

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members, Corporate Services Committee

FROM: Murray Staite

DATE: 20 August 2009

SUBJECT: **Low-Flow Restricted Water Supply Connections**

Purpose

To provide appropriate delegation to the Corporate Services Manager, in conjunction with Engineering Services, to amend the number of cubic metres charged to low-flow restricted water supply connections on a quarterly basis during the rating year.

Background

Low-flow restricted water supply connections are an extension of the local urban water supply. Council supplies water to urban consumers via a water meter and consumers pay for each cubic metre (m³) (or 1000 litres) of water used. When the low-flow restrictor scheme was originally started many consumers required two m³ of water per day. Consumers are able to apply to Council to reduce the volume of water received to a minimum of 1m³ (1000 litres) per day. However this application currently does not take effect until the new rating year.

Discussion

During the rating year consumers may wish to relinquish part of their daily cubic metre allowance. This can be of benefit to both the council and the ratepayer. Council benefits as the cubic metres relinquished reduce pressure on water supply systems and in some cases can be reallocated to those that wish to consume and pay for more. While the number of cubic metres can be amended at the commencement of the rating year, no such mechanism currently exists to make an amendment during the rating year.

The recommendation attached to this report seeks to obtain Council approval to allow the Corporate Services Manager, in conjunction with Engineering Services, to make this amendment on a quarterly basis.

All requests for an amendment will be required to be made in writing to the Utilities Asset Manager with final sign off approval by the Corporate Services Manager.

It is not envisioned that many adjustments will be made in any one rating year.

This delegation shall only relate to low-flow restrictor deliveries from the urban water supply.

Options

Option 1: Decline to provide the delegation recommended below

Option 2: Approve the delegation noted in the recommendation

Significance of Decision

The decision is not considered significant under Council's Significance Policy contained with the 2009-2019 Long Term Council Community Plan.

Recommendation

That the Corporate Services Manager, after recommendation from the Utilities Asset Manager, be delegated to amend, on a quarterly basis, the number of daily cubic metres of water supplied to low-flow restricted water supply connections from the urban supply

Murray Staite
Corporate Services Manager