Media Release



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Every drop counts as Council rolls out advanced water meters

Gladstone Regional Council will soon commence a whole-of-region, multi-year project to upgrade existing water meter infrastructure to new, advanced water meter infrastructure.

Stage 1 of the project will include the installation of advanced water meters to nearly 1300 residential and commercial properties in Agnes Water, Seventeen Seventy, Miriam Vale and Bororen, with installation work scheduled to occur from late August and September 2023.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said there are several benefits of advanced water meters.

"The new infrastructure will help our community review their water usage, as well as assist Council to manage its own water consumption," Councillor Burnett said.

"Hourly readings from individual meters can identify possible water leaks on properties that might otherwise go unnoticed for months or even years.

"This can help residents save money, reduce wasted water and help communities make better use of their water, because every drop counts.

"Accessing near real-time data also allows Council to better understand unaccounted water loss in the network, which in turn provides an opportunity to upgrade infrastructure to reduce this water loss".

Cr Burnett said that Agnes Water, Seventeen Seventy, Miriam Vale and Bororen will be the first to benefit from this new infrastructure.

"These areas, particularly Agnes Water and Seventeen Seventy, have a greater concentration of sand within the makeup of their soil, which can increase the chances of water leaks going undetected whereas advanced water meters will detect these leaks very fast," he said.

"The age of a property's existing water meter will determine if it is fully replaced with a new advanced water meter, or if the existing meter can be retained and sensor added to the existing unit instead."

Cr Burnett added that Taggle Systems Pty Ltd is contracted to undertake the work.

"Taggle contractors will install the advanced water meters and following this Council will release details on how residents can review their usage via a portal," he said.

"The information available will provide near real-time data to Council and users who sign up to the MyWater portal to help identify any concealed leaks on properties, identify peak and off-peak water use times and assist in managing water infrastructure.

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"This upgrade program is a really exciting innovation for our community and will ensure Council can continue to provide a safe, reliable and cost-effective water supply, now and into the future."

Visit <u>www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/advanced-water-meters</u> for more information about advanced water meters.

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