

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The aim of this policy is to protect the health of existing communities by:

- ensuring the long term viability and adequacy of the communities water supply;
- making provision for reticulated water supply to developments of a scale or nature to warrant such a service;
- providing clear guidelines to promote certainty in the community and the development industry;
- providing decisions that are based on the well being of the community as a whole.

### 2.0 POLICY STATEMENT

This policy applies to all applications for a water connection from Council's water infrastructure to properties that are not located within Bundaberg Regional Council's declared Water Service Area.

### 3.0 POLICY OBJECTIVES

The primary purpose of potable water supplies is the provision of reliable drinking water that meets human consumption standards. This standard stems primarily from an increase in the intensity of human activities.

Council recognises the need to align the expansion of its declared water supply areas with changes in Legislation, particularly the *Planning Act 2016 and the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

Objectives of this operational policy shall be achieved through consideration of proposals relating to scale/nature, infrastructure capacity and strategic planning issues.

### 4.0 POLICY PRINCIPLES

Properties situated outside of Council's declared Water Service Area, that wish to connect to the water supply network shall first require approval by Council.

#### 4.1 Conditions

Where an owner of a property that is situated outside of the Declared Water Service Area desires a connection to the water supply network, then the following conditions shall apply:

- The parcel of land to be serviced by a water connection must be able to be connected directly and separately from a reticulation water main;
- Directly - means that there are no parcels of land of any type between the reticulation main and the boundary of the property for which a connection is desired;

- Separately - means that there are no other property services connected to the property service under consideration.
- Water plumbing serviced by such connection must not extend beyond the boundary of the parcel to which the property service is connected.
- Connection shall only be allowed from reticulation water mains. No connection shall be permitted from transfer and distribution mains unless approved by the Group Manager Water and Wastewater. The definition of each main type is outlined in section 4.6 of this policy.
- The reticulation system must have sufficient capacity to accommodate any additional hydraulic load.

#### **4.1.1 Water Meter Location**

A water connection shall include a water meter that is installed:

- on the property boundary;
- at 90 degrees to a reticulation main;
- directly opposite the connection to a reticulation main;
- within 0.5 metres of a property side boundary;
- in an easily accessible position to facilitate reading and maintenance.

A single 20mm metered service shall be installed to each individual property.

## **4.2 Charges**

Applicants shall be responsible for the following charges:

### Infrastructure Charge

- Applicable where the application for a water connection is made in association with a Development Application; or
- a charge equivalent to an Infrastructure Charge where the application is unrelated to a Development Application. This equivalent charge shall be 25 % of the relevant Adopted Infrastructure Charge.

The charges detailed above shall be set by Council Resolution, from time to time.

### External Works Charge

- This charge is required where any or all of the conditions stipulated in clause 4.1 and sub-clause 4.1.1 cannot be met and the Applicant still desires to proceed with a water connection. An example of an external works charge is the cost involved with:
  - *extending a reticulation main past the frontage of the property;*
  - *an increase in pumping capacity, or similar water system upgrade.*

### Connection Charge

Applicant's shall be responsible for the full cost of the water service installation.

### Application Fee

Applications may incur an application charge as set out in Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges.

## **4.3 Responsibility**

Bundaberg Regional Council shall be responsible for:

- checking that the water reticulation network has adequate capacity,
- connecting any extended reticulation main to the live reticulation network.
- installation of the water service from the point of connection on the reticulation main to, and including, the water meter;
- maintenance of the water service from the point of connection on the reticulation main to, and including, the water meter; and
- reading of the water meter as required by Council from time to time.

The property owner shall be responsible for:

- connection of all house fixtures to the water meter,
- maintenance of all plumbing works on the customer side of the water meter; and
- protection of the water meter against any damage.

#### **4.4 Applicants should observe the following information**

Drinking water is not to be pumped directly from Council water reticulation network. Council shall take every measure practicable to ensure that the water supply provided is fit for domestic potable use.

#### **4.5 Applications**

Applications are to be made on Plumbing Form 1 "Notice to Service Provider for Water and Sewer" accompanied by a letter requesting a water connection outside of the Declared Water Supply Area.

#### **4.6 Definitions**

##### Reticulation Main

A network of water mains that provide direct consumer connections;

##### Distribution Main

A water main that serves as the principal distributor within a supply area, without direct consumer connections;

##### Transfer Main

A water main that interconnects water sources, treatment plants, reservoirs and/or supply areas, without direct consumer connections.

#### **4.7 Controls**

The authority to approve or refuse applications for water connections outside of the declared water areas shall rest with the Chief Executive Officer or delegated Officer.

## **5.0 REFERENCES/ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**

*Local Government Act 2009*

*National Plumbing and Drainage Code AS/NZS 3500.1:2003*

*Planning Act 2016*

*Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*