

Policy

Drinking Water Quality

Version 1.3

Adopted by Council at its meeting on Thursday 26 October 2017

Division:	Engineering
Section:	Water & Wastewater - Operations
File Reference:	Council Policies/Procedures/Protocols
Historical Reference:	See Version Control

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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

NHMRC: National Health and Medical Research Council

NRMMC: Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council

DWMS: Drinking Water Management System

Policy Background

The Australian Drinking Water Guidelines describes a holistic approach to drinking water management. Tweed Shire Council will implement the requirements of the ADWG through a Drinking Water Management System. The ADWG includes the requirement of a Drinking Water Quality Policy.

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 Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, and consumer and other regulatory requirements.

To achieve this Council will implement a Drinking Water 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 Management System.

Related Legislation

NHMRC/NRMMC, Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 6 (2011)
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 (2011)
Public Health Act 2010
Public Health Regulation 2012
NSW Guidelines for Drinking Water Management Systems (2013)

Compliance

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

Forms

Not applicable

Review Period

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 as a consequence of changes to the DWMS.

Useful Links

[Tweed Shire Council website](#)

[Division of Local Government](#)

[NSW Health \(Water\)](#)

Version Control:

Version History		
Version #	Summary of changes made	Date changes made
1.0	Adopted by Council	14/12/2012
1.1	Updated to new Policy template and legislation	04/04/2013
1.1	Reviewed and adopted by Council	20/06/2013
1.2	Reviewed 8/9/2017	Adopted 26/10/2017 Minute No 557
1.3	Reviewed as part of Policies Review and no changes required.	16 June 2022