1.19 Tanks in basements or contained in other below-ground infrastructure must be located in such a way that they are accessible for inspection, maintenance or replacement without the need to disturb the associated infrastructure.

1.20 No storage cistern or tank shall be buried directly in the ground. Underground tanks are only permitted in basements or in purpose built underground pump rooms, as illustrated schematically in digram D10 in Annex D, upon approval of the Distribution Company. All storage tanks must be placed to avoid potential flooding. However, where an underground water storage tank has been selected and approved by the Distribution Company, a suitable backflow prevention device and water overflow arrangements shall be considered. This is to ensure water overflowing from the tanks is directed to the drain and that no water returns to the tank following an overflow.

1.21 All tank access and inspection openings shall be at least 300mm above ground level or the highest known flood level. A suitably-sized sump-pump shall also be installed when and where applicable.

1.22 Storage tanks used for industrial, livestock, agricultural and other purposes that may come into contact with any other fluid or foreign material should be dedicated for that use only, and provided with suitable backflow prevention devices, overflow arrangements and an air gap of not less than 50mm.

***Fittings and accessories of tank and cistern***

1.23 The maximum height of the inlet to the Premises' Ground Storage Tanks shall not exceed 4000mm from water main service connection invert level.

1.24 Float-controlled valves or equivalent flow control inlet devices should be securely and rigidly attached to the cistern or the tank and installed so that the valve closes when the level of the water is not less than 25mm and preferably not more than 50mm below the overflow level of the tank or roof cistern.

1.25 All inlets to storage tanks and roof cisterns should be provided with a Servicing Valve to facilitate maintenance and a float-operated valve, or some other no less effective device, which is capable of controlling the flow of water into the cistern. The Servicing Valve should be fitted as close as is reasonably practicable to the float-controlled valve or other device.

1.26 All outlets other than vent pipes, overflow pipes and warning pipes relating to storage tanks or cisterns supplying water shall be fitted with a Servicing Valve as close to the cistern or tank as is reasonably practicable. Where practicable, all outlets from a cistern should be taken from the bottom of the cistern; a sump pit (600 x 600 x 200mm) shall be provided for tanks and cisterns larger than 10,000 litres. The tank floor should be sloping down towards the sump pit at a gradient of 2.5%.