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

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

**(Issue #377 – 6 December 2018)**

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**1.   *qldwater* Christmas Update**

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As the Christmas break approaches and people start taking leave, we wish to advise that the IPWEAQ and ***qldwater*** offices will be closed from midday 21 December, reopening on 3 January.  Dave Cameron has already escaped for his long-planned family holiday overseas.

***qldwater*** continues to go from strength to strength and at the time of writing our 2018/19 membership profile was:

***qldwater***

2 of 2 Torres Strait Island council Service Providers,

13 of 15 Aboriginal council Service Providers,

51 of 52 (non-indigenous) council Service Providers,

2 of 2 council-owned statutory authorities in SEQ (QUU, Unitywater)

1 of 1 state government-owned Statutory Authorities (GAWB),

6 Affiliate Members

**Water Skills Partnership**

46 Members

**SWIM*Local* (full product subscription)**

34 Subscribers

Thank you to all members for your ongoing support and assistance in building the sector. There is strong evidence of increased participation with growth in attendance at regional events, members accessing the web resources, particularly the [Resource Library](https://www.qldwater.com.au/resource-library), and using SWIM to submit annual compliance data.

In 2019 we will continue to aim to improve the quality of these services, but you will also see specific attention towards developing industry actions and policy recommendations to address the Ten Key Sector Priorities which formed the basis of many of our event themes in 2018.  Jargon aside, as we head into the next local and state government election cycles, it’s increasingly important to have a focus on what we as a sector need to see change, to improve our cost to serve and the quality of services to benefit our customers.

We wish all members and stakeholders the best for a safe festive season and would particularly like to acknowledge the efforts of our many member representatives who go above and beyond their day jobs to contribute to sector improvements, including:

* Our Technical Reference Group
* Our Sewerage and Water Environmental Advisory Panel
* Our Emerging Leaders Group; and
* All of the individuals who help us with opinions, technical advice and other support for our work program in an environment which increasingly challenges capacity to undertake meaningful consultation.

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