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**Company Policy and Procedure:-
Flushing of newly constructed water mains**

**Reference:
Version:1.1
Date: December 2022
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1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy and procedure is to set out the requirements relating to flushing of newly constructed mains. This procedure does not replace “The Disinfection of Network Pipes and Fittings” procedure Reference 208 dated March 2017.

2. Scope

All newly constructed water mains installed by Bristol Water and Self Lay Providers subsequently adopted by Bristol Water under an adoption agreement.

3. Responsibilities

The Head of Water Quality for this Policy and Procedure and its Administration.

The Head of Network Operations for ensuring Network Staff, Engineering staff and contractors working on the Company’s behalf are aware of this policy and Procedure.

The Senior Project Manager – Development Services for ensuring all Self Lay Organisations are aware of this policy and procedure and provide a copy on request.



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4. Policy

Management of Water Quality of newly laid mains is of paramount importance and once a main has been disinfected and commissioned a process of flushing should be implemented should there be insufficient connections/demand be placed on commissioned main.

5. Procedure

5.0 General Requirements

5.1 Activities detailed in this procedure are restricted operations. All staff and contractors carrying out such work must have a valid EUSR card and should maintain an awareness of the information published in the Water UK document “Principles of Water Supply Hygiene” and associated “Technical Guidance Notes”.

5.2 All new mains and services with a nominal internal diameter greater than 100mm and a length greater than 25 metres must be brought into service within 15 days of a satisfactory sample being taken. If the main or service is not brought into service within this time period it must be flushed with mains water and resampled.

5.3 When required flushing with two pipe volumes of mains water is required unless dictated by Bristol Water, Water Quality.



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5.4 Operation of hydrants and valves for flushing are strictly controlled activities to protect the distribution network from pressure surges and discolouration events. All staff authorised have attended a bespoke in house training course on valve operations.

5.5 It is a requirement for newly laid mains that there is sufficient demand placed on the main to ensure a refresh every 10 days. Should this not be the case then a system of flushing and sampling will need to be put in place to maintain the quality of water within the mains.