**Queensland Water Directorate (*qldwater*)** ***e-*flash**

**Information for Water Industry Managers and Practitioners in the Queensland Water Industry**

**(Issue #334 – 5 October 2017)**

**1.   Sewerage Infrastructure Buffer Zones - Information Sheets for Planners and Water Service Providers Released**

**2.   SWIM Reporting Complete**

**3.   Best Tasting Tap Water in Australia Competition – 18 October**

**4.   QUICK LINKS – ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**1.  Sewerage Infrastructure Buffer Zones - Information Sheets for Planners and Water Service Providers Released**

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***qldwater*** has developed two information sheets on the development of land near or within sewerage infrastructure buffer zones.  The first information sheet has been developed to assist sewerage service provider employees with responding to requests from planning authorities regarding development of land near or within sewerage infrastructure buffer zones and the second information sheet has been developed to assist planning authorities regarding development of land near or within sewerage infrastructure buffer zones.  Case studies are provided as an appendix to the Planners information sheet.

The intention is to prevent development encroaching inappropriately into sewerage infrastructure buffer zones and promote the provision of appropriate buffer zones around such infrastructure in order to minimise the impact of odour, noise, and hazards on nearby residents and ensure that the infrastructure is protected for future growth.

The information specifically relates to existing infrastructure such as Sewage Treatment Plants and development around those plants, not proposals for development of new plants. New sewerage infrastructure is subject to additional approval processes, e.g. those relevant to Environmentally Relevant Activity (ERA 63).

The information sheets can be accessed on the ***qldwater*** website via the following links:

* [Info sheet for Sewerage Service Providers](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=233872)
* [Info sheet for Planners](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=233576)

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**2.  SWIM Reporting Complete**

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SWIM reporting is complete for another year.  Early Tuesday morning (the due date) saw only 36 Service Providers finished but after a busy day a total of 65 SP’s had completed and submitted their annual water and sewerage KPI data to DEWS on time via SWIM.

This year 90% of Service Providers reported via SWIM which is an increase over last year (81%).

As with all modern technology, there were some last second technical hitches as the deadline approached. One Council’s internet connection went down and they couldn’t synchronise the finalised data through to us. Luckily a persistent ‘SWIM’ staff member and their IT got it sorted just in time. Another Council had saved and finalised all their data but didn’t synchronise it (or close the program down which triggers an auto sync) – so the data wasn’t sent to our SWIM server for dispatch. Fortunately the dedicated SWIM staff member was on the ball and after checking emails from home, managed to go back into work and synchronise the data through. We have put ‘automatic synchronisation’ onto the SWIM to-do list for next year.

If you have any questions regarding SWIM please contact David Scheltinga dscheltinga@qldwater.com.au.

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**3.  Best Tasting Tap Water in Australia Competition – 18 October**

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The Best Tasting Tap Water in Australia Competition will be held during Water Week on Wednesday 18 October.  Launceston City Council will provide access to the Launceston Mall and the public will be invited to take part in the blind tasting, where they will try a sample from each of the States winning water, to help determine which one will be judged Australia’s best tasting tap water.

Our Queensland entry, Toowoomba Regional Council’s Mt Kynoch Scheme will compete against Icon Water (ACT/NSW), Morgan (SA); Fenton/New Norfolk (Tas) and Goulburn Valley Water’s Merrijig (Vic). The winner will then go on to represent Australia at the International Taste Test to be held in the USA in February 2018.

We wish all the entrants the best of luck!

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* The Bureau of Meteorology’s mid-month Climate and Water Outlook video provides first look at likely rainfall, streamflow and temperature for the next three months throughout Australia.

[Watch the video here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3XMXCWFZjy8&feature=youtu.be). The [BoM channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNOlLwBZQLUPYUs31hVFeSA) has a range of videos and information of interest to our members.

* The Queensland Police Service have released the latest Security bulletins which are now available in the members area of our website. <http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=233836> and <http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=233837>.  The information contained in the QPS documents may be viewed and circulated internally, however it should not be provided to the public / media or forwarded to external third parties.  Members must log in first to access this information.

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