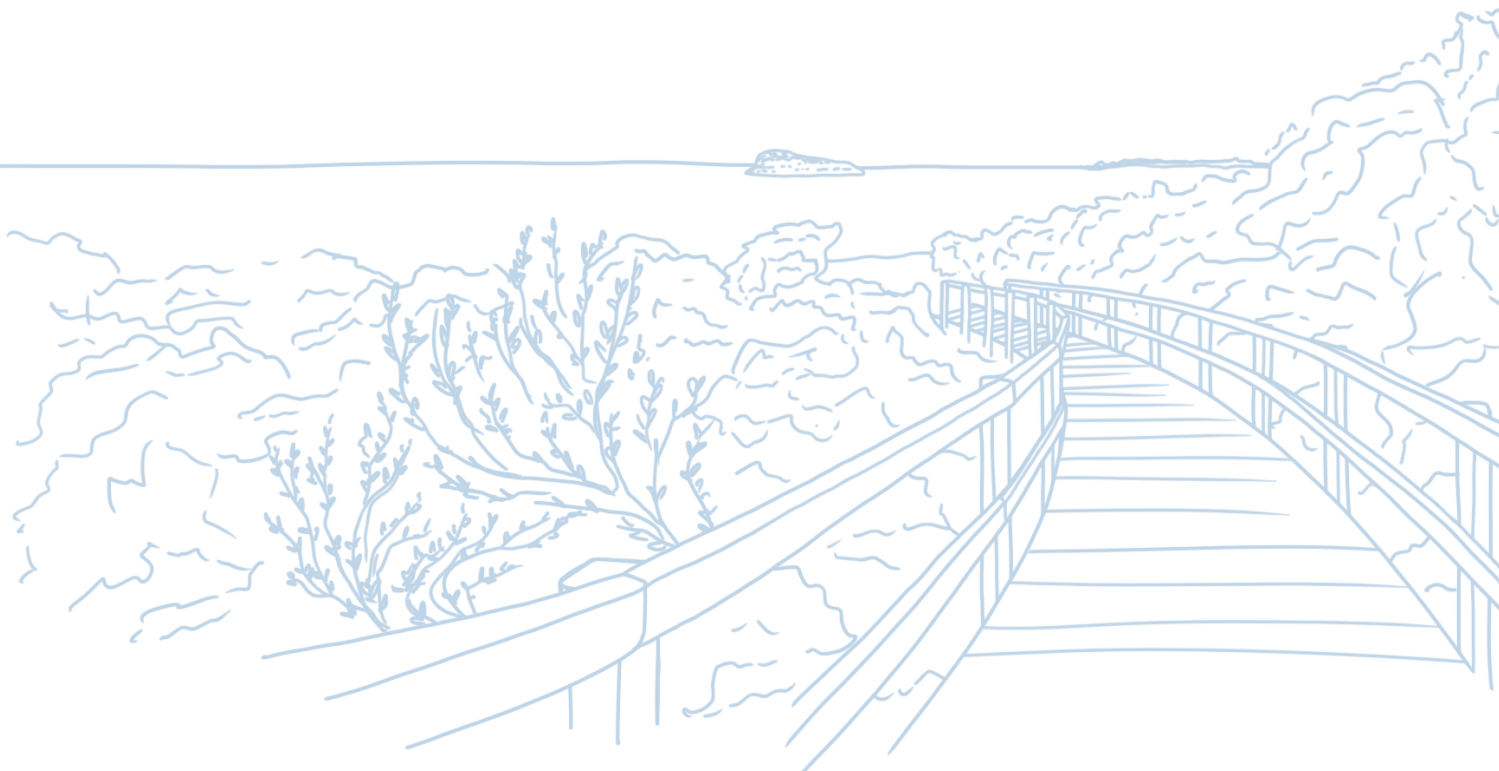


# Central Coast Council

## Recycled Water Policy

Date Adopted: 27/01/2026  
Revision: 2



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## 1. Policy Objectives

- 1.1.** The purpose of this Policy is to demonstrate Central Coast Council's (Council's) commitment to responsible and sustainable management and use of recycled water that is consistent with the requirements of the Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling (the Guidelines), and other regulatory requirements.
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## 2. Policy Scope

- 2.1.** This Policy covers all Council employees and contractors involved with the management and supply of recycled water to customers, including:
- Harvesting;
  - Treatment;
  - Reticulation;
  - End use requirements; and
  - Ancillary support associated with the safe and sustainable use of recycled water.
- 2.2.** This Policy has been developed in alignment with best practice standards, drawing upon a nationally recognised template under the Guidelines.
- 2.3.** The Guidelines provides an authoritative reference that can be used to support beneficial and sustainable recycling of waters generated from sewage, grey water, and stormwater.
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## 3. Policy Statement

- 3.1.** Council supports and promotes the responsible, safe and sustainable management and use of recycled water and the application of a best practice multi-barrier management approach that consistently meets the Guidelines, as well as recycled water user and regulatory requirements.
- 3.2.** To achieve the Guidelines, Council will:
- 4.1.1 Ensure that protection of public and environmental health is paramount;
  - 4.1.2 Apply the principles of sustainability at all points along the delivery chain, from source to recycled water use;
  - 4.1.3 Use a multi-barrier approach in which potential risks, hazards, and threats to water quality are identified, assessed, and controlled;
  - 4.1.4 Integrate into planning and decision-making processes, the needs and expectations of stakeholders in the production, supply and use of recycled water, including but not limited to recycled water end-users, the community, regulators, and employees;
  - 4.1.5 Manage recycled water quality at all points along the delivery chain from source to recycled water end-users and the community;

- 4.1.6 Prepare, implement, and periodically review Recycled Water End-User Agreements, End-User Management Plans and Recycled Water Quality Management Plans to guide Council activities and end-users on the safe use and handling of recycled water to minimise risks;
  - 4.1.7 Maintain communication, engagement and partnerships with the community and all other relevant stakeholders;
  - 4.1.8 Provide training to operators, employees, contractors, end-users and all other relevant staff associated with the planning, operation, maintenance, and governance of the recycled water system from treatment to end-user supply;
  - 4.1.9 Perform 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;
  - 4.1.10 Develop and maintain appropriate contingency planning and incident response capability, including investigation and reporting of incidents and review of response plans, procedures, and protocols, to ensure continuous improvement of the recycled water management system;
  - 4.1.11 Participate in and support relevant research and development activities, and join professional associations and industry peak organisations to ensure continued understanding of recycled water quality issues and improvement of performance;
  - 4.1.12 Undertake regular audits and reviews to ensure the robustness and operational preparedness of the processes associated with Policy and guidelines to manage critical events;
  - 4.1.13 Contribute to the development and setting of industry regulations, guidelines and other standards relevant to recycled water, membership and participation in professional associations dealing with management and use of recycled water is encouraged; and
  - 4.1.14 Continually improve practices by regularly assessing performance against regulatory requirements, corporate commitments, and stakeholder expectations.
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## 4. Responsibilities

### **Compliance, monitoring and review**

- 4.1.** Suspected breaches or misuse of this Policy are to be reported to the Chief Executive Officer.
- 4.2.** Alleged breaches of this Policy shall be dealt with by Council's Code of Conduct and associated procedures.

**4.3.** This Policy will be reviewed, at a minimum, every four years or within six months of material change in legislation or regulation associated with protection, distribution and supply of recycled water.

### **Records Management**

**4.4.** Staff must maintain all records relevant to administering this protocol in accordance with Council's Information and Records Management Policy and the State Records Act 1998.

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## **5. Policy Definitions**

<b>Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling</b>	means the Guidelines that are designed to provide an authoritative reference that can be used to support beneficial and sustainable recycling of waters generated from sewage, grey water and stormwater.
<b>Council</b>	means Central Coast Council
<b>Council Official</b>	means Councillors and their delegates, Council staff, volunteers and contracts
<b>LG Act</b>	means Local Government Act 1993
<b>National Water Quality Management Strategy</b>	means strategy to protect the Australia's water resources by maintaining and improving water quality, while supporting dependent aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, agricultural and urban communities, and industry.

## 6. Policy Administration

<b>Business Group</b>	Water and Sewer
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Unit Manager Headworks and Treatment
<b>Associated Procedure (if any, reference document(s) number(s))</b>	N/A
<b>Policy Review Date</b>	January 2030
<b>File Number / Document Number</b>	D16963389
<b>Relevant Legislation (reference specific sections)</b>	Public Health Act 2010 Local Government Act 1993 State Records Act 1998
<b>Link to Community Strategic Plan</b>	<b>Theme:</b> Our Place <b>Goal PL2.1:</b> Plan, deliver and maintain essential infrastructure such as roads, drainage, stormwater management, sewage treatment, water supply, and telecommunications.
<b>Related Policies / Protocols / Procedures / Documents (reference document numbers)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">Information and Records Management Policy</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Council's Code of Conduct</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Delegations Register</a></li> <li>▪ Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling: Managing Health and Environmental Risks</li> <li>▪ Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling: Stormwater Harvesting and Reuse</li> <li>▪ NSW Recycled Water Roadmap</li> <li>▪ Central Coast Water Security Plan</li> </ul>

## 7. Policy Authorisations

No.	Authorised Function	Authorised Business Unit / Role(s)
LG Act 061	Ownership of water supply, sewerage and stormwater drainage works. Authority to operate, repair, replace, maintain, remove, extend, expand, connect, disconnect, improve or do any other things that are necessary or appropriate to any of its works to ensure that, in the opinion of the person delegated this authority, the works are used in an efficient manner for the purposes for which the works were installed.	Chief Executive Officer / Director Water and Sewer
LG Act 061	Exempt land or bodies from water supply and sewerage special rates Authority to exempt land or bodies from water supply special rates and sewerage special rates.	Chief Executive Officer

## 8. Policy History

Revision	Date Approved / Authority	Description Of Changes
1	Council Meeting Adoption: 14/09/20 Minute No – 470/20	Policy created and adopted.
2	Environment and Planning Committee Adoption: 02/12/25 Council Meeting Adoption: 27/01/26: Minute No – 25/102:	The Policy has been reviewed in line with template, format, language and Council's current recycled water initiatives. Modifications have been made to enhance clarity and maintain relevance to the organisation's operational context, while ensuring consistency with best-practice standards.