

Hi Douglas

If I am reading the legislation correctly it makes sense that Scottish Water investigate failures in public buildings from the public supply – they supply the water and will be doing the initial sampling. It would only be where the failure is attributable to the internal distribution system that we would then be involved and we would keep the serving notices etc. part.

This would be the only comment Highland Council would have on the consultation

Thanks
Angus

Transfer of Public Building Powers to Scottish Water

5. Our policy preference would be for there to be a change in section 76FA of the Water Scotland Act 1980, to require Scottish Water to investigate and report failures in public buildings served by a public water supply. Currently this duty rests with Local Authorities, however, we believe that Scottish Water are best placed to do this and have the necessary expertise. We are of the view that having Scottish Water conduct the investigation would be the sensible way to protect public health.

6. The responsibility for serving notices and remedial action should still lie with the Local Authorities at this time. Therefore we would prefer there to be no substantive changes to Sections 76FB and 76FC of the Water Scotland Act 1980. The responsibility for investigating failures in a public building supplied by a private water supply should remain with Local Authorities.

Angus Hogg
Principal Environmental Health Officer