

Understanding your water quality report

Example :

Summary report for Chigwell

Date range 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017

Population : 265

Reference	Parameter Description	Number of samples taken in period	PCV Value	Unit	Percentage of samples contravening PCV	Minimum	Mean	Maximum
A001	Colour	4	20	mg/l Pt/Co	0	<1	<1.05	1
A002	Turbidity	4	4	NTU	0	0.09	0.12	0.18
A003	Odour	4	0	Dil. No.	25	0	0	1

Report identification – the heading of the report tells you:

- the water supply zone name covered by the report
- the calendar year that the samples were taken
- 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 Value – this column shows the maximum amount of each parameter permitted in drinking water under UK regulations. PCV stands for Prescribed Concentration or Value.

Percentage of samples contravening PCV – this shows the percentage 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.