

Water and Sewer Harmonisation | 2023/2024 Pricing Structure

June 2023

Community Engagement Summary

At the Thursday 9th February 2023 meeting of Council, Councillors resolved to undertake a collaborative style engagement process, with Dubbo Regional Council keen to hear from community about the proposed harmonised rates. Engagement activities were developed to **INFORM** Community through a range of print, rates notices, information sessions and consultations delivering simplified yet very effective modelling for general ratepayers and those identified as highly impacted.

During the Draft 2023/2024 Budget and Operational Plan public exhibition process throughout May, community had an opportunity to have their say on all associated documents and the proposed pricing structure.

A summary of the engagement activities and community participation are highlighted below.

How we reached you



131 days of engagement

- 19 January - 29 May 2023
- Public Exhibition 1 May - 29 May 2023
 - 4 locations available across Wellington & Dubbo for viewing



344 visits to YourSay page

- 3 project followers
- 4 Q&A contributions, all answered
- 27 downloads of document library



Poll Results

- 42.86% of participants identified from the former Wellington fee structure
- 77.27% of participants are connected to Councils water supply



Formal submission's received

- 1 submission of 67 addressed the proposed pricing structure.



Advertising and communications

- 600 advertisements Wellington District Leader
- 11 days of radio adverts across Binjang & DCFM88
- 13,000 articles & adverts, Dubbo Photo News
- 11,040 newspaper adverts, Daily Liberal



Digital engagement

- 963 visits to DRC website page
- 13,732 social media reach
- 57 social media posts



Fees & Charges

Community Committee engagement

Pre and post public exhibition

- Villages Committee meeting 6 March
- Wellington Committee meeting 17 May



Water & sewer harmonisation Consultation Sessions

- 1 Wellington, highly impacted stakeholders
- 1 Wellington, general information
- 1 online live Q&A

Outcomes and next steps

- A report will be provided to Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held at the Dubbo Council Chambers, 5:30pm Thursday 22 June 2023 for consideration.
- Any person wishing to address Council during Public Forum regarding their submission must complete and return to Council's Corporate Governance team the Procedures for Addressing Council and Standing Committees [form](#).
- For more information on addressing Council or to view the live stream event please visit: <https://www.dubbo.nsw.gov.au/About-Council/Meetings-and-Documents/council-meetings>
- All formal submissions, where appropriate contact details have been received, will be notified of the outcome of the Council report titled 2023/2024 Draft Budget, Operational Plan and Associated Documents – Results of Public Exhibition
- On 1 July 2023 the Delivery Program and Operational Plan, budget and Fees and Charges for the 2023/2024 year come into effect.

