

CIOS authorised officers are trained and certified to carry out all sampling and monitoring activity.

Monitoring and Sampling

The CIOS are required to monitor:

- two or more dwellings but less than 50 people using the supply— a risk assessment must be completed once every five years and monitored at least once every 5 years
- commercial and larger domestic supplies - all supplies of any size that are supplied as part of a commercial or public activity and large domestic private supplies serving 50 or more people a day—a full risk assessment to be completed every five years and sampled at least once a year
- premises not classed as being commercial supplies, to be monitored or exempt according to type and regulations applicable
- a private water supply that is to be, or has been used for the first time (or for the first time after being out of use for more than 12 months) - to be sampled, registered, and categorised
- rainwater and greywater harvesting, if used for drinking or any domestic purposes such as washing of foods—as per regulation requirements
- water supplied by South West Water which is further distributed by third party pipes, for example, caravan and camp sites—a risk assessment must be carried out and a sampling programme devised based on the results

If the house you and your family live in is the only property supplied by a private water source, and only your family drink the water, CIOS will only risk assess and sample on request, unless there are newly installed supplies which will, under the regulations, require an officer to sample and analyse.

All CIOS officers authorised to conduct risk assessments, monitoring and sampling across private supplies within the Isles of Scilly and fully trained with statutory certification;

CIOS Officers

- will endeavour to make arrangements with the owner or occupier where possible prior to carrying out a risk assessment and taking samples
- will take the sample from a tap used to supply water for drinking or cooking
- will forward the results of the sampling with a letter, usually within 28 days of receiving them from the laboratory—the letter will explain the results and inform you if any remedial action is required to safeguard your supply

The current charge scheme can be downloaded from the CIOS website .

Fees and Charging

Register your water supply

Environmental Health

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Council of the
ISLES OF SCILLY

2. Private Water Supplies



A Regulatory
Service

This leaflet aims to help those with a private water supply to understand the role of the Council of the Isles of Scilly in the monitoring and management of Private Water Supplies across the Islands.

If the source of your water supply is not provided by a water company (for example South West Water) then it is considered to be a private water supply. Private water supplies come from a variety of sources, including wells, springs and boreholes.

The Council of the Isles of Scilly (CIOS) has legal responsibility for the monitoring and the management of all operational Private Water Supplies (PWS) across the Isles of Scilly, ensuring that the water is wholesome, safe and sufficient.

The standards and requirements for drinking water are enacted in National Regulations and they are enforced in respect of private water supplies in England through the;

Private Water Supplies Regulations 2016
The Private Water Supplies (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2018

The Water Industry Act 1991, defines the powers and responsibilities of local authorities in relation to private water supplies. The CIOS is required:

The role of the CIOS

- to keep itself informed about the wholesomeness and sufficiency of every private water supply within the Isles of Scilly
- to set a fee structure under The Regulations, which make provisions for local authorities to set cost recovery charges to the relevant person(s) for conducting specific duties
- to carry out a risk assessment of all Private Water Supplies every 5 years (except for supplies to single non-commercial dwellings)
- to use the power delegated under the Regulations to serve notice on a private water supply in order to mitigate against risk to safety

The purpose of conducting a risk assessment is to establish whether there is a significant risk of supplying water that could constitute a potential danger to human health.

Risk Management

Sampling is then tailored according to the risk presented. Other factors are considered such as the source of supply, the area it is abstracted from and the number of consumers. The CIOS is required:

- to use the risk assessment process to establish whether there is a risk of non-compliance
- to review a risk assessment whenever there is any significant change in circumstances in respect of the supply system
- to visit the site and thoroughly re-assess the supply if deemed necessary

An investigation is required whenever there is a failure to meet a standard detected by monitoring or whenever there is a suspicion for other reasons (e.g. risk assessment, operational incident, compliance sampling).

Investigation

The CIOS is required to:

- seek to secure remedial action within 28 days of finding the cause
- serve a notice thereafter if remedial work has not been completed
- to warn likely consumers of an identified supply which poses a potential danger to human health and to serve a notice on the relevant person(s)

Any relevant person(s) may apply to the CIOS for an authorised departure

Authorisation

(called a derogation in the Directive) - that is, to supply water to a lower standard on a temporary basis whilst remedial action is taken as part of an agreed and timed programme of work.

A relevant person(s) is defined in Section 80 (7) of the Water Industry Act 1991 as:

Relevant Person(s)

- the owner or occupier of the premises supplied
- the owner or occupier of the premises where the source of the supply is situated even if the source lies outside the local authority's area
- any other person who exercises powers of management or control in relation to that source.