

# Excavation option agreement



Name of developer	
Development name/location	
United Utilities scheme ref.	

The developer must agree to excavate and backfill the necessary trench for on-site mains, and provide pipe surround in accordance with the following conditions:

- (a) Site conditions prior to installation of United Utilities' apparatus must comply with National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG) publication 5, section 5. The trench is to be provided on the line indicated by United Utilities' mainlaying proposal drawing for the development, the exact position of this trench and that of other trenches excavated for other utilities apparatus, being dictated by NJUG publication 7, sections 3 - 9 and 12 (**see figure. 1 overleaf**). United Utilities reserve the right to fully recharge the developer with the cost of repositioning apparatus should the trench provided later prove to be in an incorrect position, or the route of roads/footpath/service strips change from that shown on the drawing referred to above. Developers should not excavate in close proximity to existing United Utilities apparatus, leaving 2m of undisturbed ground at the end of any existing main, and 1m adjacent to the line of any existing main, to ensure no damage to apparatus or thrust blocks is caused.
- (b) The trench must have sufficient depth to allow a cover of 750mm to the top of the proposed main(s) and installation of the pipe bed. **The trench width will be in accordance with table 1 overleaf**. Excavation shall comply with the relevant recommendations of CIRIA Technical Note 95 "Proprietary Trench Support Systems" and Report 97 "Trenching Practice". The sides of trenches excavated in highways should be vertical.
- (c) A sufficient length of trench must be prepared prior to United Utilities attendance on site to allow at least one full day's mainlaying, or the entire length of trench, whichever is less. Subsequent trench lengths should be prepared by the developer to allow **continuous mainlaying** by United Utilities or our appointed contractor on the phase of development referred to above. Requests to move off site and return at a later date to continue mainlaying may result in extra costs for the developer.
- (d) A pipe surround of Grade 803X granular material (0 -10mm fines) **in accordance with table 1 overleaf** is to be stockpiled adjacent to the trench at convenient locations as specified by United Utilities or our appointed contractor, who will install the water mains, ancillary equipment (valves, hydrants etc) thrust blocks and also the pipe bed and surround.
- (e) Where construction of apparatus chambers is not possible due to trenches not being backfilled, concrete wall sections, frames and covers will be left on site for the developer to install during backfilling of the trenches in accordance with figure. 2 overleaf. It is vital that these chambers are properly constructed to protect United Utilities' equipment and allow future operation of our apparatus.
- (f) All trenches should be backfilled by the developer once mainlaying and pipe surround installation is complete. Backfill materials should be in accordance with the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 Code of Practice for the Specification for the Reinstatement of Openings in Highways. All backfilling must be adequately compacted. Care must be taken to leave apparatus chambers intact and covers exposed.
- (g) Commissioning of water mains may only be appropriate once backfilling is complete. Where this is the case United Utilities or our contractor will return to site on completion of backfilling to charge up, pressure test, chlorinate and sample the mains. Where appropriate these operations may be carried out immediately following mainlaying. Any variation to the conditions above must be agreed by United Utilities in writing before commencement of work. United Utilities reserves the right to recharge any costs incurred for abortive visits caused by failure to comply with any of the above conditions. Once a programme of work has been agreed, the developer should provide at least 24 hours notice if a change to this programme is required. Damage caused to United Utilities or other utilities apparatus during the course of excavation and backfilling will not be attributable to United Utilities or our appointed contractor.

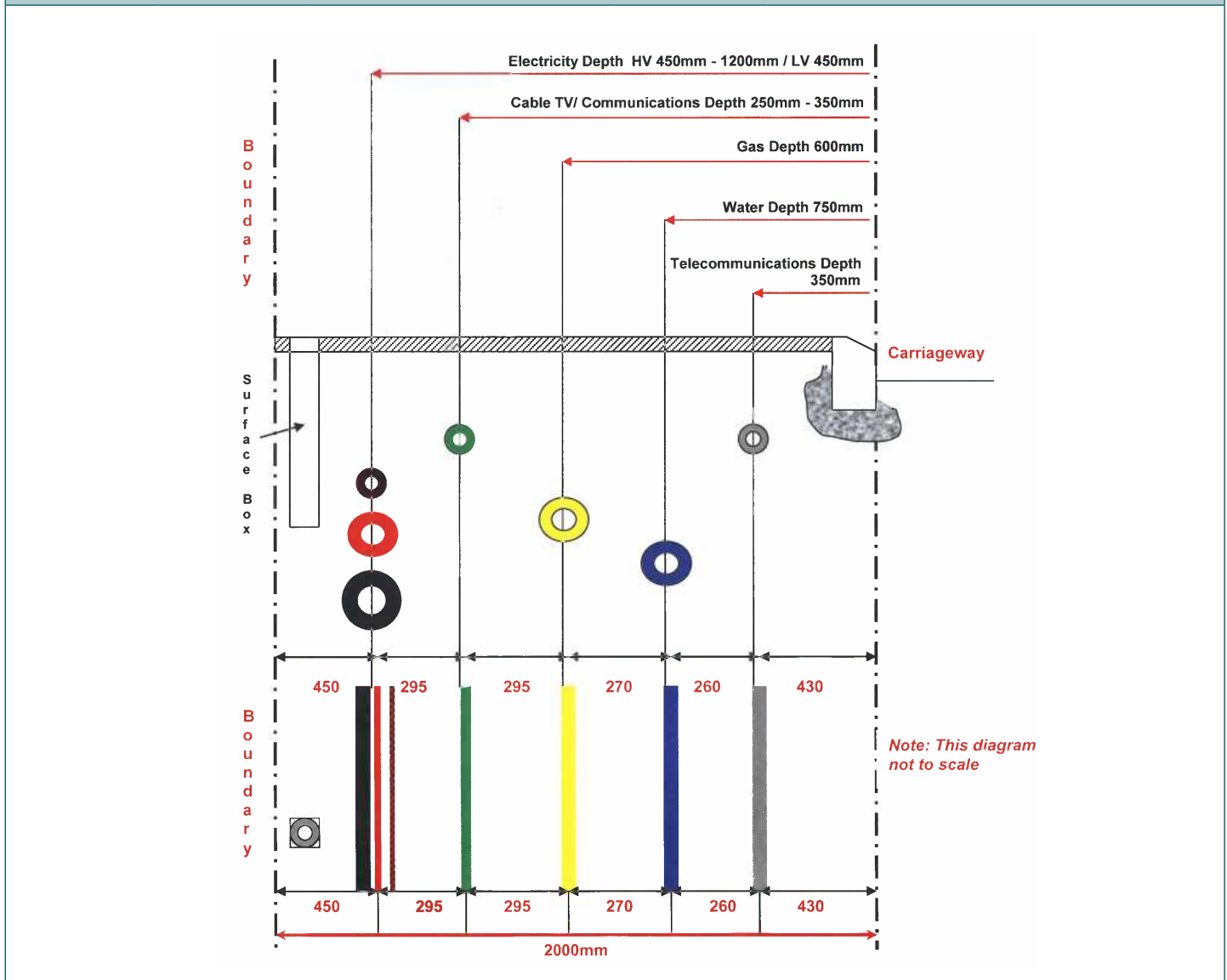
Signed		Date	<input type="text" value="D"/> <input type="text" value="D"/> <input type="text" value="M"/> <input type="text" value="M"/> <input type="text" value="Y"/> <input type="text" value="Y"/> <input type="text" value="Y"/> <input type="text" value="Y"/>
Print name		Position	
Company name*			
Site telephone		Site manager	

\*This document must be signed by the site developer and no other party.

Diameter of main	63mm	110mm	160mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	300mm	315mm
Nominal excavation width	350mm	400mm	500mm	600mm	600mm	600mm	600mm	600mm
Pipe bed and surround (compacted)	50mm	75mm	100mm	100mm	150mm	150mm	150mm	150mm

NB Excavation width and depth may increase if the site is on contaminated land. Please refer to the mainlaying quotation.

Figure 1 - Recommended positioning of utility apparatus in a 2m footway (source NJUG Issue 4)



NJUG Publications can be obtained from:

National Joint Utilities Group Secretariat  
 One Castle Lane  
 London  
 SW1E 6DR



### About us

United Utilities is the North West's water company. We keep the taps flowing and toilets flushing for seven million customers every day. From Crewe to Carlisle, we work hard behind the scenes to help your life flow smoothly.

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