

Foul drainage assessment form (FDA1)

Please note: this form should be used for planning related queries only and cannot be used when applying for an environmental permit.

APPLICANT DETAILS	
Name	DAVID TWEDDLE
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Telephone No/e-mail	

This form should be used to establish whether non-mains drainage, either a new system or connection to an existing system, would be acceptable. Your answers to the following questions will be taken into consideration. It is important that you provide full and accurate information. Failure to do this may delay the processing of your application.

You must provide evidence that a connection to the public sewer is not feasible. Other than very exceptionally, providing non-mains drainage as part of your Planning or Building Regulation application will not be allowed unless you can prove that a connection to the public sewer is not feasible. Non-mains drainage systems are not considered environmentally acceptable in publicly sewered areas. Please note that the existence of capacity or other operating problems with the public sewer are not valid reasons for non-connection where this is reasonable in other respects.

Where connection to the public sewer is feasible, agreements may need to be obtained either from owners of land over which the drainage will run or the owners of the private drain.

Government guidance contained within DETR Circular 03/99/ WO 10/99 'Planning requirements in respect of the use of non-mains sewerage incorporating septic tanks in new development' gives a hierarchy of drainage options that must be considered and discounted in the following order:

- 1 Connection to the public sewer
- 2 Package sewage treatment plant (which can be offered to the Sewerage Undertaker for adoption)
- 3 Septic Tank
- 4 If none of the above is feasible a cesspool

You must respond to all the following questions, if you wish to submit additional information please do so, marked clearly "Additional Information". **In some cases you will be required to provide a further assessment in accordance with the requirements of DETR Circular 03/99/ WO 10/99 (see Guidance Note 1).**

Mains connection	YES	NO
Have you provided a written explanation of why connection to the mains sewer is not feasible with this form? <i>This should include a scaled map showing the nearest mains connection point - check with your local sewerage undertaker.</i>		✓

Non-mains connection

Please provide a plan with dimensions that clearly shows the location of the whole system in relation to the proposed development and the position of the key elements e.g. septic tank, drainage fields and points of discharge.

	YES	NO
1. Existing system		
Do you intend to use an existing non-mains foul drainage system?	✓	✓
If YES, does the system already have an Environmental Permit issued by the Environment Agency? <i>(In the case of a cesspool write N/A) Please provide Environmental Permit reference number.....</i>		NO

	YES	NO
2. Discharge		
Do you propose to use a cesspool? <i>If yes go to Q4</i>		✓
Do you intend to use a system that discharges solely to watercourse? (see Guidance Note 2) <i>If yes go to Q8.</i>		
Alternatively, will all, or any part of, the discharge go to soakaway? (see Guidance Note 2) - this would include systems that combine a soakaway with a high level overflow to watercourse? <i>If yes go to Q3.</i>		
Have you considered having your system adopted by the sewerage undertaker? (See Guidance Note 6).		

	YES	NO
3. Water abstraction		
Do you receive your water from the public mains supply? <i>If yes go to Q5</i>		✓
If not, where do you get your water supply from?		

	YES	NO
4. Cesspools <i>(For methods other than cesspools write N/A)</i>		
Have you provided written justification for the use of a cesspool in preference to more sustainable methods of foul drainage disposal? (see Guidance Note 3)		✓

	YES	NO
5. Ground Conditions <i>(For cesspools write N/A)</i>		
Have you submitted a copy of the percolation test results with this form (see Guidance Note 4)? <i>If NO please explain the justification for not undertaking or submitting these tests.</i>		N/A
Is any part of the system in land which is marshy, water logged or subject to flooding?		N/A
Will the soakaway be located on artificially raised, made-up ground or ground likely to be contaminated? <i>If yes please provide details as additional information.</i>		N/A
Have you submitted the results of a trial hole at the site to establish that the proposed drainage field will be above any standing groundwater (see Guidance Note 5)?		N/A

	YES	NO
6. Available Land		
Is the application site plus any available area for a soakaway less than 0.025 hectares (250m ²)?		N/A

7. Siting of drainage field/soakaway discharge from a septic tank or package treatment plant or other secondary treatment.

You may need to make local enquiries to get a full answer to these questions.

	YES	NO
Will it be at least 10m from a watercourse, permeable drain or land drain?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Will it be at least 50m from any point of abstraction from the ground for a drinking water supply (e.g. well, borehole or spring)? <i>This includes your own or a neighbour's supply.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there any drainage fields/soakaways within 50m ? <i>This includes any foul drainage discharge system (other than the subject of this application) on either your own or a neighbour's property.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will it be at least 15m from any building?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will there be any water supply pipes or underground services within the disposal system, Other than those required by the system? <i>(For cesspools write N/A)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will there be any access roads, driveways or paved areas within the disposal area? <i>(For cesspools write N/A)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. Siting of treatment plant, septic tank or cesspool

	YES	NO
Is it at least 7m from the habitable part of a building?	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Will there be vehicular access for emptying within 30m ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can the plant, tank or cesspool be maintained or emptied without the contents being taken Through a dwelling or place of work?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. Expected flow

Please estimate the total flow in litres per day <i>(see Guidance Note 4)</i> .	180
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10. Maintenance

How do you propose to maintain the system? If the development consists of multiple units discharging to a shared plant, please include details of who will be responsible for the future maintenance of the system and any related legal agreements.

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Declaration

I declare that the above information is factually correct.

Name	Signature	Date
DAVID TWEDDLE		15-12-2016

GUIDANCE NOTES:

- 1) This form is for use with **DETR Circular 03/99 (WO Circular 10/99) 'Planning Requirements in Respect of the Use of Non-Mains Sewerage Incorporating Septic Tanks in New Development'** (the Circular). It is intended to help Local Planning Authorities establish basic information about your system and decide whether you need to submit a more detailed site assessment in accordance with Annex A of the Circular. If a detailed site assessment is requested but not submitted, your planning application might be refused.
- 2) In addition to Planning Permission and Building Regulation approval **you may also require an Environmental Permit from the Environment Agency. Please note that the granting of Planning Permission or Building Regulation approval does not guarantee the granting of an Environmental Permit. Upon receipt of a correctly filled in application form the Agency will carry out investigations It can take up to 4 months before the Agency is in a position to grant a permit or not.** For further information please visit our [Environmental Permitting](#) web pages.
- 3) The use of cesspools is an option of last resort as set out in the non-mains drainage hierarchy of preference in DETR Circular 03/99/WO 10/99. This is echoed in the Building Regulations 2000 (approved document part H). The Circular notes at Annex A paragraph 8 that cesspools give rise to environmental, amenity and public health problems as a result of *"frequent overflows due to poor maintenance, irregular emptying, lack of suitable access for emptying and even through inadequate capacity."* In addition to this the requirement for frequent emptying is usually by contractor involving road transport with associated environmental costs. For these reasons, the use of cesspools cannot be considered a long-term foul sewage disposal solution. In view of the environmental risks associated with their use, any proposal to use cesspools must be fully justified to the Local Planning Authority
- 4) Typical flows

Property	Litres per person per day		Property	Litres per person per day
Domestic*	180		Offices / Factories (without canteen)	50
Hotels, B&Bs	250		Public Houses	15
Restaurants	25		Caravans (fully serviced)	180
Campsites	75		Caravans (not serviced)	100
Dayschool (without canteen)	50		Rest Homes	350
Boarding School	200		Hospitals	450

*See guidance note 5) below.

- 5) Package treatment plants and septic tanks should be designed and sized according to the advice given in **Flows and Loads 3**, published by British Water. Volumes for larger systems should be calculated based on expected flows arising from the development.

A treatment system for a single house with up to and including 3 bedrooms must be designed for a minimum population (P) of 5 people.