

QUALITY ALERT

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Business:	MIDA Civil Engineering Ltd		ALERT
Title:	NHBC Drain Test Guidance	Reference No:	QA37
Issued By:	Sam James	Issue Date:	14th Feb 2025
Type of Alert:	Quality & Compliance		
Subject:	NHBC Drain Test Guidance		
Operatives Affected:	Groundworkers		
Details:	Since the launch of the NHBC’s amended approach to above ground and below ground drain testing (June 2023) Clients have encountered many reportable items relating to drain testing and NHBC have produced guidance for their inspectors	H1 FOUL DRAINAGE 2.61 Water test – For pipes up to 300mm diameter the system should be filled with water up to a depth of 5m above the lowest invert in the test section and a minimum depth of 1m measured at the highest invert in the test section. This may then be left for a period (one hour is generally sufficient) to condition the pipe. The test pressure should then be maintained for a period of 30 minutes, by topping up the water level as necessary so that it is within 100mm of the required level throughout the test. The losses per square metre of surface area should not exceed 0.15 litres for test lengths with only pipelines or 0.20 litres for test lengths including pipelines and manholes, or 0.40 litres for tests with only manholes and inspection chambers alone (i.e. no pipelines). 2.62 Connectivity – Where separate drainage systems are provided (see Approved Document H5), connections should be proven to ensure that they are connected to the correct system. BELOW GROUND	
Action Required:	Ensure Attached NHBC Drain Test document is understood when relating to Drain Testing		
Further Information:	NHBC Drain Test Guidance MIDA OI 6.2 NHBC Standards 2025 5.3.18 Testing		
Method for Communication:	Briefing by Site Manager to groundworkers via TBT Alert		