

Water Meter & Service Downsizing Policy

1 Purpose

The introduction of Best Practice Pricing contains as a key element of the pricing structure for the Water and Wastewater Availability Charge, a cost based on the size of the water meter service connection.

Council considers it appropriate to provide customers with the option of being able to down size the water meter and service connection in order to reduce the price impact of the availability charges.

Council requires professional advice to be sought prior to downsizing of non-domestic and multiple occupancy water meters and service connections to ensure all statutory and Australian Standards requirements are met.

The purpose of this Council Policy is to provide guidance on managing applications to downsizing of water meters and service connections.

2 Policy

The downsizing of the water meter and service connection is not an automatic option and must be considered in light of the need to provide appropriate water supply services to the premises.

Council will consider all applications for the downsizing water meters and service connections.

The downsizing of a water meter and service connection is possible if:

- The property owner submits a written application to Council for downsizing
- Downsizing of the current water meter and service connection does not breach statutory requirements
- Downsizing of the current water meter and service connection does not breach NSW Fire Brigade fire fighting requirements
- For Commercial and Multiple Occupancy premises, a Hydraulic Consultant's Engineers Report accompanies the application confirming that the service still meets the relevant Australian Standards and any statutory requirements
- The property owner provides Council with a written indemnity against any losses as a result of downsizing
- The downsizing does not affect current backflow prevention devices
- No existing Development Conditions are breached

The submission of an application and any recommendation contained within the accompanying Hydraulic Consultant's Engineers Report does not place any obligation on Council to approve such a down size to the water meter and service connection.

All associated costs for downsizing of the current water meter and service connection will be borne by the applicant. Council will provide a quotation for the physical downsizing of the water meter and service connection.



3 Definitions

Meter: Used for measuring the amount of water consumed

Service Connection: Associated pipe work and fittings from the Council main to the downstream side of the water meter within the property boundary

4 Key Responsibilities

General Manager

To lead staff through delegated authority in their understanding of this Policy.

Director Sustainable Infrastructure and Group Leader Strategic Asset Management

To ensure the commitment made within this Policy is implemented and met.

Water Services Team Leader

To oversee compliance with, and coordination of the Policy.

Council Officers

To promote the use of, and knowledge of this Policy.

5 References

- *Local Government Act 1993;*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005;*
- National Construction Code 2016 – Volume 3 – Plumbing Code of Australia;
- AS / NZS 3500 National Plumbing and Drainage Code;
- AS/NZS 1221 / Fire Hose Reels
- AS/NZS 2419 / Fire Hydrant Installations
- DPI - Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines;
- Water Metering Service Installation Policy;
- Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control Policy - Containment Only

6 Details of Approval and Revision

- **Approval date: 14/09/2017**
- **Responsible Section: Water and Sewer**
- **Superseded policies/procedures:**
- **Next review date: 14/09/2021**

Table of amendments

Amendment	Authoriser	Approval ref	Date