

Sewer Connections – Limit of Council Responsibility

Date policy was adopted:	12 August 2022
Resolution number:	279/22
Next Policy review date:	July 2024
Reference number:	52.5.4
Strategic Pillar	Community Connections
Responsible Branch	Utilities

This is a controlled document. Before using this document, ensure it is the latest version by checking QPRC's intranet, website or Electronic Document Register Management System. Printed or downloaded versions of this document are uncontrolled.

1. OUTCOMES:

- 1.1 To define the limit of responsibility that Council will accept for the maintenance of sewer infrastructure that services a particular property.

2. POLICY:

- 2.1 Council maintains sewer infrastructure within its sewerage scheme areas. This policy sets out the limits of council responsibilities with property owners.

3. SCOPE OF THE POLICY:

- 3.1 This policy applies to any property connected to a Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council sewerage scheme for which it is the Local Water Utility under the terms of the Local Government Act 1993.

4. DEFINITIONS:

Boundary riser: A vertical shaft located at or in near proximity to the property boundary that joins the inlet of a boundary connection to ground level to provide access to the drain for inspection, cleaning or maintenance. The riser is covered with a cap or lid. The facility may incorporate a trap.

Council Sewer: Any pipe, pump, well, fixture or other appurtenant works owned and operated by the Council that exists for the collection, transport and treatment of sewage; regardless of whether that infrastructure is located on private or public land

Subject Property: The property served by the sewer.

5. LEGISLATIVE OBLIGATIONS AND/OR RELEVANT STANDARDS:

- 5.1 This policy does not change Council's insurable legal risk in respect of infrastructure located on public land. The individual property owner will retain the insurable risk with regard to infrastructure located on private land.

6. CONTENT:

- 6.1 Council is responsible for the maintenance of sewer infrastructure as follows:
- 6.1.1 For sewer connections with a boundary riser, trap or inspection opening located within two (2) metres of the property boundary: To and including the boundary riser.
- 6.1.2 For sewer connections without a boundary riser, trap or inspection opening or with a boundary riser, trap or inspection opening located greater than two (2) metres from the property boundary: To the point of connection (interface) of Council's main only.
- 6.2 Property-owners are responsible for:

6.2.1 Maintaining the presence and accessibility of any boundary riser on their serviced premises to ensure that access to such is not obstructed in any way.

6.2.2 Covered, inaccessible or otherwise non-discoverable boundary risers will be assessed according to clause 6.1.2 above.

7. REVIEW

- 7.1 This policy is a local policy and accordingly will be reviewed or confirmed within the first 12 months after the declaration of the poll for the next NSW general local government election, unless revoked sooner by Council. **[Note:** automatic revocation of this policy is provided for under s.165(4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The next general local government election is scheduled to be held in September 2024].

This policy may be reviewed and updated as necessary if:

- (a) legislation requires it, or
- (b) Council's functions, structure or activities change.