

MINUTES OF THE WATER AND WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 9/25
held in the Fraser Coast Regional Council Chambers, Tavistock Street, Hervey Bay
on Friday, 21 November 2025 commencing at 8:00 AM.

PRESENT:

Chairperson Peter Borrows
Member Janice Wilson
Member Paul Heaton
Member Michelle Byrne
Member Zane O'Keefe

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Acting Director Water & Waste Services, Mr Umur Natus-Yildiz
Acting Director Organisational Services, Mr Sydney Shang
Executive Manager Process Operations, Mr Cameron Ansell
Executive Manager Engineering & Technical Services, Mr Trevor Dean
Executive Manager Network Operations and Maintenance, Mr Darren Smith
Acting Executive Manager Resource Recovery Services, Mrs Kate Pfrunder
Business Services Manager, Mrs Megan Gibbs
Treatment Manager, Mr Isaac Roberts
Waste Contracts & Administration Coordinator, Ms Sheri Mackenzie
Quality and Compliance Business Partner Mr John Irwin
Meeting Secretary, Mrs Nic Puli

WWS 1

APOLOGIES

Chief Executive Officer, Mr Ken Diehm

WWS 2

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

SAFETY & VALUES MOMENT

On the occasion of his final day with the Council, the Chief Executive Officer expressed his sincere gratitude to the Water and Waste Services staff. He acknowledged their hard work, valuable advice, ongoing support, and unwavering dedication throughout the past eight years. The CEO also extended his appreciation to the Committee members, recognising the significant time and contributions they have provided. Their efforts have played an important role in supporting the Council and enhancing the wellbeing of the wider community.

On behalf of the Water and Waste Services Committee, the Chair of the Water and Waste Services Committee expressed the Committee's gratitude to the Chief Executive Officer for his unwavering support and guidance provided to the Committee over the past eight years. The Chair highlighted the CEO's enduring interest in the Committee's activities, as well as the valuable advice and significant contributions he made throughout his tenure. These efforts were deeply appreciated by all members.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair extended best wishes to the Chief Executive Officer as he approaches retirement, acknowledging the lasting impact of his leadership and commitment.

The Executive Manager of Process Operations acknowledged that one of legacy's the Chief Executive Officer has left is the implementation of the safety and values share and the importance of acknowledging them. It has been imbedded in this organisation.

Chief Executive Officer left meeting 8:05am

The Executive Manager Network Operations & Maintenance commended the Interim Safety Business Partner for Water & Waste Services who has been proactive and supporting the team on a safety matter.

Member Janice Wilson expressed her appreciation for the Water & Waste Services Operators who recently represented the Council at the Water Operations Association Forum. She noted that their presentations were delivered with professionalism and reflected positively on the Fraser Coast Regional Council. Their conduct and expertise at the event were commended as exemplary, highlighting the operators as a credit to the organisation.

The Acting Director Water and Waste Services thanked and acknowledged Manager Business Services, Megan Gibbs who has shown great initiative discovering a budgeting timing oversight for the water consumption rate about the timing of recognising the increase of the water rate. This accounts for a \$500k budget variance. This effects the phasing of the budget, and it will be changed from the next financial year.

WWS 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS

WWS 3.1 Water and Waste Advisory Committee Meeting No. 8/25 – 17 October 2025

RESOLUTION (Janice Wilson/Paul Heaton)

That the minutes of the Water and Waste Advisory Committee Meeting No. 8/25 held on 17 October, 2025 be confirmed.

WWS 4 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

Outstanding actions were discussed.

WWS 5 OFFICERS' REPORTS

WWS 5.1 Wide Bay Water Management Review Report - 2024/25

RESOLUTION (Janice Wilson/Zane O'Keefe)

That the Water and Waste Services Advisory Committee:

1. Receive and note the 2024/25 Wide Bay Water Management Review Report as presented in Attachment 1.
2. Receive and note the internal audit report for the Integrated Quality Management system (Attachment 2), the internal audit schedule for Laboratory Quality Audits against ISO 17025 (Attachment 3), the external audit report for the IQMS (Attachment 4) and the external audit report for ISO 17025 (Attachment 5).

WWS 5.2 Improvement of Landfill Fleet Reliability

RESOLUTION (Michelle Byrne/Zane O'Keefe)

That the Water and Waste Services Advisory Committee:

1. Receive and note the status update of the landfill fleet improvement initiative.

WWS 5.3 FCRC01858 - Maryborough Landfill: Landfill Stage 9 construction - Project Validation Report

RESOLUTION (Zane O'Keefe/Michelle Byrne)

That the Water and Waste Services Advisory Committee:

1. Receive and note the Project Validation Report for Project FCRC01858 - Maryborough Landfill: Landfill Stage 9 Construction.

WWS 5.4 Five (5) Yearly Recycled Water and Biosolids Reuse Sustainability Review Report

RESOLUTION (Janice Wilson/Michelle Byrne)

That the Water and Waste Services Advisory Committee:

1. Endorse the 2025 Reuse Environmental Sustainability Review (1 July 2020 – 30 June 2025) Biosolids and Recycled Water Report and its recommendations subject to the Councils normal budget processes.
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WWS 5.5 Directorate Performance Report - October 2025

RESOLUTION (Paul Heaton/Michelle Byrne)

That the Water and Waste Services Advisory Committee:

1. Receive and note the Directorate Performance Report for the month of October 2025.

The Committee resolved to:

2. Support that the Asset Management Steering Committee give consideration to the development of a Council wide asset management framework that enables assets from diverse classes to be assessed using consistent and comparable measures and score accordingly.
3. Recommend that Council formally convey its concerns to the Minister for Environment and Water, Senator Murray Watt, over the time and cost impacts of the Environmental Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act) referral for the new Howard Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), an essential community infrastructure project.

WWS 6 GENERAL BUSINESS

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, acknowledged that this is the last meeting for the Acting Director Water & Waste Services prior to the new Director starting in the new year. The Chair expressed his gratitude to the Acting Director, noting the significant contributions made over the past few months. The Committee greatly appreciated the dedication and effort shown during this interim period.

WWS 7 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Nil

WWS 8 LATE ITEMS

WWS 8.1 Late Open Reports

WWS 8.1.1 Drinking Water Quality Management Annual Report

RESOLUTION (Janice Wilson/Zane O'Keefe)

That the Water and Waste Services Advisory Committee:

1. Receive and note the final draft Drinking Water Quality Management Plan Annual 2024/25 (eDOCS #5311790).
 2. Note that the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan Annual Report 2024/25 will be published on the Fraser Coast Regional Council website in accordance with Council's legislative reporting requirements.
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WWS 8.2 Late Confidential Reports

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 9.56AM.

Confirmed that the next Water & Waste Services Committee Meeting will be held on 20 February 2026.

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Chairperson

UNCONFIRMED