



Section 116 sewer closure application: Guidance notes





Please note:

- The removal of the sewer will not be authorised under any circumstances until such time that a section 116 agreement has been completed.
- Completion of an application form does not represent a completed agreement.

Legislation

Legislation covering the closure of sewers is contained within the Water Industry Act 1991 (the Act). Section 116 of the Act entitles Northumbrian Water to recover all reasonable costs incurred in respect of any closure.

Criteria

If any properties will continue to drain in to the sewer you propose to close you must apply for a sewer diversion, rather than a sewer closure, or provide written confirmation from the property owners that they agree to the closure and will in future maintain the sewer.

The closed sewer must be grouted up or grubbed out if it is not to be transferred to private ownership.

Applying for a Section 116 Closure

When you apply to have a sewer closed under Section 116 Agreement you must complete a Sewer Closure Application Form and return it to the address on the form.

In order to confirm that no live connections to the sewer exist you must employ one of NWL's approved contractors to carry out a CCTV survey of the sewer to be closed. This survey should be submitted with the application form.

Processing your application

After a complete application package has been received by Northumbrian Water you will be notified within 20 working days of the following:

- The acceptability of your proposals.
- The number of drawings to be provided by the applicant for inclusion in the S116 Agreement.
- Confirmation that Northumbrian Water must be notified prior to any construction works on the sewer closure, commencing on site and agree to the start date.

Northumbrian Water Fees

An initial administration fee (stated on the application form) should be submitted with the application form made payable to Northumbrian Water Limited. A fee to cover the costs of site inspection is also payable and is dependent on the length of sewer to be abandoned. Please include the appropriate inspection fee together with the administration fee. If any other reasonable fees are appropriate to the application they will be invoiced at a later date. The applicant will be invoiced for Northumbrian Water's legal fees when the Agreement is issued for signature.



The Agreement

A request will be made to prepare the necessary Agreement which is a Northumbrian Water standard document. Any divergence from this document will not be accepted and may delay its completion and may incur additional charges.

Contact Details

Should you require any further information or assistance please contact our New Development Team at:

New Development Sewerage Team
Northumbrian Water
Leat House
Pattinson Road
Washington
Tyne & Wear
NE38 8LB
Telephone 0845 7 171 100