



Whyalla City Council

Retail Water – Pricing Policy	
Type	Financial
GDS Category	Financial Management – Public
Responsible Officer	Finance Coordinator
Policy Adopted	January 2023
Review Period	4 Years
Last Reviewed	February 2022
Next Review Date	February 2026
Policy Version Number	3
Applicable Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Act 1999 • Water Industry Act 2012 (SA) (Act) • National Water industry Pricing Principles
Related Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Industry Retail Licences • Retail Water Services: Financial Hardship Policy • Connection & Billing Policy • Contract for the Supply of Water Retail Service • Application for Remission of Annual Service Charge • Application Form: Financial Hardship
Public Consultation Required	Yes
Purpose	To define the method of price determination for retail water services provided by Council to recycled water network and Black Oak Cove customers, consistent with the National Water Industry Pricing Regulations.

1. Introduction

City of Whyalla's Water Retail Services: 2022 to 2025 Price Determination (Regulatory Determination) requires City of Whyalla to provide ESCOSA with an annual pricing policy statement relating to recycled water retail services and excluded retail services. City of Whyalla interprets this as recycled water and drinking water, so uses both terms for the purposes on this Pricing Policy Statement.

This document sets out how City of Whyalla's Retail Services Framework (Alternate and Excluded) achieves the requirements of sections 3 and 4.1 of ESCOSA's Regulatory Determination.

2. Policy Objective

The policy serves to ensure our compliance with National Water Initiative (NWI) Pricing Principles and that we continue to meet the needs of our customers.

City of Whyalla seeks to set prices that will recover the cost of providing the services and meet its strategic priorities by taking into account:

- Customer impacts and affordability;
- Ensuring the ongoing viability of City of Whyalla;
- Compliance with service standards and regulatory requirements; and
- Sending appropriate pricing signals that encourage the most efficient use of resources.

Generally, City of Whyalla will seek capital contributions from customers where capital expenditure is required to service the customers. This capital contribution will take into account the individual circumstances of the customer, third party funding and specific characteristics of the scheme.

Generally, City of Whyalla will seek negotiated contracts and may require an annual charge which seeks to recover administration costs relating to the contract.

3. Scope and Responsibilities

3.1 Alternate Water Services (Recycled Water)

3.1.1 The types of Alternate Water uses are as follows:

- irrigation – horticulture, viticulture and private open spaces, e.g. golf course; and
- irrigation – Public Open Space, for irrigation of parklands and sporting fields.

3.2 Excluded Water Services (Drinking Water)

3.2.1 We will supply residential customers at Black Oak Cove upon receipt of an appropriate application for connection;

3.2.2 The cost to install meters and connections will be at cost.

4. Policy Statement

4.1 Methods of charging

4.1.1 City of Whyalla has two methods to charge customers

City of Whyalla has established principles around the types of charges that may be applicable to the types of services that City of Whyalla offers customers. The table below outlines which fees are applicable to the type of scheme offered by City of Whyalla:

Where City of Whyalla is providing water services, consistent with regulated retail services, City of Whyalla offers a standard contract and a standard charges.

	Capital Contribution	Installation of Meter or Installation of Connection Charge	Supply Charge	Fixed Annual Charge	Water Usage Charge	Audit Charge
Irrigation (Non Public)	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Irrigation Public Open Space	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Drinking Water	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

4.1.2 Pricing 2022-23

- City of Whyalla's recycled water price is linked to the SA Water Recycled Water Price, plus a margin to cover the cost of capital infrastructure (currently \$0.04 per kL).
- City of Whyalla's pricing for drinking water is a supply charge only, in line with the fee charged by SA Water.
- Currently Council doesn't charge for drinking water based on usage but reserves the right to do so at a later date.
- The cost to install meters and connections will be at cost.
- Water charges quoted by SA Water are not subject to GST. However, when oncharged to another party, water usage is subject to GST and so the rate will be uplifted by 10% to reflect this.

Category	Price
SA Water Drinking Supply Charge	\$283.20 per annum
SA Water Recycled Water	\$0.747 per kL

4.1.3 Definitions

In this Policy Statement:

Consumer means a person supplied with retail services as a consumer or user of those services (as defined in the *Water Industry Act 2012*)

Customers means persons who owns land in relation to which a retail service is provided and includes:

- where the context requires, a person seeking the provision of a retail service, and
- in prescribed circumstances, a person supplied with retail services as a consumer or user of those services (without limiting the application of this definition to owners of land), and
- a person of a class declared by the regulations to be customers (as defined in the *Water Industry Act 2012*)

Excluded retail services: generally represent services that are provided for the benefit of a single customer (or group of customers), rather than uniformly supplied to all customers. The cost of such services are recovered through specific charges to the customer (or potential customer), rather than being paid for by all customers.

Our, us, we means The Corporation of the City of Whyalla

Policy means this Pricing policy

Regulations means regulations under the *Water Industry Act 2012*

Residential customer means a customer or consumer who is supplied with retail services for use at residential premises (as defined in the *Water Industry Act 2012*)

Retail service means a service constituted by:

- the sale and supply of water to a person for use (and not for resale other than in prescribed circumstances (if any)) where the water is to be conveyed by a reticulated system, or
- the sale and supply of sewerage services for the removal of sewage (even if the service is not actually used) but does not include any service, or any service of a class, excluded from the ambit of this definition by the regulations (as defined in the *Water Industry Act 2012*)

Water includes rainwater, stormwater, desalinated water, recycled water and water that may include any material or impurities, but does not include sewage (as defined in the *Water Industry Act 2012*)

Water service means:

- a service constituted by the collection, storage, production, treatment, conveyance, reticulation or supply of water, or
- any other service, or any service of a class, brought within the ambit of this definition by the regulations.
(as defined in the *Water Industry Act 2012*).

5. Further Information

This policy is available for inspection at the Council office or on Council's website. Persons may also obtain a copy of this policy with no fee applicable.