

SURVEYORS TIPS

Private Water Supplies: New Regulations:



From **1st January 2010**, private Water supplies (wells, boreholes, tankers, etc) become controlled by the long-awaited ***Private Water Supplies Regulations 2009. SI 3101.***

The new regulations involve a wider range of parameters than previously applied under Statutory Instrument 2790 (1991) which have been revoked.

Their scope includes assessment of a wider range of **chemicals, pesticides and gases** than previously applied.

Every Local Authority is now obliged to undertake a **‘risk assessment’** of each private water supply in its locality within 5 years of the regulations taking effect. The only exemption is when the supply serves a single dwelling; is not used for any commercial activity; and the owner or occupier of that dwelling has not requested such risk assessment.

Annual analysis is required in the case of a supply to multiple dwellings where water usage is equal to or less than $10 \text{ m}^3 \text{ day}^{-1}$. More frequent testing is required where usage exceeds $10 \text{ m}^3 \text{ day}^{-1}$ – frequency depending on the daily volume used.

The local authority is empowered to charge **fees** of (up to) £500 for the ‘risk assessment’; £100 for taking the sample, and £10 for analysis under Regulation 10.

Anyone concerned with surveys of premises which receive water from a private source is recommended to read the regulations in full – which can be down-loaded (free) from http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/pdf/uksi_20093101_en.pdf