

## **Standard Requirements for fire hydrants and water supplies in housing developments in County Wexford**

All fire hydrants shall be supplied and installed in accordance with the following guidance documents and standards:

- Section B5 of Technical Guidance Document B of the Building Regulations – Access and Facilities for The Fire Service.
- Section 4 of "Recommendations for Site Development Works for Housing Areas" issued by the Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government
- BS 9990: 2015 – Non-automatic fire-fighting systems in buildings – Code of practice.
- I.S. EN 14339: 2005 – Underground Fire Hydrants
- BS 750: 2012 – Specification for underground fire hydrants and surface box frames and covers.
- BS 3251: 1976 – Indicator plates for fire hydrants and emergency water supplies.

Principal requirements:

1. The housing development shall be provided with sufficient hydrants fed from a watermain of minimum diameter of 100mm.
2. Where a number of hydrants are required in a housing estate, the mains supplying such hydrants shall be installed as a ring main. The ring main shall be fed from different trunk mains where possible to provide alternative supply of water within the ring main.
3. Housing developments with units of detached or semidetached houses of not more than two floors shall have a sustained water supply capable of delivering 480 litres/minute from any one single hydrant.  
Multi occupied housing developments with units of more than two floors shall have a sustained water supply capable of delivering 1200litres/minute through any single hydrant on the development.
4. Underground fire hydrants shall be suitably located on a footpath, grass margin etc. The area within one meter of the hydrant shall be clear of all obstruction and positioned so that parking, loading and unloading of vehicles is unlikely to obstruct them.
5. Hydrant indicator plates shall be fixed to concrete marker posts or attached to walls / buildings at least 300 mm above the surrounding ground level. The plate should have the size of the watermain in mm and the distance the hydrant is from the plate in meters.
6. Hydrants should be fitted with a **screw type outlet** and have a 35mm square headed spindle cap.
7. The depth of the hydrant outlet below finished ground level shall not exceed **300mm**.
8. No dwelling unit shall be further than 46 meters from a hydrant.
9. The distance from any hydrant to a vehicle access road or hard standing area for a fire appliance shall not be greater than 30 meters.

On completion of housing developments a certificate of compliance shall be submitted to the local authority stating that all works are carried out in accordance with the required guidance and standards and the water supply to the hydrants is sufficient to meet fire fighting requirements outlined at point 3 above.

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