

Sewer ejection pump stations

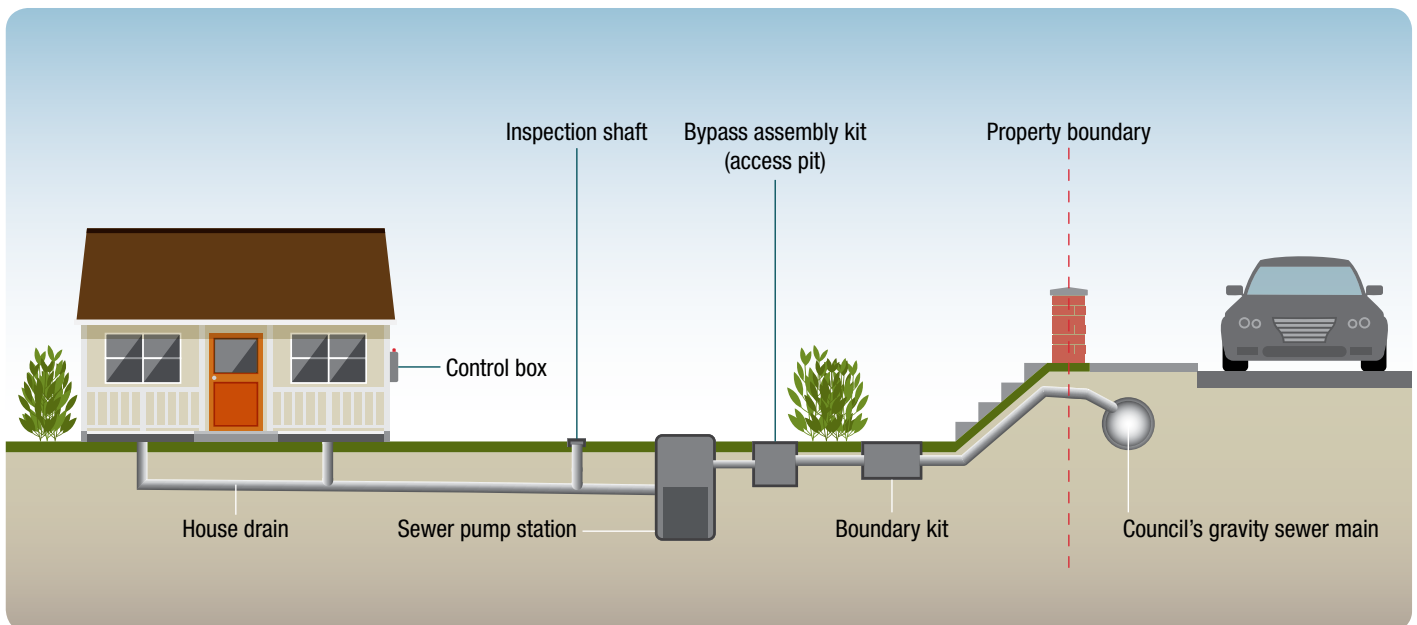
A guide for applicants

This Fact Sheet is designed to help applicants whose sewage ejection pump station (SEPS) application has been approved to connect to Council's sewer. Council will only approve SEPS where the property is in an existing low-pressure sewerage system.

Your sewerage system

In the Tweed Shire, wastewater (grey water and sewage) from most properties discharges to Council's sewer network via gravity mains. Your property, however, is one of a small number that needs a powered pump station to pump the wastewater from your lot to Council's sewerage system.

In the Tweed, some sewage ejection pump stations are owned by the property owner and others are owned by Council. If Council owns the station, it maintains the station (Council owned stations are mainly located in Burringbar/Mooball, Azura, Dobby's Crescent and Smiths Creek Road Uki). If the station is privately owned, it is called a private sewage ejection pump station. It is the responsibility of the owner to engage a licensed plumber to service and repair the private station if and when required.



If Council allows construction of a SEPS on your property you will be required to:

1. Submit an application for a sewerage ejection pump station to Council. A plan of the site, including the proposed location of the pump, pipeline, boundary kit and pump type, must be provided with the application (see application form for more detail).
2. If the pumping station is located in an area where Council will own and operate the SEPS:
 - a. pay a \$14,800 installation fee to Council
 - b. pay Section 64 charges to connect to Council's sewerage system
 - c. pay the ongoing sewer access charges on your rates, and
 - d. contact Council for all repairs and maintenance.
3. If the station is located in an area where the SEPS will be privately owned and operated:
 - a. obtain an approval to operate from Council's Building and Environmental Health (BEH) unit
 - b. obtain a Start Work Permit from Council for a licensed plumber/drainier to install
 - c. pay the plumber for such work (**only** after citing Council's final inspection report)
 - d. allow onsite sewage management (OSSM) system inspections every 3–5 years by BEH officers
 - e. pay Section 64 charges to connect to Council's sewerage system
 - f. pay the ongoing sewer access charges on your rates, and
 - g. use a licensed plumber for any repairs or maintenance.

In all cases, it is the property owner's responsibility to maintain property drains, including clearing any blockages. They also need to ensure the lid of the pump station and the pump-out access pit is accessible at all times. For further information about maintaining your sewage ejection pump station, please see the *Sewage ejection pump station: Understanding and caring for your pump system* available at www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/SewerOverflows