



Water Management Consortium

ADVICE NOTE AN06: SURFACE WATER

REVISION RECORD				
Version	Date	Description	Originator	Checked
	09.08.11	DRAFT	AMD	--
1	27.09.11	FINAL – BOARD APPROVAL	AMD	DJS
2	09.07.13	New logo added	LSQ	DJS
3	18.07.18	Amendments	LSQ	DJS
4	29.04.21	Updated for WMC	LSQ	RB/DC

The Boards reserve the right to update or change this living document at any time without notice.

Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board
Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Level Management Board
Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board
Doncaster East Internal Drainage Board

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BYELAW 3 - INTRODUCTION OF WATER

The Boards' Byelaw No 3 states:

"No person shall as a result of development (within the meaning of section 55 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended ("the 1990 Act")) (whether or not such development is authorised by the 1990 Act or any regulation or order whatsoever or none of them) for any purpose by means of any channel, siphon, pipeline or sluice or by any other means whatsoever introduce any water into any watercourse in the District so as to directly or indirectly increase the flow or volume of water in any watercourse in the District (without the previous consent of the Board)."

Developers wishing to increase the flow of surface water into any open or culverted watercourse within the Boards' Districts will require the Boards' formal consent. Sites discharging to soakaways will not require the Boards' consent provided the structure is not within 9 metres of a Board maintained watercourse and no overflow is provided.

Sites discharging surface water directly to the sea or a Main River will not require the Boards' consent, but developers should contact the Environment Agency for further advice.

Agents acting for large scale developments are likely to need to consult the Boards, Lead Local Flood Authority, Environment Agency and Local Planning Authority.

The following are the Boards' general requirements in relation to the discharge of water:

DISCHARGE TO SOAKAWAYS

A method of infiltration that is only suitable in certain parts of the Boards' areas. The Boards recommend that soakaways are designed in accordance with British Research Establishment 365 (BRE Digest 365), or other recognised method. The approval of the Local Planning Authority will be required. The Boards' consent will not be required for this method of surface water disposal provided it is located a minimum of 9 metres from a Board maintained watercourse.

DISCHARGING TO A PUBLIC SURFACE WATER SEWER

Drainage systems operated by a third party that cater for surface and/or foul water. Permission will be required from the organisation responsible for the sewer, to discharge into the system at agreed rates. The Boards' consent will not be required for this type of discharge unless it will result in an increase of the flow of water within the Boards' Districts. As such, surface water development charges as detailed in the Boards' Planning and Byelaw Policy will apply.

DISCHARGING DIRECTLY TO A PRIVATE WATERCOURSE

Discharges to private watercourses within the Boards' Districts will require the prior consent of the Boards. The outfall structure itself will not require the Boards' consent but will require the landowner's permission if the land is in different ownership. The responsibility for maintaining private watercourses may rest with many individuals who will undertake maintenance to varying standards. Therefore, caution should be applied before discharging surface water from larger development sites to private watercourses.

The responsibility for future maintenance and repair of the surface water system and outfall structure must also be secured.

Increases in impermeable area within the Boards' Districts' will be subject to a surface water development charge as detailed in the Boards' Planning and Byelaw Policy.

DISCHARGING DIRECTLY TO A BOARD MAINTAINED WATERCOURSE

Discharges to Board maintained watercourses will require the prior consent of the Boards to be obtained for the discharge rate and outfall structure. Sites in close proximity to Board maintained watercourses may benefit from a direct connection to a watercourse that is assured a good standard of maintenance.

Increases in impermeable area within the Boards' Districts' will be subject to a surface water development charge as detailed in the Boards' Planning and Byelaw Policy.

SURFACE WATER DISCHARGE RATES

The Boards recognise the agricultural runoff rate of 1.4 litres per second per hectare. Developers wishing to discharge at rates in excess of this must contact the Boards' Officers at the earliest opportunity.

The Boards acknowledge a practical minimum achievable controlled discharge rate of 3.0 litres per second. Increases in discharge rates over and above the 1.4 litres per second per hectare will attract greater surface water development charges however, acceptance of discharge rates in excess of 1.4 litres per second per hectare is not guaranteed.

OUTFALL STRUCTURES

Subject to the Boards' formal consent, outfall structures will be acceptable provided:

- An approved recessed headwall and spillway are specified,
- The last 2.0 metres of conduit to the outfall are a continuous manufactured length of material. Where a connection is required, the pipes must be rigidly jointed and sealed for a distance of 2.0 metres before the outfall,
- The outfall structure must not protrude beyond the profile of the batter of the bank, and
- The position of the outfall structure is to be indicated by a suitable marker post, which is visible at all stages of vegetation growth.

DISCHARGE OF TREATED FOUL WATER

The principle of discharging treated foul water to private or Board maintained watercourses must first be agreed with the Environment Agency in consultation with the Board. If this agreement can be reached the Board is likely to accept the flows provided they do not exceed specified rates alone, or in combination with surface water discharges. The Boards require evidence of consented effluent quality characteristics including combined sewer overflow consents.

RAINFALL HARVESTING

The Boards encourage the use of rainwater harvesting. However, the storage used for rainfall shall be separate from, nor used to reduce, the storage required for attenuation. The rainwater harvesting tanks are to be no closer than 9 metres of a Board maintained watercourse.

FURTHER GUIDANCE

The Water Management Consortium Boards have the following documents available:

- Consent Application Form
- Technical Guidance Notes
- Byelaws
- Planning and Byelaw Policy

The Water Management Consortium Boards have also produced a series of other advice notes including:

- AN01: Buildings, Structures, Planting and Fencing
- AN02: Culverts and Bridges
- AN03: Environmental Considerations
- AN04: Stability of Garden Fences Close to Board Maintained Watercourses
- AN05: Service Crossings

The above documents are available from the Consortium's office during normal working hours or alternatively, can be downloaded electronically from <http://www.wmc-idbs.org.uk>

If you would like to discuss any of the information in this document or associated advice notes, please do not hesitate to contact the Consortium's offices using the details provided below.

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