

# SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

19 SEPTEMBER 2013

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## AGENDA ITEM C4

### TOWN WATER SUPPLY POLICY FOR ADOPTION

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#### **Purpose of Report**

To request adoption of policies as recommended by the Policy and Finance Committee.

#### **Recommendations**

Officers recommend that the Council:

1. *Receives the information.*
2. *Adopt the amended Town Water Supply Policy.*

#### **1. Executive Summary**

The Town Water Supply Policy was recommended for adoption by the Policy and Finance Committee, a Council resolution is now required to formalise the adoption.

#### **2. Recommendation Received From Policy & Finance Committee 31 July 2013**

##### **2.1 Services Capacity Report**

*P&F RESOLVED (P&F2013/23):*

1. To receive the information.
2. To adopt the capacity and suggested allocation model for new water and waste-water connections for all communities.
3. To adopt the revised policies for water service provision to urban and rural ratepayers.
4. To leave the waste water policy in its present form until such time as new resource consents are available for the communities of Greytown, Featherston and Martinborough.
5. To allow Council officers to allocate surplus capacity to new entrants for water supply in rural areas for domestic and restricted use only.

6. That unlimited supply could be offered to small rural sections on the edge of town at Council officer discretion.

*(Moved Cr Riddell/Seconded Cr Stevens)*

Carried

### **3. Financial Considerations**

Change of policy will over time generate additional revenue and in some cases infrastructure contributions, hence increasing the rating base and accruing benefits of scale.

### **4. Appendix**

Appendix 1 – Proposed Town Water Supply Policy

Contact Officer: Suzanne Clark, Committee Secretary

Reviewed By: Paul Crimp, Chief Executive Officer

# **Appendix 1 – Proposed Town Water Supply Policy**

# Town Water Supply Policy

## 1.0 RATIONALE:

Water supply to urban areas requires a significant investment by Council to meet ratepayers expectations. This policy is to protect Council's investment by setting standards for connections to the system and identifying where the costs of connection lie.

## 2.0 PURPOSE:

To set out the conditions and cost responsibilities relating to Council owned water supply schemes in the District.

## 3.0 GUIDELINES:

### 3.1 GENERAL

- 3.1.1 All new connections are charged an administration fee set by the Council each financial year.
- 3.1.2 Work shall not commence until an application and administration fee has been paid by an applicant, and the ~~Group –Manager Infrastructure and Service-Works and Services~~ (or his representative) has approved the specifications for the connection work in writing and a permit to connect issued.
- 3.1.3 The cost of connection work from the water mains to the road boundary and any other associated costs are met by the applicant.
- 3.1.4 Connection work referred to above may include (but is not limited to) pipe work, testing and disinfection, manifold (back flow preventer) and service box (toby), water meter (if required), flow control system (if required), attendance by the Council's contractor at the time of connection to the water mains, a New Zealand Transport Agency permit for trenching (if required), reinstatement of the road and other disturbed infrastructure, relocation of any other services, and any other related work.
- 3.1.5 Applicants have a choice of engaging either Council's contractor or other contractors acceptable to the Council to carry out the connection work(s) referred to. Applicants pay the costs to the contractor, direct.
- 3.1.6 If applicants engage a contractor other than Council's contractor, that contractor does the connection to the mains in the presence of Council's contractor. Applicants pay the cost of attendance to Council's contractor, direct.
- 3.1.7 Costs of extending the water mains where required are met by applicants.
- 3.1.8 For connections to new subdivision lots and other properties (where serviceable rates have not been paid), applicants pay ~~financial capital~~ contributions to join the existing system at a rate set by the Council from time to time.

- 3.1.9 Council owns the asset relating to new connection work up to and including the service box (to be) located near the road boundary including water meter and will be responsible for its future maintenance. To meet maintenance requirements, Council requires applicants to use Accuflow manifolds (backflow preventers) and service boxes (Code SM905 double check valve) or equivalent with prior approval of the Group Manager, Infrastructure Works and Services.
- 3.1.10 Each property receives only one connection. Additional connections may be available at Council's discretion where the Council permits more than one house, a commercial building or any other building in a section. In such cases, applicants pay the initial contribution referred to above and subsequently water charges for each separate connection.
- 3.1.11 New connections will not be approved for irrigation purposes and Council will review existing irrigation connections from time to time to ensure the efficient use of water resources.
- 3.1.12 All new or existing water supply users are required to comply with Council's other policies such as all year round alternate day water supply conservation measures and any other conservation measures applied from time to time.
- 3.1.13 Non compliance with Council's policies or non-payment of water charges may result in disconnection or reduced flow and non-pressure water supply. For a reconnection, applicants pay an administration charge and other charges.
- 3.1.14 Council's obligation to provide a town water supply complies with Water Supply Model Bylaw NZS 9201 (Chapter 7:1994). Council's goal, strategies and policies are made public through the Annual Plan process each year.
- 3.1.15 As from 1 July 2009, all properties ~~have been~~will be metered. The first 350 cum of water supply per year ~~in 2009/2010 and 300 cum per year in the subsequent years~~would be included in water rates. ~~This annual allocation will be subject to review from time to time.~~ Additional usage over the ~~aforsaid~~ threshold ~~s~~ would be charged based on a per cu bic metre rate set by the Council each year. ~~Also the aforsaid thresholds are subject to Council's review at the time of Annual Plan / LTCCP review.~~
- ~~3.1.16 For new connections from 1 July 2009, applicants are required to provide a meter at their own cost.~~
- ~~3.1.17~~3.1.16 Users requiring higher quality of water as compared to that normally available from council town water supply to suit to their particular needs shall install their own treatment / filtration system at their own cost.
- ~~3.1.18~~3.1.17 It is the responsibility of individual users to regularly clean their appliances (for example: washing machine filters and plumbing fittings) clear of any suspended material within their premises.
- 3.1.19 Connecting booster pumps to Council reticulation system and plumbing fittings within the properties are not allowed. Any existing booster appliances must be disconnected.

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3.1.20 Applicants are required to provide as-built plans of water connections on completion for Council records.

3.1.21 This amended Policy will come into force from <sup>18<sup>th</sup></sup> September 2013 ~~July 2009~~. ~~Prior to that the existing Policy will continue to apply.~~ This policy will be reviewed from time to time.

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## 3.2 URBAN AREAS

3.2.1 Urban boundaries are those defined in the District Plan Maps.

3.2.2 In urban areas, new water supply connections are 20mm nominal diameter (internal). Financial contributions set by the Council year to year referred to in 3.1.8 above are for standard 20mm connections. For bigger diameter connections if and where permitted shall be on pro-rata bases, e.g. for 32mm diameter pipe connection, financial contributions will be 2.56 times that of 20mm diameter connection financial contributions.

## 3.3 RURAL AREAS

~~3.3.1~~ Rural areas are those areas outside the urban boundaries defined in item 3.2.1 above. ~~Any rural areas included in the urban zone as a result of further District Plan changes will remain classified as rural areas for water supply connection financial contributions purposes. Except for rural properties for which council has already committed to provide water supply connections, no other new connections shall be provided to any rural property.~~

### 3.3.1

3.3.2 New water supply connections are for domestic use only, and to meet that demand, supply is limited to 1500 litres per twenty-four hours. At officer discretion only an on demand supply may be offered to urban size property in the rural area.

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To supplement town water supply, applicants are ~~encouraged~~required to provide a conventional roof water collection system. ~~Storage of water from town water supply is limited to 5m<sup>3</sup>. As explained in clause 3.3.1 above, except for rural properties for which Council has already committed to provide water supply connection, no new connections shall be provided to any rural property.~~

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3.3.2 The relevant conditions for new connection in the urban zones shall apply equally to new connections in the rural zone.

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~~3.3.3~~ 3.3.4 Applicants may use a 20-mm connection pipe from the mains and provide a Council approved restricted flow control system to regulate the flow to the extent mentioned above. Details of town supply flow control and roof water collection is available from the Manager Works and Services on request. ~~As explained in clause 3.3.1 above, except for rural properties for which Council has already committed to provide water supply connection, no new connections shall be provided to any rural property.~~

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3.3.4 Despite clauses 3.3.1 to 3.3.3 above, Council may provide a new connection of any ~~specification to a rural property provided that the connection is for a Council deemed significant commercial use and it promotes the social, economic, environmental and/or cultural well-being of the community.~~ Any connection provided under this

~~clause will be at Council's absolute discretion. For the avoidance of doubt, no connection will be provided under this clause for any agricultural use or a residential subdivision.~~