



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

# Annex B - Consultation questions

Date: 8 August 2022

We are the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. We're responsible for improving and protecting the environment, growing the green economy, sustaining thriving rural communities and supporting our world-class food, farming and fishing industries.

We work closely with our 33 agencies and arm's length bodies on our ambition to make our air purer, our water cleaner, our land greener and our food more sustainable. Our mission is to restore and enhance the environment for the next generation, and to leave the environment in a better state than we found it.



© Crown copyright 2022

This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/)

This publication is available at [www.gov.uk/government/publications](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications)

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,  
Water Services Team,  
Ground Floor,  
Seacole Building,  
2 Marsham Street,  
London,  
SW1P 4DF

Or email at: [drinkingwaterquality@defra.gov.uk](mailto:drinkingwaterquality@defra.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra)

This Annex details the questions we are asking in this consultation.

**Question 1.** What is your name?

**Question 2.** What is your email address?

**Question 3.** Which of the options best describes you?

- Manufacturer
- Distributor
- Retailer Testing
- Water Fittings/certification body
- Professional Association
- Trade Association
- Designer/specifier
- Product designer
- Property Management
- Water supplier
- Individual
- Other, please specify

**Question 4.** If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, what is its name?

**Question 5.** What is the size of the organisation you represent?

- Less than 10 employees and/or a turnover of less than £2 million
- 10-49 employees and/or a turnover between £3-10 million
- 50-249 employees and/or a turnover between £11-50 million
- 250 or more employees and/or a turnover greater than £51 million

**Question 6.** Which country are you based in?

- England
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales
- Whole of the UK
- Other, please specify

**Question 7.** Would you like your response to be confidential?

- Yes
- No

If you said yes, please give your reason.

**Question 8.** Please briefly describe your interest in the consultation.

**Question 9.** To what extent do you agree or disagree that there should be a new test code sheet for an additional WC specific backflow prevention arrangement?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no answer

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reason.

**Question 10.** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed changes to the Specification on the Prevention of Backflow?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no answer

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reason.

**Question 11.** To what extent do you agree with the proposed changes to the WC Suite Performance Specification?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no answer

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reason.

**Question 12.** To what extent do you agree with the proposed changes to the Type AC air gap test code sheet (TCS 2213.15)?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no answer

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reason.

**Question 13.** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the creation, amendments and revocation of regulator's test code sheets (excluding 2213.20 and 2213.15 which we asked about in questions 9 and 12 respectively)?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no answer

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reason.

**Question 14.** To what extent do you agree or disagree we have placed the right protections in place to protect human health

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no answer

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reason.

**Question 15.** To what extent do you agree or disagree we have correctly considered the costs, impacts and benefits and that our estimations are accurate?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no answer

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reason.

**Question 16.** To what extent do you agree or disagree that the government should take action to reduce the impact of leaking toilets?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no answer

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reason.

**Question 17.** Rank (in order of importance) each of the following approaches in terms of suitability to address to the water loss from leaking toilets:

- Handling/addressing risks around untested products
- Review regulations supporting the testing and standards and ensure they are fit for purpose for the UK water environment
- Develop standards and test methods that improve fit for purpose around WC valves and UK water environment
- Develop standards and test methods that identify material compositions/designs which are most likely to fail in situ
- Make regulation to ban the use of specified materials which are most prone to failure leakage
- Make regulation to support the development of specific design types (for example, re-instate external overflows, low or dual flush siphon toilets)
- Ban the use of toilet valve designs most prone to failure and leakage
- Create a means, similar to the Gas Safe accreditation, for easily understanding a plumber's qualification to install fixtures and fittings

**Question 18.** Please provide any information or evidence you have to support your response to Question 17. We are interested to understand more about:

- What mechanism would be needed that would enable government, manufacturers etc. to share knowledge and information that would lead to a better understanding of these materials/designs to improve products
- Specific materials which have been observed to fail in situ
- Specific inlet and flushing valve designs that lead to failures
- Designs of failing "washers" for example, is this a result of material selection, thickness or shape?
- What information/research would be needed in order to improve testing procedures and standards to reduce the incidence of "leaky toilets".

**Question 19.** To what extent do you agree or disagree there is sufficient time to transition to the new requirements?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know/no answer

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reason.