



# **Water Metering and Connection Policy**

## POLICY OBJECTIVE

This policy outlines the responsibilities that Goulburn Mulwaree Council and customers have for the installation and management of water meters.

## LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

*Local Government Act 1993*

*Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*

AS/NZS 3565 & AS/NZS 3500

NSW Code of Practice Plumbing and Drainage 2006

## POLICY STATEMENT

All properties connected to Council's potable water supply shall be fitted with a water meter. This policy applies to all aspects of water metering including the installation, measuring of supply and access to meters, and should be read in conjunction with Council's Cross Connection and Backflow Prevention Policy.

### Water Service Installation

All water services shall be installed either by the developer or Council. Water services requiring connection to Council's pressurised water mains shall be installed by Council unless approved otherwise.

### Metering and Water Supply to each property

- All water meters shall be supplied and installed by Council.
- Single residences shall have a 20mm water meter installed, unless otherwise approved by Council.
- Dual occupancy, multi-unit and multi-dwelling developments shall have a 20mm meter installed for each occupancy.
  - Master water meters may be considered in developments with 5 or more units or dwellings.
  - Each occupancy must also have a 20mm water meter installed. A backflow prevention device will be required on the downstream side of the master meter.
- Single non strata units shall have a 20mm meter installed if either of the following pertain:
  - The single non strata unit is physically detached or separated by a firewall from the principal dwelling; or
  - The single non strata unit has more than one bedroom.
- Detailed hydraulic drawings are to be submitted to Council for review, approval, sizing, location of meters and services. Single and dual occupancy residential properties are exempt from this requirement.
- Dedicated Fire Services shall be metered via a detector check meter attached to the Backflow Prevention device installed adjacent to the property boundary, unless otherwise approved by Council.

### Location of Meters

#### Single Residences

Water meters shall be located inside the property, no further than 1 metre from the primary street alignment and within 1 metre of a side boundary, and preferably located on the opposite side of the lot to other services, unless otherwise approved by Council. Note: The following exemptions to the above apply:

- On corner lots, water meters are to be located within the corner splay.

- On larger properties with splayed (recessed) entrance, water meters are to be located within the splayed entrance on the roadside of the front fence or access gate.
- Torrens title properties with a right of way entry only, water meters are to be located within the right of way within 1m of the primary street frontage.

### **Dual occupancy, multi-unit and multi-dwellings**

- Separate water meters for each occupancy shall be located inside the property, no further than 1 metre from the primary street alignment adjacent to the primary access.

**Alternatively, in the case of developments with five or more occupancies. The master meter shall be located inside the property, no further than 1 metre from the primary street alignment adjacent to the primary access. Separate water meters for each occupancy shall be located within 1m of the internal access roads, adjacent to each occupancy's internal driveway, easily accessible for meter reading. The meter shall be installed in a position that permits the installation of a testable Backflow Prevention Device should it be required in the future.**

### **Water Meter Boxes, Ownership and Responsibility**

Water meters shall be located at ground level in a frost proof water meter box, installed either by the developer or Council for all meters up to and including 50mm in size. For water meters 65mm or larger an approved cover or vandal type cage shall be installed by the developer or owner.

The responsibility and maintenance of the meter box or vandal cage and surrounds is the owners. This includes the pruning of trees and shrubs to allow access for maintenance and meter reading. Damaged meter boxes shall be replaced by Council at owner's cost. Damaged vandal cages shall be replaced by the owner.

### **Combined Fire and Potable Services**

Where both a Fire and Potable service are required at one location, Council may approve a combined service upon review and approval of detailed hydraulic drawings.

### **Existing Premises**

Although these requirements are not retrospective, it is Council's preference to encourage compliance wherever possible. Compliance will be mandatory when future alterations or re-development is undertaken at any property.

### **Theft of water and/or water meter**

Water mains, water services and water meters remain the property of Council. It is not permitted to:

- Use an unauthorised connection to our water supply
- Use an unmetered water supply without Council approval
- Use a fire service for anything other than testing, a fire drill, or fighting a fire
- Tamper with a water meter
- Theft of a water meter

Fines apply for any of these offences. Council reserves the right to remove a water service or water meter for any of these offences. Reconnections fees will be applied.



## GOULBURN MULWAREE COUNCIL WATER METER AND CONNECTION POLICY

Version	Council Meeting Date	Resolution	Adoption Date	Effective From
1	16 December 2014	14/485	13 February 2015	13 February 2015
2	3 May 2016	16/171	6 June 2016	9 June 2016
3	2 May 2017	17/148	2 May 2017	2 June 2017
4	7 June 2022	2022/192	7 June 2022	5 July 2022
<b>All policies can be reviewed or revoked by resolution of Council at any time.</b>				

**DIRECTORATE:** Utilities

**BUSINESS UNIT:** Infrastructure