

	COUNCIL POLICY	
	Trade Waste Council Policy	
	Policy Number	CP100
	Directorate	Water and Waste Services
	Owner	Network Operations & Maintenance
	Last Approved	10/12/2025
	Review Due	10/12/2029

## 1. PURPOSE

This policy describes Council's principles and approach to Trade Waste management.

## 2. SCOPE

This policy is a statement of Council's commitment to Trade Waste management and provides information and guidance to:

- persons discharging or intending to discharge Trade Waste to Council's Sewerage System (including via connection or tankering within the network or at downstream treatment plants).
- the owners and occupiers of businesses that discharge Trade Waste to Council's Sewerage System
- representatives of regulatory agencies relevant to Trade Waste, and
- employees of Council.

## 3. HEAD OF POWER

The *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* (Qld) (the **Water Supply Act**) requires approval from Council for the discharge of Trade Waste to sewer and enables Council to conditionally approve the discharge of Trade Waste.

To the extent that Council permits the discharge of Trade Waste to sewer, its management is regulated under the Water Supply Act, the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (Qld) and other legislation, as detailed in Council's Trade Waste Management Plan.

## 4. POLICY STATEMENT

Council is committed to providing a Trade Waste service that supports its customers and communities, whilst protecting people, assets, resource recovery and the environment from unacceptable risk.

### 4.1. Principles

Council intends to implement this policy by applying the following set of principles:

- **Safety of people** – Ensure the safety of people by adhering to strict health and safety requirements and a precautionary approach, to protect:
  - Council employees from contaminants or adverse chemical reactions in wastewater, or more generally by wastewater quality and its solid, liquid and airborne by-products, and
  - people who may be affected by unintended impacts such as unacceptable odour emissions or overflows in public areas.

- **Protection of assets** - Protect all components of the Sewerage System so that:
  - systems can operate without compromise or interference
  - Wide Bay Water, as a business unit of Council, can continue to achieve the performance targets specified in its *Customer Service Charter*
  - factors such as corrosion do not unduly damage structural or hydraulic integrity of systems, resulting in an unacceptable level of risk, and
  - more generally, components will last close to their expected asset life.
- **Protection of treatment processes** - Protect biological and physicochemical processes at treatment plants so that they can operate as intended.
- **Facilitation of regulatory and licence compliance** - Enable Council to comply with regulations with reasonable certainty and within acceptable risk boundaries, including:
  - avoiding breaches of operating and/or environment authorities
  - meeting requirements for managing wastewater overflows
  - meeting requirements for disposing of treated effluent and biosolids, including the protection of receiving waters and land.
- **Facilitate development of a circular economy** - Support efficient resource recovery, recycling and reuse, either on site or off site, in line with strategies, statutes and regulations.
- **Equitably recover the cost of Trade Waste services** - Ensure the sustainability of Trade Waste services and the application of cost-reflective pricing to avoid unreasonable costs to domestic customers.

#### 4.2. Approval to Discharge Trade Waste

Council's Trade Waste approvals are issued to Property Owners whose property contains one or more Trade Waste generating activities. It is the responsibility of the Property Owner to apply for and maintain the Trade Waste approval. Any existing Trade Waste approval issued to anyone other than a Property Owner, will be reissued to the Property Owner upon renewal of the approval.

A Trade Waste approval is a written approval provided by Council to the Property Owner that permits the discharge of Trade Waste to sewer and specifies the requirements and conditions under which discharge is permitted. A Trade Waste approval is provided by an appropriately Delegated Employee of Council, in the form of a Trade Waste certificate. A Trade Waste approval is provided at the sole discretion of Council in accordance with the principles of this Policy.

#### 4.3. Trade Waste Management

Trade Waste discharges will be categorised according to the risk the discharge poses to the Sewerage System. The Trade Waste categories are detailed below.

Category	Description	Risk
Cat 0	Low intensity business with very low discharge volume	V. Low
Cat 1	Small business with low to medium discharge volume	Low
Cat 2	Medium business with high to significant discharge volume and not a high risk due to discharge quality	Medium
Cat 3	Large business with significant discharge volume and high risk due to discharge quality	High

The *Trade Waste Management Plan* provides specific details on how individual Trade Waste generators will be assessed and managed.

#### 4.4. Trade Waste Fees and Charges

Fees and charges associated with Trade Waste, will be levied in accordance with Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges and adopted Rates and Charges. The calculation of these fees is based on the pricing principle of 'user pays' and aims to recover the full costs of treating and disposing of Trade Waste.

#### 4.5. Trade Waste Compliance

To ensure that Council achieves the principles of this Policy, processes and penalties may be adopted to remedy non-compliances with Trade Waste approval conditions. Should these processes and penalties be required, they will be implemented in accordance with the *Trade Waste Management Plan* and Council's *Enforcement Manual*.

### 5. DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

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

**"Council"** means Fraser Coast Regional Council.

**"Delegated Employee"** means an employee who has been granted authority to carry out duties on behalf of Council, as described within Council's Sub-Delegations Register. In the context of this Policy, Trade Waste Officers are Authorised Persons (subject to council nomination and endorsement) and have delegated authority under the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

**"Prohibited Substances"** means a substance prescribed in Schedule 1 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* and section 79 (4) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

**"Property Owners"** means the owner of property as defined in the *Local Government Act 2009*. In the context of this Policy, the owner of the premises upon which the Trade Waste is generated.

**"Sewerage System"** means a system of sewer(s) and ancillary works that conveys the contents to a sewage treatment plant or other place of disposal (includes sewage treatment plants).

**"Stormwater"** means a drain, channel, pipe, chamber, structure, outfall or other work used to receive, store, transport or treat storm water.

**"Trade Waste"** means waterborne waste from business, trade or manufacturing premises, other than human waste, Stormwater or Prohibited Substances.

### 6. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Fraser Coast Regional Council - Trade Waste Management Plan (eDocs #5253827)
- Wide Bay Water - Customer Service Charter:  
<https://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/1772/wbw-customer-service-charter>
- Fraser Coast Regional Council - Schedule of Fees & Charges:  
<https://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/fees-and-charges>
- Fraser Coast Regional Council - Enforcement Manual (eDocs #4617424)

### 7. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed on a risk-based methodology and will be reviewed at least every four years.

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**Version Control**

<b>Version Number</b>	<b>Key Changes</b>	<b>Approval Authority</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Document Number</b>
6	New Policy	Council	10/12/2025	5140888