



LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL
Preserving the Past, Enhancing the Future

LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL POLICY

REPLACEMENT OF WATER METERS

1 PREAMBLE

This statement represents the guidelines and processes for Council to assist staff in replacing water meters and where owners request to be levied for a smaller water service connection to their property.

1.1 Background

Council in implementing best practice water pricing has adopted access charges based on the water meter size to each property. Increased sizes above 20mm/25mm attract higher charges to reflect the instantaneous demand that could be placed on the water supply system by the draw off to that property.

For some time Council has permitted a maximum standard size of 20mm for metering residential properties, to ensure that water availability during peak demands is equally distributed to each property by having uniform size metering.

Prior to this practice being implemented, property owners had the option of 25mm and larger service connections and meters. However, with a limited supply available through a 100mm and 150mm water main system, it is necessary to provide water availability throughout the system in an equitable manner on a needs basis.

Council has an obligation to the Minister for the implementation of Demand Management principles to reduce the demand on the water supply treatment storage and distribution system. This will assist in delaying the need to augment the existing infrastructure, with large savings in capital expenditure.

Current water reforms are placing greater accountability on water utilities for promoting reduction of water usage, and best practice management.

1.2 Application

This Policy applies to all existing and future water connections to properties.

1.3 Guidelines

The following guidelines will apply to any request for connection of town water, and replacement of existing water meters.

2 POLICY & PROCEDURE

- 1 That Council, in its ongoing water meter replacement program include the replacement of existing residential water service meters greater than 25mm, with a maximum size of 25mm.
- 2 That the Council provide a water service with a minimum flow rate during normal off peak demand periods, at the property boundary of 0.5 litres/sec where possible.
- 3 That the replacement of existing larger water meters with smaller water meters at the request of property owners, be included in the water meter replacement program on a prioritised basis, taking into account the age of the meter, accuracy of recordings at low flows, serviceability and suitability of the meter etc.
- 4 In conjunction with Council's water main replacement program, all replacement meters for residential connections be a uniform 20mm, subject to satisfying 2 above, or 25mm for those properties with an existing 25mm or larger meter installed.
- 5 That all new connections to residential properties and subdivisions be metered with a standard 20mm water meter. This will include individual metering of units in a strata subdivision where practicable.
- 6 That all requests for non residential connections be considered on an individual basis. This will apply for connections for commercial and industrial development, schools etc, taking into account usage requirements, fire protection requirements etc.
- 7 All new connections to rural holdings will be considered as residential connections, with the fitment of a standard 20mm meter.

Policy History:

Date of Adoption/Amendment	Resolution Number
27 October 2004	04/679
26 June 2013	13/136
22 February 2017	17/018