



3. WATER SUPPLY

Policy 3.6

FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATION

Version 1

3. WATER SUPPLY

3.6 FIRE SERVICE METERING

OBJECTIVE:

To define minimum acceptable standards concerning connections and metering of fire services. Fire services includes any services supplying water to sprinkler, hydrant or hose reel systems, either separately or in any combination.

POLICY:

1. Council has adopted the provisions of the Water Service Association of Australia's Fire Service Metering Code of Practice – WSA13-2013. Where this policy is silent the provisions of the Code will take precedence.
2. Council requires the installation of water meters on all new fire services.
3. Inline meters on dedicated fire services larger than 50mm are not to be used for billing purposes. The installation of meters is used to calculate Council's non-revenue water and can equally be used by owners to detect leaks and prevent waste of water.
4. On separate hydrant and fire service at non-residential properties, the device shall be installed close to where the service crosses the property boundary prior to any booster assembly. A hydraulic design is required for the following fire service assembly:
 - a. Stratum unit/Community development demand of 4 dwellings/units and greater; and
 - b. 32 mm assemblies or greater.

All designs are to be submitted by a competent person (Code of Practice 2.2.8) with a Certificate of Compliance.
5. Council's preference is the bypass metering arrangement in accordance with Section 4.3 of the Water Service Association of Australia's Fire Service Metering Code of Practice – WSA13-2013. Water that passes through the bypass meter will be used for billing purposes.
6. Prior to commencement of works to connect to Council's Water Reticulation, property owners must obtain approval issued under Section 68 –Part B of Local Government Act 1993 by completing a Water Service Connection Application Form. A person who fails to obtain an approval or who carries out an activity otherwise than in accordance with an approval is guilty of an offence under Section 626 & 627 of the Local Government Act 1993.
7. Existing fire services, where significant alterations or renovations are proposed that require a Section 68 Approval shall also be metered. Section 8 of the Water Service Association of Australia's Fire Service Metering Code of Practice – WSA13-2013 provides details on retrofitting meters to existing unmetered fire services.

8. Where water delivered to a fire sprinkler system in accordance with Australian Standards Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems AS2118.1 or AS2118.6 is proposed to pass through a mechanical meter, a performance based solution document endorsed by a hydraulic engineer is to be submitted to Council's for approval. This document is not required for non-mechanical meters such as Magflow or other meters with full bore flow and negligible headloss.

9. Council will maintain a fire service connection from the water main to and including the water meter.

10. All properties within the Lithgow City Council Local Government Area connected to the reticulation system require a backflow prevention device in accordance with Council's Backflow Prevention – Containment Policy, Policy Number 3.4. **It should be noted that backflow prevention devices reduce pressure and shall be considered in the design process of fire services**

11. Council reserves the right to repair, maintain or replace a water meter used for billing purposes.

12. The meter is to be accessible for reading and removal or repair is unrestricted. Where meters are covered with unacceptable obstructions the owner will be requested to remove the offending obstruction at full cost. If such obstructions are not removed within 60 days, Council may remove the obstructions at the owners full cost

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