



Dear Resident,

Oberon Council's contractor, Interflow Pty Ltd, will soon commence sewer and stormwater smoke testing in your area. This will require Interflow staff to enter outdoor areas of your property.

Interflow will provide two days' notice via door knock and dropped calling cards before smoke testing in your area. You do not need to be present, however please contact the Interflow Project Manager should you wish to arrange a time for testing on your property.

What is smoke testing?

This is where our contractor pumps a vapour-like simulated smoke into local sewer pipes as a way of discovering sewerage system faults and non-compliant household stormwater connections. These can lead to sewer spills, public health risks and serious environmental impacts.

Please refer overleaf for a diagram of Smoke Testing for your reference.

What is a non-compliant stormwater connection?

This is where household stormwater plumbing is found to be connected to a Council-owned sewer instead of a stormwater drain. This is a breach of Clause 638 of the Local Government Act.

What happens if my property is found to have a non-compliant connection?

Council will send a notification providing details of what the property owner needs to do next.

When will you be testing in my area?

Smoke Testing in the Oberon LGA will be performed between 11/11/2024 and 19/11/2024.

What is the smoke? Is it harmful?

The smoke is non-toxic, non-staining and odorless, akin to the smoke used in concerts and other live events. However, we recommend people with respiratory problems to avoid direct exposure to the smoke. **To minimise the risk of smoke entering your home, please ensure showers, toilets, sinks and floor drainage have been recently used.**

What to do if smoke enters your home

Some amount of smoke may enter your residence through any connections to the sewer, such as the toilets, sinks & showers. Should this occur, please open your windows to ventilate the affected rooms, then flush toilets and run sinks and showers to suppress the smoke.

If any assistance in this process is required, please contact Interflows Project Manager.

If smoke does enter a home from the inside, it is advisable to contact a licensed plumber to find out if there is a sewer connection problem. Sewer connection problems may expose the resident to potentially harmful sewer emissions.

In addition, it is advisable – while smoke testing is being performed – to leave your toilet lids down with a small, approx. 2kg, object placed on the lid, to ensure that accidental toilet spurts are avoided. Toilet Spurts may occur when there are issues with the properties Air Vent or Overflow Relief Gully.

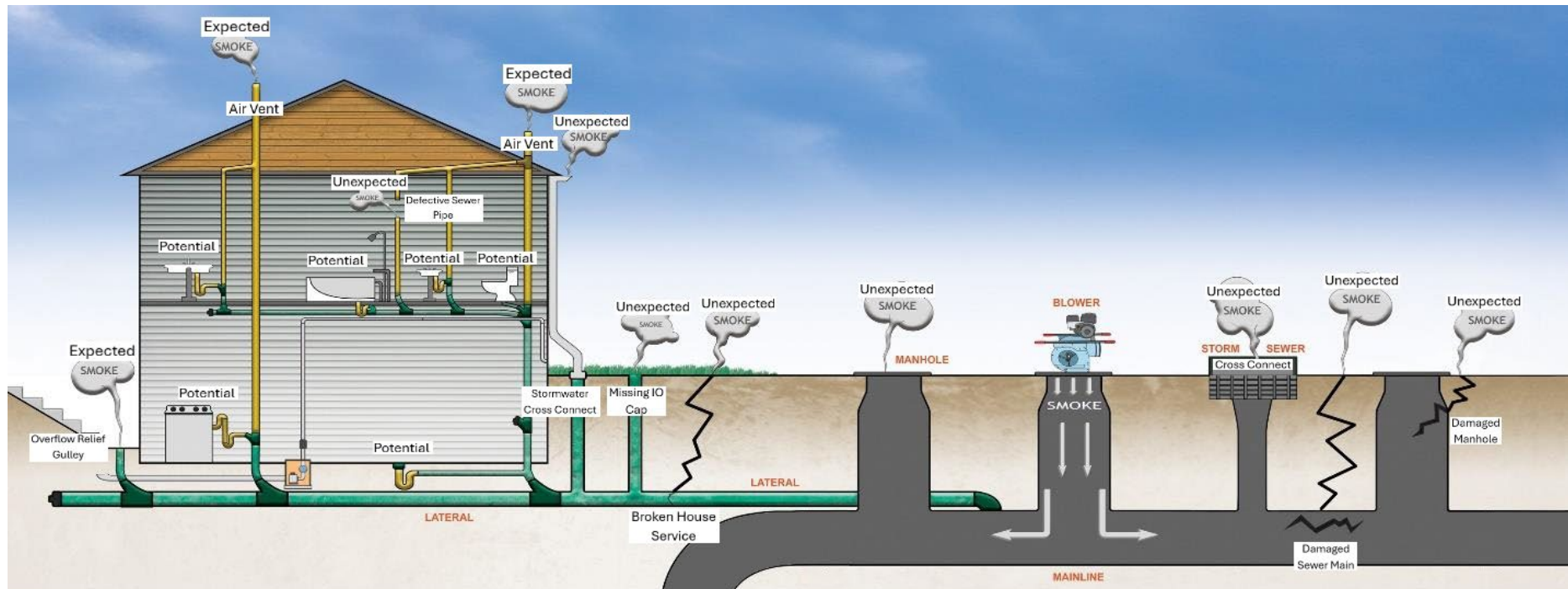
If you have any further questions, please call

Interflows Project Manager, Elliot Christie, on 0467 066 285

or Oberon Council on 02 6329 8100.

Yours sincerely,

INTERFLOW PTY LIMITED



“Unexpected” smoke could indicate a stormwater cross connection or a defective sewerage section.

Smoke has the potential to occur inside the residence at any location that is connected to the sewerage. Some of these locations are marked on the above diagram as “Potential”.

An “IO” is an Inspection Opening for a properties Sewer Connection. This is typically a small, circular plastic cap level with the ground.