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

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

**(Issue #209 – 4 September 2013)**

**1.  Amendments to the Regulatory Framework – Draft KPI Comments Due**

**2.  LGAQ Submission on Infrastructure Charges**

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**1.  Amendments to the Regulatory Framework – Draft KPI Comments Due**

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The Department of Energy and Water Supply has developed a set of draft Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Water Service Provider (WSP) annual performance reporting as part of the Simplifying Water and Sewerage Service Provider Regulation project. As part of consultation on the amendments to the regulatory framework, the draft KPIs were mailed to the CEOs of all Queensland WSPs early in August for comment.  The KPIs have been developed in consultation with a Business Advisory Group consisting of a cross section of WSPs as recommended by ***qldwater***.

The management plans proposed to be replaced were detailed in the correspondence from DEWS and are: Strategic Asset Management Plans, System Leakage Management Plans, Drought Management Plans, Outdoor Water Use Conservation Plans and Total Water Cycle Management Plans.

The move to a performance monitoring regulatory framework enables service providers to monitor and benchmark their own performance, while providing transparency and accountability for customers. The State will use the KPI data provided to monitor performance and focus improvements by providers if required.  The new framework is proposed to be implemented on 1 July 2014.  Feedback and comments on the draft list of KPI’s is due for submission by 13 September directly to Peter Vance, Senior Analyst, Regulatory Services and Simplification on (07) 3166 0106 or peter.vance@dews.qld.gov.au. Alternatively, comments provided to ***qldwater*** rfearon@qldwater.com.au by Tuesday 10 September will be included in a collated response to the department.

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**2.   LGAQ Submission on Infrastructure Charges**

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The LGAQ's submission in response to the Discussion Paper: Infrastructure Planning and Charging Framework Review, has appealed to the State Government to realise the likely consequences of adopting a new infrastructure charges system which will leave councils no choice but to further subsidise the revival of the construction industry through ratepayers' pockets.

The LGAQ has commended the State Government for addressing the issue of infrastructure costs associated with new residential or commercial development but the LGAQ rejects any notion that there is a quick fix or one-size-fits-all solution.

It is clear that any change in the infrastructure charges framework needs to be stepped and ideally introduced in conjunction with a renewed commitment by the State to do its part in contributing to the costs of public infrastructure required by new residential and commercial development.

LGAQ is working with 19 councils in southeast Queensland and larger regional centres in the state to slash red tape from development approval processes and continues to engage with the State Government and industry groups in the development of the new infrastructure charges framework.

The submission is available here:  [LGAQ's submission](http://www.lgaq.asn.au/documents/10136/97979/23_Aug_LGAQ%20Submission_State%20Government%20Infrastructure%20Charges%20Discussion%20Paper.pdf).  For further information, contact Greg Hoffman PSM, Acting CEO, or Luke Hannan, Manager – Advocacy (Planning, Development & Natural Environment) on 1300 542 700.

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