

**LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE**

**POLICY NO. W1.4**

**QLD PLUMBING & WASTEWATER CODE**

**RELEVANT LEGISLATION**

**Plumbing and Drainage Act**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure compliance with the Qld Plumbing and Wastewater Code by providing a listing of supplementary administrative and technical determinations by Council.

**PREAMBLE**

Over time there are issues which have required a determination by Council in order to clarify the interpretation or implementation of the Qld Plumbing and Wastewater Code and it's supporting Australian Standards and Guidelines.

These determinations will be updated from time to time.

**POLICY**

- 1. Residential Dwelling – Number of Bedrooms.**  
Bedrooms will include any habitable room (refer BCA) labelled office or study or similar on a building plan but which has adequate size, ventilation and windows to comply with bedroom building codes (refer BCA). Whether the room has built-in wardrobes is not relevant to the room's use as a bedroom.

This determination ensures that the peak design capacity (refer EPA Environmental Protection Regulation Schedule 1) will be adequate for the dwelling's peak sewage loading.
- 2. Residential Dwellings – Bedrooms & Equivalent Person Loadings.**  
The number of equivalent persons is 1.5 ep per bedroom.
- 3. Approved Training Course.**  
The only on-site sewerage training course recognised by Council is the approved TAFE Course.

- 4. Special On-Site Sewerage Facility Designs for Individual Lots.**  
Where a site is unable to meet the Qld Plumbing and Wastewater Code and a special design may be required, reference should be made to Mr Peter Beavers of the Queensland University of Technology.

Mr Beavers is the only expert authority recognised by Council to undertake a Special Design.

A Special Design will only be accepted for consideration if accompanied by a signed report by Mr Peter Beavers.
- 5. Evapo-Transpiration-Absorption-Seepage Systems (ETA/ETS).**  
ETA/ETS is not approved for Soil Category 1, 2 and 3.
- 6. Minimum Horizontal Separation Distance for Disposal Areas.**

  - 6.1 The minimum horizontal separation distance between two adjacent 20 ep disposal areas on a single lot, is 4 metres.
  - 6.2 Recommended separation distance for protection of water quality for any bore or dam to be: primary effluent being 50 metres (horizontal), secondary effluent being 30 metres (horizontal), advanced secondary effluent being 10 metres (horizontal).
  - 6.3 Covered Surface Drip irrigation system shall be considered as a subsurface type system for separation distances.
- 7. Garbage Grinders.**  
Garbage grinders are not recommended for on-site sewerage facilities due to the accelerated rate of accumulations of un-digestible bone matter.

If a garbage grinder is to be used, then a 30% increase in loading must be applied.
- 8. Disposal Areas to be included as Regulated Work.**  
All effluent disposal work to be Regulated work. This requires approved materials and be undertaken by licensed plumber and drainer.
- 9. Marking of Septic Tanks.**  
Septic tanks are required to be marked in accordance with the Australian Standard AS 1546.
- 10. Distribution Boxes in Trench Disposal Systems.**  
Distribution boxes are to be of a Council approved type and include baffles to ensure even flow distribution through the distribution box to the disposal trenches.
- 11. Register of On-Site Sewerage Site Evaluators and Designers.**  
Council maintains a register of On-Site Sewerage Site Evaluators and Designers who may practice in Livingstone Shire.

- 12. **Register of On-Site Sewerage Service Technicians.**  
Council maintains a register of On-Site Sewerage Service Technicians who may practice in Livingstone Shire.
- 13. **Reserve Area.**  
A reserve area is required for resting of the land-application system.
- 14. **Sewage Loading Rates.**  
Appendix 4.2D of AS1547 alone does not allow for temporary or unusual overloads of sewage and sullage. An allowance of 10% increase in loading must be applied to the quantities listed in Appendix 4.2D.
- 15. **Greywater Use in Sewered Areas.**
  - 15.1 **Function.** Greywater use is allowed for laundry water only.
  - 15.2 **Areas Suitable for Greywater Use.** No areas within the sewerage service areas are excluded.
  - 15.3 **Site and Soil Evaluation.** The procedures and standards for greywater use in unsewered areas shall apply.
  - 15.4 **Greywater Application Area.** The greywater application area design, siting and sizing to meet the performance requirements of greywater in unsewered areas, for only shallow sub-surface drip systems.

**SUPERSEDING:** POLICY W1.4 ON-SITE SEWERAGE FACILITIES adopted 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2005.

**ADOPTED:** GENERAL MEETING, 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2005 (Page 17 )

**SIGNED:** ..... 5 / 1 /2006

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.**