

Policy title	Water and Sewer Construction By Private Contractors
Responsible manager(s)	Director Infrastructure Services
Contact officer(s)	Division Manager Water and Sewer
Directorate	Infrastructure Services
Approval date	11 October 2022
Outcome area	1 Our sustainable shire celebrates our natural environment and outdoor lifestyles
Strategy	1.4 Work together in the management and use of our valuable resources
Delivery Program	1.4.1 Provide safe, reliable and sustainable water and sewer services, guided by the Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy
Operational Plan	1.4.1.1 Build and renew the water supply network 1.4.1.2 Operate and maintain the town water supply system

Purpose

Eurobodalla Shire Council’s policy was developed to outline the arrangements necessary to guide water and sewer works undertaken by private contractors.

Section 68 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires that water supply and sewerage work may only be carried out with the prior approval of Council.

Private contractors may undertake water and sewer works other than work on Council’s live water and sewer assets in accordance with this and related policies.

To ensure the integrity of Council’s water supply and sewerage systems and to control and minimise the impact of construction work on levels of service for customers, approval for construction work on Council’s “live” water and sewer assets shall not be granted.

Construction work on Council’s “live” water and sewer assets may only be carried out by Council staff or by Contractors directly engaged by Council.

Policy aims

- Ensure transparency, consistency and fairness in the manner in which Council deals with private contractors;
- Ensure compliance with legislative requirements under the *Local Government Act 1993*;
- Make Council's policies and requirements for Water and Sewer Construction by Private Contractor readily accessible and understandable to the public.

Policy details

1	Application This policy applies to construction work on water and sewer assets, including the construction of new assets and the connection of new infrastructure and services to Council’s existing water and sewer infrastructure.
2	Legislation This policy ensures Eurobodalla Shire Council’s compliance with Section 68 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> .

Implementation

Requirements		Responsibility
1	<p>Implementation requirement</p> <p>Private contractors may undertake construction of new water and sewer assets with the prior approval of Council subject to compliance with Council’s Engineering Design Standards Policy, payment of the appropriate fees and construction being in accordance with Council’s Water and Sewerage Design and Construction Specification.</p> <p>Construction work on Council’s live water and sewer assets may only be carried out by Council staff or by Contractors directly engaged by Council for that work, except for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensed plumbers may install new sewer service connections where a sewer junction to the sewer main is already provided. <p>Council may undertake works for private parties subject to compliance with the same standards applying to private contractors and compliance with Council’s Private Works procedures.</p>	Council officer
2	<p>Staff</p> <p>Under supervision, relevant Council staff will be responsible for ensuring that this policy is implemented appropriately within their work area, after they have received appropriate training to do so.</p>	Council officers
3	<p>Concerns</p> <p>Public concerns communicated to Council in relation to this policy will be recorded on Council’s records system and handled in accordance with Council’s Customer Service or Complaints policy. These records will be used to determine any follow-up actions and analyse the history of reported public concerns.</p>	Council officers Public officer
4	<p>Consultation</p> <p>Any consultation deemed necessary will occur as required with key stakeholders, which may include (but not be limited to) the community, other agencies, statutory and industry bodies. Substantive changes to this policy will be placed on public exhibition for 28 days with public submissions invited for consideration during the exhibition period.</p>	As required

Review

This policy will be reviewed every 4 years. It may also be reviewed and updated as necessary if legislation requires it; or when Council’s related policies, functions, structure or activities change; or when technological advances or new systems change the way that Council manages water and sewer construction by private contractors.

The policy may be revoked at the expiration of twelve months after the declaration of the poll for the next general NSW local government election, unless Council updates or revokes it sooner.

Note: *The next general local government election is expected to be held in September 2024.*

Reviews of the effectiveness of this policy could include the following:

Performance indicator	Data source(s)
Delivery Program/ Operational Plan outcomes achieved	Council reporting
Concerns or complaints registered	Council records
Customer feedback, survey responses	Surveys
Internal or external review	Audit

Governance

This policy should be read in conjunction with any related legislation, codes of practice, relevant internal policies, and guidelines.

Related legislation and policies

Name	Link
Related Council Policy or Code of Practice: Engineering Design Standards Policy	https://www.esc.nsw.gov.au/council/governance/council-policies
Local Government Act 1993	https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1993-030

Related external references

Name	Link
Office of Local Government	www.olg.nsw.gov.au

Definitions

Word/Term	Definition
“Live” asset	An asset operated and managed by Council that is part of or connected to an existing water supply and sewerage system.

Change history

Version	Approval date	Approved by	Min No	File No	Change
1	28 Oct 2008	Council	08/386	E91.2033 E06.0113	Policy commenced
2	10 Sep 2013	Council	13/272	E13.7095 E06.0113	Reviewed and updated (start of new Council term)
3	13 Jun 2017	Council	17/181	E16.0297 E06.0113	Reviewed and updated at start of new Council term GMR17/015
4	11 October 2022	Council	22/266	S004-T00060	Reviewed and updated (start of new Council term) Report

Internal use

Responsible officer		Director Infrastructure Services		Approved by	Council
Minute	22/266	Report	GMR22/100	Effective date	11 October 2022
File	S004-T00060	Review date	11 October 2022	Pages	4