

Understanding your water quality report

Example :

2016 WATER QUALITY REPORT

Zone Name : Rissington

Zone Reference : ZA01TW

Population : 1500

Parameter	Units	PCV Standard	No of Samples	PCV Breach	Min	Mean	Max
1,2 Dichloroethane (Total)	µg/l	3	4	0	< 0.07	0.085	< 0.1
2 4-D (Total)	µg/l	0.1	4	0	< 0.003	0.004	0.007
2 4-DB (Total)	µg/l	0.1	4	0	< 0.006	0.006	< 0.006

Report identification – the heading of the report tells you:

- the calendar year that the samples were taken
- the water supply zone name and reference of the area covered by the report
- the estimated population of the zone

Parameter – this column lists all the parameters we test for. A parameter can be:-

- an **organism** (such as Coliforms or Colony Count)
- a **substance** (such as Lead or Nitrate)
- a **physical property** (such as pH or Colour)

Units – the unit of measurement each parameter is recorded in. Most are measured in mg/l (milligrammes per litre) or as ug/l (microgrammes per litre). One mg/l is one part in every million parts of water; one ug/l is one part in every 1000 million parts of water.

PCV Standard – this column shows the maximum amount of each parameter permitted in drinking water under UK regulations. PCV stands for Prescribed Concentration or Value.

Number of Samples – this is the number of samples tested for each parameter.

PCV Breach – this shows the number of samples that exceeded the PCV

Concentration or Value – for each parameter results are shown in three ways:-

- **Min**(imum), the lowest result during the period
- **Mean**, the average of the results
- **Max**(imum), the highest result during the period

A '<' symbol means a result was less than the value at which a parameter can be detected.

A '>' symbol means a result was greater than the range within which a parameter is normally detected.

Commentary on Water Quality – this section provides a brief summary for the zone, including any actions taken to investigate breaches of drinking water standards, and/or schemes of work we are carrying out to ensure compliance with standards in the future.