

Extraordinary Meeting Minutes



Water Management Advisory Committee

Date: 25 October 2021

Time: 2.08pm – 3.13pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

Chairperson: Jamie Loader, Director Water and Sewer

Coordinator: Luke Drury, Section Manager Assets and Planning

Attendance

Members:

John Asquith
Ken Brookes
Daryl Mann
Pam McCann
Mick Redrup

Status:

Present
Apology
Present
Present
Present

Staff:

Jamie Loader, Director Water and Sewer	Present
Danielle Hargreaves, Unit Manager Headworks and Treatment	Present
Daniel Kemp, Unit Manager Planning and Delivery	Present
Luke Welfare, Unit Manager Network Operations and Maintenance	Present
Luke Drury, Section Manager Assets and Planning	Present
Jenny Back, Business Performance Specialist	Present
Kelly Drover, Meeting Support Officer	Present

1 Introduction

2.08pm

The chairperson welcomed the group. Apologies received were noted.

2 Council's 2021 IPART Submission

2.09pm

Jamie Loader (Director Water and Sewer) provided the group with a presentation on Council's 2021 IPART Submission for the period 2022/23 to 2025/26 including the following:

- Submission process
- Council's price submission
- IPART's price review process
- Council's proposed notional revenue requirement (2022-23)
- Key messages for submission
- Proposed operational expenditure

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- Proposed capital expenditure
- Our proposed prices (2022-23)
- Proposed Price – Comparison
- Proposed Price – Bill Comparison
- Proposed Price – Average bills (2022-23)

Councils' submission comprises the main proposal, a proposal summary (plain English summary) and 10 technical papers. All relevant documentation is provided on IPART's website (<https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Water/Reviews/Metro-Pricing/Prices-for-Central-Coast-Council-from-1-July-2022>). IPART has now commenced its review process and has published its Issues Paper for review. IPART is holding an online public hearing on Tuesday 26 October 2021 as part of its review of Council's prices for water, wastewater, stormwater and other related services.

IPART is also in the process of engaging an expenditure review consultant. The draft determination is expected March 2022. It is expected there will be another public hearing after the draft, with a final determination expected May 2022.

It was noted that Central Coast Council currently has the lowest water and sewer bills in NSW with comparisons provided across NSW.

The Committee discussed the need to share more with our customers about why bills are increasing and provide details around the causes for the previous reductions in prices in the last determination that have led to this increase now being required.

The Committee discussed comparison of economies of scale with Sydney Water and Hunter Water and concerns were noted regarding the scale of the forecast corporate overheads by the community members.

3 Close

Next meeting: Wednesday 15 December 2021
3pm – 5pm
Microsoft Teams

Meeting closed at 3.13pm

Minutes approved by the Coordinator and Chairperson on 4 November 2021.