

28 April 2010

Competitive water fees and charges

The new pricing structure proposed for Shoalhaven Water will allow the city to continue to develop and maintain its best practice water and sewerage system.

Director of Shoalhaven Water Carmel Krogh said the increases in fees and charges are required to sustainably operate, maintain and develop water and sewer assets for present and future City populations.

“Compared to other water utilities Shoalhaven Water provides considerable value for both its water supply and sewer collection and treatment aspects of its business,” Ms Krogh said.

“We are proud that Shoalhaven Water is seen as a benchmark council by the NSW Office of Water”.

Compared to other local water suppliers, the proposed Shoalhaven Water’s fees and charges are significantly lower than many other water utilities in NSW. Shoalhaven Water constantly benchmarks itself against other utilities to ensure that its customers are receiving value for money services.

Water utility	Access charge	User charge	Bill for 150 kilolitres	Average bill for 250 kilolitres
Shoalhaven Water	\$75	\$1.45	\$292.50	\$365
Sydney Water [covers to Kiama]	\$113.15	\$2.06	\$422.15	\$525.15
Bega Valley Shire Council	\$175	\$2.20	\$505	\$615
Eurobodalla	\$243	\$2.40	\$594	\$714
MidCoast Water	\$156	\$2.20	\$486	\$596

Shoalhaven Water has proposed fees and charges to reflect the maintenance and renewal of its assets.

“Shoalhaven Water has substantial assets throughout the city that need to be maintained and upgraded,” Ms Krogh said. “These charges allow Shoalhaven Water to continue to bring best practice water and sewerage services to the many small towns and villages throughout the city.”

In the past few years Shoalhaven Water has successfully planned and built a number of new water supply and sewerage schemes, the most recent being the Currarong Sewerage Scheme.

Overall the city now has the following assets managed by Shoalhaven Water:

Water	
Dams	4
Pumping stations	29
Reservoirs	38
Reticulated water mains	1035 kilometres
Treatment plants	4
Trunk water mains	465 kilometres
Sewer	
Pumping stations	239
Reticulated sewer lines and rising mains	1084 kilometres
Sewerage treatment works	14
Pressure sewer units	130

Shoalhaven Water's fees and charges for 2010-2011 have been included in the draft delivery program and if adopted by Council and will come into affect from 1 July 2010.

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