Fact Sheet



Sewerage Access Chambers

What is a Sewerage Access Chamber?

A sewerage access chamber is an access point to the sewerage system. Owned by the Livingstone Shire Council, they enable us to access and maintain the sewerage system which helps protect your home from the potential effects of blockages. Sewerage access chambers are critical safety features of the sewerage system which provides an essential service for your home.

Sewerage access chambers allow Council to undertake maintenance activities such as:

- Camera inspections
- Cleaning blockages
- Routine cleaning
- Repairs/replacement

Sewerage access chambers need to be 75mm above the surrounding ground to allow surface water to drain freely around and away from the access point. Sewerage infrastructure generally follows the fall of the land. Access chambers are separated at regular intervals or where a sewer pipeline changes direction and as such can be located on private property or public land.

Important

It is important that sewerage access chambers remain unobstructed to enable maintenance activities to be carried out. They must be kept free of any obstructions so they can be accessed easily in the event of a blocked sewer, which may affect your property or your neighbour's property.

Follow these tips to ensure the sewerage access chamber on your property is accessible:

- Cut back shrubs and grass around the sewerage access chamber
- Don't bury the sewerage access chamber
- Don't park vehicles over the sewerage access chamber
- Don't build any structures or establish a garden over or near the sewerage access chamber

Raising or lowering access chambers on private land

If you wish to alter the ground level around an access chamber on your property such that the top of the sewerage access chamber will be less than 75mm above the surrounding ground or the slope will be negatively affected, the access chamber will need to be raised or lowered accordingly. To do this you will need to submit a Private Works Application via Council's <u>Online Services</u>.

Please note that under the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 (QLD), it is an offence to interfere with a sewerage access chamber without consent (including to build over, obstruct access to, or negatively change the ground level around sewerage access chambers) and financial penalties may apply.

Be aware but not alarmed

Under normal conditions, access chambers will not overflow, however if our infrastructure gets damaged, stormwater may be able to enter the sewer network which could cause overflows in neighbouring properties.

Please contact us via our <u>Website</u> or by calling 07 4913 5000 or 1300 790 919, if you notice:

- That a sewerage access chamber is being obstructed
- That a sewerage access chamber has been built over
- That a sewerage access chamber lid has been damaged or poses a risk to the public
- That land or surface surrounding an access chamber on public land has subsided



A typical sewerage access chamber

PO Box 2292 Yeppoon Qld 4703 4913 5000 or 1300 790 919 enquiries@livingstone.qld.gov.au www.livingstone.qld.gov.au

