

RPZ Valve Tester Sector Terms and Conditions

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1. In these terms and conditions, unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions and rules of interpretation apply:

AIM	Water Undertakers' Approved Installation Method 08-01 Issue 2: Type BA Device – Verifiable Backflow Preventer with Reduced Pressure Zone (RPZ Valve), as amended or re-issued from time to time.
Approved Contractor	Has the meaning set out in the Regulations and is a person who has been approved by one of the WaterSafe Scheme Operators for a specific scope of work. Please note only Approved Plumbers can issue certificates of compliance for the installation of RPZ valves.
Approved RPZ Valve Tester	An individual RPZ Valve tester who has been approved by a WaterSafe Scheme Operator to test RPZ valves, in accordance with these terms and conditions. They are <u>not</u> an Approved Contractor
Brand Guidelines	The WaterSafe Brand Guidelines as updated from time to time, a copy of which is available on the WaterSafe website
Customer	Users or potential users of Members' services
Customer commitments	Customer Commitments v2 document or as updated from time to time, a copy of which is available on the WaterSafe website
Person	A human being
The Regulations	The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 and equivalent legislation in Scotland and Northern Ireland
RPZ Valve Tester Sector	WaterSafe membership and requirements that relate to persons who test RPZ valves and the approved businesses or sole traders that employ them or that they work for.
Scheme	The WaterSafe Installers' Scheme Limited
Scheme Rules	Membership requirements for a person or business to be a member and approved by WaterSafe. For the RPZ Valve Tester Sector these are set out in WaterSafe documents including but not limited to: RPZ tester sector terms and conditions, certification trade mark regulations, customer commitments and brand guidance.
Water Company	The water company responsible for supplying water in a particular region of the UK, otherwise known as: - the licensed wholesaler; or - water undertaker, as defined in the Water Industry Act 1991
WaterSafe	WaterSafe Installers' Scheme Limited (Company No.08128904), whose registered office is at Pembroke House, Ty Coch Lane, Llantarnam Park Way, Cwmbran, Torfaen, Wales, NP44 3AU
WaterSafe Scheme Operator	An Approved Contractors' Scheme who is also a subscriber of WaterSafe Installers Scheme Limited. There are currently six WaterSafe Scheme Operators:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglian Water's APLUS, • Association of Plumbing and Heating Contractors (APHC), • Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering (CIPHE), • Scottish and Northern Ireland Plumbing Employers' Federation (SNIPEF), • Severn Trent's Watermark and • The Water Industry Approved Plumbers' Scheme (WIAPS).
WaterSafe Approved Business	An organisation or sole trader that has been approved by a WaterSafe Scheme Operator that has met WaterSafe requirements for an Approved Business. A business may employ Approved Contractors or RPZ valve testers with different approval scopes e.g. Plumbers, Water Supply Pipe Installers or RPZ Valve testers.
WaterSafe website	www.WaterSafe.org.uk

2. SCOPE OF RPZ VALVE TESTER SECTOR

- 2.1. Members of the RPZ Valve Tester sector are only approved for operations and tasks associated with the commissioning and compliance testing of RPZ valves. The purpose is to verify conformity with the AIM and the Regulations through reporting observations, test results and failures when they occur.
- 2.2. Individual approved RPZ Valve Testers are NOT Approved Contractors as defined in the Regulations and are therefore not exempt from the notification requirements set out in Regulation 5 and are not permitted to issue certificates of compliance. The only exception to this is where an individual is also a current Approved Contractor.
- 2.3. Notification or other work associated with installing or replacing RPZ valves, is outside the scope of the RPZ Valve Tester sector. When installing or replacing RPZ valves every installer must meet the requirements as set out in the AIM and the Regulations. Where installers are separately approved as an Approved Contractor, they must meet their WaterSafe Scheme Operators' requirements.

3. CONDITIONS FOR RPZ VALVE TESTERS

- 3.1. Conditions of membership for a RPZ Valve Tester are:
- 3.2. To possess a qualification, in RPZ Valve testing that is recognised by the relevant Water Companies for the purposes of the AIM.
- 3.3. Must have testing equipment calibrated by an organisation accredited by UKAS and hold a current calibration certificate. A copy of a valid calibration certificate must be provided to register and then a certificate must be provided to their WaterSafe Scheme Operator annually or when the test equipment is replaced, whichever is earlier.
- 3.4. All Approved RPZ Valve Testers must be able to always demonstrate that they have been testing RPZ Valves within the last 12 months.
- 3.5. To ensure that all tasks associated with the commissioning and compliance testing of RPZ valves is carried out in accordance with the AIM. This includes but is not limited to:
 - 3.5.1. Verify the installation is correct before commissioning and/or completing the test

- 3.5.2. Complete commissioning and/or compliance testing in compliance with the most recent version of the AIM.
- 3.5.3. Completed commissioning and/or compliance test report must be submitted to the relevant Water Company within 10 working days of completion of the testing.
- 3.5.4. Notify any test failures in compliance with the AIM.
- 3.6. Only an Approved RPZ Valve Tester should complete and issue a test certificate for a valve they have tested themselves.
- 3.7. To be employed by a WaterSafe Approved Business or working as a sole trader, which is a WaterSafe Approved Business.
- 3.8. To comply with the Scheme Rules including these terms and conditions and any other requirements prescribed by WaterSafe from time to time.
- 3.9. To fully cooperate with the Scheme or WaterSafe Scheme Operator query, investigation or complaint process and provide any relevant information.

4. CONDITIONS OF WATERSAFE APPROVED BUSINESSES

- 4.1. Conditions of membership for every WaterSafe Approved Business are to:
- 4.2. To ensure compliance with the WaterSafe Scheme Rules. N.B. A business who was a Business Member of one of the WaterSafe Scheme Operators, as of 31 March 2023, will be deemed to meet the requirements of the Scheme Rules at that date
- 4.3. To comply with the Scheme Rules including these terms and conditions and any other requirements prescribed by WaterSafe from time to time
- 4.4. To ensure their employees always comply with section 3 'Conditions for RPZ Valve testers'.
- 4.5. To promote the WaterSafe brand.
- 4.6. To accept and comply with certification regulations and brand guidelines for use of the WaterSafe certification mark, name and logo.
- 4.7. To accept data sharing arrangements for the business and employees e.g. Ensure data protection requirements are met when providing employee information or other personal data to be listed on the WaterSafe Website
- 4.8. To hold Public Liability Insurance with a minimum cover of £2m and, where required, Employers' Liability Insurance with a minimum cover of £5m.
- 4.9. To ensure that all tasks associated with the commissioning and compliance testing of RPZ valves completed by its employees/sole trader are carried out in accordance with the AIM.
- 4.10. To ensure that only the Approved RPZ Valve Tester(s) employed by the business undertakes testing of RPZ Valves and issues test certificates in accordance with clause 3.6.
- 4.11. To have in place appropriate procedures for dealing with customer complaints in an effective and efficient manner.
- 4.12. To make customers aware of the Scheme's complaints procedures.

- 4.13. To fully cooperate with a WaterSafe or WaterSafe Scheme Operator query, investigation, audit, disciplinary or complaint process and provide any relevant information.
- 4.14. A Business Member will be removed from the Scheme if it does not employ any Individual Members and will need to re-apply to the Scheme upon employing an Approved Contractor or a qualified RPZ Valve tester who qualifies for Membership of the Scheme.
- 4.15. A Business Member will not be listed on the WaterSafe website as providing RPZ Valve testing services if it does not employ a current Approved RPZ valve tester. Business Members should notify their WaterSafe Scheme Operator if any Approved Contractors or RPZ Valve testers leave their business.