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PREFACE

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Date of Assessment: 21st June 2010

Date of Review: June 2012

INTRODUCTION

This report relates to a water source Risk Assessment carried out by Mr Chris Wilson of Freston Water Treatment Ltd on the 21st June 2010 on behalf of Hampshire County Council. The survey was carried out at Forest Park Secondary School, Commercial Road, Totton, Hampshire SO40 3AF. During the course of the survey water systems within the properties were risk assessed. These sources were chosen as being fully representative of the overall domestic water systems and outlets within the buildings.

The survey and Risk Assessment were undertaken in order to comply with the Health and Safety Executive requirements on the control and prevention of Legionellosis. The Risk Assessment has been carried out in accordance with ACoP L8 - The control of Legionella bacteria in water systems (Approved Code of Practice and Guidance).

The survey has been limited to the terms of reference agreed between Hampshire County Council and Freston Water Treatment Ltd. Observations relating to system conditions and other factors applicable to the requirements of L8 have been recorded during the survey and specific references are made to compliance with these documents in the Observations section of the report.

A Summary of Recommendations concludes the report. ACoP L8 places responsibility on employers and others to prepare a scheme for preventing or controlling the risk from Legionellosis. Adoption of a monitoring scheme in conjunction with a regime of preventative maintenance and associated record keeping will meet these requirements.

BACKGROUND TO LEGIONELLA

Legionella is the bacterium that causes Legionnaires disease. Of this bacterium, Legionella pneumophila is the species most commonly associated with disease outbreaks. Legionnaire's disease is identified as a pneumonia type of infection of the lower respiratory tract. The infection is most commonly acquired by the inhalation of airborne droplets or particles containing viable Legionella. Exposure to Legionella can also cause a short feverish illness without pneumonia known as Pontiac Fever.

Research indicates that Legionella can occur in hot and cold water services.

Sediment, scale, and organic materials present in water systems, can provide nutrients and give protection for Legionella. Legionella has been shown to colonise certain types of water fittings, pipe work and materials used in the construction of water systems.

The formation of bio films within water systems is undesirable and may also provide harbourage and favourable conditions for Legionella growth. Legionella is most likely to proliferate in water systems that have a temperature between 20°C and 50°C. Human blood temperature of approximately 37°C is the most ideal temperature for proliferation. Stagnant water within the above temperature range appears to provide the ideal conditions for proliferation of Legionella.

Once a risk has been identified and assessed, a scheme should be prepared for preventing or controlling it. The risk is heightened when conditions are not monitored and control of the system is lost, thereby allowing Legionella to proliferate.

Legionella will survive at temperatures below 20°C but is considered to be in a dormant state with no growth activity. The bacterium does not survive temperatures maintained consistently at 60°C or above.

ASSESSMENT OF RISK

The Legionella risk

Legionnaire's disease is most commonly caused by the inhalation of water droplets contaminated with the Legionella bacteria. It is therefore important that systems susceptible to colonisation by Legionella and which incorporate a potential means for creating and disseminating water droplets should be identified and the risk they present assessed.

The assessment must be completed for routine system operation and also for circumstances such as breakdown, abnormal operation, commissioning or other unusual circumstances.

Risk Assessment categories:-

- A) The potential for the formation of droplets.
- B) The condition of the water.
- C) Water temperature.
- D) The water turnover rate.
- E) The susceptibility of persons exposed to droplets.
- F) The population density exposed to droplets.

In undertaking the Risk Assessment and drawing up precautions, particular attention must be paid to situations where the population exposed contains a relatively high number of people susceptible to Legionella, due to their age and in many cases poor health.

Risk Assessment Review

The Risk Assessment should be reviewed every 2 years as stated in the HSE's ACoP L8 or otherwise for any of the reasons below:-

- 1) Changes are made to plant or water systems or its use.
- 2) Changes are made to building use in which the water system is installed.
- 3) New information about risks or control measures becomes available.
- 4) Results of checks indicate that control measures are no longer effective.

OBSERVATIONS

General and specific observations on the systems made during the course of the survey are recorded and the more general requirements of L8 are commented where applicable, although references are made to compliance with the requirements of L8.

Compliance with ACoP L8 may be classified into two distinct categories:

- a) Management Procedures - The management procedures, which have been implemented, to ensure that all control measures, record keeping and monitoring are adequate and effective.
- b) Systems Conditions - The physical conditions of the water systems in the building must be considered when assessing the risk from Legionellosis.

This report therefore addresses the above categories. A general overview of existing Management Procedures is included and followed by comprehensive observations of the Systems Conditions as seen during the course of the survey.

General Management Compliance

ACoP L8 para 23 - Identify Sources of Risk

Observations

The assessments are detailed in the relevant section of this report.

General Management Compliance

ACoP L8 para's 39, 53 and 66 - Prepare a Scheme for Preventing or Controlling the Risk - Implement and Manage Precautions - Maintain Records

Observations

A regime of repair and breakdown maintenance should be implemented for the buildings at Forest Park Secondary School for all of the water services and systems. Procedures and records for the various maintenance activities must be documented and the Written Scheme recommendations be implemented in order to control Legionellosis. The precautions taken must be documented within an operational logbook.

Further Action Required

A Logbook should be prepared and records kept within it, as outlined in our recommendations. The logbook, documentation and operation should be audited on a periodic basis in order to ensure that the system conditions and precautionary procedures are being carried out satisfactorily.

The precise procedures relating to the precautionary measures, i.e. cleaning of water cistern systems and calorifiers together with start up and shut down procedures for calorifiers, should be maintained within the logbook system and updated as required. The details of persons who are trained and competent to undertake the works should also be recorded in the logbook along with details of the training undertaken. This also applies to specialist contractors who may undertake part of these duties.

The Risk Assessment report relates to observations made and information supplied at the time of the survey. Every effort has been made to examine as much of the water system as possible although some areas, such as pipe work beneath floors or behind walls would not have been inspected due to restricted access.

SITE SURVEY

A responsible person should be appointed to take day-to-day responsibility for the Written Scheme.

If the assessment shows that there is a reasonably foreseeable risk and it is reasonably practicable to prevent exposure or control the risk from exposure, the person on whom the statutory duty falls (see paragraph 23) should appoint a person or persons to take managerial responsibility and to provide supervision for the implementation of precautions. (Paragraph 39 HSE's ACoP L8)

It appears that there is no dedicated water systems logbook in place. I would recommend a logbook be produced along with a written scheme.

System Reference	Forest Park Secondary School
Location	Site Buildings
Method	Visual Assessment and Temperature Profiling

HOT WATER STORAGE

There is no hot water storage at Forest Park Secondary School. Hot water in the Main Building is supplied by two, mains cold water fed, gas fired combi-boilers. The combi-boilers are located in the Main Kitchen and the Boiler Room but I was informed that it is unknown which boilers supply which outlets. There are mains cold water fed electric local water heaters in the Upper and Lower Sixth Form portacabins.

COLD WATER STORAGE

There is no domestic cold water storage at Forest Park Secondary School. All cold water is supplied from the mains water supply.

DOMESTIC WATER DISTRIBUTION

Domestic water services should operate at temperatures that prevent the proliferation of Legionella. L8 specifies that hot water should be stored at no less than 60°C and distributed at no less than 50°C, obtainable at user outlets within one minute of opening. Cold water should be stored and distributed at no more than 20°C.

There is no hot water storage at Forest Park Secondary School. Hot water in the Main Building is supplied by two, mains cold water fed, gas fired combi-boilers. The combi-boilers are located in the Main Kitchen and the Boiler Room but I was informed that it is unknown which boilers supply which outlets. There are mains cold water fed electric local water heaters in the Upper and Lower Sixth Form portacabins.

There is no domestic cold water storage at Forest Park Secondary School. All cold water is supplied from the mains water supply.

Mains cold water within Forest Park Secondary School supplies the heating boilers, the combi boilers, the electric local water heaters and all other cold water outlets and appliances on site.

In all areas of distribution and use, inspection, test and measurement was undertaken at representative positions in order to evaluate conditions and areas of potential risk.

At the time of the survey (within one minute) these hot water outlets within the buildings were recorded as follows:-

Forest Park Secondary School Hot Water Outlet Temperatures	
Main Building Main Kitchen Sink	55.8°C Satisfactory
Main Building Caretakers Room Sink	50.9°C Satisfactory
Main Building Hygiene Room near Classroom 2 Sink	52.3°C Inlet to TMV Satisfactory 41.6°C TMV Outlet Satisfactory
Main Building Foyer Toilet Wash Basin	53.0°C Satisfactory
Main Building Staff Toilet Wash Basin	50.3°C Inlet to TMV Satisfactory 42.8°C TMV Outlet Satisfactory
Main Building Boys Toilets near Classroom 4 Wash Basin	No Access to TMV 41.2°C TMV Outlet Satisfactory
Lower Sixth Form Portacabin Kitchen Sink	57.3°C Inlet to TMV Satisfactory 42.7°C TMV Outlet Satisfactory
Upper Sixth Form Portacabin Kitchen Sink	42.7°C Inlet to TMV Satisfactory 41.1°C TMV Outlet Satisfactory

L8 recommends that the hot water should achieve 50°C, obtainable at user outlets within one minute of opening.

TMV's (Thermostatic Mixing Valves) are fitted to ensure that the water temperature at hot water outlets does not exceed 43°C and scald users.

The hot water supplying the TMV's should be 50°C at the TMV inlet as recommended in L8.

At the time of the survey (within two minutes) the cold water outlets within the buildings were as follows:

Forest Park Secondary School	
Cold Water Outlet Temperatures	
Main Building Main Kitchen Sink	16.1°C Satisfactory
Main Building Caretakers Room Sink	16.7°C Satisfactory
Main Building Hygiene Room near Classroom 2 Sink	17.7°C Satisfactory
Main Building Foyer Toilet Wash Basin	18.1°C Satisfactory
Main Building Staff Toilet Wash Basin	18.2°C Satisfactory
Main Building Boys Toilets near Classroom 4 Wash Basin	16.4°C Satisfactory
Lower Sixth Form Portacabin Kitchen Sink	18.8°C Satisfactory
Upper Sixth Form Portacabin Kitchen Sink	16.8°C Satisfactory

L8 recommends cold water should be stored and distributed at no more than 20°C.

GENERAL

- Thermostatic Mixing Valves (TMV's) are fitted in many areas of Forest Park Secondary School; these valves should be serviced and maintained to the manufacturers recommendations. I was informed that this is carried out but no records were seen.
- Infrequently used outlets are ideal areas for the proliferation of bacteria. Areas where the outlets are not used at least on a weekly basis should be removed or put on a weekly flushing regime (without creating an aerosol) and recorded. This is being carried out and recorded.
- Dead leg pipework are ideal areas for the proliferation of bacteria and should be removed or put on a twice weekly flushing regime (without creating an aerosol) and recorded.

Dead legs were found in the following areas:-

- Lower Sixth Form Portacabin- in the Staff Toilets there are two dead legs.
- The shower heads and hoses must be cleaned and disinfected quarterly and recorded when carried out as recommended in L8. I was informed that this is being carried out but not recorded.
- It is unknown when Legionella or bacteriological samples were last taken and I would recommend that this is carried if temperatures fall outside of the limits as detailed in L8.

- It is unknown which outlets are supplied by which combi-boilers. I would recommend that during a school holiday or weekend that one combi-boiler is shut down so that this can be ascertained.
- Monthly temperature monitoring of the hot and cold outlets is being carried out and recorded. The water temperatures of every sentinel outlet must be taken monthly and recorded. Other representative outlets should have temperatures taken on a monthly rotational basis so that over a period of 12 months all outlets will have been covered.
- There is an inline scale reducer on the mains cold water pipe in the Staff Room under the sink. This should be cleaned / replaced in-line with the manufacturer's recommendations. It is unknown if this is being carried out.
- The Hydrotherapy Pool is a stand alone system and is not connected to the mains cold water supply. The pool is topped up by hoses from the mains cold water supply and also the combi boiler. Neither taps are fitted with backflow protection. I would recommend that suitable devices are fitted or the hoses are shortened to create an air gap between the end of the hoses and the pool water.

I was informed that the following checks are carried out:-

- Three times a day free chlorine level, total chlorine level, pH and water temperature.
- Monthly bacteriological samples, total dissolved solids, alkalinity and calcium levels are taken by outside contractors.

RECORDS

It is recommended that a water quality log book be produced for the site to include records of weekly, monthly, quarterly, six monthly and annual procedures. These should be carried out as recommended in this Risk Assessment.

Details of the responsibilities they hold should be included together with items listed as follows:

Maintenance carried out on water systems

Cleaning and disinfection of water cisterns

Monthly temperature monitoring

Flushing of infrequently used outlets

Faults and defects to be recorded

Audit sheet for inspections of the logbook and dated when completed

All of the above should be included in the water systems logbook and signed for when completed.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Lower Sixth Form Portacabin

Staff Toilet

Dead leg



Main Building

Staff Room

Inline scale reducer



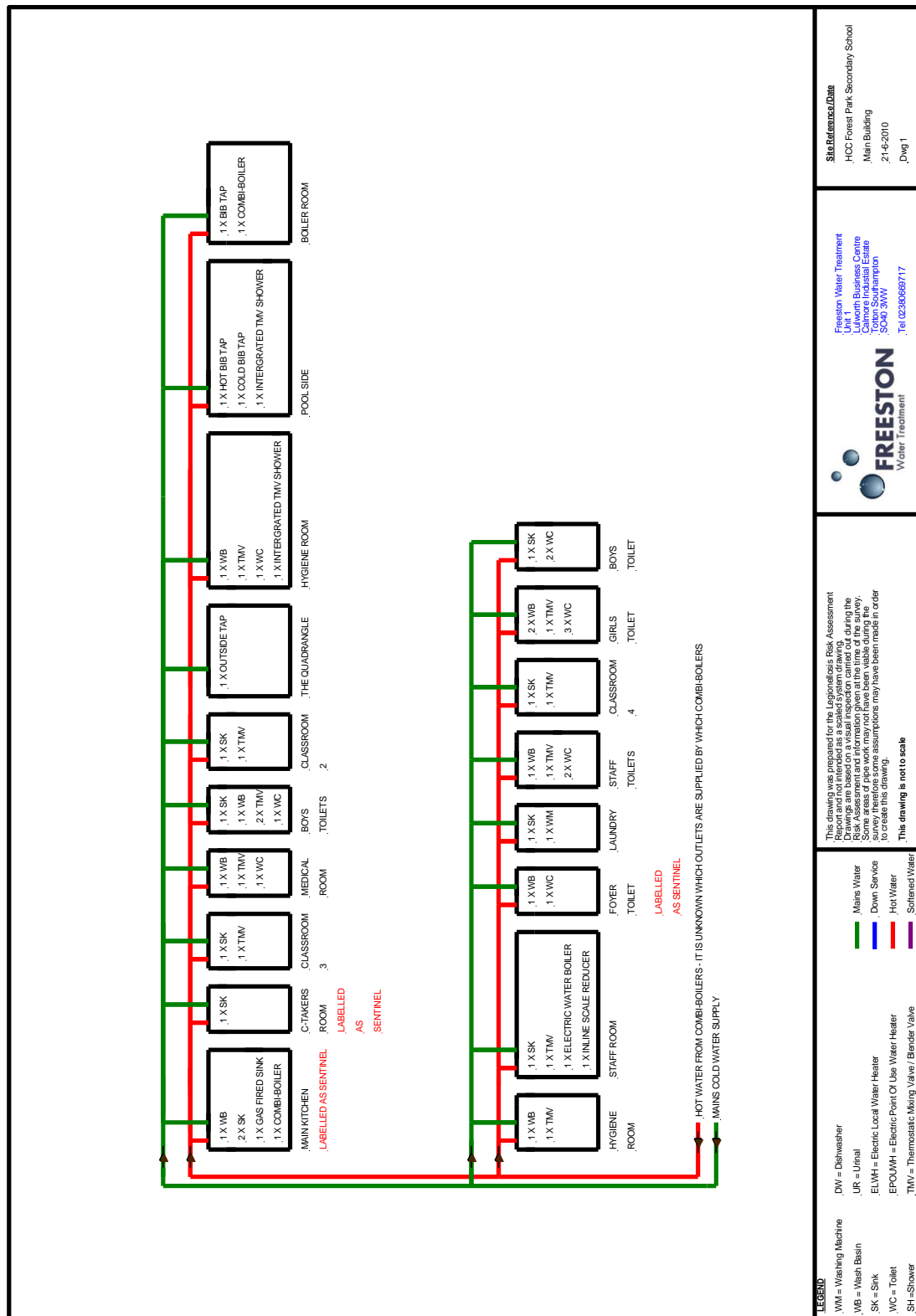
Main Building

Main Kitchen

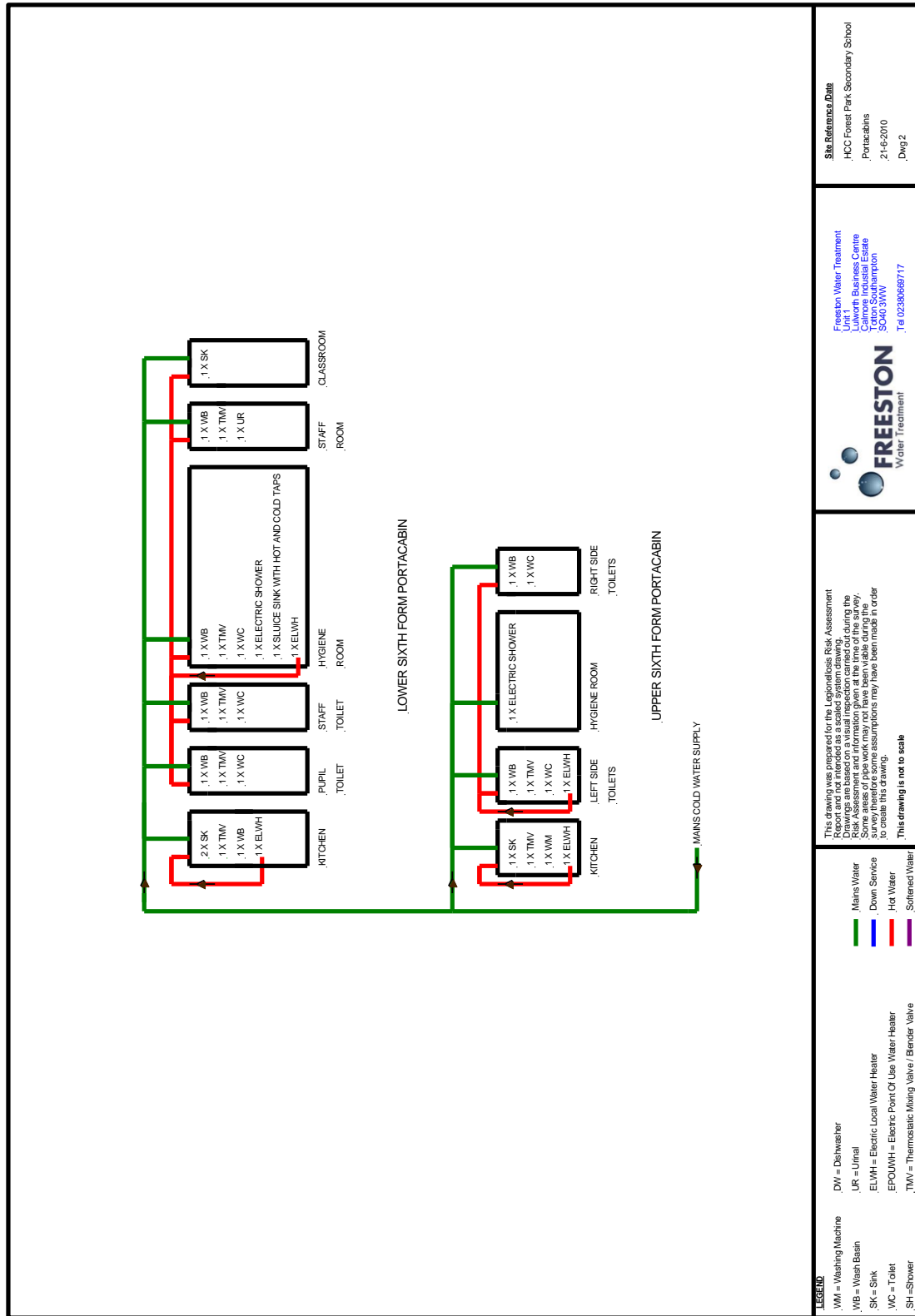
Typical combi-boiler



DRAWINGS



<p>Site Reference/Date HCC Forest Park Secondary School Main Building 21-6-2010 Dwg1</p>	<p>Freeston Water Treatment Unit 1 Lymington Business Centre Cotton Road Totter Southampton SO40 3WV Tel: 02380688717</p>
<p>FREESTON Water Treatment</p>	
<p>LEGEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WM = Washing Machine WB = Wash Basin SK = Sink SH = Shower DW = Dishwasher UR = Urinal ELWH = Electric Local Water Heater EPOUMH = Electric Point Of Use Water Heater TMV = Thermostatic Mixing Valve/ Blender Valve <p> — Mains Water — Down Service — Hot Water — Softened Water </p> <p>This drawing was prepared for the Legionella Risk Assessment Report and is intended as a schematic diagram. Drawings are based on a visual inspection carried out during the Risk Assessment and information given at the time of the survey. Some assumptions may have been made in order to create this drawing. This drawing is not to scale</p>	



WRITTEN SCHEME

	Task		Frequency
1	Prepare site logbook for the Site.		ASAP
2	Flush infrequently used outlets.		Weekly
3	Record cold water outlet temperatures.		Monthly
4	Record hot water outlet temperatures.		Monthly
5	Clean and descale shower head and hoses.		Quarterly

REMEDIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Legionella Risk Category Key

1 = Insignificant risk.

2 = Controlled risk monitoring is being carried out maintain this standard.

3 = Risk is controlled, but deteriorating conditions could increase risk.

4 = Potential hazards identified.

5 = Risk Uncontrolled.

Site Reference/ Address	Remedial/Recommendations	Priority	Date Actioned	Signature
<u>Hot Water System</u> HCC Forest Park Secondary School	Continue monthly temperature monitoring of the domestic hot water systems; sentinel outlets. Record within a logbook.	2		
	Adjust electric local water heaters to achieve a minimum of 50°C at the hot outlet or inlet to the TMV within one minute.	5		

Site Reference/ Address	Remedial/Recommendations	Priority	Date Actioned	Signature
<u>Distribution</u> HCC Forest Park Secondary School	Remove dead leg pipe work or put on a weekly flushing regime and record in the logbook when carried out	5		
	I would recommend Bacteriological and Legionella water samples be taken if the temperatures fall out of the recommended limits.	5		
	Continue weekly flushing of any low use outlets etc and record when carried out.	2		
	Clean and descale showerheads at least quarterly. Record when carried out.	3		
	Ensure all domestic hot and cold pipe work is insulated within the building.	2		
	Continue monthly temperature monitoring of the domestic cold water systems; sentinel outlets. Record within a logbook.	2		
	Clean / change the inline water filter in the Main Building Staff Room in-line with the manufacturers recommendations	3		
	During a school closure, shut down one of the combi-boilers so that it can be ascertained which outlets are supplied by which combi-boiler.	2		
	Fit suitable backflow protection devices to pool fill taps or shorten the hoses to ensure that there is an air gap between the hose end and the pool water	4		