



**ANCALA**  
WATER SERVICES

## CASE STUDY

# AWS invests in assets following estate wide surveying of septic tanks

## 01 The Project

Following the introduction of General Binding Rules governing discharges from Septic Tanks in 2015, a programme of works has been implemented to survey all septic tank assets managed by Ancala. This site wide survey of septic tanks on the MoD Estate helps establish if they comply with the rules, and if not what works are required to make them compliant.

Following the update to the general binding rules (GBR) AWS have agreed a 3 phase programme with the Regulators (NRW/ EA) to survey all the septic tanks (ST) across the whole of package A.

Following the receipt of the survey results, AWS assess compliance against the general binding rules and implement remediation for any assets not compliant with the requirement (no discharge from a ST directly into a watercourse and upgrade any existing soakaways or infiltration systems causing pollution).

As part of the programme where applicable, AWS will also apply for permits to discharge if the assets are not covered by exemptions as outlined by the GBR.

### TOPIC

AWS Capital Works Programme

### AIM OF THE PROJECT

The programme of capital works to renew/replace septic tanks across the MoD Estate is to ensure compliance with Environment Agency General Binding Rules.



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A total of 17 septic tanks were identified in the first phase of works that required upgrade/renewal/alteration to ensure they met the General Binding Rules requirement at each location.

AWS developed a phased programme ensuring that works could start on an asset-by-asset basis ensuring continued delivery of works throughout the year.

Each septic tank was inspected by our Asset Surveyors, and its condition assessed along with capturing data about its size/construction and outfall. This information was analysed by our Asset Optimisation Team to establish if the septic tank met the required standards and if not what upgrades were required.

In many cases the existing septic tanks and outfall were found to be compliant, where upgrades were required the following options were considered: -

- Connect the discharge/outfall to a foul network and make the ST redundant.
- Replace the ST with a cess pit (CP).
- Install an infiltration system compliant with BS6297:2007.
- Replace the ST with a wastewater treatment package plant that meets BS12566.



## 02 The Results & The Future

Following completion of the first phase of works all 17 septic tanks are now fully compliant with the General Binding Rules. As a result, discharges of treated sewerage to the environment have been reduced.

A further 2 phases of works are proposed over the next 2 years to continue upgrade works across the MoD estate. This shows AWS commitment to continue investing across the systems, assets and infrastructure across the sites we oversee.