



Gladstone Regional Council

Council Policy

Title	WATER STANDPIPE POLICY
Policy Number	P-2020-12
Business Unit/s	OPERATIONS
Date of Adoption	18 AUGUST 2020
Resolution Number	G/20/4294
Review Date	18 AUGUST 2023
Date Repealed	

1.0 PURPOSE:

This policy sets out the requirements adopted by Gladstone Regional Council for the use of fixed and mobile standpipes in Council's water supplies.

2.0 SCOPE

This policy applies to all parties seeking to source water from a Council water supply via a fixed or mobile standpipe, excluding those accessing for firefighting purposes.

3.0 RELATED LEGISLATION:

- Local Government Act 2009
- Local Government Regulation 2012
- Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008

4.0 RELATED DOCUMENTS:

- Terms and Conditions of Use – Fixed and Mobile Standpipes
- Drought Management Plan
- Water System Leakage Management Plan
- Application for Mobile Metered Standpipe
- Application for Fixed Standpipe

5.0 DEFINITIONS:

To assist in interpretation of this policy the following definitions apply:

authorised firefighting personnel means persons appointed and/or identified under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990* (paid or voluntary) who are involved in fire-fighting emergencies and associated training activities

water suppl(y)ies means the network of reservoirs, bores, pumps, pipes and fittings owned and operated by Gladstone Regional Council (the business) that deliver water to water service areas

Council means Gladstone Regional Council as the local government entity responsible for the Gladstone Region

Chief Executive Officer means Gladstone Regional Council's Chief Executive Officer

fixed standpipe means a permanent or temporary facility including pipework, control and metering equipment and other support equipment provided in a designated location for the purpose of extracting water from a Council water supply

mobile metered standpipe means a portable device with volumetric metering equipment installed which attaches to a hydrant for the purpose of extracting water under pressure from a Council water supply

hydrant means a valve connected to a water main which allows fire services and other authorised users access to the main water supply

reading photograph means a date-stamped photograph showing a mobile metered standpipe serial number and the water consumption reading.

6.0 POLICY STATEMENT:

6.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy are to:

1. Provide the framework for access to water from the Council water supply, using standpipes, subject to terms and conditions that are fair and equitable.
2. Protect the safety, quality, reliability and functionality of Council's water supplies by setting requirements applicable to persons accessing Council's water supply via a Fixed and/or Mobile standpipe.
3. Ensure that detailed and accurate water usage data is captured from mobile and fixed standpipes to inform Council's Water System Leakage Management Plan and Drought Management Plan strategies.

6.2 BACKGROUND

1. Gladstone Regional Council ("Council") operates fixed and mobile standpipe infrastructure within the Gladstone, Calliope and Mount Larcom water supply areas and mobile standpipes in the Boyne Island / Tannum Sands, Agnes Water / Seventeen Seventy, Miriam Vale and Bororen Water Supply areas, for the supply of water from the Council water supply.
2. Pursuant to sections 191, 192 and 195 of the *Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008* (Qld), a person must not, without the written consent or approval of Council:
 - (a) Connect to, or disconnect from, Council's Fixed and Mobile standpipe infrastructure;
 - (b) Interfere with access to Council's Fixed and Mobile standpipe infrastructure; or
 - (c) Take water from Council's Fixed and Mobile standpipe infrastructure.

Where Council identifies that any breach of the *Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008* (Qld) has occurred, Council will investigate enforcement options.

3. Water can only be extracted from Council's water supply through Fixed and Mobile standpipe infrastructure by lodging an application, and with the subsequent approval issued by Council, except in circumstances where:
 - (a) The water is being extracted for firefighting purposes by authorised firefighting personnel or their agents; or
 - (b) Council has otherwise provided written consent.
4. Water is accessed from fixed and mobile standpipes:
 - (a) In the case of Fixed standpipes: through use of a Council issued key, which is not required to be returned to Council; and
 - (b) In the case of Mobile standpipes: through use of Council issued equipment, which is required to be returned to Council.
5. Metered Mobile standpipes are prohibited from use in the Beecher/Burua Constant Flow Water Supply area.
6. All consumers issued with an approval to access water from a water supply via a standpipe must:
 - (a) comply with the Terms and Conditions of use; and
 - (b) pay the relevant fees and charges; and
 - (c) follow any procedures and instructions established for standpipe access and use;as set by Council, the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate(s).
7. The business takes no responsibility for the ¹quality of water after it has left the water supply.

6.3 NEW APPLICATIONS

1. The Chief Executive Officer, or delegate(s), has the discretion to refuse any new or subsequent water standpipe application/s.
2. Applicants are not required to hold an Australian Business Number.
3. All Applicants must complete a Credit Application with their first application to access water using fixed or mobile standpipes.

6.4 EXISTING & FUTURE APPROVALS

The Chief Executive Officer, or delegate(s), has the discretion to vary or otherwise restrict existing approvals, in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of Use, including where it is necessary to:

- (a) Set time limits on when standpipes can be accessed or used (excluding for

¹ Contractors supplying clients with water for drinking purposes must have a current food business licence as required under the *Food Act 2006*

firefighting purposes) to preserve the residential amenity of an area; or

- (b) Restrict or control water usage at any location where Council identifies any adverse effects on the water pressure, flow or quality to other customers.

6.5 FEES & CHARGES

In order to access the water, Hirers must pay:

1. A water usage charge: A fee per kilolitre for water taken by a Hirer in accordance with the Fees and Charges published on Council's website
2. For Fixed standpipes:
 - (a) A non-refundable key charge: A fee for the initial issue of the key
3. For Mobile standpipes:
 - (a) A Mobile standpipe hire bond, refundable on the return of the standpipe; and
 - (b) If applicable, any fee associated with the late submission of a reading photograph.

7.0 ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

8.0 REVIEW TRIGGER:

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

1. The related legislation or governing documents are amended or replaced; or
2. Other circumstances as determined by resolution of Council or the CEO; or
3. Three years from date of adoption.

TABLE OF AMENDMENTS			
Document History	Date	Council Resolution No.	Notes (including the prior Policy No, precise of change/s, etc)
Originally Approved	10 February 2009	09/79	formerly Policy No. P-6.03.01
Amendment 1	18 March 2014	G/14/1904	
Amendment 2	17 December 2019		Temporary amendment pending full review of the policy in early 2020
Amendment 3	28 April 2020	G/20/4171	Amend business practices for COVID-19 public health emergency
Amendment 4	18 August 2020	G/20/4294	Removed all operational content – major review prompted by Council request. Prior policy number was P-2014/26

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LEISA DOWLING
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER