

## What happens if the new public sewer is laid through my property?

If the most appropriate route for the new sewer is through your private property, we'll discuss this with you and issue a statutory notice to lay the sewer. Once the sewer is laid, we'll reinstate your garden to its former condition or better. If you wish to connect your drain to the new sewer, we can provide a junction pipe in the sewer and mark its position for you in return for your commitment to connect to the scheme as detailed above.

## Can Wessex Water make me connect?

**No.** We can't make you connect, but your local authority's environmental health department can take legal action if your failure to connect results in a public health nuisance.

## Can I get financial help to carry out drainage works on my land?

It may be possible to get a renovation grant from your local authority if your existing system has a public health notice served on it stating that the system is unfit. For further information on grants, contact the housing advice centre at your local council.

For more information contact:  
Networks Engineering Delivery  
Manager, Wessex Water, Claverton  
Down, Bath, BA2 7WW  
Telephone: 01225 526 000

# First-time sewerage

your questions answered



Rated: March 2022

**Trustpilot** Excellent



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# In your area...

Wessex Water has started design work to construct a sewerage system in your area.

As a householder you'll have the option to connect to the new system. This leaflet is designed to answer any questions you might have about the proposed sewerage system and the implications of connecting to it.



## Why is Wessex Water constructing a first-time sewerage system in my area?

We're installing the new system to help resolve the longstanding problem of pollution incidents and health hazards arising from unsatisfactory disposal of sewage from private sewers and drains in the village.

## Who pays for the new sewerage system?

We'll pay for the new sewers and you can choose to connect to these. You'll be responsible for:

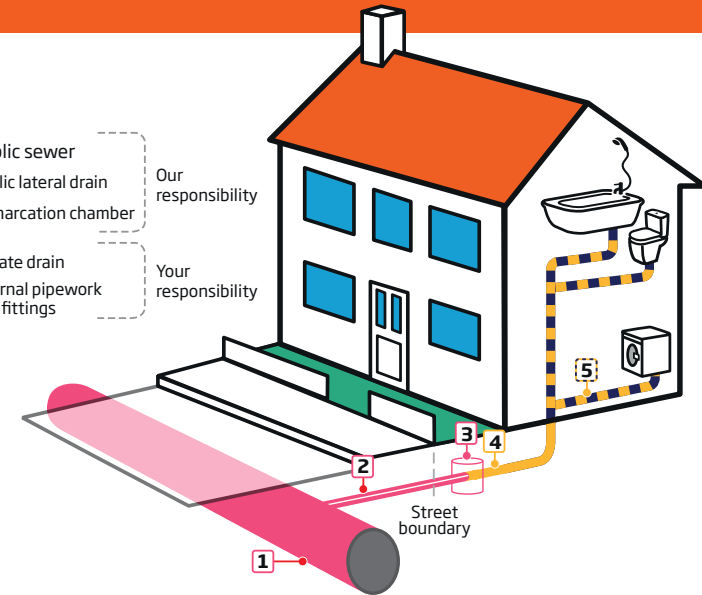
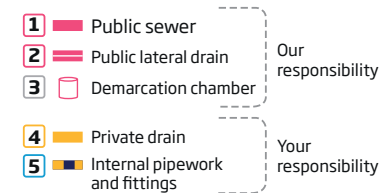
- paying a Commitment Charge (equivalent to the standard infrastructure charge) to us for the sewerage service - this is a one-off payment
- the cost of revising your drainage to connect your property to the new demarcation chamber left for you by us at your property boundary. This cost will depend on your particular drainage layout. Please note that only foul water, such as wastewater from

showers, baths, washing machines and toilets, will be permitted for connection into the public sewer. Surface water, such as rainwater from roofs, driveways and patios, and land drainage cannot be connected.

- the cost of meeting building regulations - this fee is to be paid to the local authority or other building inspection agency and is set by them
- annual sewerage charges to us - these vary according to individual properties.

## Do you offer any incentives to connect?

**Yes.** We'll construct and pay for up to 10m of pipe between the public sewer and the boundary of your property (you may need to pay a contribution if the pipe is longer than 10m). However, we'll only carry out this work if you've made a commitment to connect by paying us the Commitment Charge before we begin the scheme. This is non-refundable unless the scheme doesn't go ahead.



## If I don't take advantage of this incentive can I connect later?

**Yes.** You can connect to the sewer at any time in the future on application.

However, you'll be responsible for paying for your new drain up to the point where it connects with the main sewer. You'll also have to pay the infrastructure charge and a connection charge to us.

## Who's responsible for the pipework serving my property?

The lateral drain from the new public sewer up to and including the demarcation chamber within your property boundary will be our responsibility to maintain. Householders are then responsible for the private drains within their property boundary. We are responsible for maintaining all public sewers.