

Our water, our future

Over the next fifty years we want a region with healthy streams and harbours, safe and secure drinking water and resilient networks. Our growing cities will be water sensitive and we are prepared for the impacts of climate change. Water will be at the core of how we plan and grow cities. We will achieve this through the following outcomes:

- Safe and healthy water;
- Respectful of the environment; and
- Resilient networks that support our economy.

Our strategy

Safe and healthy water

- Managing risk through effective treatment of water supply
- Ensuring on-going precaution through relationships and communication
- Minimising the impacts of wastewater leaks and overflows (renewals and upgrades).

Respectful for the environment

- Reducing stormwater run-off through water sensitive urban design
- The use of planning controls
- A step-change for managing bio-solids
- Encouraging energy efficiency
- Community awareness and behaviour change
- Wastewater systems that encourage water re-use and energy recovery

Resilient networks that support our economy

- Enabling growth through infrastructure provision
- Reducing the impacts of flooding
- Source development for potable water
- Reducing demand for potable water
- Water supply and wastewater resilience

Future challenges and opportunities

The next fifty years will present multiple challenges and opportunities that will influence the way we manage three waters.

Our journey over the next fifty years requires us to consider:

- The region's changing society: population growth, and changing social preferences.
- A growing economy.
- Funding challenges.
- Aging infrastructure
- Supporting growth within environmental limits.
- The impacts of climate change.
- The impacts of extreme natural events.
- Legislative influences.
- The role of technology.

Our approach

- Integrated Management
- Achieving outcomes through others
- Planning and investment based on evidence

Next steps

- Investment priorities determined by Future Service Studies
- Ten year Regional Services Plan (2018/19)