



WATER GUIDANCE

What is a Private Water Distribution System (PWDS)?

If water is provided at an event, for human consumption (including food preparation/handwashing/flushing WCs) via a **standpipe**, **direct mains connection**, or **tanker/bowser filled from a public water supply** and is distributed via a **private onsite network** (either by pipework or a receptacle used to contain, transport and distribute water onwards to food outlets/welfare stations etc) then it is deemed a PWDS.

What you must do:

1. **Notify Bristol Water in advance** when you intend to install or operate any temporary distribution network connected to the public supply. This can be done by completing the following form on Bristol Water's website: <https://www.bristolwater.co.uk/business-developers/water-regulations>

Please note, Bristol Water should be notified 16 weeks ahead of your event.

2. Provide further information including a **Water Safety Management Plan (WSMP)** amongst other documentation relating to the onwards distribution of water at the event site. The following guidance will help you understand your legal obligations under the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999. It will also ensure safe and sufficient drinking water is supplied at events: [water-health-partnership-events-guidance.pdf](#)
3. **Notify Bristol City Council – Environmental Health.** The Local Authority must be notified as temporary PWDS connected to mains supply are regulated by the local authority. Environmental Health are required to carry out a risk assessment (RA) and monitoring of the water supply

Please note, Bristol City Council should be notified 16 weeks ahead of your event.

The Council must receive from events:

- Water Safety Management Plans (WSMP)
- Water Risk assessment
- Details of source, treatment (if any), pipework layout, storage etc.
- Mitigation & emergency water procedures / protocol

Organisers are to notify Environmental Health directly when they plan to create a PWDS via the following email:

- health.safety@bristol.gov.uk
- To discuss with an Officer 0117 922 2000

Process for standpipes:

- Event organisers must notify Bristol Water of their water requirements and intended use: **[Completed-Notification-Form-1-1-22-4-1.pdf](#)**
- As part of this process, they will need to provide details of their proposed water arrangements and any relevant water safety plans. Bristol Water will review the proposal to ensure it complies with the relevant legislation and regulatory requirements before granting consent.

- Once consent has been granted, Bristol Water will provide the event organiser with the contact details required to arrange standpipe hire directly with them.
- Standpipes will be provided on an event-by-event basis and only for the duration of the specific event.

Summary Checklist for Organisers

You MUST notify:

- **Bristol Water** (16 weeks before your event)- If connecting to a public / BCC supply
- **Bristol City Council Environmental Health** (16 weeks before your event) – If providing water for human consumption

You MUST provide:

- Water Safety Plan
- Water Risk assessment
- Plumbing schematic
- Water Site plan
- Emergency water plan
- Details of fittings & installers
- Evidence of hygiene training (EUSR cards)

You MUST ensure:

- Pipework is clean, suitable, compliant & flushed prior to connection (inc. mobile food traders)
- Standpipes are disinfected
- Storage tanks/bowsers meet hygiene standards
- Controls & monitoring are in place

You MUST expect & grant access to Environmental Health Officers to:

- Conduct a risk assessment in compliance with Regulation 6 of the [Private Water Supplies \(England\) Regulations 2016](#).
- Carry out sampling of PWDS if required.

Please note that failure to comply with the requirements of the Regulations can present a risk to public health.

Failure to notify Bristol Water for temporary events, may result in enforcement action.