



Policy Title	Drinking Water Quality
Policy Category	Public
Number & Version	SVC-ENG-PO-059-01
Policy Owner	Asset Planning and Design
Approval by	
Effective date	
Date for review	September 2020

1 STRATEGIC PURPOSE

This policy expresses Snowy Valleys Council's (Council) strategic intent to deliver and improve public amenities and infrastructure which meets an acceptable community standard.

2 POLICY STATEMENT

Council is committed to the sustainable management and supply of safe, high quality drinking water that protects public health and consistently meets the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines* (ADWG) and other regulatory requirements.

3 DEFINITIONS

ADWG	Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2011. This document is the primary guidance document for drinking water quality and management within Australia.
DWMS	Drinking Water Management System. The documents, procedures and other supporting information for the safe supply of drinking water. This satisfies the requirement for a quality assurance program in the Public Health Act 2010.
Water supplier	Any supplier of drinking water defined under the Public Health Act 2010.
IWCM	Integrated Water Cycle Management

4 CONTENT

To demonstrate this commitment and in coordination with stakeholders and relevant agencies Council will:

- maintain a Drinking Water Management System (DWMS) that is consistent with the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines*, except where NSW Health specifies otherwise;

- ensure that the Drinking Water Management System is fully implemented and that all relevant activities are carried out in accordance with it and to the satisfaction of NSW Health
- plan and operate under a preventive risk-based water quality management approach
- routinely monitor the quality of drinking water at all points along the delivery network from source water to consumer taps using this risk-based approach in which potential threats to water quality are to be identified and managed to minimise or eliminate any threat to drinking water quality
- use effective reporting mechanisms to provide relevant and timely information to consumers and undertake accurate, timely and meaningful reporting that supports confidence in our drinking water supply
- undertake appropriate contingency, incident and emergency response management planning
- use drinking water management system outputs to inform Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) planning and other long-term planning requirements
- pursue improvements to drinking water management by considering our customers, our regulators and our business drivers, to meet the objectives of council
- Implement and regularly review asset management and maintenance programs
- promote awareness of drinking water quality management amongst employees, contractors and the community. To ensure that our employees and contractors are aware of their role in the supply of drinking water
- continually improve our practices by assessing performance against criteria stated in the *Drinking Water Management System*
- undertake employee training and continuous professional development to ensure a continued understanding of drinking water quality issues and the efficient operation of water supply schemes.

5 RESPONSIBILITIES /ACCOUNTABILITIES

Council employees involved in the supply of drinking water are responsible for understanding, implementing, maintaining and continuously improving the Drinking Water Management System.

Snowy Valleys Council has the right to review, vary or revoke this policy.

6 ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION

Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 6 (2011),
Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Regulation 2017
NSW Code of Practice for Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies 2018
Public Health Act 2010
Public Health Regulation 2012
NSW Guidelines for Drinking Water Management System 2013

7 ASSOCIATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

Drinking Water Management System (DWMS).

8 HISTORY

	Action	Name	Policy Number	Resolution Date	Resolution Number
5/7/2019	Superseded	Drinking Water Quality Policy	<i>TSC-ENG-PO-19-0. (formerly Tumbarumba Policy)</i>		