 2009



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Introduction

This addendum applies to all self laid mains and associated self laid services intended to be adopted by United Utilities and which will form part of the water network operated as part of United Utilities licensed water undertaking.

The Code of Practice has been prepared to permit a self lay organisation (SLO) to operate in water companies licensed areas in England and Wales using similar processes, procedures and materials. United Utilities, in accordance with Ofwat guidance have prepared this company specific addendum to indicate where United Utilities policies and procedures vary from the Code of Practice.

Note: If this is a printed copy, you are advised to check that this version remains current. This can be done by visiting United Utilities website at: **unitedutilities.com**

It is intended to be read in conjunction with;

1. WRC plc publication “Self laying of water mains and services – A Code of Practice for England and Wales”, which is available from WRC plc at: **www.webookshop.com**.
2. Ofwat publication “Competition in providing new water mains and service pipes: Guidance to companies – version 3.0, which is available at: **www.ofwat.gov.uk/**
3. Ofwat publication “Guidance on financial arrangements for self lay and requisitioning agreements – version 2.0, which is available at: **www.ofwat.gov.uk/**
4. The Water Industry Act 1991 as amended by the Water Act 2003; the Highways Act 1980; the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 and all other applicable legislation, all as may be amended from time to time.
5. United Utilities “Specifications for water mains” as published from time to time, these are available to all accredited self lay organisations.
6. United Utilities “Policy for self laying of water mains and service connections v1.0 July 2009”, available at: **unitedutilities.com**

Version control

Version 1.0, issued July 2009. If this is a printed copy, you are advised to check that this version remains current. This can be done by visiting United Utilities website at: **unitedutilities.com**

Amendments to the Code of Practice

The changes detailed apply to the Code of Practice for self laying of water mains and services- 2nd edition, all clause references are taken from the Code of Practice.

Part 1 - General

1.4 Responsibility for protection of street furniture

Developers are encouraged to contact United Utilities at the earliest possible stage to obtain information relating to existing water infrastructure and any new mains that may be needed. We recommend that contact is made before a planning application is made, and at that stage we will be able to advise if any diversions or reinforcements are required and to provide estimated budget costs for those needs. This information will be given a validity period during which any detailed designs should be submitted.

Delete: 1.4.1

Insert: 1.4.1

The Developer/SLO is responsible for the protection of street furniture including covers, lids, frames and chambers, until such time as the street has been adopted by the person(s) responsible for its ongoing maintenance.

Note: After transfer of ownership, access to all valves and fire hydrants is required by the Water Company and Fire Authority, respectively. Refer to section 2.3.

1.5 Competence of self lay organisations

Delete: 1.5.4

Insert: 1.5.4

United Utilities recognise the Water Industry Registration Scheme (WIRS) as operated by Lloyd's Register as evidence of competence for SLO's operating within United Utilities licensed area.

Note 1: Accreditation through the Water Industry Registration Scheme (WIRS) operated by Lloyd's Register is normally deemed to be evidence of competence for SLOs in England and Wales. Details of the WIRS scheme can be found at: <http://www.lloydsregister.co.uk/wirs.html>

Note 2: The Water Company may wish to undertake ongoing audits of competence.

1.6 Protection of water quality

Delete: 1.6.7

Insert: 1.6.7

The final connection of the self-laid main to the water distribution system shall not be carried out until satisfactory disinfection, pressure test and water sample results have been provided to the Water Company.

Note: The SLO shall submit sufficient information to the Water Company, before any new main is connected, to enable the Water Company to establish that adequate future turnover in the new network will be achieved to protect water quality. Any flushing that may be required, to maintain water quality, following connection of the main will be chargeable to the Developer/SLO.

Delete: 1.6.8

Insert: 1.6.8

If a water sample taken prior to the final connection does not meet the standards in the Water Supply (Water quality) Regulations, then a new sample shall be taken. If the new main has not been connected to the network within 7 calendar days of the notice by the Water Company that the sample has met the required standard, then the disinfection process shall be repeated and a new sample taken.

Note: The costs for taking and testing of additional samples may be recoverable from the Developer/SLO. Where the delay is due to negligence of the Water Company, the cost of the additional disinfection and sampling may be borne by the Water Company.

1.8 Contestable and non-contestable work

Table 2 Commissioning

Delete: "Swabbing, disinfecting and pressure testing the new mains under supervision of the Water Company."

Insert: Swabbing, disinfecting, water sampling and pressure testing the new mains under supervision of the Water Company.

Table 2 Commissioning

Design

Delete: Designing off site water systems.

Insert: Designing off site water systems may be contestable by agreement

Delete: "Water sampling and quality testing."

Insert: Quality testing

1.13 Interfaces with local fire authority.

Delete: 1.13.2

Insert: 1.13.2

United Utilities meet the statutory requirements to provide water for fire fighting purposes. However, United Utilities do not further upsize mains for fire fighting purposes. Any agreed fire fighting take-offs are provided on the basis that water will be available within the capacity of local mains at any given time.

Add: 1.13.3

The designer is responsible for contacting and providing the relevant Fire Authority with all information needed to assess fire fighting requirements. The Fire Authority should respond to the designer, detailing their requirements, within 42 calendar days of having been provided with all necessary information. The designer will then provide drawings for on site auditing purposes based on the approved water main design, indicating the location of any required fire fighting equipment. All financial transactions relating to provision of fire fighting equipment shall be between the relevant Fire authority and Developer/SLO.

Note: United Utilities may refuse to connect any new mains where the agreed fire fighting equipment has not been installed, or where a Fire authority have not been provided with adequate opportunity to detail their requirements.

Part 2 - Self lay procedures

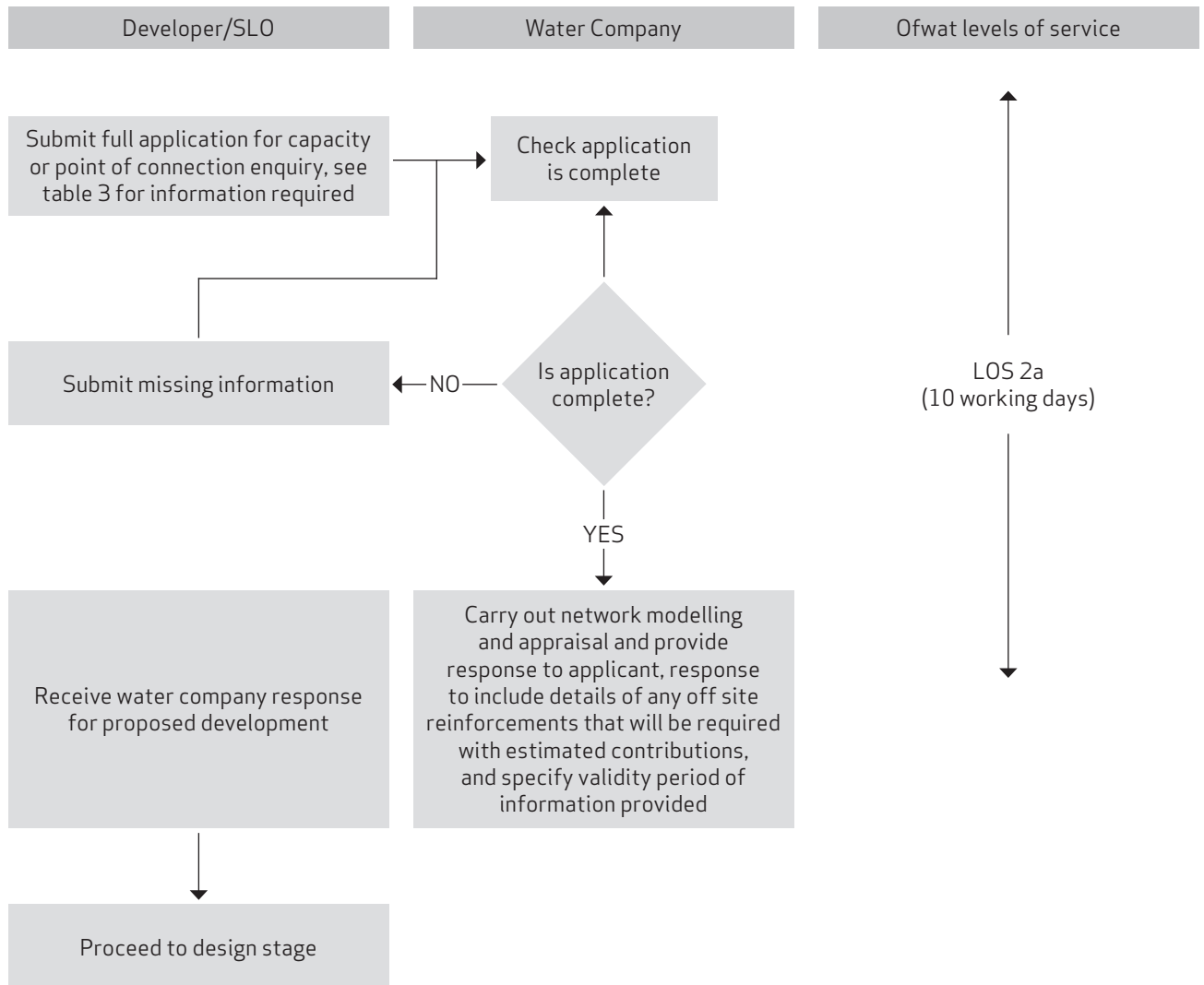
2.2 Initial enquiry

Delete: Figure 4

Insert: Figure 4 as shown:

Please note the following change has been made to Figure 4: under "Ofwat levels of service"; (LOS 2a now includes application checking).

Figure 4: Initial enquiry procedure



Insert: Note: For developments greater than 500 properties or where significant off site design is required, United Utilities will confirm, within 10 days of receipt of an complete application, when the information will be available.

2.3 Design and application

2.3.1.4

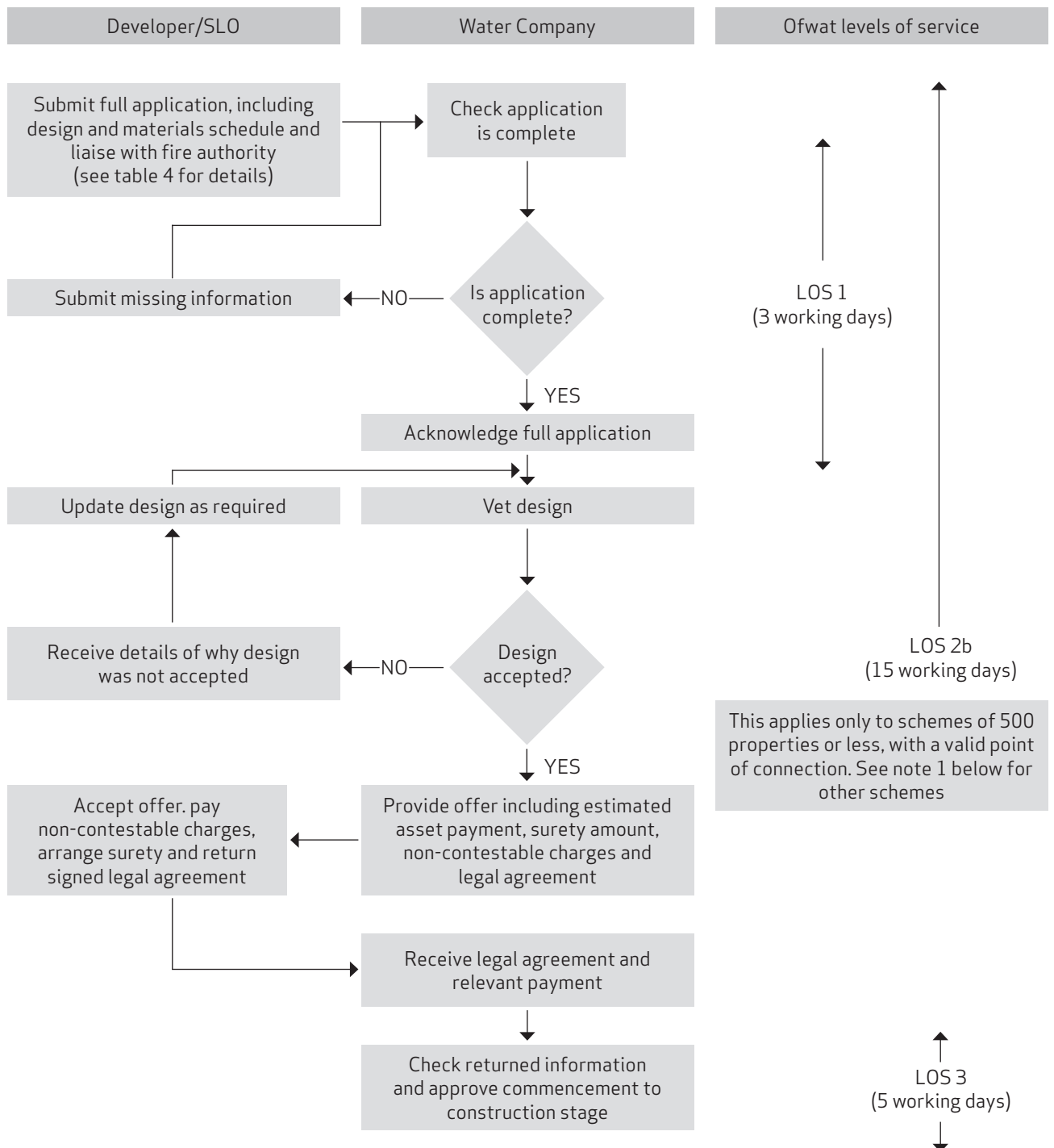
Insert in line 2: the word “calendar” between the number “42” and the word “days”

Delete: Figure 5

Insert: Figure 5 as shown:

Please note the addition of a text box within under “LOS 2b 15 working days” and extension of LOS 2b to include application checking period.

Figure 5: Procedure if Development/SLO is to carry out design



Note: Ofwat LOS 3 will not apply where a SLO seeks a variance after submission.

Note 1: For developments greater than 500 properties or where an initial enquiry has not been submitted, or where a point of connection is no longer valid, United Utilities will confirm, within 10 days of acknowledgement of a complete submission, when the information will be available.

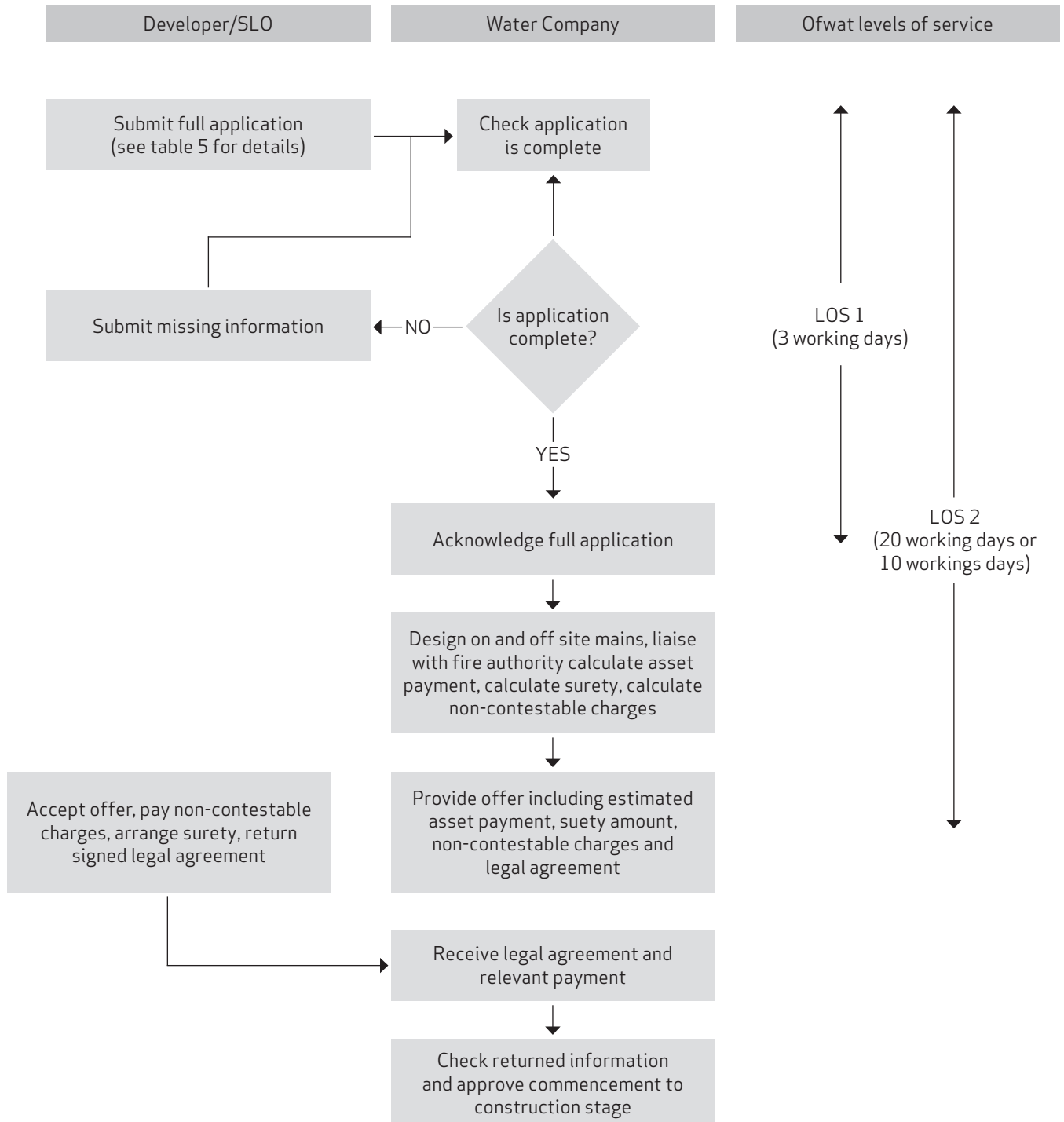
2.3.2 Design by Water Company

Delete: Figure 6

Insert: Figure 6 as shown:

Please note the following change: LOS 2 has been extended to include application checking period.

Figure 6: Procedure if Water Company is to carry out design



Note: Ofwat LOS 3 will not apply where a SLO seeks a variance after final submission.

2.3.2.4

Insert in line 2: the word "calendar" between the number "42" and the word "days"

2.4 Construction stage

Figure 7

Delete under "Ofwat levels of service" heading: "LOS 5 (5 working days or 7-15 working days)

Insert under "Ofwat levels of service" heading: "LOS 5 (5 working days or 7-15 working days)

Delete: 2.4.2.4

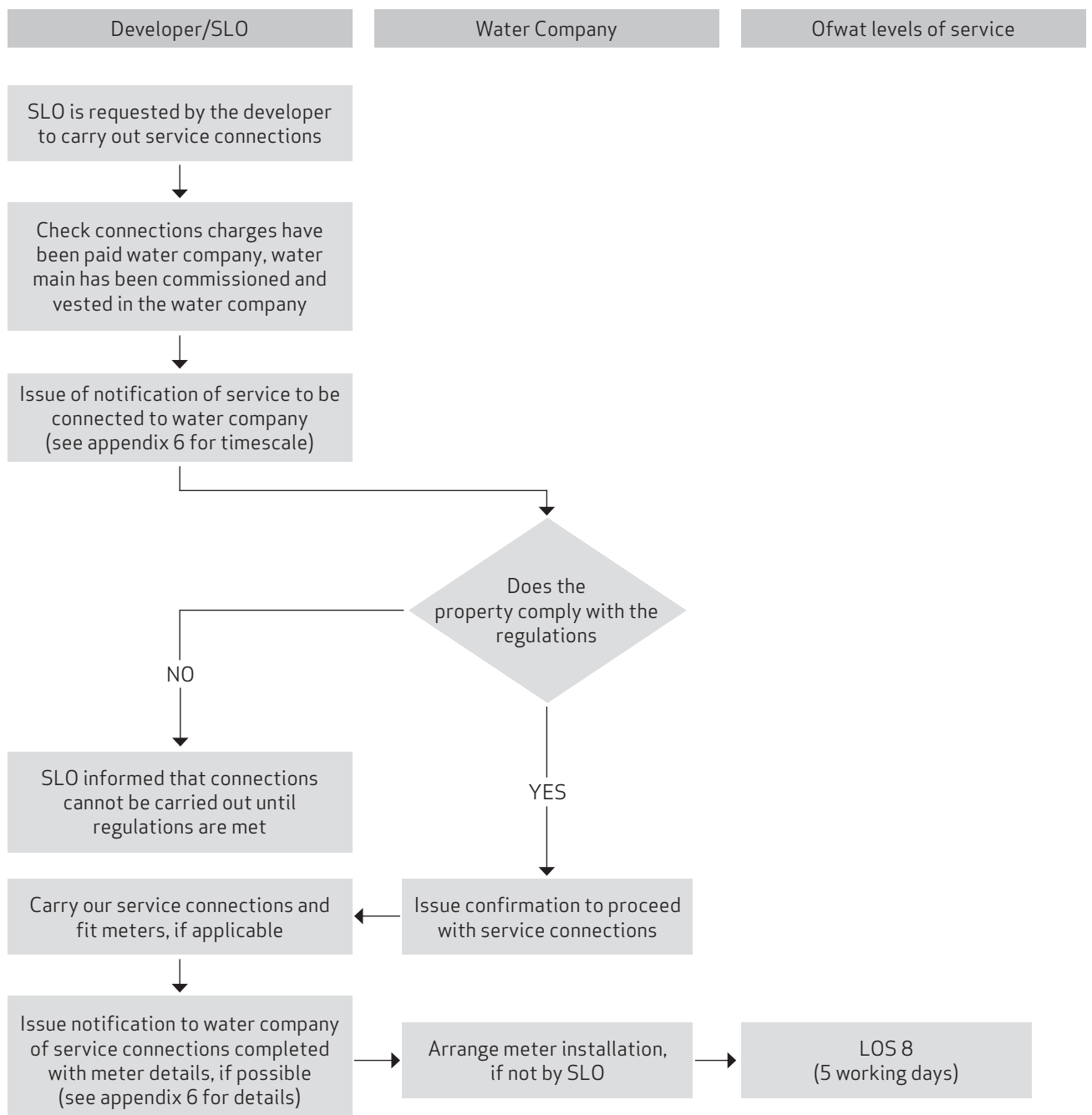
Insert: 2.4.2.4 The Water Company may witness water sampling, pressure testing and disinfection of the main.

Delete: 2.4.4 Figure 8

Insert: 2.4.4 Figure 8

Note: LOS8 has been repositioned to indicate that LOS 8 commences following notification by SLO that service connection has been made.

Figure 8: Service pipe installation



8. Meters should be installed to the Water Company's specification and as agreed at the design

Part 3 - Design and construction guidance

3.1 General design principles

Delete: 3.1.4

Insert: 3.1.4

Full design calculations must be provided when the design is submitted for approval.

3.3 Design drawings

Delete: Note in 3.3.1

Insert: Note: All drawings should be submitted, preferably electronically, based on current United Utilities standard drawing layouts.

3.3.4

Insert two additional bullet points:

Notation to indicate responsibility for service connections and meter installations.

Notation to indicate service strips and easements.

3.4 Design guidance – general

Delete: 3.4.3

Insert: 3.4.3

It is the responsibility of the Developer to provide the designer with all current information relating to the location of other existing utility or service providers information during the design process.

Delete: 3.4.5

Insert: 3.4.5

All materials and sizes shall be selected in accordance with United Utilities current policies.

3.6 Design guidance – services

Delete: 3.6.2.1

Insert: 3.6.2.1

Service pipes should be laid in accordance with United Utilities current policies and standards.

Delete: 3.6.3.2 Table 7

Insert: Table 7

Table 7: Size of incoming supplies to property or manifold chamber

Number of individual dwellings	Typical pipe outside diameter (PE pipes)
1	25mm
3-4	63mm
5-8	63mm

Delete: 3.6.5.1

Insert: 3.6.5.1

All meters and associated equipment shall be installed in accordance with United Utilities current policy.

Delete: 3.6.6.1

Insert: 3.6.6.1

When internal meters are to be installed they should be fitted in accordance with United Utilities current policies and standards.

3.7 Construction

Delete: 3.7.1.1

Insert: 3.7.1.1

Before construction of any self lay adoptable work commences, there should be a completed self lay agreement in place between all involved parties.

Delete: 3.7.1.7

Insert: 3.7.1.7

Connection to the water distribution system should be carried out within 7 days of notification from United Utilities to the SLO that the water sample has passed quality testing.

Delete: 3.7.4.6

Insert: 3.7.4.6

Each service pipe shall be pressure tested and a record kept of test results, including any failures. Any remedial work undertaken as a result of a failed test shall also be recorded.

Delete: 3.7.4.7

Insert: 3.7.4.7

All service pipes with an internal diameter greater than 50mm shall be disinfected.

Delete: 3.7.5.12

Insert: 3.7.5.12

Before any section of self laid main is connected, the SLO shall provide 3 copies of 'as laid' drawings, clearly marked with Developer's name, scheme number, scheme name, scheme type, stage number, date of completion of the scheme or phase and the date of submission. Where software is compatible these should be submitted electronically.

Appendix 6 Minimum notification periods

Delete stage: Request to Water Company to connect new main, together with associated notification period and information required.

Insert:

Stage	Notification period	Information required
Request to Water Company to connect new main.	A minimum of 7 calendar days from date that a water quality sample pass has been provided to the SLO.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Copy of satisfactory pressure test results - 'As-laid' drawings. - Confirmation of disinfection. - Confirmation that water sample has passed water quality testing - listing and programme for all services planned to be connected to the main

Insert new stage:

	Notification period	Information required
Payment of service related charges	A minimum of 10 working days before connection date.	- Payment of fees and charges

Appendix 7: Ofwat levels of service

Service Level 7a

Delet: under "Working days" - "2"

Insert: under "Working days" - "3"

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