

Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 Guidance Note

Whole site protection

From **1st April 2008** Cambridge Water Company will require all new non-domestic supplies to be fitted with suitable backflow protection. The following paragraph is being added to our connections terms and conditions:

“In line with the recommendations of the Water Regulations Advisory Scheme guidance note 9-04-05 Cambridge Water Company requires all new non-domestic supplies to have whole-site backflow protection to fluid category 3. This should be installed at the boundary of the premises or at the first available aboveground location. The backflow protection should be a Double Check Valve or other no less effective device. Cambridge Water Company will inspect the work prior to any connection being made to the mains network.”

This applies to new connection requests received after 1st April 2008. Existing applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis to determine if boundary protection is required.

Requirements;

Connections will not be made to the water main until a suitable device has been installed and inspected by one of our Customer Service Inspectors.

Devices fitted at the point of entry should be fitted immediately after the first stop tap. This is to reduce the chances of any future pipe work alterations bypassing the backflow device.

External devices should be installed in a chamber as close as practicable to the boundary of the site. This is to allow for any future need for inspection, operational maintenance or renewal. Check valves that are verifiable, vented or those with operational relief ports should not be used below ground.

Boundary backflow protection may be requested in addition to any at the point of entry. For instance, a supply pipe is likely to be unused for a period of time such as an irrigation supply. The Field Service Coordinator will decide on any requirement for additional protection.

Any Backflow device should be adequate for the purpose and satisfy the appropriate British Standard or acceptable equivalent.

For further advice on this or any other Water Regulations issue visit www.wras.co.uk or contact Cambridge Water at regulations@cambridge-water.co.uk or (01223) 815694.