



Water Industry Act 1991

1991 CHAPTER 56

PART III

WATER SUPPLY

CHAPTER II

SUPPLY DUTIES

Domestic connections

47 Conditions of connection with water main.

- (1) Subject to subsection (3) and [^{F1}sections 48 to][^{F1}sections 49 and] 50 below, where the owner or occupier of any premises (“the relevant premises”) serves a connection notice on a water undertaker, the undertaker may make compliance with one or more of the requirements specified in subsection (2) below a condition of its complying with the duties to which it is subject by virtue of that notice.
- (2) The requirements mentioned in subsection (1) above are—
 - (a) a requirement that [^{F2}such security as charging rules allow and the undertaker requires] has been provided for the discharge of any obligations imposed by virtue of section 45(6) or 46(7)(b) above on the person who served the connection notice;
 - (b) a requirement, in a case where the connection required by the connection notice is necessary as a consequence of a disconnection made by reason of any person’s failure to pay any charges, that the person serving the connection notice has paid any amount owed by him to the undertaker—
 - (i) in respect of a supply of water to the relevant premises; or
 - (ii) in respect of expenses [^{F3}reasonably]incurred in the making of the disconnection;

Changes to legislation: Water Industry Act 1991, Section 47 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (c) a requirement that a meter for use in determining the amount of any charges which have been or may be fixed in relation to the relevant premises by reference to volume has been installed and connected either—
 - (i) by the undertaker; or
 - (ii) in accordance with specifications approved by the undertaker;
- (d) a requirement that—
 - [^{F4}(i) subject to section 51D(1) below, so much of the service pipe to the relevant premises as does not belong to, vest in or fall to be laid by the undertaker; and]
 - (ii) the plumbing of the premises, comply with specifications approved by the undertaker for the purpose of ensuring that it will be reasonably practicable for such a meter as is mentioned in paragraph (c) above to be installed and connected as so mentioned;
- (e) a requirement that a separate service pipe has been provided—
 - (i) to each house or building on the relevant premises; or
 - (ii) where different parts of a building on the relevant premises are separately occupied, to each of those parts or to any of them;
- (f) a requirement, in relation to the relevant premises—
 - (i) that such a requirement as may be imposed under section 66 below has been complied with; or
 - (ii) in a case where such a requirement could be imposed but for there already being such a cistern as is mentioned in that section, that the cistern and its float-operated valve are in good repair;
- (g) a requirement that there is no contravention in relation to the water fittings used or to be used in connection with—
 - (i) the supply of water to the relevant premises; or
 - (ii) the use of water in those premises,
 of such of the requirements of regulations under section 74 below as are prescribed for the purposes of this paragraph; and
- (h) a requirement that every such step has been taken as has been specified in any notice served on any person under section 75 below in relation to the relevant premises.

^{F5}[(2A) No condition shall be imposed by a water undertaker under subsection (2)(e) above unless it is reasonable to do so in order to ensure that the undertaker will be able to perform its functions, in relation to the supply of water to the relevant premises or any part of those premises, efficiently.]

- (3) A condition shall not be imposed by a water undertaker under this section on a person who has served a connection notice except by a counter-notice served on that person before the end of the period of fourteen days beginning with the day after the service of the connection notice.

^{F6}[(3A) Any dispute as to whether any requirement of a kind mentioned in subsection (2) (a), (b), (e) or (f) above has been complied with may be referred to the Director for determination under section 30A above by either party to the dispute.

(3B) Any dispute between a water undertaker and any other person as to ^{F7}...—

- [^{F8}(a) the security required to be provided by a condition imposed under subsection (2)(a),]

Changes to legislation: Water Industry Act 1991, Section 47 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (b) [^{F9}whether] the expenses referred to in subsection (2)(b)(ii) above were incurred reasonably, or
- (c) in a particular case, [^{F10}whether] subsection (2A) above prevents a water undertaker from imposing a condition under subsection (2)(e) above, may be referred to the Director for determination under section 30A above by either party to the dispute.]
- (4) This section shall be without prejudice to the provisions of sections 233 and 372 of the ^{M1}Insolvency Act 1986 (conditions of supply after insolvency).

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 47(1) substituted (1.4.2018 for specified purposes) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 94(3), [Sch. 7 para. 56](#); S.I. 2017/462, art. 5(e)(ii) (with art. 14) (as amended by S.I. 2017/926, art. 2(3))
- F2** Words in s. 47(2)(a) substituted (1.4.2018) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), [ss. 18\(5\)\(a\)](#), 94(3); S.I. 2017/462, art. 5(a) (with art. 14)
- F3** Word in s. 47(2)(b)(ii) inserted (1.9.1992) by [Competition and Service \(Utilities\) Act 1992 \(c. 43\)](#), [s. 51\(2\)](#); [Competition and Service \(Utilities\) Act 1992 \(Commencement No. 1\) Order 1992](#), art. 4, Sch. Pt.II
- F4** S. 47(2)(d)(i) substituted (28.5.2004) by [Water Act 2003 \(c. 37\)](#), [ss. 92\(3\)\(7\)](#), 105(3); S.I. 2004/641, [art. 4\(a\)](#) (with art. 6, Sch. 3)
- F5** S. 47(2A) inserted (1.9.1992) by [Competition and Service \(Utilities\) Act 1992 \(c. 43\)](#), [s. 51\(3\)](#); [Competition and Service \(Utilities\) Act 1992 \(Commencement No. 1\) Order 1992](#), art. 4, Sch. Pt.II
- F6** S. 47(3A)(3B) inserted (1.9.1992) by [Competition and Service \(Utilities\) Act 1992 \(c. 43\)](#), [s. 51\(4\)](#); [Competition and Service \(Utilities\) Act 1992 \(Commencement No. 1\) Order 1992](#), art. 4, Sch. Pt.II
- F7** Word in s. 47(3B) repealed (1.4.2018) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), [ss. 18\(5\)\(b\)](#), 94(3); S.I. 2017/462, art. 5(a) (with art. 14)
- F8** S. 47(3B)(a) substituted (1.4.2018) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), [ss. 18\(5\)\(c\)](#), 94(3); S.I. 2017/462, art. 5(a) (with art. 14)
- F9** Word in s. 47(3B)(b) inserted (1.4.2018) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), [ss. 18\(5\)\(d\)](#), 94(3); S.I. 2017/462, art. 5(a) (with art. 14)
- F10** Word in s. 47(3B)(c) inserted (1.4.2018) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), [ss. 18\(5\)\(e\)](#), 94(3); S.I. 2017/462, art. 5(a) (with art. 14)

Marginal Citations

- M1** 1986 c. 45.

Changes to legislation:

Water Industry Act 1991, Section 47 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- Pt. 3 Ch. 2B inserted by [2014 c. 21 s. 12](#)
- s. 17(2)(aa) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, Sch. 1 para. 4(4)(b) (as substituted) by S.I. [2019/1245 reg. 21](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 17A(c) repealed by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 4\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 17A(d) repealed by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 4\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 17A(2)(ba) and word inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 4\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 17R(2)(aa) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, Sch. 1 para. 4(7)(b) (as substituted) by S.I. [2019/1245 reg. 21](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 17AA(1)(ba)(bb) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 5\(2\)](#)
- s. 17BA(5A) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 7\(3\)](#)
- s. 17HA(9)(b)(ia) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 16\(2\)](#)
- s. 23(2AA) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 35\(4\)](#)
- s. 23(8)(9) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 35\(10\)](#)
- s. 39E-39H inserted by [2021 c. 30 s. 78\(7\)](#)
- s. 87(7C)-(7F) inserted by [2012 c. 7 s. 35\(6\)](#)
- s. 94A-94E inserted by [2021 c. 30 s. 79](#)
- s. 95ZA(6) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 39\(4\)](#)
- s. 96ZA(2)-(5) substituted for s. 96ZA(2) by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 40](#)
- s. 106B(3A) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 94](#)
- s. 117G(2)(aa) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 41\(2\)](#)
- s. 117G(4)-(4D) substituted for s. 117(4) by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 41\(3\)](#)
- s. 117G(6)(aa) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 41\(4\)](#)
- s. 117K(2)(aa) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 42\(2\)](#)
- s. 117K(5)(5A) substituted for s. 117(5) by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 42\(3\)](#)
- s. 117L(9) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 43\(3\)](#)
- s. 117N(4)(aa) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 45\(2\)](#)
- s. 117N(8)(aa) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 45\(3\)](#)
- s. 117N(11)(aa) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 45\(4\)](#)
- s. 117O(4)(aa) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 46\(2\)](#)
- s. 117O(8)(aa) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 46\(3\)](#)
- s. 117S(7)-(9) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 49](#)
- s. 119(2)(ab) inserted by [2003 c. 37 s. 89\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 119(3) inserted by [2003 c. 37 s. 89\(1\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 121(1)(ba) inserted by [2003 c. 37 s. 89\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 141DC inserted by [2021 c. 30 s. 83](#)
- s. 177K(7)(aa) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 42\(4\)](#)
- s. 207D and cross-heading inserted by [2014 c. 21 s. 39](#)
- s. 207D(5) word repealed by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 52\(a\)](#)
- s. 207D(5) words inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 52\(b\)](#)
- s. 213(1ZA) inserted by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 119\(3\)](#)

– s. 213(1ZA) repealed by [2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 53](#)