



Fair Water Connections

Seeking a fair deal in water supply provision

FWC represents its members in seeking fairness in the way that competitive alternatives to new supplies laid by statutory water companies are able to be provided.

FWC does this through sharing information, engaging in effective stakeholder dialogue and lobbying plus providing advice and support to assist members tackle obstacles which are restricting competitive connection provision.

FWC has been set-up as a not-for-profit organisation which draws on volunteered time. This enables FWC to financially support charities, such as Pump Aid (www.pumpaaid.org), who work internationally to give communities fairer access to safe water and sanitation.

Fair Water Connections is independent and provides members with:-

- best practice guidance and information on competitive provision requirements,
- advice on how to proceed when charges and terms are not seen as being fair,
- representation and engagement with appropriate stakeholders, including regulators and water companies. These cover:-
 - Company charging, in accordance with the 'local arrangements' Ofwat now permits under their Connection (mains and services) Charging Rules; and,
 - Getting standardised self-lay procedures established and companies working to Ofwat's Adoption Code (which replaces the Self-Lay Code of Practice); and,
 - Getting companies to commit to deliver their (non-contestable) works to prescribed times and service standards.
- access to forums to share experiences and discuss water supply provision matters,
- an advocate to promote self-lay provision.

FWC explicitly covers statutory and competitive new water supply provision in England and Wales, including new (on/off-site) mains, water connections and infrastructure charging.

FWC is co-ordinated by Martyn Speight.

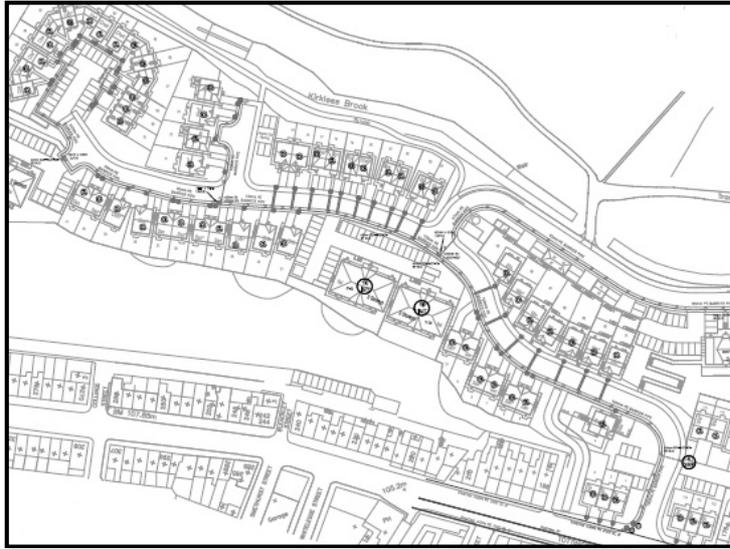
Martyn is an engineer with extensive experience of water supply activities and a wide ranging knowledge of underlying technical, financial and process issues. Martyn has worked for a major water company and has been involved with a variety of industry groups. Martyn has also had responsibility for developing the water industry (WIRS) self-lay contractor accreditation scheme.

In addition to seeking fairness in UK water supply provision Martyn is keen, that throughout the world, all should have ready access to clean water and sanitation.



Example of the fair water provision FWC seeks to support e.g. new PumpAid Elephant Pump in Maumsiyeko, Malawi

Membership arrangements and how to join FWC are given overleaf.



Fair Water Connections

Membership Rates

Membership of FWC is open to individuals and organisations. The membership types, and annual fees for 2019/20 (until 31 March 20) are:-

Associate Member	- Free
Full Member	- £ 675
Enhanced Member	- On Application

Enhanced membership is now less prevalent but additional project/activity support is still available should any member require such assistance.

Membership Services

Full Members receive:-

- regular updates on company specific and national changes, general information/learning,
- opportunities to attend update meetings and input into relevant consultations. Also to direct the work focus of FWC. (Meetings typically held 2 or 3 times a year),
- access to (maximum 4 hours) advice and guidance,
- additional support on cases/disputes which benefit the wider membership.

Associate membership is for individuals who wish to receive periodic updates (but are not currently interested in holding Full membership).

further the FWC cause and Supporter Members receive:-

- newsletter updates and information on key changes,
- notice of consultations and can (on payment of attendance fee) attend meetings
- access to (limited) general advice.

Enhanced Members, in addition to the Full Member services and general advice, receive:-

- face-to-face project/activity specific advice and support in developing and delivering strategies aimed at achieving fairness in the terms being applied to their projects
- FWC involvement and support through to issue resolution
- the opportunity to be represented at meetings with water companies and regulators.

- Notes:-
1. Membership can be upgraded at any time throughout the annual membership period,
 2. Enhanced advice and support provision is subject to a fair usage cap of 15 hours per single project /activity and 45 hours for multiple projects/activities,
 3. Part year subscriptions are available.

FWC Fairness Principles

The fairness principles under which FWC operates are that:-

- it is a membership association which operates to an agreed constitution; and,
- FWC will be responsive to priorities indicated by members; and,
- it relies on volunteers so may not always be able to match the timeliness of responses provided by commercial service providers; and,
- whilst learning will be shared confidential commercial information will not be divulged; and,
- guidance is provided in good faith with members indemnifying FWC against any claims and costs from advice given; and,
- services are only provided to those with current paid FWC membership; and,
- members are encouraged to further support water provision in developing countries.

Further Information

For further information and details about becoming a FWC member (or supporting them) contact:-

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