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## DRINKING WATER QUALITY POLICY

### **INTENT**

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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**

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

### **DEFINITIONS**

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TERM	DEFINITION
<b>DWQMP</b>	Drinking Water Quality Management Plan
<b>ADWG</b>	Australian Drinking Water Guidelines

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

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Cook Shire Council has DWQMPs for each individual drinking water scheme. Council will utilise the DWQMPs 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:

- Ensure the operation and maintenance of safe water supplies in accordance with Cook Shire Council’s DWQMPs and the ADWG.

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Last Modified:	November 2022		
Review Date:	November 2025		
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- 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, and 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, 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 are aware of this policy
- Communicate this policy to the community to encourage public awareness

## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>
<b>Water and wastewater employees</b>	Drinking water quality management
<b>Manager Water and Wastewater</b>	Corporate responsibly for drinking water quality management
<b>Director Infrastructure</b>	Corporate responsibly for drinking water quality management
<b>CEO</b>	Corporate responsibly for drinking water quality management

## **REFERENCES, LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES**

Australian Drinking Water Guidelines

Public Health Regulation 2018

Water (Safety and reliability) Regulation 2021

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## **RELATED DOCUMENTS**

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Drinking Water Quality Management Plans

## **IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

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

## **APPROVED BY**

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Council Resolution 2022/271

## **REVIEW**

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<b>SPONSOR:</b>	Director Infrastructure
<b>OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEW:</b>	Manager Water and Wastewater
<b>ADOPTION DATE:</b>	November 2022
<b>REVIEW DATE:</b>	November 2025

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

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## **AMENDMENT HISTORY**

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<b>VERSION</b>	<b>AMENDMENT DETAILS</b>	<b>AMENDMENT DATE</b>	<b>APPROVAL</b>
V.1	New Policy	September 2019	Council Resolution 2019/218
V.2	Revision – not changes to policy content	November 2022	Council Resolution 2022/271

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