
DRINKING WATER QUALITY POLICY

INTENT

To ensure safe drinking water supplies for Cooktown, Lakeland, Laura and Coen in accordance with Cook Shire Council’s Drinking Water Quality Management Plans and the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines

SCOPE

This policy applies to all activities associated with the supply of drinking water to the community.

DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
DWQMP	Drinking Water Quality Management Plan
ADWG	Australian Drinking Water Guidelines

POLICY STATEMENT

Cook Shire Council has individual DWQMP’s for each individual drinking water scheme. Council will utilize the DWQMP’s and the ADWG philosophy to ensure a risk-based “catchment to tap” approach to identifying and managing potential risks associated with drinking water quality.

To ensure a safe drinking water supply for Cooktown, Lakeland, Laura and Coen, Cook Shire Council will:

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- Ensure the operation and maintenance of safe water supplies in accordance with Cook Shire Council’s DWQMP’s and the ADWG.
- Consider the expectations and needs of customers, stakeholders, regulators and employees in future planning.
- Undertake regular monitoring of drinking water quality as per the DWQMP to ensure safe drinking water.
- Liaise with regulators on emerging contaminants and water quality parameters that do not have ADWG guideline values, to endeavour to provide the safest drinking water possible.
- Have contingency plans in place to deal with water quality incidents and ensure compliant reporting.
- Audit and review practices and benchmark against industry standards and stakeholder expectations to continually improve performance
- Provide training to all relevant employees to ensure they understand the importance of maintaining high quality drinking water
- Ensure all relevant employees in Council are aware of this policy
- Communicate this policy to the community to encourage public awareness

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	RESPONSIBILITY
Water and wastewater employees	Drinking water quality management
Manager Water and Wastewater	Corporate responsibility for drinking water quality management
Director Infrastructure Services	Corporate responsibility for drinking water quality management
CEO	Corporate responsibility for drinking water quality management

REFERENCES, LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES

Australian Drinking Water Guidelines

Public Health Regulation 2018

Water (Safety and reliability) Regulation 2011

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RELATED DOCUMENTS

Drinking Water Quality Management Plans

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION

This policy will commence from the approval date. This policy will be made available to all relevant employees.

APPROVED BY

Council Resolution

REVIEW

SPONSOR:	Director Infrastructure Services
OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEW:	Manager Water and Wastewater
ADOPTION DATE:	September 2019 (Council Resolution 2019/218)
REVIEW DATE:	September 2022

THIS POLICY IS TO REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL OTHERWISE DETERMINED BY COUNCIL

AMENDMENT HISTORY

VERSION	AMENDMENT DETAILS	AMENDMENT DATE	APPROVAL
V1.0	New Policy	September 2019	Council Resolution 2019/218

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