

Water UK Standards Board
Explanatory Note on 5-Series WIS & IGN Documents

5-Series WIS & IGN on Water Byelaws Requirements

None of the '5-series' WIS and IGN documents remain current. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy (where held) should approach the Water UK Standards Board's Technical Secretary to obtain a copy. (Donation of copies not currently held would be appreciated.)

Details of 5-series documents known to have been published, and whether the Standards Board currently possesses a copy, are listed in Table 1.

Type	No	Date	Issue	Title	Copy Held
IGN	5-01-01	Nov 85	2	The United Kingdom Water Fittings Byelaws Scheme.	N
IGN	5-01-02	Sep 89	4	Requirements for the testing of non-metallic products for use in contact with potable water. <i>[Withdrawn]</i>	Y
IGN	5-01-02	May 92	(?)	Requirements for the testing of non-metallic products for use in contact with potable water.	N
IGN	5-01-03	Nov 85	1	Requirements for testing of metallic materials for use in contact with potable water <i>[withdrawn]</i>	Y
IGN	5-01-03	Dec 92	(?)	Requirements for testing of metallic materials for use in contact with potable water <i>[withdrawn by September 1993]</i>	N
IGN	5-02-01	Oct 89	1	Requirements for self-certification schemes for domestic installations plumbing contractors.	Y
WIS	5-11-01	Nov 87	1	Specification for devices with moving parts for the prevention of contamination by backflow – Check valves of nominal size up to and including DN50	Y
WIS	5-11-02	Nov 87	1	Specification for devices with moving parts for the prevention of contamination by backflow – Double check valve assemblies of nominal size up to and including DN50	Y
WIS	5-11-03	Nov 87	1	Specification for devices with moving parts for the prevention of contamination by backflow – Vacuum breakers, atmospheric type, of nominal size up to and including DN40	Y
WIS	5-11-04	Nov 87	1	Specification for devices with moving parts for the prevention of contamination by backflow – Combined check valve and atmospheric type vacuum breakers of nominal size up to and including DN40	Y
IGN	5-50-01	Nov 84	1	Test and acceptance criteria. <i>Note: 5-50-01 comprised a large set of documents. Due to its specialised nature only the initial sheets were available for this binder. The complete set was available from WRc at Slough.</i>	N

Table 1: Known 5-series WIS & IGN

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History

The National Water Council was formed under the Water Act 1973 and took over responsibility for the United Kingdom Water Fittings Byelaws Scheme. This included testing and providing byelaws advice until it was abolished in 1983. With effect from 3/10/1983 WRc became the administrator of the renamed Water Byelaws Advisory Service which then became the Water Byelaws Scheme in 1991.

Between October 1984 and (at least) December 1992 a series of WIS & IGN documents was published by WRc relating to water byelaws. This was done in consultation with water industry experts and manufacturing organisations. The work was coordinated by the water industry's Engineering and Operations Committee through the Materials and Standards Group (precursors of Water UK). These documents were incorporated into the wider library of WIS and IGN as follows:

Series-4	Materials
Series-5	Water Byelaws
Series-7	Process Control and Monitoring Instruments

Only Series-4 documents remain current today.

On 31st May 1988 the multi-part BS 6920 *Suitability of non-metallic products for use in contact with water intended for human consumption with regard to their effect on the quality of the water. Methods of test - Samples for testing* was published. This replaced water industry requirements. Successive versions of BS 6920 were published in 1990, 1996 and 2000. The current version is BS 6920: 2014 (10 parts). At some point after September 1993 all the Series-5 WIS & IGN are assumed to have been withdrawn.

Details of the successive administrative arrangements since 1973 for provision of advice and guidance on water byelaws are listed at <https://www.waterregsuk.co.uk/about-us/history/> . Currently this role is provided by Water Regs UK Limited.

Water Regs UK supports water companies in their role to supply safe, resilient water supplies in the UK. By promoting the Water Fittings Regulations and Byelaws¹, it protects public health by helping to keep water safe in premises, so it is always safe to drink and never wasted.

¹ 'Water Fittings Regulations' refers to The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999, The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009, and The Water Supply (Water Fittings) (Scotland) Byelaws 2014.

Regulation 4(2) identifies conformity with a British Standard or a specification approved by the Regulator as routes by which to demonstrate a water fitting is of an appropriate quality and standard, regulation 4(1)(a).

There are currently three Regulators' Specifications. Details of which can be found at <https://www.waterregsuk.co.uk/information/regulators-specifica1/>