Access Requirements for Above Ground Drainage Systems

It is essential that adequate provision is made for the testing and maintenance of the above-ground drainage system. Suitable accessibility via access covers, plugs and caps should be provided to enable all traps, discharge pipes and stacks to be tested, cleaned and cleared of any obstructions.

**Access points must be:**

- Air- and watertight.
- Quick and easy to remove.
- Fully accessible to facilitate cleansing.

**Access points should be located at:**

- The base of all soil & waste stacks above the spill-over level of the highest connection on a branch run, typically 1200mm above FFL.
- Every change of direction, on vertical stacks and horizontal pipe runs.
- Regular intervals on long horizontal runs typically
  - at 15m intervals on pipework up to 110mm,
  - at 24m intervals on pipework 160mm and above.
- All appliances, either via the trap or adjacent to the trap.
- On multi-storey buildings at each floor level.

The size of the access point within a building should generally be the same size as the pipework, up to 160mm.

For larger pipework, 160mm access points should be adequate.