

Policy

Drinking Water Quality Policy

Version 1.10 |

Adopted by Council at its meeting on TBA |

Minute No: TBA |

Division:	Community and Natural Resources
Section:	Water
File Reference:	Water Management - Policy - General
Historical Reference:	N/A

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Drinking Water Quality Policy

OBJECTIVE

This policy describes Council's commitment to drinking water quality and how this will be achieved.

DEFINITIONS

ADWG: Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 6 (2004)

NHMRC: National Health and Medical Research Council

NRMMC: Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council

WQMS: Water Quality Management System

BACKGROUND

The Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (~~ADWG~~) (~~NHMRC/NRMMC, 2004~~) describes a holistic approach to drinking water management. Tweed Shire Council will implement the requirements of the ADWG through a Drinking Water Quality Management System (WQMS). ~~This~~ The ADWG includes the requirement of a Drinking Water Quality Policy.

~~Council describes its level of service in the Water Supply Activity Management Plan and its supporting documents, including Levels of Service, Performance Measurement and Targets.~~

POLICY

Tweed Shire Council is committed to managing its water supply effectively to provide high quality drinking water that protects public health and consistently meets the ~~NHMRC/NRMMC~~ Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, and consumer and other regulatory requirements.

To achieve this Council will implement a Drinking Water Quality Management System that is based on the following principles:

- Managing water quality at all points along the delivery chain from source water to consumer.
- Using a risk-based approach in which potential threats to water quality are identified and managed.
- Integrating the requirements of our consumers, stakeholders, regulators and employees into our planning.
- Establishing regular monitoring of the quality of drinking water and effective reporting mechanisms to provide relevant and timely information, to promote confidence in the water supply and its management.
- Developing appropriate contingency planning and incident response capability.
- Continually improving our practices by assessing performance against corporate commitments and stakeholder expectations.
- Implementing and regularly reviewing maintenance and asset management programs.

All managers and employees involved in the supply of drinking water are responsible for understanding, implementing, maintaining and continuously improving the Drinking Water ~~Quality~~ Management System.

DEFINITIONS

~~ADWG: Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 6 (2004)~~

~~NHMRC: National Health and Medical Research Council~~

~~NRMMC: Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council~~

~~WQMS: Water Quality Management System~~

KEY WORDS

~~Drinking Water Quality~~

~~Australian Drinking Water Guidelines~~

~~Water Quality Management System~~

RELATIONSHIP WITH RELATED LEGISLATION AND RELATED POLICIES

NHMRC/NRMMC, Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 6 (20~~04~~11)

NSW Health, Drinking Water Monitoring Program (2005)

Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Regulations (2007)

The Code of Practice for the Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies (20~~02~~11)

Public Health Act 2010

Public Health Regulation 2012

NSW Guidelines for Drinking Water Management Systems (2012 Draft)

Compliance

The DWMS incorporates the requirements of the relevant legislation and guidelines.

REVIEW

~~The Manager Water will be notified 6 months prior to the expiry date as a reminder that the policy requires review. This policy is to be reviewed and re-adopted every 3 years or as a consequence of changes made to relevant legislation, related policy or changes to the Water Quality Management System (WQMS).~~

This policy will be reviewed within 12 months of the election of each new council or more frequently in the event of any legislative changes or change in circumstances.

Useful Links

Tweed Shire Council website

Division of Local Government

NSW Health (Water)

~~POLICY – SUPPORTING INFORMATION~~

~~Refer to WQMS~~

~~PROCEDURES~~

~~All procedures for implementing the policy are incorporated in the WQMS.~~

~~CONSULTATION~~

~~The WQMS describes the representative team which reviews the policy. This team includes relevant state government agencies, community representatives, Councillors and Council staff.~~

~~ACCOUNTABILITIES and RESPONSIBILITY~~

~~Water Unit~~

~~Manager – Overall Unit performance~~

~~Operations Engineer – Treatment plant, bulk water facilities, distribution and reticulation system operation and review and implementation of WQMS~~

~~Treatment & Process Engineer & Senior Technical Officer – Treatment plant and bulk water facilities operation and review and implementation of WQMS~~

~~Water Treatment Plant Supervisor and Operators – Operation of treatment plants, bulk water facilities and implementation of WQMS~~

~~Reticulation Staff – Distribution and reticulation system operation in accordance with WQMS~~

~~IMPLEMENTATION PLAN~~

~~Implementation plans for the Water Quality Policy are incorporated in the WQMS.~~

~~TRAINING PLAN~~

~~Training plans for the Water Quality Policy are incorporated in the WQMS.~~

~~COMPLIANCE~~

~~The WQMS incorporates the requirements of the relevant legislation and guidelines (see list of relevant legislation and guidelines above).~~

~~EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS POLICY~~

~~Council is required to meet Department of Health, NSW Office of Water and the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water performance monitoring and reporting requirements.~~

POLICY ADVISOR

Water Unit Manager

FORMS

Nil