

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members Engineering Services Committee
FROM: Utilities Asset Manager
REFERENCE: S302
DATE: 9 August 2005
SUBJECT: Sewerage Connections Policy

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Engineering Services Committee to consider as part of the next LTCCP a Policy on Sewerage Connections.

BACKGROUND

At present Council has a set of charges for properties/dwellings to connect to Councils Sewerage Reticulation.

The present charging system does not reflect any consistency through out the District in that some areas have a charge to connect to the reticulation, where as others areas do not.

There is also a concern as to what constitutes a connection to the sewerage scheme. As an example; a present dwelling located on a lot is connected to the reticulation, is there an additional charge if;

- a) A granny flat is then constructed upon that lot.
- b) If a toilet is constructed within a garage or out building located upon that lot.

COMMENT

Staff have been requested on many occasions to defend charges for sewerage connections. Without a formal policy as to what constitutes a sewerage connection these questions are going to become more difficult to answer.

PROPOSED DEFINITION

To connect a dwelling to Councils Public sewerage reticulation a connection fee must be paid. This fee is to be a flat fee plus time and materials, plus Councils costs as nominated within the LTCCP or Annual Plan.

A dwelling in this policy includes a single kitchen or kitchenette (kitchen in a flat, granny flat etc)

POLICY

- If another building upon that lot has facilities that can connect to the existing private reticulation within that lot, that does not include another kitchen or kitchenette, then no additional sewerage connection fee is required to be paid.
- If another building upon that lot has facilities that can connect to the existing private reticulation and does include another kitchen or kitchenette to the private reticulation within the lot then another connection fee is payable.

If a second connection to Councils Public Sewerage reticulation is required then a new connection fee is payable.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Engineering Services Committee endorse the above policy to be included into the Draft LTCCP for consideration by the public.

J Cuthbertson
Utilities Asset Manager