

Statements by fluoridating Water Companies

Downloaded 21st September 2021 and 24th February 2023

Anglian Water

anglianwater.co.uk/help-and-advice/drinking-water-advice/fluoride/

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Fluoride

Fluoride occurs naturally at very low levels in drinking water; the amount depends on the type of rock your water supply comes from.

In line with the World Health Organisation's recommendations, our tap water contains less than 1.5 milligrams per litre (equivalent to one and a half parts per million) of fluoride and in most areas it's much lower.

Where is fluoride added to the water supply?

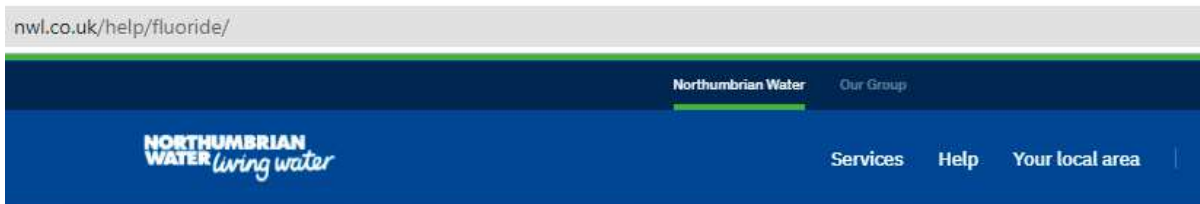
Why is fluoride sometimes added?

Water companies are sometimes asked to add fluoride to improve dental health. The amount of fluoride allowed in drinking water is much lower than found in products such as toothpaste.

Update, 24th February 2023

The above sentence relating to dental health has been removed.

Northumbrian Water



Information about fluoride

We've had lots of questions about fluoride from our customers, so we've pulled all the information into one place.

The biggest question we get is *do we add fluoride to the water supply?*

The answer is yes, we do.

We add fluoride to around 40% of the water supply in the North East.

The decision on if, when and where it's added is made by Public Health England and the Local Authorities in our areas and we act under instruction from them.

Why is fluoride added?

It's added to help prevent tooth decay and improve oral health.

Update, 24th February 2023

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Understanding fluoride

Fluoride is naturally present in all water supplies across the UK at different levels.

When water is taken from an underground source where the water has passed through rocks with fluoride containing minerals, such as chalk or sandstone, this is dissolved by the water. The natural background level of most source waters in the UK is below one part per million (mg/l).

1 Why fluoride is added

Fluoride is added to improve dental health

2 Paying for fluoridation

In some areas, the local health authority can request that [fluoride is added to our water to improve dental health](#). When we add fluoride we increase the natural background levels to 1 part per million (1 mg/l) to make it the same as areas that naturally have fluoride present.

3 How fluoride is added

If a health authority wants to introduce a new fluoride scheme they must consult the public first.

4 Fluoridated areas

On 1 April 2013 the Secretary of State for Health became responsible for all existing fluoridation schemes, and local authorities became responsible for proposing and consulting on new schemes or changing existing schemes.

The performance of dosing plants and target levels of fluoride are independently reviewed every month by the relevant health authority.

Update, 24th February 2023

1 Why fluoride is added

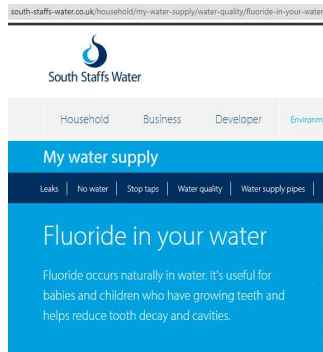
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3 How fluoride is added

South Staffs



<https://www.south-staffs-water.co.uk/household/my-water-supply/water-quality/water-quality-faqs>

Is fluoride added to the water supply?

Fluoride is a naturally occurring substance present in drinking water in varying concentrations. Regulations allow for up to 1.5 milligrams of fluoride per litre of water (1.5mg/l) to be present in drinking water. It is useful for babies and children, who have growing teeth, and helps reduce tooth decay and cavities.

At South Staffs Water the level of fluoride is adjusted upwards to a target level of 1mg/l in order to improve dental health. This adjustment occurs in all areas with the exception of the UTT water quality zone.

The enhanced levels of fluoride are added to our water at the request of Public Health England, in accordance with the Water (Fluoridation) Act 1985, and following extensive consultation with local health authorities and our customers.

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The concentration of fluoride in the water is independently audited every month by Public Health England.

Further information can be found on the [Public Health England website](#).

United Utilities

No admission on-line by this water company that fluoride reduces dental decay.