



Water

leep utilities™

Red Line Boundary Guide

This guide sets out the importance of producing the Red Line Boundary Map correctly and provides guidance on how to do so when submitting a NAV (New Appointment and Variation) application to Ofwat via Leep Utilities.

If the red line is wrong, the application could be invalid, permissions could be unenforceable, and the project could face costly delays or legal risks.

Network adoptions done right

Introduction

Why is it important to get the Red Line Boundary Map right?

Getting the Red Line Boundary Map correct at the outset is crucial. Ofwat have strict requirements for what constitutes an acceptable map, and any that don't meet their standards will be rejected.

Rejection means delays, duplication of effort, and wasted resources. By following the guidance in this brochure, you can ensure the map is right first time – keeping the project on track.



About Leep

At Leep Utilities, we're not just providing essential services like water, electricity, and heat. We're shaping the future of sustainable infrastructure across the UK. We work with leading developers to provide sustainable and quality utility services to our partnered communities, playing a key role in innovative projects that are transforming the way people live and work.

Success criteria

Golden Rules for a successful Red Line Boundary Map

To be accepted by Ofwat, your map must:



→ Be produced on
A3 or larger size:
297 x 420 mm

→ Include
surrounding towns
and villages near
the site for wider
context.

→ Show road names
that are visible
and readable.

→ Clearly state the
site name, full
address, and
location.



Introduction

Hints and Tips for a strong submission

To be accepted by Ofwat, your map must:

- Ensure **road names are legible** at the scale provided.
- Make the **red line boundary bold and unambiguous** – unclear boundaries risk rejection.
- **Avoid using other colours** within the map to prevent confusion.
- Choose a scale that provides a **slightly zoomed-out view**, showing the local area with identifiable features while keeping site details clear.

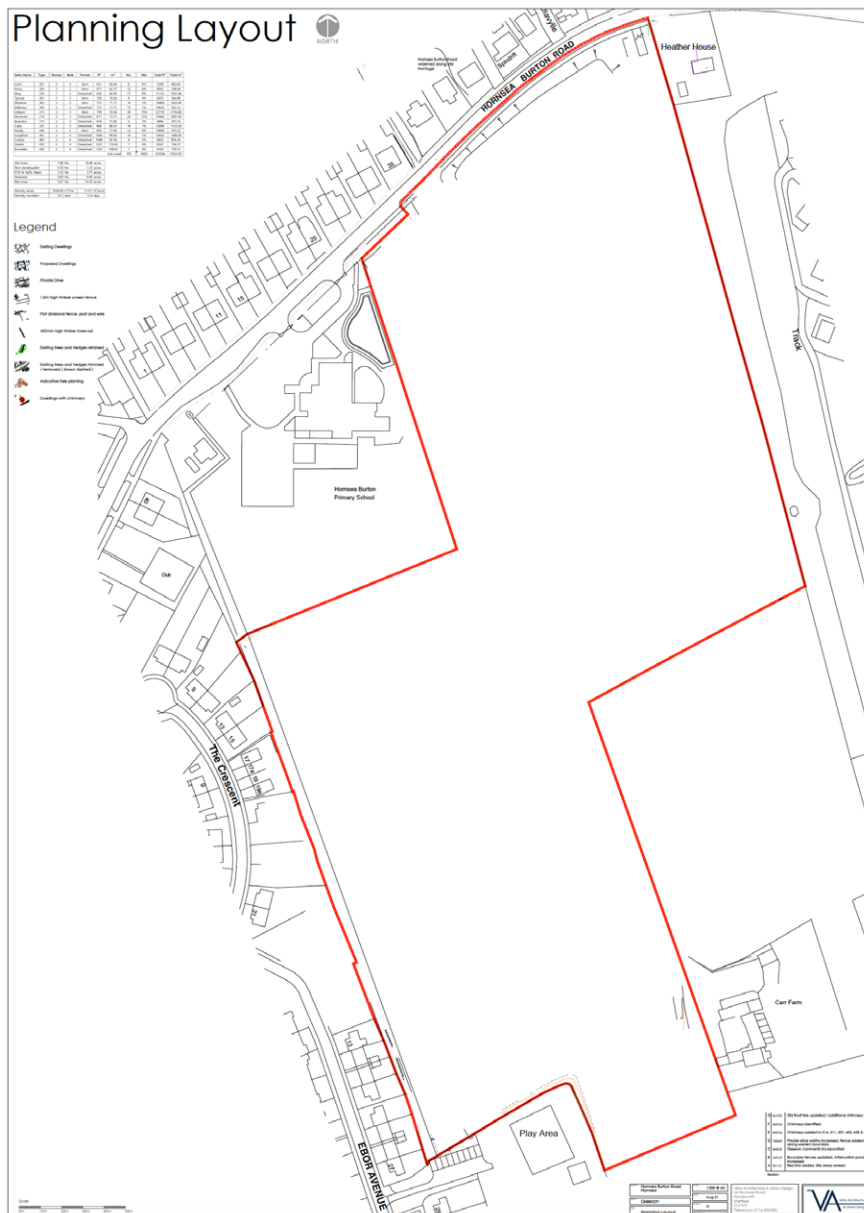
Remember:

A precise Red Line Boundary Map avoids unnecessary rework, keeps Ofwat satisfied, and ensures your application moves forward smoothly.



Best practice

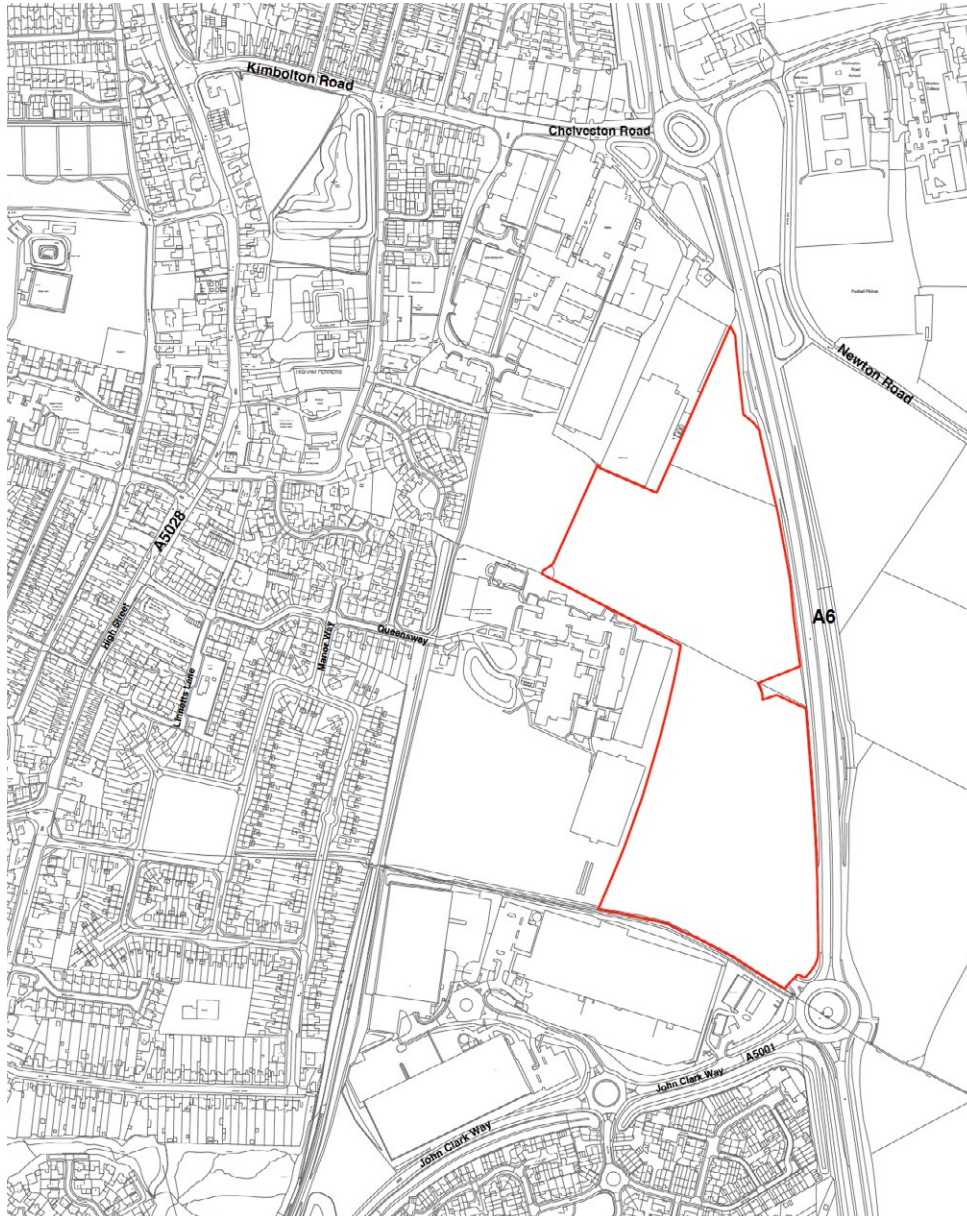
Good example 1



- ✓ Legible road names
- ✓ Bold and unambiguous red line boundary
- ✓ Avoidance of other colours
- ✓ Zoomed out view showing local area

Best practice

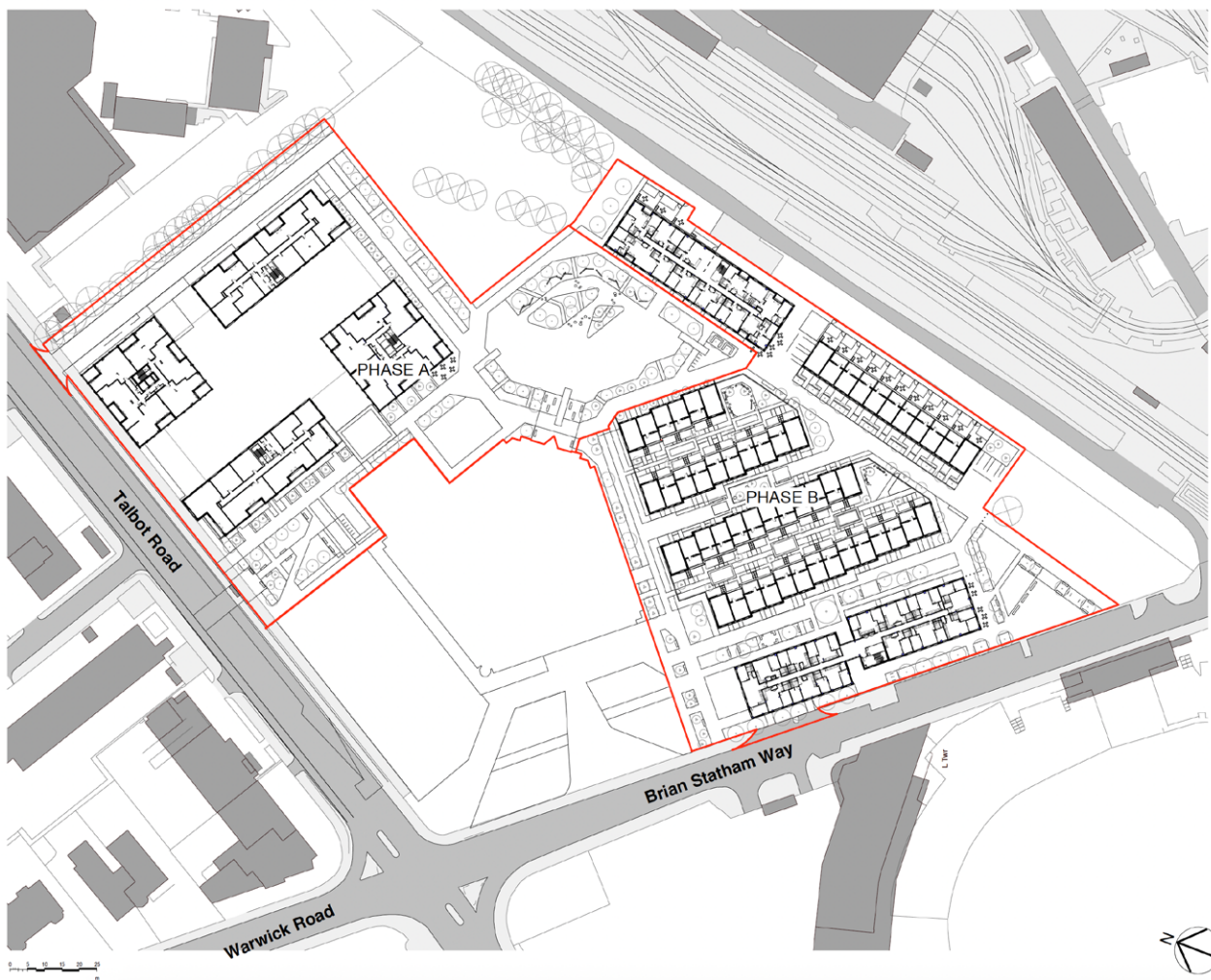
Good example 2



- ✓ Legible road names
- ✓ Bold and unambiguous red line boundary
- ✓ Avoidance of other colours
- ✓ Zoomed out view showing local area

Best practice

Good example 3



- ✓ Legible road names
- ✓ Bold and unambiguous red line boundary
- ✓ Avoidance of other colours
- ✓ Zoomed out view showing local area

Non-compliance

Poor example 1



- ❌ No road names to help determine location
- ❌ Red line boundary difficult to read
- ❌ Cluttered diagram and use of colour diminishing legibility
- ❌ No clear reference points to local area

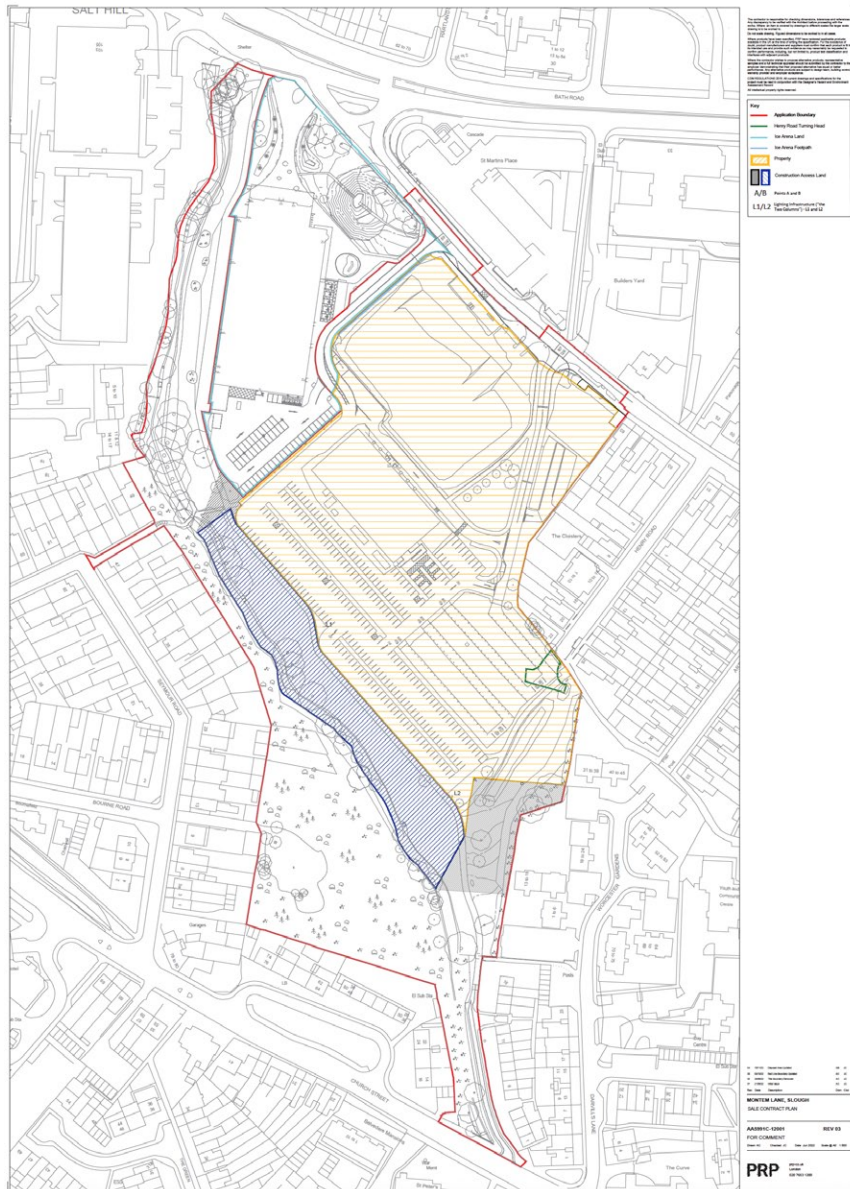
Non-compliance

Poor example 2



- ✗ No road names to help determine location
- ✗ Red line boundary difficult to read
- ✗ Cluttered diagram and use of colour diminishing legibility
- ✗ Zoomed in view with no reference to local area

Poor example 3



- ✗ Difficult to read road names to help determine location
- ✗ Red line boundary difficult to read
- ✗ Cluttered diagram and use of colour diminishing legibility

Poor example 4



- ✗ Difficult to read road names to help determine location
- ✗ Red line boundary difficult to read
- ✗ Cluttered diagram and use of colour diminishing legibility
- ✗ No clear reference to local area



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Network adoptions done right

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Curious about what we do?

Visit leeputilities.co.uk to discover why we're the smart choice for multi-utility network adoptions.