SEWERAGE SECTOR GUIDANCE

CHANGE PROPOSAL FORM

Please complete the form below to submit a change proposal to the Sewerage Adoption Panel.

Name of Proposed Change:

Manhole Health and Safety manual handling requirements

Section 1 - Proposed Change

A. Please outline the details (including any relevant supporting documentation) of the proposed change.

The proposal is to add a clause in the Sewerage Sector Guidance allowing Sewerage Companies to stipulate any/all specific Health and Safety (H&S) manual handling requirements for new manhole cover installs.

This will ensure the correct type of manhole cover is installed, that complies with the Sewerage Company's Safe Working Procedure for lifting manhole covers.

B. Has the proposed change been considered previously (including during any prior consultation process)? If so, please provide details.

No

C. Does the proposed change need to be considered by a specific date? If so, please explain why?

As soon as possible.

D. Does the proposed change raise any health and safety issues? If so, please provide details.

The proposal eradicates Sewerage Companies Health and Safety issues caused by current lack of any specific H&S requirements for Developers to adhere to.

E. Please provide any further information relevant to the change proposal.

Section 2 - Scope of the Proposed Change

A. Which section(s) of the Sewerage Sector Guidance and Model Adoption Agreement does the proposed change concern? Please provide specific references to the relevant documentation.

Page 18 Clause 4.

Page 19 Clause 7. 8.

Page 21 1 Clause 8. 19.

Page 89 Clause D7.7

Page 106 Clause E2.32

B. What consequential amendments to the Sewerage Sector Guidance and Model Adoption Agreement would be required as a result of the proposed change? Please provide specific references.

An additional clause in the Sewerage Sector Guidance, that gives Sewerage Companies the option to stipulate any additional requirements for manhole covers.

Section 3 - Rationale for the proposed change

A. What is the nature and effect of the current position/existing arrangements?

The H&S manual handling requirements used by Sewerage Companies post adoption are not considered by Developers in their designs. Lone operatives should not lift manhole covers deemed too heavy and should use a lifting aid. The use of Double triangle hinged (each piece can be lifted or hinged separately). 600mm x 600mm manhole covers are more appropriate. H&S can be compromised otherwise.

B. What is the nature and effect of the proposed change?

Sewerage companies should be able to specify any specific H&S requirement relating to manhole covers, based on their Safe Working Procedure for lifting manhole covers.

This will ensure Lone Operatives are able to lift manhole covers, as they meet the requirements set by Sewerage companies in their Safe Working Procedure for lifting manhole covers.

C. Why is the proposed change necessary?

Operational staff are at risk with current lack of requirement to adhere to instruction on appropriate covers. Reactive, time sensitive work & pressure could lead to H&S issues/breaches which would be avoided with appropriate single person lift covers. This allows for increased efficiency, with lack of requirement for multiple operatives when lifting covers.

Whilst also helping Sewerage companies in reducing Lost Time Injuries associated with manual handling.

D. What is the desired outcome of the proposed change?

Inclusion of a clause allowing Sewerage Companies to stipulate any specific manhole cover H&S manual handling requirements that should be complied with, to ensure manholes can be safety lifted by an operative(s). The Developer should consult the Sewerage Company at the earliest opportunity to ensure any specific manhole cover lifting requirements are incorporated into their design.

Section 4 – Impact on the Principles and Objectives of the Code

A. Outline, how and why the proposed change maintains consistency with the principles and objectives of the Code for Adoption Agreements, and any relevant statutory or regulatory requirements?

The proposed changes align with the following clause:

Page 4 Clause 5 states 'The Regulations also require the principal designer to take into account (in addition to construction risks) the health and safety aspects over the whole life of the development. The developer's S104 Application must, therefore, include a management and maintenance plan (in

addition to the health and safety file) to demonstrate that the designer has taken the health and safety considerations of future maintenance into account in preparing the design.

All hinged cover are still required to be BS compliant.

Section 5 – Impact on Customers and Sewerage Companies

A. What is the impact of the proposed change (be it positive and/or negative) on Customers?

The primary benefit to customers is increased operational efficiency, ensuring time, disruption and money are not wasted.

B. Is there any evidence of customer concern relating to the proposed change? If so, please provide details.

There is no impact on customers.

C. What is the impact of the proposed change (be it positive and/or negative) on Sewerage Companies?

There will be no negative impacts for Sewerage companies. The positive impacts are a reduction in health and safety concerns for operatives and the increased operational efficiency listed above.

D. Estimate how much notice Customers and Sewerage Companies may reasonably require to be able to meet any new requirements arising from the proposed change.

The transition would be done in line with the Codes of Adoption and recommendations from Sewerage companies Developer Services Teams, who would contact Developers directly and agree a timeline.

We'd expect Developers would run down any existing stock levels before transitioning to a new cover.

E. What is the suggested implementation date of the proposed change?

As soon as possible.

Section 6 – Stakeholder Engagement

A. Please outline any informal/formal consultation undertaken with relevant stakeholders likely to be affected by the proposed change, including details of any responses provided by stakeholders.

We have only consulted internally with a positive outcome.

The proposal is that Sewerage companies have the option to stipulate any/all specific Health and Safety (H&S) manual handling requirements for new manhole cover installs.

Section 7 – Applicant's Details

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