

**From:** Central SHEQ Team

**Date:** June 2017

**The Theme for June 17 will be: Permit to Pump and Excavations**

## Your Health and Safety

## Our Environment

## Quality Requirements

**Constructing and working within excavations creates significant health, safety and environmental risks.**

Water collected in excavations can contain high levels of silt which could pollute a watercourse if not dealt with correctly. There is strict legislation covering the handling of site water which needs to be complied with.



### Environmental Considerations:

- Where possible, prevent water from entering excavations (e.g. diverting water away).
- Treatment will be required to remove silt and other potential contaminants - use a filter sock at the discharge point and a settlement tank where recommended.
- Dewatering methods, such as sump pumping, can minimise the amount of silt disturbed.
- If contamination is suspected – immediately stop the works and chemical analysis will be required.
- For further details see guidance notes [CDGD34-01 \(excavations\)](#) and [EVGD01-17 \(silt treatment\)](#).

### Permit to Pump (To deal with uncontaminated excavation water – in order of preference):

- Discharge into foul drainage (permission from water company).
- Discharge to ground, with treatment, if can comply with [Permit to Pump - England and Wales \(EVFR05-03\)](#); [Scotland \(EVFR05-05\)](#).
- Discharge to surface water – for England and Wales, contact an Environmental Advisor for the EVFR05-04 form.
- If not able to comply with form then an Environmental Permit is required (up to 4 months application period).
- For Scotland - comply with the [Controlled Activities Regulations \(EVGD05-09\)](#).
- Tanker off-site for disposal. For help and if the water is contaminated, consult an Environmental Advisor.

### General Requirements:

- When checking and approving RAMS, ensure all operations are included and the risks from buried services are fully assessed. [CDFR35-01 Ground Disturbance Work Permit](#) must be in place, with mandatory 'hold points' for conducting ground works.
- When any element of work is subject to changes, the potential impact of these changes must be considered and the RAMS revised as necessary to prevent risk of injury.
- All Permits to work including the activities below should be listed on the site [CDFR35-04 Permit to Work Register](#).
- For control of excavations see procedure [CDPR34 Control and Planning of Excavation Operations](#).
- For information on grading and control of temporary works see [CDPR24 Temporary Works](#).
- All excavations should be listed on the temporary works register.
- When pumping concrete a [CDFR18-01 Permit to Pump Concrete](#) must be used.
- For further information see [CDPR35 Permits to Work](#) and [CDPR18 Control of Concrete](#).

**During the design stage, it is important to determine quantities of water likely to be encountered for temporary works.**