

Approved Contractor Person and WaterSafe scheme application form

The key to your success

The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 – now known universally as the Water Regulations – introduced the concept of ‘Approved Contractor Persons’. What this means in practice is that a plumber who can prove, via an assessment, a knowledge of the Water Regulations, can join an Approved Contractor Person (ACP) scheme. The principal benefit for members of such schemes is that they can self-certify plumbing supply work (domestic, commercial and industrial) that would otherwise have to wait for water company approval before work could commence.

The first embodiment of the ACP concept was the Water Industry Approved Plumber Scheme (WIAPS), set up by some of the water supply companies in England and Wales.

History

In July 1999, the Institute applied to the Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment Transport and the Regions (DETR) to run an ACP scheme and in August 2000 it became the first organisation outside of the water supply industry to receive approval. This Document sets out the main provisions of the Institute scheme, which are:

- The scheme is voluntary
- Membership is currently free

- Membership is open to all Institute members on the Register of Plumbers and who are practising as plumbers
- The scheme covers England and Wales and is recognised under the Scottish Water Byelaws 2000
- Membership of the scheme is conditional on the applicant having passed a recognised assessment on knowledge of the Water Fittings Regulations (Scotland Byelaws).
- Scheme members must hold public/products liability insurance with a minimum indemnity of £2 million.
- Members of the scheme must undertake a minimum of five hours Water Regulations related Professional Development each year.
- Scheme members will be issued with an identity card bearing their photograph.
- Management of the scheme involves observers from the DEFRA and consumer interests.
- Provision will be made for exchange of information between members and the scheme’s management committee.
- The scheme represents government recognition of Institute Registered Plumbers.
- The scheme will raise standards of plumbing while also raising public confidence in plumbers.

In the past it could be difficult to get noticed online, even for the best-qualified plumbers. This is why water companies, the two plumbing trading associations and the CIPHE have developed WaterSafe, the accreditation scheme for approved plumbers.

Best-qualified plumbers

WaterSafe is an online hub and search facility that has been developed by the water industry for approved plumbers and plumbing companies to help cut confusion for customers, enabling them to find the best-qualified plumbers who meet the highest standards in the business and of course, are approved by one of the seven Approved Contractors’ Schemes within the UK.

- Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering (CIPHE)
- Water Industry Approved Plumbers’ Scheme (WIAPS)
- Association of Plumbing and Heating Contractors (APHC)
- Scottish and Northern Ireland Plumbing Employers’ Federation (SNIPEF)
- Anglian Water
- Severn Trent Water
- Thames Water

The key behind the scheme is to keep drinking water supplies safe.

Customers can often be unaware of the serious risks posed by poor plumbing installations in their properties and could find themselves prosecuted if their plumbing does not meet the legal requirement set out in the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations or Scottish Water Byelaws.

WaterSafe offers a great opportunity for recognised members to gain free promotion. Plus, members are able to display WaterSafe branding on their vehicles and stationery to gain extra credibility. As a pre-requisite of joining the WaterSafe Scheme, you will need to obtain Approved Contractor Person status with the CIPHE. Please complete the application form attached ensuring you sign and enclose the documents required and return as indicated.

Safe drinking water

Can we can take it for granted?
We are improving and promoting
public health and safety.





Join us!

Application for membership of the Chartered Institute of Plumbing & Heating Engineering's Approved Contractor Person Scheme, sanctioned under Regulation 1 (2) (b) of the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999, and the WaterSafe scheme.

Applicants must be individuals who are in the Fellow, Member or Associate categories of membership of the Institute and must be entered on the Register of Plumbers (RP).



Your details

Full name (including title)

Address

Postcode

Email address

Telephone

Mobile

CIPHE membership category

CIPHE membership number

National Insurance number



Declaration (please tick)

I enclose a copy (not the original) of my Water Fittings Regulations (Scotland Byelaws) Certificate.

I enclose two head and shoulder, passport style photographs of myself, taken within the last 6 months.

I will maintain public/product liability insurance at the levels required by the Institute (currently £2 million) and enclose copy/copies of my Insurance Certificate.

I understand that, as a member of the scheme, I must engage in a minimum of five hours Water Regulations related Professional Development each year.



Work undertaken (please tick)

Emergency (out-of-hours)

Household

Commercial/Industrial

Sanitation and

Leak detection

Moling

Pipe freezing

above-ground drainage



Permission to use your information (please tick)

I wish to apply for Approved Contractor Person status but do not wish to apply for WaterSafe Scheme registration.

Please tick this box if you wish to join WaterSafe but do not wish to be listed on their website. Please tick this box if you wish to receive updates and newsletters from WaterSafe.

As part of the WaterSafe scheme, we will allow members of the public to access selected contact information about you as part of the search facility on the WaterSafe website.

I have previously been removed from registration of the WaterSafe scheme via another participating body, please specify:

Please tick this box to allow WaterSafe to list your selected details.



Data Protection

This statement confirms our commitment to protect your privacy, to process your personal information in a manner which meets our requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Signature

Date

**Please return this signed and completed form, with the copies of your Water Regulations Training and photographs to:
The Chartered Institute of Plumbing & Heating Engineering (CIPHE), 64 Station Lane, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 6NB.**

Any questions please call CIPHE on +44 (0)1708 472 791, email info@ciphe.org.uk or visit www.ciphe.org.uk