
Overview

This Standard is about carrying out inspections and operational maintenance on sewerage or drainage assets. Sewerage and drainage assets could be in public networks or privately owned. Operational maintenance is taken to mean straightforward activities such as cleaning and reporting on sewerage or drainage assets.

It includes carrying out inspections, selecting and preparing tools and equipment, carrying out maintenance and dealing with any faults or damage safely.

This Standard is for operatives who inspect and carry out operational maintenance of sewerage or drainage assets.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. establish information about inspection and maintenance requirements of sewerage or drainage assets from appropriate sources
2. locate position of sewerage or drainage assets requiring inspection, rectification or repair in accordance with organisational procedures and safe systems of work
3. select a water supply that is appropriate for inspection and operational maintenance activities being carried out and is in accordance with organisational procedures and relevant legislation
4. identify and report external factors which prevent the job being carried out when required to appropriate people
5. prepare appropriate materials, tools and equipment for work activities in accordance with organisational procedures
6. notify individuals and organisations affected by work activities in accordance with organisational procedures
7. identify the risks associated with confined spaces, biological contamination, general public, highway/roadway working and the associated control measures to maintain own safety and that of other people
8. protect work zones to maintain a safe working environment in line with legislative requirements for signing, lighting and guarding
9. carry out inspection and operational maintenance of sewerage or drainage assets in accordance with organisational procedures and relevant technical specification
10. identify and report defects, deficiencies, faults or damage outside the scope of your job in accordance with relevant organisational procedures
11. recommend possible temporary arrangements to protect the operation and condition of sewerage or drainage assets, in accordance and organisational procedures
12. record and report work activities, outcomes, faults and damage in accordance with relevant organisational procedures
13. ensure records are accurate and legible and are disseminated in accordance with relevant organisational procedures
14. ensure the working area is left in a safe and clean condition, and meets environmental requirements on completion of works
15. dispose of waste materials in accordance with organisational environmental

EUSSDM1

Carry out inspection and operational maintenance on sewerage or drainage assets



procedures and environmental legislation

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. regulatory requirements and organisational procedures relevant to the sewerage or drainage maintenance you are undertaking including those relating to private and public sewers and drains, water fittings, health, safety, the environment and waste
2. the risk of disease or injury and associated procedures and control measures for working in confined spaces, at height, in excavations, lone working, on public highways, in dangerous atmospheres, in aerobic and anaerobic conditions, with tidal flows or increasing water levels, with industrial waste or trade effluent, uncontrolled discharges into the system, manual handling, vermin, known diseases
3. types of sewers, drains and ancillaries and how to identify them including un-powered and electrically isolated ancillaries , foul drainage, surface water drainage, combined drainage, culverted watercourse, land drainage, sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS), rising mains, pumped systems, septic tanks
4. how to identify whether drains and sewers are public or private and the different procedures and requirements for inspecting and maintaining public and private drains and sewers
5. organisational procedures and legislation for obtaining and using a water supply
6. external factors that may affect the work including weather, traffic, access, safety, working environment, environmental issues, general public
7. organisational requirements for safe work zones to protect the workforce and any members of the public
8. predetermined actions to take in instances of safe zone infringements
9. maintenance methods including operational checks, cleaning and reporting using CCTV systems
10. inspection methods including visual inspection, performance tests and CCTV reviews
11. sources of information about inspection and maintenance requirements including organisational procedures, practices, technical specifications, use of contractors and liaison with customers
12. organisational procedures for preparation, inspection and safe operational maintenance
13. organisational procedures for the safe use of tools and equipment
14. the hazards and risks associated with manual handling and the appropriate

control measures

15. the hazards and risks associated with the use of CCTV systems and high-pressure water jetting equipment
16. implications of inadequate inspection and operational maintenance impacting on the operation of the system
17. interpretation and classification of results from verification, testing and CCTV survey reports of drains and sewers
18. tools and equipment including cutting equipment, hand tools, inspection equipment, trenchless repair technology, cleaning equipment and when it is appropriate to use them
19. technical specifications for tools and equipment, operational maintenance procedures, verification and testing
20. faults and damage that could arise from repair works or could be encountered during inspection and maintenance activity including major structural damage, serious blockage, flooding, danger to public health, pollution and how to identify them
21. recording and reporting procedures and the implications of not correctly recording and reporting faults and damage
22. types of temporary arrangements including flow diversion, temporary pumping, permits to work, isolation to protect work areas and methods of operations to carry out work activities safely
23. effects of influences on sewer or drain service conditions
24. implications of local flooding and pollution events

EUSSDM1

Carry out inspection and operational maintenance on sewerage or drainage assets



Developed by	Energy & Utility Skills
Version Number	2
Date Approved	01 Feb 2025
Indicative Review Date	01 Feb 2028
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Energy & Utility Skills
Original URN	EUSSM1
Relevant Occupations	Engineering, Sewer Maintenance Worker, Field Technician, drainage maintenance worker
Suite	Sewerage and Drainage Maintenance
Keywords	Inspect; Maintain; Sewers; Drains; Sewerage; Drainage; Maintenance; Asset; Public; Private; Network; Routine; Unplanned; Identified; Unforeseen;
