

Drinking Water Quality Policy

Policy Details

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Approval Authority	Council
Effective Date	17 January 2024
Policy Version Number	1
Policy Owner	Director of Engineering
Contact Officer	Water and Waste Manager

Supporting documentation

Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008</i> • <i>Public Health Act 2005</i> • <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> • <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>
Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue Policy • Revenue Statement
Delegations	N/A
Forms	N/A
Supporting Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Plan 2021- 2025 • Customer Service Standards – Water and Waste

Version History:

Version	Adopted	Comment	eDRMS #
1	17/01/2024	Council Resolution 0124/022	

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Intent

The purpose of this policy is to establish a framework for the implementation and maintenance of Drinking Water Supplies to the Carpentaria Shire Community that complies with the relevant legislation and standards which undergo operation and planning activities to protect public health.

Scope

This policy applies to all Council activities associated with the supply of potable drinking water to the community. The policy pertains to all support, operational and management personnel, including contractors involved in the provision of drinking water and the associated infrastructure.

Policy Statement

Officers carrying out activities to support potable water provision must comply with Council's policies and procedures set out in the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan.

Carpentaria Shire Council commits to developing, implementing and maintaining a Drinking Water Quality Management System that aligns to the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and the Guidelines set by the State Government. The Guidelines will be reflected in the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan aimed to support the health of the community.

To achieve this Council will:

- manage water quality at all points along the delivery chain from source water to the consumer;
- use a risk-based approach in which potential threats to water quality are identified and balanced;
- integrate the needs and expectations of our consumers, stakeholders, regulators and employees into our planning;
- establish regular monitoring of the quality of drinking water and effective reporting mechanisms to provide relevant and timely information, and promote confidence in the water supply and its management;
- develop appropriate contingency planning and incident response capability;
- participate in appropriate research and development activities to ensure continued understanding of drinking water quality issues and performance;
- contribute to the debate on setting industry regulations and guidelines, and other standards relevant to public health and the water cycle; and
- continually improve our practices by assessing performance against corporate commitments and stakeholder expectations.

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.

Supporting Information

Carpentaria Shire Council is bound by the requirements set out within the *Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008* and the *Public Health Act 2005* to provide potable water to all consumers within the declared service areas.

Responsibility

Council is responsible for the adoption, amendment and repeal of the Policy and the Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the development and amendment of any associated procedures and guidelines relevant to the Policy. The Water and Waste Manager is responsible for monitoring performance associated with this Policy and recommending appropriate changes.

This Policy is to remain in force until otherwise amended/repealed by resolution of Council.

Definitions

TERM	DEFINITION
Declared Service Areas	<p>The Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act requires all local governments to declare their water and/or sewerage service areas and publish maps showing these areas and the related infrastructure.</p> <p>It is an area such that any property owner within that declared area can reasonably expect to be able to connect to the services available.</p> <p>Council must provide, to the greatest practicable extent, a service to the property service point for all allotments in a declared service area. Cost to connect and any extension of mains required will still be assessed per current processes and costs where appropriate passed on to the applicant.</p>
Potable Water	<p>water of a quality suitable for drinking, cooking and personal bathing. The standards that define potable water are described in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and Council's Drinking Water Quality Management Plan.</p>
Australian Drinking Water Guidelines	<p>The <i>Australian Drinking Water Guidelines</i> (the Guidelines) provide guidance to water regulators and suppliers on monitoring and managing drinking water quality.</p>
Drinking Water Quality Management Plan	<p>A drinking water quality management plan (DWQMP) is the cornerstone document of a regulated risk management framework to ensure the safety of customers of drinking water service providers.</p>
State Government	<p>The Department which oversees the application of the Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008; currently, Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water</p>

Adopted by Council on 17 January 2024 by Resolution 0124/022.

Mark Crawley
Chief Executive Officer