

POL 0077: On-Farm Drainage

Purpose

To ensure guidelines are in place for the placement of drainage infrastructure within Shire controlled road reserves for the management of On-Farm Drainage.

Scope

Document provides guidance on the requirements for land owners and Shire officers involved in the process of obtaining/approving on farm drainage modifications where this drainage discharges into shire reserves.

Definitions

N/A

Practice

Where appropriate, Council may allow drainage infrastructure to be placed within the road reserve to control and direct the disposal of on farm drainage from a rural property.

This policy will deal with the two main types of drainage being subsurface drainage and overland flow drainage.

Subsurface Drainage

The following conditions need to be met for approval of drainage infrastructure within the road reserve –

1. All pipes are to be class 4 concrete pipes unless otherwise agreed by the Director Asset Management.
2. Pipes are to be installed from property boundary to property boundary unless otherwise agreed by the Director Asset Management.
3. Pipes are to have a minimum of 300mm of compacted gravel as coverage.
4. The minimum pipe size for drains over 1m deep will be 600mm.
5. The minimum pipe size for drains less than 1m deep will be 450mm.
6. End walls are to be installed on both ends of the pipe including concrete foot and toe walls.
7. Overland flows should be excluded through the use of bunding or embankments on the channels.

Overland Flow Drainage

The following conditions need to be met for approval of drainage infrastructure within the road reserve –

1. The applicant shall engage a suitable qualified engineer to provide all details including the upstream catchment area, natural catchment characteristics, design discharge calculations and the size and type of drainage structure

required to cater for the catchment discharges based on design storms as defined in Council’s Subdivisional Design requirements for Rural Subdivisions.

2. Catchment information provided shall accurately define the contributing areas and include contour information at a maximum of 1m intervals.

Common

The following conditions are common to both the Subsurface and Overland Flow drainage requirements for infrastructure within the road reserve –

1. All appropriate permits and approvals need to be obtained by the applicant. The approvals must be sited by shire staff prior to works commencing on site.
2. The applicant must provide written approval from all downstream property owners within the subject discharge area.
3. All works within the road reserve are to be carried out by the shire or its nominated sub- contractor and shall be charged at private works rates.

Applicants will be required to complete a Rural Drainage Management application form and address all of the above requirements, dependent on the type of drainage discharge to be directed across the road reserve, prior to approvals being issued.

Council reserves the right to pursue payment of compensation from any landowner for damage to Council infrastructure caused by drainage operations that have occurred without adherence to this policy or Council approved conditions.

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Document Information

Responsible Position	Manager Asset Operations
Risk Rating	Low

Referencing Documents

- *Local Government Act 1995*

Revision History

Date	Version	CM Reference	Reason for Change	Resolution #	Next Review
Jul 2009	1		New policy	O0709-1264	Jul 2011
Feb 2016	2	D16/28974	Change to reflect approval requirements and minimum sizing of pipes.	O0216-042	Feb 2018
Aug 2018	3	D16/28974[v2]	No Change	O0818-091	Aug 2020
Dec 2019	4	D16/28974[v3]	No change to wording	O1219-268	Dec 2021
Mar 2022	5	D16/28974[v4]	No change	O0322-062	Mar 2024
Mar 2024	6	D16/28974[v5]	Added scope.	O0324-023	Mar 2026