

<b>Policy title</b>	Recycled Water
<b>Responsible manager(s)</b>	Director Infrastructure Services
<b>Contact officer(s)</b>	Division Manager Water and Sewer
<b>Directorate</b>	Infrastructure Services
<b>Approval date</b>	11 October 2022
<b>Outcome area</b>	1 Our sustainable shire celebrates our natural environment and outdoor lifestyles
<b>Strategy</b>	1.4 Work together in the management and use of our valuable resources
<b>Delivery Program</b>	1.4.3 Provide opportunities and incentives to encourage responsible use of resources by the community and at Council
<b>Operational Plan</b>	1.4.3.2 Provide treated effluent for reuse in the community

### Purpose

This policy was developed to detail the requirements for managing Council’s recycled water systems. Council operates five sewage treatment plants, each of which provides recycled water for on-site operations, dust suppression and/or irrigation of recreation facilities.

### Policy aims

Given the risks to public health when water is not treated or recycled properly, it is of paramount importance that preventative risk management systems are developed and implemented to ensure the protection of human and environmental health.

### Policy details

<b>1</b>	<b>Application</b> This policy details the requirements for managing Council’s recycled water systems. This policy only relates to systems that are using recycled water from Council Sewage Treatment Facilities and that require a Section 60 approval from the NSW Department of Primary Industries.
<b>2</b>	<b>Legislation</b> This policy ensures Eurobodalla Shire Council’s compliance with the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> Section 60.

### Implementation

Requirements		Responsibility
<b>1</b>	<b>Commitment</b> Council supports the responsible use of recycled water and is committed to developing and implementing preventive risk management systems to ensure the protection of human and environmental health.	Council
<b>2</b>	Measures: To achieve this Council will: a) Ensure that protection of public and environmental health is recognised as being of paramount importance.	Division Manager Water and Sewer

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) Maintain communication and partnerships with all relevant agencies involved in the management of water resources, including NSW Health, the NSW Department of Planning and Environment and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.</li> <li>c) Engage users of recycled water to ensure that responsibilities are identified and understood.</li> <li>d) Develop and implement recycled water management plans that address the key elements of the Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling.</li> <li>e) Ensure that Council's sewage treatment plant operators are appropriately trained and experienced and that they are conversant with the requirements of relevant recycled water management plans.</li> <li>f) Manage recycled water quality at all points along the delivery chain from source to the recycled water user.</li> <li>g) Use a risk-based approach in which potential threats to recycled water quality are identified and controlled.</li> <li>h) Establish regular monitoring of control measures and recycled water quality and establish effective reporting mechanisms to provide relevant and timely information and promote confidence in the recycled water supply and its management.</li> <li>i) Develop appropriate contingency planning and incident response capability.</li> <li>j) Continually improve our practices by assessing performance against corporate commitments and stakeholder expectations.</li> </ul>	
3	<p><b>Implementation requirement</b></p> <p>Eurobodalla Shire Council will implement and maintain recycled water management systems consistent with the <i>Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling</i> to effectively manage the risks to public and environmental health. All staff involved in the supply of recycled water are responsible for understanding, implementing, maintaining and continuously improving the recycled water management system.</p>	Council officers
4	<p><b>Staff</b></p> <p>Under supervision, applicable Council staff will be responsible for ensuring that this policy is implemented appropriately within their work area, after they have received relevant training to do so.</p>	Council officers
5	<p><b>Concerns</b></p> <p>Concerns received by Council in relation to this policy will be recorded on Council's records system and handled in accordance with Council's Customer Service or Complaints policy. The records will be used to determine follow up actions and analyse the history of concerns.</p>	Council officers
6	<p><b>Consultation</b></p> <p>Any consultation deemed necessary will occur as required with key stakeholders, which may include (but not be limited to) the community, other agencies, statutory and industry bodies. (Describe any specific consultation that may occur in relation to this policy and who will be involved.) Public</p>	As applicable

	submissions regarding this policy are invited for consideration during the exhibition period.	
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### Review

This policy will be reviewed every 4 years. It may also be reviewed and updated as necessary if legislation requires it; or when Council's related policies, functions, structure or activities change; or when technological advances or new systems change the way that Council manages recycled water.

The policy may be revoked at the expiration of twelve months after the declaration of the poll for the next general NSW local government election, unless Council updates or revokes it sooner.

Reviews of the effectiveness of this policy could include the following:

Performance indicator	Data source(s)
Delivery Program/ Operational Plan outcomes achieved	Council reporting
Concerns or complaints registered	Council records
Internal or external review	Audit

### Governance

This policy should be read in conjunction with any related legislation, codes of practice, relevant internal policies, and guidelines.

#### *Related legislation and policies*

Name	Link
<i>Local Government Act 1993</i>	<a href="#">Local Government Act 1993 No 30 - NSW Legislation</a>
<i>Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling</i>	<a href="#">Water Quality Australian guidelines for water recycling</a>

#### *Related external references*

Name	Link
Office of Local Government	<a href="http://olg.nsw.gov.au">olg.nsw.gov.au</a>
NSW Department of Planning and Environment	<a href="http://Water.nsw.gov.au">Water (nsw.gov.au)</a>

#### *Change history*

Version	Approval date	Approved by	Min No	File No	Change
1	28 Oct 2008	Council	08/386	E06.0113	Policy commenced
2	10 Sep 2013	Council	13/272	E13.7095	Reviewed and updated (start of new Council term)
3	13 Jun 2017	Council	17/181	E16.0297 E06.0113	Reviewed and updated (start of new Council term)
4	11 Oct 2022	Council	22/265	S004- T00060	Reviewed and updated (start of new Council term)

*Internal use*

Responsible officer		Director Infrastructure Services		Approved by	Council
Minute	22/265	Report	GMR22/099	Effective date	11 Oct 2022
File	S004-T00060	Review date	11 Oct 2022	Pages	4