

# Minutes



## Water Management Advisory Committee

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**Date:** 22 June 2022

**Time:** 2.00pm – 3.30pm

**Location:** Hybrid - Committee Room / 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:**

Apology

Apology

Present

Present

Apology

**Staff:**

Jamie Loader, Director Water and Sewer

Danielle Hargreaves, Unit Manager Headworks and Treatment

Luke Drury, Section Manager Assets and Planning

Satpal Singh, Senior Engineer Water Resource Planning

Rachel Callachor, Meeting Support Officer

Present

Apology

Present

Present

Present

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### 1 Introduction

2.08pm

The chairperson welcomed the group and completed an Acknowledgement of Country.

Apologies received were noted.

The chairperson called for any disclosures of interest. No disclosures were received.

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### 2 Previous business

2.09pm

The group confirmed the minutes from the previous meeting as noted below, which were distributed to members via email and uploaded to Council's website:

[Water Management Committee meeting held 23 March 2022](#)

The action log was reviewed with updates recorded (see page 6).

### 3 Water supply system status report (standing item)

2.10pm

Satpal Singh (Senior Engineer Water Resource Planning) provided the group with a Water Supply System Update presentation including:

- Dam storage levels
- Rainfall statistics
- River extractions
- Status of important assets
- Hunter Water Storage and Transfers
- Water Restrictions
- Water Demands
- Rainfall outlook July to September 2022
- Min/Max Temperature Outlook July to September 2022
- Climate driver update – including La Nina
- Forecast for Ourimbah Creek streamflow September to June to August 2022

Question from a Committee member regarding Hunter and Central Coast climate synchronicity. Does this effect the joint modelling?

Advised in response that the modelling while based on historical records, also includes stochastic analysis to generate alternate patterns of rainfall/streamflow that considers overlapping drought between the two regions. The stochastic analysis preserves the mean and standard deviations of the historical record but generates over 1,000 alternate sets of data to account for climate variability. Updating the historical dataset continues to take place, the input of data guides the modelling outcomes.

Question regarding seepage rate at Mangrove Creek Dam - has there been an increase?

Confirmation yes there has been, but only minor as the level in the dam rises. Staff are monitoring in accordance with a 'first fill' process from 76% onwards, additional inspection and monitoring is being undertaken. New seepage points have been discovered, but nothing considered as a concern.

General discussion regarding proactive and preventative maintenance and leak detection.

Overall shift in technology and faster turn around with analysing the data and information. Included discussion of satellite image analysis opportunities being reviewed.

### 4 Water resilience works projects (standing item – action 24)

2.33pm

Further to the report that was circulated to the group on 21 June, Luke Drury (Section Manager Assets and Planning) provided the group with a status update on water resilience projects including:

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- Mardi Water Treatment Plant  
Council resolution to reject tenders and negotiate with a view to entering a contract  
Final IPART determination deemed the project as prudent with efficiency recommendations  
Stabilisation works to sludge lagoon underway  
Negotiation to follow efficiency and funding review
- M2WP (Mardi to Warnervale Pipeline) Commissioning  
CCC and HWC Operational team bulk transfer commissioning  
35MLD flow achieved during the day, on multiple days  
Flow to HWC reduced overnight due to reduced demands  
Up to 40MLD max flow achieved for short periods
- Mooney Dam WPS  
Concepts designs complete  
Detail Design and Construction phase business case program dependant on water fund capital program reprioritisation to fit MWTP
- Leak Detection  
Eighth quarterly package of work completed. Rescanning suburbs. Wyoming and Green Point continued prioritisation. Initial scan entire network expected by mid-2022.
- Drought response desal. readiness  
Studies to support consent amendment for intake structure type and flexibility  
Final shortlisted sites for intake structure confirmed.  
Subsequent detailed studies to support consent amendment deferred to late 22/23
- Recycled Water Review and Refurb.  
Quarterly sampling program due to finish August 2022

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### 5 Update on IPART determination

2.51pm

Jamie Loader (Director Water and Sewer) provided the group with an update on the IPART determination, including the following key points:

- Summary of IPART's key findings:  
IPART has increased prices but not by as much as Council proposed  
This will be the last time IPART set stormwater prices  
Council must markedly improve its performance and be more accountable for its spending

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- Total bills – On an average 17% typical household 1 July 2022 then by 6%, 8% and 1% over the following three years
- Bills will remain relatively low
- Improving performance  
Council must publish an implementation plan by 31 October 2022, which includes the publication of historical data on recommended performance measures (2017-18 onwards), by 30 September 2022. This must also include information relating to timing for delivering
- Key investment over the next 4 years
  - Transition to preventative maintenance
  - Water quality – region wide chlorination
  - Water main renewals
  - Sewer main renewals
  - Sewer pump station upgrades
  - Asset management improvements
  - Proactive WHS and training
  - Mardi WTP upgrade
  - Sewage treatment plan (STP) capital upgrades
  - STP improvement program
  - Bushfire management
  - Dam safety
  - Water resilience
  - Customer service and engagement
- Next steps
  - Staged resourcing plan
  - Present plan to Consultative Committee June 2022
  - W&S Strategic Business Plan
  - Ensure Council are delivering on it's promises to the Community

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### 6 Update on the Integrated Water Cycle Management program – Part 2

3.16pm

Luke Drury (Section Manager Assets and Planning) provided the group with an update on the Integrated Water Cycle Management program – Part 2, including the following key points:

- Updated population special distribution
- Levels of service

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- Treatment master planning
- Network master planning
- Unserviced Villages framework

There is a timeframe of two years for program delivery to Department of Planning and Environment (DPE).

Project Manager IWCM (Kashif Rana) will attend future meetings to present on progress and initiatives for comment by the Committee.

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### 7 General business

3.20pm

Member of the Committee queried public key access to *Dubbo Gully* and whether this area is still able to be accessed by the public. Confirmed it is, with clarification regarding Community key holder. Additional queries as there was advice there had been some information relayed that this area was no longer accessible due to insurance matters. It was clarified that this information is not correct.

**Action:** Danielle Hargraves (Unit Manager Headworks and Treatment) to contact Committee member to confirm these access arrangements and that the area is still open for public access, generally, and further facilitate that this is being conveyed and made available.

General discussion regarding next steps for the Committee. Representing the community and will be involved in the Community Charter, continuing the Committee's work as a sounding board for an informed community perspective, to compliment community engagement.

Update was provided to the Committee regarding the Local Government Elections, to be held in 2024. Advisory Groups and Committees will continue in their current form while Council remains under Administration.

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### 8 Close

Next meeting: 21 September 2022 - 3pm – 5pm  
Nexus Building, 3 Amy Cl Wyong

Meeting closed at 3.30pm

Minutes finalised and endorsed 15 July 2022.

Jamie Loader, Director Water and Sewer  
*Chairperson*

Luke Drury, Section Manager Assets and Planning  
*Coordinator*

# Action Log

## Water Management Advisory Committee



Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
24	27/5/20	Staff to provide a table as a Standing Agenda Item, as presented in the Briefing Note on Water Resilience Works that lists each project and provides a brief status at each Water Management Committee Meeting.	Water and Sewer staff	Ongoing – to be included in future agendas	Ongoing
35	12/8/20	Staff to provide ongoing annual summaries to the Advisory Group of any breaches of Environment Protection Licence's after the relevant annual returns are submitted as well as an update on any major incidents in the network should they occur.	Water and Sewer staff	Ongoing – to be included in future agendas	Ongoing
42	22/7/2022	Unit Manager Headworks and Treatment to contact Committee member to confirm these access arrangements and that the area is still open for public access, generally, and further facilitate that this is being conveyed and made available.	Unit Manager Headworks and Treatment		