

Central Coast Council

Liquid Trade Waste Policy



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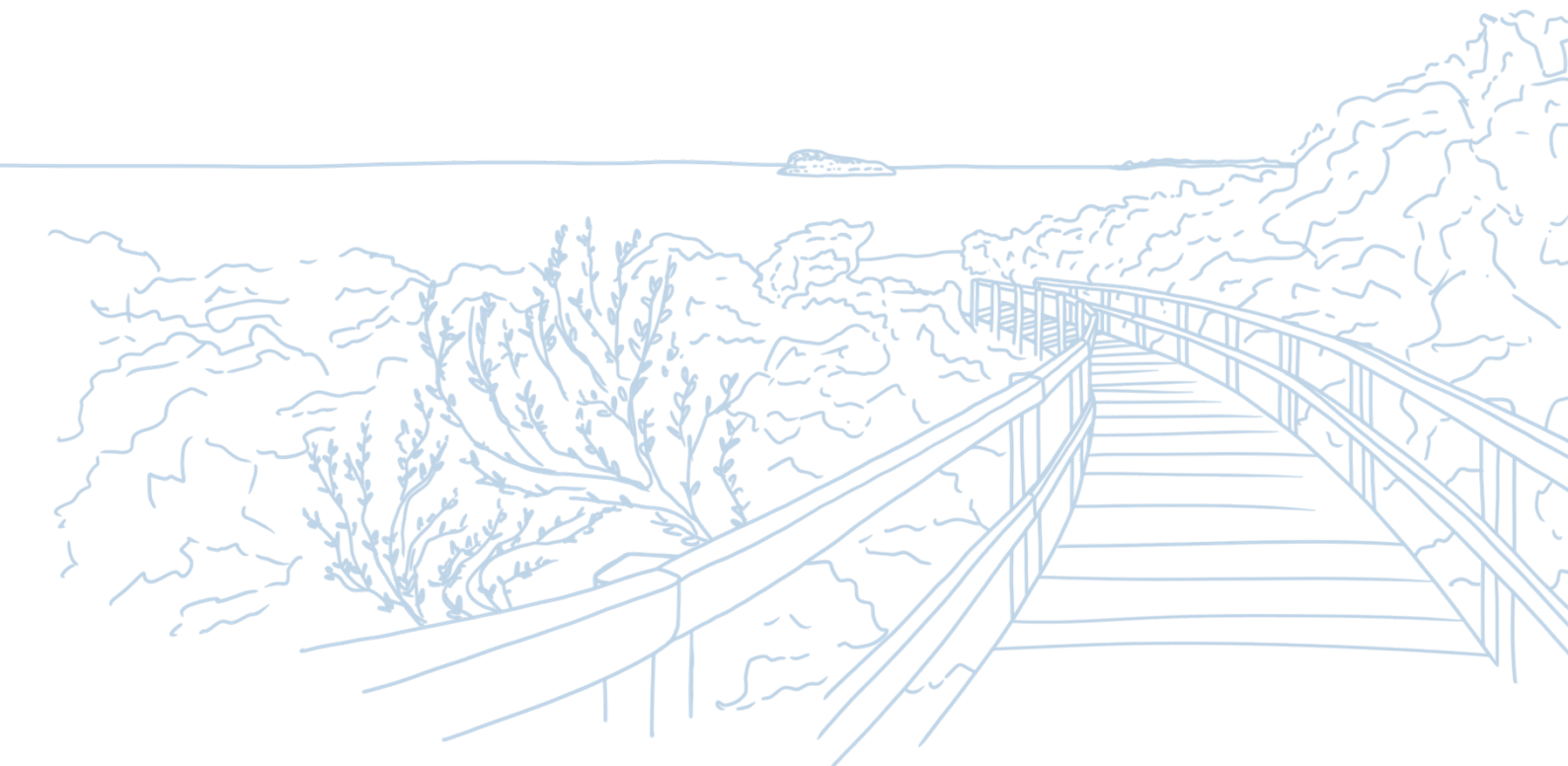


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Policy Statement

This policy sets out how Central Coast Council will regulate liquid trade waste discharges to its sewerage system in accordance with the NSW Framework for Regulation of Liquid Trade Waste.

Sewerage systems are generally designed to cater for liquid waste from domestic sources that are essentially of reasonably predictable strength and quality. Council **may** accept liquid trade waste into its sewerage system as a **service** to businesses and industry.

Liquid trade wastes may exert much greater demands on sewerage systems than domestic sewage and, if uncontrolled, can pose serious problems to public health, worker safety, Council's sewerage system and the environment.

This Policy is consistent with the [*Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines 2021*](#) developed by the Water Utilities branch of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

1. Introduction

This Policy has been developed to ensure the proper control of liquid trade waste and hence protection of public health, worker safety, the environment, and Council's sewerage system. The Policy also promotes waste minimisation, water conservation, water recycling and biosolids reuse.

In addition, the approval, monitoring and enforcement processes for liquid trade wastes discharged to Council's sewerage system and the levying of commercial sewerage and liquid trade waste fees and charges are described in this document. The procedure for liquid trade waste approval is governed by Chapter 7 of the Local Government Act 1993 (The Act).

Under section 68 of the Act, a person or entity wishing to discharge liquid trade waste to the sewerage system must obtain prior approval from Council. Discharge of liquid waste other than domestic sewage without prior approval is an offence under section 626 of the Act.

1.1. What is liquid trade waste?

Liquid trade waste is defined in the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 as:

Liquid trade waste means all liquid waste other than sewage of a domestic nature.

1.1.1. Liquid trade waste discharges to the sewerage system include liquid wastes from:

- a)** industrial premises
- b)** business/commercial premises (e.g. beautician, florist, hairdresser, hotel, motel, restaurant, butcher, supermarket, mechanical workshops, factories, etc.)
- c)** community/public premises (including clubs, school, college, university, hospital and nursing home)
- d)** any commercial activities carried out at residential premises
- e)** saleyards, racecourses and stables and kennels that are not associated with domestic households
- f)** tankered human waste, ship-to-shore waste from marina pump-out facilities, portable toilet waste and established sites for the discharge of pan contents from mobile homes/caravans
- g)** any other waste tankered to the sewerage facilities, e.g. commercial or industrial waste from un-sewered areas.

1.1.2. Liquid trade waste excludes:

- a)** toilet, hand wash basin (used for personal hygiene only), shower and bath wastes derived from all the premises and activities mentioned above
- b)** wastewater from residential toilets, kitchens, bathrooms or laundries (i.e. domestic sewage)
- c)** wastewater from common laundry facilities in caravan parks (Note that discharges from common kitchen facilities in caravan parks are liquid trade waste)
- d)** residential pool backwash.

1.2. Objectives

The main objectives of this Policy are:

- a)** to protect public health
 - b)** to protect the health and safety of Council employees
 - c)** to protect the environment
 - d)** to protect Council's assets from damage
 - e)** to minimise adverse impacts on the sewage treatment plant processes
 - f)** to assist Council meeting regulatory and licence compliance
 - g)** to promote water conservation, waste minimisation, cleaner production, effluent recycling,
 - h)** to enable ecosystem (land, groundwater, rivers and ocean) protection, biosolids reuse, circular economy and sustainability
 - i)** to provide an environmentally responsible liquid trade waste service to the non-residential sector
 - j)** to ensure compliance of liquid trade waste dischargers with Council's approved conditions
 - k)** to provide operational data on the volume and composition of industrial and commercial effluent to assist in the operation of the sewerage system
 - l)** to ensure commercial provision of services and full cost recovery through appropriate sewerage and liquid trade waste fees and charges.
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2. Structure of the Policy

This Policy comprises three parts:

- a)** Part 1 specifies the circumstances in which a person or entity is exempt from the necessity to apply for an approval to discharge liquid trade waste to Council's sewerage system.
- b)** Part 2 specifies the criteria which Council will take into consideration in determining whether to give or refuse a liquid trade waste approval.
- c)** Part 3 specifies the application procedure and approval process, liquid trade waste discharge categories and applicable fees and charges, the NSW Framework for Regulation of Liquid Trade Waste, alignment with the National Framework for Wastewater Source Management and other relevant information.

2.1. Part 1 – Exemptions

The list of dischargers exempted from obtaining of Council's approval is provided in Appendix B. These dischargers are known as 'Deemed to be Approved' dischargers. Each such discharger must meet the standard requirements specified in Appendix B.

Annual trade waste fees and charges do not apply to dischargers of liquid trade waste into Council's sewerage system that are classified as exempt.

2.2. Part 2 - Criteria for approval to discharge liquid trade waste into Council's sewerage system

2.2.1. Factors for consideration

Council's decision to accept liquid waste into its sewerage system will be based on the discharger satisfying Council's requirements. Therefore, when determining an application to discharge liquid waste to the sewerage system, Council will consider several factors:

- a)** the potential for the liquid trade waste discharge to impact on public health
- b)** the possible impacts the discharge may pose to the environment (land, water, air, noise, or nuisance factors)
- c)** the potential impacts of the discharge on the health and safety of the Council's employees
- d)** the potential impacts of the proposed discharge on Council's ability to meet the objectives outlined in clause 1.2 of this document
- e)** the adequacy of the pre-treatment process(es) to treat the liquid trade waste to a level acceptable for discharge to the sewerage system, including proposed contingency measures in an event of the pre-treatment system failure
- f)** the potential for the discharge to cause main blockage or any damage to the sewerage system
- g)** the capability of the sewerage system (reticulation and treatment components) to accept the quantity and quality of the proposed liquid waste
- h)** the adequacy of chemical storage and handling facilities, and the proposed safeguards for prevention of spills and leaks entering to the sewerage system
- i)** the adequacy of the proposed due diligence program and contingency plan, where required
- j)** proposed management of prohibited substances and other liquid waste not planned to be discharged to the sewerage system and safeguards to avoid any accidental discharge
- k)** the impact the liquid trade waste will have on the ability of the sewerage scheme to meet its Environment Protection Authority licence requirements
- l)** the potential impacts of the discharge on the quality of, and management practices for, effluent and biosolids produced from the sewage treatment plant process
- m)** the potential for stormwater entering the sewerage system and adequacy of proposed stormwater controls
- n)** the potential for growth of the community.

2.2.2. Discharge quality

Council's acceptance limits for liquid trade waste discharges in terms of physical and chemical parameters, radioactive matters, inorganic and organic compounds, and metals are set out in Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3.

These acceptance limits are consistent with the acceptance limits specified in the *Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines* (2021) by the Department of Planning and Environment.

Table 1: Acceptance limits for physical parameters of liquid trade waste into the sewerage system

Parameter	Limits
Flow Rate	The maximum daily and instantaneous rate of discharge (kL/h or L/s) is determined based on the available capacity of the sewer. Large discharges are required to provide a balancing tank to even out the load on the sewage treatment plant.
BOD ₅	Normally approved at 300 mg/L; Concentrations up to 600 mg/L may be accepted
Suspended solids	Normally approved at 300 mg/L; Concentrations up to 600 mg/L may be accepted
COD	Normally, not to exceed BOD ₅ by more than three times This ratio is given as a guide only to prevent the discharge of non-biodegradable waste.
Total Dissolved Solids	Up to 4000 mg/L may be accepted The acceptance limit may be reduced depending on available effluent disposal options and may be subjected to a mass load limit.
Temperature	Less than 38°C
pH	Within the range 7.0 to 9.0
Oil and Grease	100 mg/L if the volume of the discharge does not exceed 10% of the design capacity of the treatment works and 50 mg/L if the volume is greater than 10%
Detergents	All detergents are to be biodegradable. A limit on the concentration of 50 mg/L (as MBAS) may be imposed on large liquid trade wastes discharges.
Colour	Colour must be biodegradable. No visible colour when diluted to the equivalent dilution afforded by domestic sewage flow. Specific limits may be imposed on industrial discharges where colour has a potential to interfere with sewage treatment plant processes and the effluent management.
Radioactive Substances	If expected to be present (e.g. Iodine 131 from ablation), acceptance requirements will be set on a case-by-case assessment.

Table 2: Acceptance limits for inorganic and organic compounds in liquid trade waste into the sewerage system

Acceptance limits for inorganic and organic compounds		Maximum concentration (mg/L)
Inorganic compounds	Ammonia (as N)	50
	Boron	5
	Bromine	5
	Chlorine	10
	Cyanide	1
	Fluoride	30
	Nitrogen (total Kjeldahl nitrogen)	100
	Phosphorus (total)	20

	Sulphate (as SO ₄)	500
	Sulphide (as S)	1
Organic compounds	Benzene	< 0.001
	Toluene	0.5
	Ethylbenzene	1
	Xylene	1
	Formaldehyde	30
	Phenolic compounds non-halogenated	1
	Petroleum Hydrocarbons ^x	
	• C ₆ -C ₉ (flammable)	5
	• Total Recoverable Hydrocarbons (TRH)	30
	Pesticides general (except organochlorine and organophosphorus)	0.1
	Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH)	5

^x For petroleum hydrocarbons, always ask a laboratory to carry out a silica gel clean up, if other than petroleum products are expected to be present in a liquid trade waste sample, e.g. animal fats, plant oil, soil, etc.

Table 3: Acceptance limits for metals in liquid trade waste into the sewerage system

Acceptance limits for metals	Maximum concentration (mg/L)	Allowed daily mass limit (g/d)
Aluminium	100	-
Arsenic	0.5	2
Cadmium	1	5
Chromium ^A	3	10
Cobalt	5	15
Copper	5	15
Iron	100	-
Lead	1	5
Manganese	10	30
Mercury	0.01	0.05
Molybdenum	5	15
Nickel	1	5
Selenium	1	5
Silver	2	5
Tin	5	15
Zinc	1	5
Total heavy metals excluding aluminium, iron and manganese	Less than 30 mg/L and subject to total mass loading requirements	

^A Where hexavalent chromium (Cr⁶⁺) is present in the process water, pre-treatment will be required to reduce it to the trivalent state (Cr³⁺), prior to discharge into the sewer.

Notes:

1. Acceptance limits for substances not listed in above Tables will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

2. *The quality of liquid trade waste from some low-risk commercial activities in Classification A and Classification B will exceed acceptance limits listed in above Table. As a higher level of pre-treatment is not cost-effective, such waste is acceptable if the discharger installs, maintains and properly operates the required on-site pre-treatment. Similarly, septic and pan waste may exceed some acceptance limits.*

2.2.3. Prohibited or restricted substances and waste

Some substances are not suitable for discharge to the sewerage system. Substances prohibited from being discharged into the sewerage system unless they are specifically approved under section 68 of the Act are listed in Table 4. In addition, clause 2.2.3.1 lists the discharges either prohibited or restricted. Appendix C summarises detailed description of substances and discharges either prohibited or restricted.

Table 4: Substances Prohibited from discharge to the sewerage system

- a) Organochlorine weedicides, fungicides, pesticides, herbicides and substances of a similar nature and/or wastes arising from the preparation of these substances
- b) organophosphorus pesticides and/or waste arising from the preparation of these substances
- c) per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
- d) any substances liable to produce noxious or poisonous vapours in the sewerage system
- e) organic solvents and mineral oil #
- f) any flammable or explosive substance#
- g) discharges from 'Bulk Fuel Depots'
- h) discharges from chemicals and/or oil storage areas
- i) natural or synthetic resins, plastic monomers, synthetic adhesives, rubber and plastic emulsions
- j) roof, rain, surface, seepage or ground water, unless specifically permitted (clause 137A of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021)
- k) solid matter #
- l) disposable products including wet wipes, cleaning wipes, colostomy bags, cat litter and other products marketed as flushable
- m) any substance assessed as not suitable to be discharged into the sewerage system
- n) liquid waste that contains pollutants at concentrations which inhibit sewage treatment plant processes
- o) any other substances listed in a relevant regulation

In excess of the approved limit.

2.2.4. Other substances/discharges either prohibited or restricted

- a) Stormwater from open areas
- b) Contaminated groundwater
- c) Landfill leachate
- d) Discharge from float tanks
- e) Discharge from new service station forecourts and other refuelling points
- f) Discharge of liquid waste arising from liquefaction and/or pulverisation of solid waste by physical or chemical processes (e.g. garbage grinders/in-sinkers, macerators, alkaline hydrolysis).
- g) Discharge from solid food waste processing units (digesters/composters, etc.)
- h) Use of additives in pre-treatment systems

For further details on limitations and restrictions applicable to above discharges, refer to Appendix C of this policy, Chapter 3 of the *NSW Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines, 2021* and [Central Coast Council Website](#).

2.3. Part 3 – Matters relating to liquid trade waste approvals

2.3.1. Application procedures and approval process

Council's written approval is required prior to commence discharging liquid trade waste to its sewerage system, under section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993. Application forms are available from Council.

The applicant must lodge a trade waste application providing all requested information.

A trade waste application is not required to discharge liquid trade waste from 'Deemed to be Approved' activities listed in Appendix B.

2.3.2. Who can lodge an application

The applicant must be either the owner or the occupier of the premises. If the applicant is not the owner of the premises, the owner's consent to the application is required.

2.3.3. Council's process in determination of applications

Council may request an applicant to provide further information to enable it to determine the application.

2.3.4. Approval of applications

Where an application is approved, Council will notify the applicant including any conditions of the approval and reasons for such conditions. The duration of the approval will be as stated in the approval.

An applicant may make a minor amendment or withdraw an application before it is processed by Council. An applicant may also apply to Council to renew or extend an approval, in accordance with section 107 of the Local Government Act.

2.3.5. Refusal

If an application is refused, Council will notify the applicant of the grounds for refusal.

Under section 100 of the Act the applicant may request the review of Council's determination. Under section 176 of the Act, the applicant dissatisfied with Council's determination may appeal to the Land and Environment Court within 12 months.

2.3.6. Change of approval holder

An approval to discharge liquid trade waste to Council's sewerage system is not transferable. A new application must be lodged, and a new approval must be obtained if there is a change of the approval holder. Council must be notified of change of ownership and/or occupier in all cases, whether a new approval is required or not, to allow updating of records.

2.3.7. Validity of an existing approval

A new approval is required where there is a change of:

- a)** approval holder (either owner or occupier can be an approval holder)
- b)** activity generating the waste

- c) the quantity or the nature of liquid trade waste
- d) approval conditions.

2.3.8. Modification and revocation of approvals

Council reserves the right to modify or revoke an approval to discharge liquid trade waste to the sewerage system under the circumstances described in section 108 of the Local Government Act 1993.

2.3.9. Concurrence

If Council supports an application and has a notice stating that concurrence of the Secretary, NSW Department of Planning and Environment can be assumed for the liquid trade waste relevant to the application, Council will approve the application. Otherwise, Council will seek concurrence to its approval.

For concurrence purposes, liquid trade waste discharges are divided into four classifications.

- a) Concurrence Classification A: Liquid trade waste for which Council has been authorised to assume concurrence to the approval subject to certain requirements.
- b) Concurrence Classification B: Liquid trade waste for which Council may apply for authorisation to assume concurrence to the approval subject to certain requirements
- c) Concurrence Classification S: The acceptance of septic tank, pan waste, dump point and ship-to-shore pump-out etc. Council may apply for authorisation to assume concurrence to the approval subject to certain conditions.
- d) Concurrence Classification C: All other liquid trade waste that do not fall within Concurrence Classification A, B or S, and therefore require Council to forward the application for concurrence.

Refer to Appendix E which lists type of discharges that Council have assumed concurrence (i.e. that Council can approve without seeking concurrence from the Department of Planning and Environment).

3. Sewerage and liquid trade waste fees and charges

Council provides sewerage and liquid trade waste services on a commercial basis to non-residential dischargers, with full cost recovery through sewerage and liquid trade waste fees and charges. Council implements sound pricing for non-residential sewerage and liquid trade waste services to ensure that dischargers bear a fair share of the cost of providing sewerage services and to facilitate appropriate pre-treatment, waste minimisation and water conservation. Council's liquid trade waste servicing costs and charges are regulated by the Independent Price and Review Tribunal

(https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/cm9_documents/Technical-Paper-Trade-waste-and-other-prices-Central-Coast-water-prices-May-2022.PDF).

The current sewerage and liquid trade waste fees and charges are provided on [Central Coast Council's Website](#).

Council's liquid trade waste fees and charges may include:

- a) general fees and charges (application fee, annual liquid trade waste fee, inspection and/or re-inspection fees and renewal fee)
- b) category specific charges (trade waste usage charges for Charging Category 2 discharges, excess mass charges for Charging Category 3 discharges, charges for Charging Category S discharges and non-compliance charges)
- c) other charges related to the nature of waste (e.g. charges for the discharge of stormwater from large areas)

Detailed description of the liquid trade waste fees and charges and the methodology of calculating them are provided in Appendix D.

3.1. Liquid trade waste charging categories

For charging purposes there are four liquid trade waste charging categories:

- a) Category 1: Discharges requiring minimal pre-treatment, or prescribed pre-treatment but low impact on the sewerage system. These dischargers will only pay an annual fee. If pre-treatment equipment is not provided or maintained, non-compliance charges will be applied.
- b) Category 2: Discharges with prescribed pre-treatment (excludes activities in Category 1) and other activities listed under this charging category in Appendix D. These dischargers will pay trade waste usage charge and annual trade waste fee. If pre-treatment equipment is not provided or not maintained, then such dischargers will be required to pay non-compliance usage charge.
- c) Category S: Transporters who tanker human waste to Council's sewage treatment plants, owners/operators of ship-to-shore pump out facilities and owners/operators of dump points directly connected to sewer
- d) Category 3: Large (>20 kL/d) and industrial discharges (excluding shopping centres and institutions). Such dischargers will pay excess mass charges. If the discharge fails to comply with Council's acceptance limits, dischargers will be required to pay non-compliance excess mass charges and pH charges.

Note that these charging categories are different to four classifications that have been established for concurrence purposes (i.e. Classification A, B, C and S). The relationship between Concurrence Classifications and Charging Categories are shown in Figure D1 in Appendix D.

3.2. Non-compliance liquid trade waste charges

In order to encourage compliance, Council may apply non-compliance trade waste charges. Refer to Appendix D for further details of non-compliance charges for different charging categories.

Council will continue applying non-compliance charges until the discharge meets Council's approved quality (or the Liquid Trade Waste Policy) limits, within the timeframe determined by Council for remedying the problem. If the discharger fails to rectify the problem within an agreed timeframe, the discharger may be required to cease discharging liquid trade waste into Council's sewerage system. Council may also consider issuing penalty infringement notice to a non-compliant discharger or may prosecute the discharger.

3.3. Other applicable liquid trade waste charges

Additional fees and charges may be levied by Council if wastewater is discharged to Council's sewerage system from the following equipment and or processes, with Council's approval:

- a) Food waste disposal units (i.e. garbage grinders/insinkerator) (For existing installations only, new installations are not permitted)
- b) Solid food waste processing unit
- c) Discharge of stormwater to the sewerage system from large open areas or large quantities of groundwater.

Refer to Appendix D for further details.

3.4. Charges for premises with multiple liquid trade waste streams

Examples of premises with multiple waste streams include:

- a) shopping centres
- b) commercial strata units
- c) institutions, e.g. hospitals, tertiary educational facilities and correctional centres
- d) other premises with multiple waste streams.

Council may rationalise some of the business premises with multiple liquid trade waste streams for inspection and charging purposes, in terms of the number of business outlets within (more than 5 traders) and the nature of their waste streams. Rationalised sites will be charged with Category 2 charging structure with appropriate liquid trade waste discharge factor. Annual trade waste licence fees will be levied based on the number of pre-treatment devices on the premise.

Council will make this determination on a case-by-case basis. Refer to Appendix D and *Trade Waste Management Guidelines (2021)* for further details.

3.5. Summary of category specific fees and charges

The summary of fees and charges are indicated in Table 5. Refer to Appendix D for other applicable charges not included in Table 5.

Table 5: Summary of fees and charges

Fee/Charge	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category S
Application fee	Yes ^P	Yes	Yes	Yes
Annual non-residential sewerage bill with appropriate sewer usage charge/kL ^X	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Annual liquid trade waste fee	Yes ^Q	Yes	Yes	Variable ^R
Re-inspection fee (when required)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Optional ^S
Trade waste usage charge/kL	No	Yes	No	No
Human waste disposal charge/kL	No	No	No	Yes
Excess mass charges/kg	No	No	Yes	No
Non-compliance trade waste usage charge/kL	Yes ^T	Yes	No	No

Non-compliance excess mass/kg and pH charges/kL (if required)	No	No	Yes	No
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^P Not applicable for discharges listed as 'Deemed to be Approved'

^Q May not be applicable for discharges listed as 'Deemed to be Approved'

^R Refer to Appendix D for guidance on applying annual fees to Category S discharges

^S Applicable if re-inspection of facilities is required, e.g. ship-to-shore pump-out facility

^T Non-compliance trade waste usage charge if discharger fails to install/properly maintain appropriate pre-treatment (Council's fees and charges)

^X Annual non-residential sewerage bill with appropriate sewer usage charge is not a trade waste fee.

3.6. Responsibility for payment of fees and charges

Property (land) owners are responsible for the payment of fees and charges for water supply, sewerage and liquid trade waste services. This includes property owners of marinas, caravan parks, etc.

Where another party (lessee) leases premises, any reimbursement of the lessor (property owner) for such fees and charges is a matter for the lessor and the lessee.

In relation to tankered human waste, transporters who collect and discharge waste at the sewage treatment plants are responsible for the payment. A waste transporter who tankers liquid trade waste to the sewage treatment plant may pay only the liquid trade waste fees and charges as non-residential sewerage fees are not applicable.

A liquid trade waste discharger (except for tankered waste) pays both the non-residential sewerage charges and liquid trade waste fees and charges.

4. Liquid trade waste service agreement

In addition to its approval under the Local Government Act, Council may require certain dischargers, including those who wish to discharge liquid trade waste in large volumes (discharge >20 kL/d) or industrial waste (Concurrence Classification C discharges) or some Classification S discharges into its sewerage system to execute a liquid trade waste services agreement. The agreement will set out the conditions associated with the discharge and execution of the agreement will be a condition of the approval issued by Council.

5. Enforcement of approvals and agreements

If the discharge is not approved or fails to comply with the approval conditions, the discharger is subject to prosecution and imposition of fines under the Local Government Act 1993 (under section 626 and section 627).

Above offences are also prescribed as penalty notice offences under the Act and Council may issue a penalty infringement notice (i.e. on the spot fine) to such discharger (Refer to Schedule 12 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021).

Note that sections 628 and 634 to 639 also list other offences related to water, sewerage and stormwater drainage.

Polluting of any waters by a discharger of liquid trade waste who does not have a Council approval or who fails to comply with the conditions of the approval is also an offence under

section 120(1) of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997. In addition, under section 222 of this Act, Council may issue a penalty infringement notice to such a discharger.

5.1. Powers to disconnect a liquid trade waste service

In addition to fines, Council may recover costs of damages, fines and other payments incurred by Council as a result of an unauthorised liquid waste discharge. Temporary suspension or termination of the discharge may also be required. In addition, section 59A(2) of the Local Government Act enables Council to disconnect the discharge from its works to ensure that Council's sewerage system is used appropriately. Section 191(1) of the Act provides Council with the power to enter premises to disconnect a liquid trade waste service at the point where the private sewer connects with Council's sewer main.

Council shall give the owner, or the occupier of the premises written notice of its intention to enter the premises (section 193(1) of the Act). However, in the case of an emergency or a risk or likelihood of a serious risk to health and safety, an authorised person may enter the premises without notice (sections 193(3)(b) and (c) of the Act).

Council shall only use the above powers where there is proper cause and sufficient evidence to identify the correct premises prior to taking action. Council shall use these powers in a lawful manner for the specific circumstances.

6. Prevention of waste of water

Water must be used efficiently and must be recycled where practicable. It is an offence under section 637 of the Local Government Act 1993 and its Regulation (refer to Appendix G of the Regulation) to waste or misuse water.

Dilution of liquid trade waste with water from any non-process source including Council's water supply, bore water, groundwater, stormwater as a means of reducing pollutant concentration is therefore strictly prohibited.

7. Effluent improvement plans

Where the quality of liquid trade waste discharged does not meet Council's requirements, the applicant may be required to submit an Effluent Improvement Plan setting out how Council's requirements will be met. The proposed plan must detail the methods/actions proposed to achieve the discharge limits and a timetable for implementation of the proposed actions. Such actions may include more intensive monitoring, improvements to work practices and/or pre-treatment facilities to improve the effluent quality and reliability.

8. Due diligence programs and contingency plans

A discharger may be required to submit a due diligence program and a contingency plan for some liquid trade waste discharges (generally in Concurrence Classification C, Charging Category 3) where it is considered that the discharge may pose a potential threat to the

sewerage system. If required, a due diligence program and contingency plan must be submitted to Council within the time specified in the liquid trade waste approval.

9. Review

The Liquid Trade Waste Policy will be revised every four years to coincide with the IPART price determination cycle, or as required. The next mandatory review will be completed by June 2026. The Policy will be reviewed every year.

10. Responsibilities

10.1. Compliance, monitoring and review

- 10.1.1. Suspected breaches or misuse of this policy are to be reported to the Chief Executive Officer. Alleged breaches of this policy shall be dealt with by the processes outlined in the [Code of Conduct](#) and the [Procedures for the Administration of the Code of Conduct](#).

10.2. Reporting

- 10.2.1. Reporting on Liquid Trade Waste management is a component of the Annual Audit of Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Services. Compliance Water System is responsible for this reporting to Department of Planning and Environment.

10.3. Records management

- 10.3.1. Staff must maintain all records relevant to administering this policy in accordance with Council's Information and Records Management Policy.

11. Policy Definitions

For a full list of definitions and important terms used in this policy, refer to Appendix A.

12. Policy Administration

Business Group	Water and Sewer
Responsible Officer	Unit Manager Headworks and Treatment
Associated Procedure (if any, reference document(s) number(s))	N/A
Policy Review Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual review to coincide with the new financial year • Full revision with new IPART price determination
File Number / Document Number	D15699634
Relevant Legislation (reference specific sections)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 – Local Government Act 1993 – Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 – Water Management Act 2000 – Work Health and Safety Act 2011 – Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017
Relevant desired outcome or objectives as per Council's Delivery Program	<p>Theme 4: Responsible</p> <p>Goal G: Good governance and great partnerships</p> <p>R-G4: Serve the community by providing great customer experience, value for money and quality services.</p>

<p>Related Policies / Protocols / Procedures / Documents (reference document numbers)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Australian Standards AS/NZS 3500.2:2018 Plumbing and drainage – Sanitary plumbing and drainage – Central Coast Council - 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2026 Water - IPART Determination (May 2022) – Central Coast Council Liquid Trade Waste page Liquid trade waste Central Coast Council (nsw.gov.au) – IPART Review of Central Coast Council water prices – Trade waste and other prices Technical Paper May 2022 https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/cm9_documents/Technical-Paper-Trade-waste-and-other-prices-Central-Coast-water-prices-May-2022.PDF – Liquid Trade Waste Regulation Guidelines April 2009 (Department of Water and Energy) – NSW Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines 2021 (NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment) https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/147088/trade-waste-management-guidelines.pdf – NSW Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines, 2004 (revised 2007) – National Construction Code 2019 Volume Three – Plumbing Code of Australia – Sewage Pumping Station Code of Australia (Version 2.1) (WSA 04-2022)
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13. Policy Authorisations

No.	Authorised Function	Authorised Business Unit / Role(s)
GE005	Determine suspected breaches or misuse of this policy	Chief Executive Officer or their delegate
LG Act 014	<p>Issue Orders – In relation to S626(3) and S627(3). Authority to exercise Council's functions under Chapter 7, Part 2 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> in relation to the making of orders including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the giving of an Order under s124; issue a notice of intention to give an order in accordance with s132; hear and consider representations made in relation to a notice of intention to give an order, in accordance with s133; determine to give, or not give, an order in accordance with s135; accept or reject particulars of work in accordance with s141; prepare or authorise the preparation of particulars of work and order the owner to carry out that work under s141(3); recover from the owner expenses incurred in preparing particulars of work in accordance with s141; modify an order in accordance with s152; revoke an order in accordance with s153. <p>Pursuant To – S124, Chapter 7, Part 2 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> and Part 3 of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2005</i>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade Waste Officer • Team Leader Trade Waste • Section Manager • Compliance Water Systems • Unit Manager • Headworks and Treatment • Director • Water and Sewer • Chief Executive Officer
LG Act 003	<p>Approvals – Authority to reject a unclear or illegible application for approval for an activity specified in the table to section 68, or to determine such an application, or an application to amend, extend, renew, revoke or modify such an approval and in determining such an application, to give directions in response to an objection.</p> <p>Pursuant To – Section 68 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade Waste Officer • Team Leader Trade Waste • Section Manager • Compliance Water Systems • Unit Manager • Headworks and Treatment • Director • Water and Sewer • Chief Executive Officer

14. Policy History

Revision	Date Approved / Authority	Description Of Changes
1	24 October 2017	Policy consolidation (former WSC & GCC)
2	30 September 2016	Finalisation by the Chief Executive Officer (Policy 2019)
3	30 January 2023	Major revision to incorporate new NSW Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines and outcome of IPART Price Determination 2022: Draft for preliminary review by DPE
4	09 February 2023	Draft revised with DPE review comments for Headworks and Treatment Unit approvals
5	16 February 2023	Draft for Water and Sewer management reviews and approvals
6	23 February 2023	Draft for Council endorsement for Public Exhibition
7	22 March 2023	Revised final for DPE consent and Council approval for implementation
8	28 March 2023 Minute Number 22/23 (public exhibition)	Final Draft for Public Exhibition
	26 June 2023 Minute Number 71/23 (adoption)	Final Draft adopted by Council

15. Appendices

- Appendix A – Glossary
- Appendix B – Deemed to be Approved Activities
- Appendix C – Prohibited or restricted substances and wastes from discharge to sewer
- Appendix D – Non-residential sewerage and liquid trade waste fees and charges
- Appendix E – List of discharges Council may approve
- Appendix F – Legislative Provisions

A. Appendix A – Glossary

Agreement: The signed document of conditions between Council and an applicant relating to large volume and/or high-risk discharge of liquid trade waste (LTW).

Applicant: The person, business or company who makes formal application to discharge LTW.

Approval: The document of conditions relating to discharge of LTW.

Authorised assumed concurrence: Councils with significant experience in liquid trade waste regulation are encouraged to apply to the Secretary, Department of Planning and Environment seeking to obtain concurrence for Council's approval for Classification B and Classification S discharges. If granted, Council will no longer need to forward such applications to the Department for concurrence, provided that Council complies with the conditions outlined in the notice of concurrence.

Automatic assumed concurrence: Council has been granted assumed concurrence for approval for Classification A discharges, provided that Council complies with conditions outlined in the notice of concurrence. Such applications may be approved by Council without forwarding the application to the Department of Planning and Environment for concurrence.

Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅): The amount of oxygen utilised by micro-organisms in the process of decomposition of organic material in wastewater over a period of five days at 20°C. In practical terms, BOD is a measure of biodegradable organic content of the waste.

Biosolids: Primarily organic solids produced by sewage treatment plant are collectively called biosolids. Until such solids are suitable for beneficial use, they are defined as wastewater solids or sewage sludge.

Blackwater: Wastewater containing human excrement (i.e. faeces, urine).

Bunding: Secondary containment provided for storage areas, particularly for materials with the propensity to cause environmental damage.

Category 1: Dischargers with well-characterised effluent, requiring nil or minimal pre-treatment.

Category 2: Dischargers with well-characterised effluent, requiring prescribed pre-treatment.

Category 3: Large (more than 20 kL/d) and industrial dischargers (excluding hospitals, institutions and shopping centres).

Category S: Dischargers transporting or discharging septic tank, pan, private pump stations (non-residential), dump points and ship-to-shore waste.

Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD): COD is a measure of oxygen required to oxidise organic and inorganic matter in sewage by a strong chemical oxidant. Sewages containing high levels of readily oxidised compounds have a high COD.

Chemical toilet: Toilets in which wastes are deposited into a holding tank containing deodorising or other chemicals are called chemical toilets. Stored wastes must be pumped out periodically.

Classification A: Low risk dischargers with trade waste volumes up to 5 kL per day, except for commercial retail food preparation where up to 16 kL per day is permitted with standard, non-complex pre-treatment requirements.

Classification B: Medium risk commercial and industrial discharges, with trade waste volume not exceeding 20 kL per day, and prescribed pre-treatment requirements come under this classification. Classification B is not defined by the volume of the discharge. Some discharges in this Classification may be restricted at less than 5 kL per day (e.g. radiator repairer), or less

than 1 kL per day (e.g. artesian food). Further details can be found in Chapter 5 of NSW Liquid Trade Waste Guidelines (2021).

Classification C: High risk and large volume dischargers (flow generated by high-risk activities may be less than 20kL/d, e.g. electroplating).

Classification S: Septic tank waste, pan waste, private pump stations (non-residential), dump point and ship-to-shore waste dischargers.

Commercial retail discharge: Commercial discharges can be described as wastes that are discharged from businesses dealing directly with the public.

Commercial caterer: A commercial caterer is typically a stand-alone operation and prepares food for consumption off-site. This type of businesses typically caters to wedding functions, conferences, parties, etc. This definition does not apply to a food processing factory supplying pre-prepared meals to a third party.

Concurrence Authority: The head of the Department of Planning and Environment.

Council: For the purpose of this document, "Council" refers to Central Coast Council, which provides water supply and sewerage services and implements policies and procedures relevant to these services.

Contingency plan: A set of procedures for responding to an incident that will affect the quality of liquid trade waste discharged to the sewerage system, which encompasses procedures to protect the environment from accidental and unauthorised discharges of liquid trade waste, leaks and spillages from stored products and chemicals.

Concurrence: Under section 90(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and clause 28 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Council must obtain the written concurrence of the Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment prior to approving the discharge of liquid trade waste to Council's sewerage system. The Department's Water Utilities Branch provides concurrence on behalf of the Secretary.

Discharger: Premises that discharges LTW into Council's sewerage system.

Due diligence program: A plan that identifies potential health and safety, environmental or other hazards (e.g. spills, accidents or leaks) and appropriate corrective actions aimed at minimising or preventing the hazards.

Effluent: The liquid discharged following a wastewater or sewage treatment process.

Effluent Improvement Plan (EIP): The document that is required to be submitted by a discharger who fails to meet the acceptance limits set down in Council's approval conditions and/or liquid trade waste agreement. The document sets out measures taken by a discharger in order to meet the acceptance limits within the agreed timeframe.

Exemption: An exclusion granted by Council from the requirement to apply for Approval and/or Agreement to discharge LTW.

Fast food outlet: A food retailing business featuring a very limited menu, precooked or quickly prepared food, and take-away operations is characterised as a fast food outlet. Premises of this nature include KFC, McDonalds, Red Rooster, Pizza Hut, Hungry Jack's, Burger King, etc.

Food disposal unit: The equipment used to break down solid food into finer particles, also known as food waste disposal units, in-sink food waste disposers or garbage grinders in commercial premises.

Galley waste: Liquid waste from a kitchen or a food preparation area of a vessel; not including solid wastes.

Greywater: Wastewater from showers, baths, spas, hand basins, laundry tubs, washing machines, dishwashers or kitchen sinks.

Heavy metals: Metals of high atomic weight which in high concentrations can exert a toxic effect and may accumulate in the environment and the food chain are called heavy metals. Examples include mercury, chromium, cadmium, arsenic, nickel, lead and zinc.

Housekeeping: A general term, which covers all waste minimisation activities connected within the premises as part of its operation.

Industrial discharges: Industrial liquid trade waste is defined as liquid waste generated by industrial or manufacturing processes. Examples are provided in Trade Waste Management Guidelines (2021).

IPART: Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal, an NSW agency that regulates pricing for water, energy, public transport and local government, and the licence administrator of water, electricity and gas.

Liquid Trade Waste: All liquid waste other than sewage of a domestic nature discharged to the sewerage system.

Mandatory concurrence: For the liquid waste in Classification C, Council needs to obtain concurrence for approval of each discharge. The Water Utilities Branch of the Department of Planning and Environment provides concurrence on behalf of the Department's Secretary.

Macerator: This device pulverises solid waste. Solid waste includes, but not limited to sanitary napkin, placenta, surgical waste, disposable nappy, mache bedpan/urine containers, food waste, disposable products and animal waste.

Methylene Blue Active Substances (MBAS): Anionic surfactants, and concentration of which are detected by measuring colour change in a standard solution of methylene blue dye.

Minimal pre-treatment: For the purpose of this document, this means sink strainers, basket arrestors for sink and floor waste, plaster arrestors and fixed or removable screens.

Mixed business: a general store that sells a variety of goods and may also prepare some food.

National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA): A national accreditation body responsible for ensuring that organisations are competent to provide consistently reliable testing, calibration, measurement and inspection data.

Open area: Any unroofed process, storage, washing or transport area where rainwater potentially can be contaminated.

Pan: Any moveable receptacle kept in a closet and used for the reception of human waste.

PFAS: This group of manufactured chemicals, containing a component with multiple fluorine atoms, are used in many specialty applications. Examples are perfluoro octane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). They are used in a range of products, such as textiles, leather, cosmetics, non-stick coatings in cookware, food packaging, and in some types of fire-fighting foam. These chemicals take a long time to break down in humans and the environment and their persistence and bioaccumulation potential pose concerns for the environment and for human health.

Pit latrines/long-drop toilet/pit toilet: A type of toilet that collects faeces and urine directly into a tank or a hole in the ground.

Portable toilet: In these toilets, human wastes are deposited into a holding tank used on construction sites, caravans, motor homes, boats, trains and at outdoor gatherings. If chemicals are used to control odours, it is referred to as a chemical toilet.

pH: A measure of acidity or alkalinity of an aqueous solution, expressed as the logarithm of the reciprocal of the hydrogen ion (H⁺) activity in moles per litre at a given temperature; pH 7 is neutral, below 7 is acidic and above 7 is alkaline.

Premises: The same meaning as defined in the Local Government Act Dictionary and includes any of the following:

- a building of any description or any part of it and the appurtenances to it
- land, whether built on or not
- a shed or other structure
- a tent
- a swimming pool
- a ship or vessel of any description (including a houseboat)
- a van

Prescribed pre-treatment equipment: Standard non-complex equipment used for pre-treatment of liquid trade waste, e.g. a grease arrestor, an oil arrestor/separator, solids arrestor, cooling pit.

Pre-treatment: The process used for the initial treatment of LTW.

Pulverise: The process of reducing solids to fine particles.

Rationalised site: Large/multi-purpose commercial complex with more than five trade waste traders (e.g. shopping centre) under one property owner.

Regional NSW: the areas of the state that are not serviced by the Sydney Water Corporation or the Hunter Water Corporation.

Regulation: Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Secretary: The head of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

Septage: Material pumped out from a septic tank during desludging; contains partly decomposed scum, sludge and liquid.

Septic tank: Wastewater / sewage treatment device that provides a preliminary form of treatment for wastewater, enabling sedimentation of settleable solids, flotation of oils and fats, and anaerobic digestion of sludge.

Septic tank effluent: The liquid discharged from a septic tank after treatment and or the supernatant in septic tank.

Sewage management facility: A human waste storage facility or a waste treatment device intended to process sewage and includes a drain connected to such a facility or device

Sewage of a domestic nature: Human faecal matter and urine and wastewater associated with ordinary kitchen, laundry and ablution activities of a household, but does not include waste in or from a sewage management facility.

Sewerage system: The network of sewage collection, transportation, treatment and by-products (effluent and biosolids) management facilities.

Sewage treatment plant (STP): Sewage treatment plant is a facility that is designed to treat sewage. The level of treatment will vary based on the expected quality of the effluent.

Ship-to-Shore pump-out: Liquid waste from a vessel that may be considered for disposal to the sewerage system, which includes on-board toilet wastes, galley wastes and dry dock cleaning waste from maintenance activities.

Sludge: The solids that are removed from wastewater / sewage by treatment.

Stormwater run-off: Run-off resulting from rainfall.

Surfactants: This is the key active ingredient of detergents, soaps, emulsifiers, wetting agents and penetrants. Anionic surfactants react with a chemical called methylene blue to form a blue-chloroform-soluble complex. The intensity of colour is proportional to concentration.

Suspended solids (SS): The insoluble solid matter suspended in wastewater, sewage or effluent that can be separated by laboratory filtration and is retained on a filter.

Trade Waste Discharge Factor (TWDF): The trade waste discharge factor is the ratio of the volume of liquid trade waste discharged into the sewerage system to the total water consumption expressed as a percentage.

The Guidelines: *Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines* (NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2021)

The LG Act: *Local Government Act (NSW) 1993*

The LG Regulation: *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*

Total dissolved solids (TDS): Total amount of dissolved material in the water.

Total Recoverable Hydrocarbons (TRH): Both biological and petroleum hydrocarbons which have been extracted (recovered) from a sample are recoverable hydrocarbons. TRH are equivalent to the previously reported Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH). TRH is reported in fractions with Carbon chain ($C_6 - C_{40}$). TRH with carbon chain $C_6 - C_{10}$ are flammable.

Waste minimisation: Procedures and processes implemented by industry and business to modify, change, alter or substitute work practices and products that will result in a reduction in the volume and/or strength of waste discharged to sewer.

B. Appendix B – Deemed to be Approved Activities

The list of dischargers exempts from obtaining of Council's approval (i.e., considered as Deemed to be approved) is shown in Table B1. Each such discharger must meet standard requirements specified in Table B1.

Table B6: Summary of fees and charges

Activity generating waste	Requirements
Beautician	Solvents not to be discharged to sewer
Bed and Breakfast (not more than 10 persons including proprietor/s)	Sink strainers in food preparation areas Housekeeping practices (see Note 4)
Cooling tower <500L/h	No chromium-based products to be discharged to the sewer
Crafts ceramic, pottery, etc. (including hobby clubs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> flows <200 L/d flows 200-1,000 L/d 	Nil
	Plaster arrestor required
Day care centre (no hot food prepared)	Sink strainers in food preparation areas Housekeeping practices (see Note 4) Nappies, wet wipes are not to be flushed into the toilet
Delicatessen (no hot food prepared)	Sink strainers in food preparation areas Housekeeping practices (see Note 4)
Dental technician	Plaster arrestor required
Dental mobile (no amalgam waste)	Nil
Dog/cat grooming/animal wash only	Dry basket arrestor for floor waste outlets and sink strainer required (see Note 3) Animal litter and any disposable waste products must not be discharged to sewer Organophosphorus pesticides are prohibited to be discharged to sewer
Florist	Dry basket arrestor for floor waste outlet and sink strainer required Herbicides/pesticides are not permitted to be discharged to sewer
Fruit and vegetable – retail	Dry basket arrestor for floor waste outlet and sink strainer required (see Note 3 and Note 5)
Hairdressing	Dry basket arrestor for floor waste outlet and sink strainer, hair trap
Jewellery shop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> miniplate ultrasonic washing precious stone cutting 	Miniplate vessel to contain no more than 1.5 L of precious metal solution
	Nil
	If: < 1000 L/d plaster arrestor required > 1000 L/d general purpose pit required
Medical centre/doctor surgery/physiotherapy	Plaster arrestor required, if plaster of paris casts are used

Activity generating waste	Requirements
(Only if plaster cast are made onsite)	
Mixed business (minimal hot food)	Dry basket arrestor for floor waste outlet and sink strainer required (see Note 3) Housekeeping practices (see Note 4)
Mobile cleaning units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • carpet cleaning • garbage bin washing 	20-micron filtration system fitted to a mobile unit Dry basket arrestor for floor waste outlet required. Discharge via grease arrestor (if available)
Motel (no hot food prepared and no laundry facility)	Dry basket arrestor for floor waste outlet and sink strainer required (see Note 3) Housekeeping practices (see Note 4)
Nut shop	Dry basket arrestor for floor waste outlet and sink strainer required (see Note 3)
Optical service - retail	Solids settlement tank/pit required
Pet shop – retail	Dry basket arrestor for floor waste outlet and sink strainer required (see Note 2) Animal litter and any disposable waste products must not be discharged to sewer Organophosphorus pesticides are prohibited to be discharged to sewer
Pizza reheating for home delivery	Housekeeping practices (see Note 4)
Venetian blind cleaning	Nil (see Note 2)

Notes:

1. Where "required" is used, it means as required by Council.
2. If activity is conducted outdoors, the work area is to be roofed and bunded to prevent stormwater ingress into the sewerage system.
3. Dry basket arrestors must be provided for all floor waste outlets.
4. Food preparation activities need to comply with sound housekeeping practices including:
 - (a) floor must be dry swept before washing
 - (b) pre-wiping of all utensils, plates, bowls etc. to the scrap bin before washing up
5. Use of a food waste disposal unit (garbage grinder) and/or a food waste processing unit (food waste digester, composter etc) is not permitted.

C. Appendix C – Prohibited or restricted substances and wastes from discharged

This Appendix provides additional information regarding substances and waste either prohibited or restricted from being discharged to sewer (as indicated in Table 4 of this Policy).

C1. Stormwater from open areas

The ingress of stormwater into the sewerage system can cause operational problems and result in sewer overflows, as the sewerage system does not have the capacity for such flows. Under clause 137A of the Regulation, the discharge of roof, rain, surface, seepage or groundwater to a sewerage system is prohibited unless specifically approved.

However, it may not be practical or feasible to totally prevent stormwater contamination and ingress into a sewerage system from some non-residential premises.

The discharge of limited quantities of stormwater (generally, 10 mm of rain) from sealed areas can be considered when roofing cannot be provided due to safety or other important considerations. In such instances, the applicant should take measures to minimise the contamination of stormwater and the volume of stormwater entering the sewerage system (e.g. first flush systems, flow separation, bunding, on-site detention, etc.). The discharge from unsealed areas is not permitted.

Refer to Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines 2021 for further information.

C2. Contaminated groundwater

Similar to stormwater, discharge of groundwater or seepage water to a sewerage system is prohibited under clause 137A of the Regulation. Accordingly, groundwater extracted during construction activities (e.g. building/road construction activities, vacuum excavation, mining/exploration works, etc.) is not permitted to be discharged to Council's sewerage system directly or indirectly.

However, groundwater previously contaminated by human activities (e.g. service station remediation sites) may be considered for discharge to the sewerage system. Limited quantities of groundwater from remediation projects may be accepted under controlled conditions after appropriate pre-treatment for a limited period.

C3. Discharge of landfill leachate

The discharge of leachate from municipal waste landfills to the sewerage system may be considered under controlled conditions, if there is no other viable option of managing this waste and the discharge is within the Council's acceptance limits.

The proponent when seeking approval to discharge leachate to sewer needs to demonstrate that a sound stormwater management plan has been developed and implemented. The plan needs to address:

- segregation of potentially contaminated areas from uncontaminated areas
- prevention of surface runoff entering leachate collection ponds/dams and to Council sewerage system.
- appropriate pre-treatment to meet Council's acceptance limits

Only the excess leachate after on-site management within the premise will be considered for sewer discharge, if it meets Council's acceptance criteria. On-site pre-treatment to reduce ammonia levels (and other substances, e.g. PFAS) may also be required.

C4. Discharge from float tanks

Float tanks, often referred to as floatation pods, iso-pods (isolation tank), sensory deprivation systems, or REST tanks (restricted environmental stimulation therapy tanks) are typically small, enclosed pods containing about 1,000 litres of water. This water usually contains large quantities of Epsom salts (300 - 700 kg of magnesium sulphate), resulting in total dissolved solids concentration up to 700,000 mg/L.

Discharge of such water to sewer is not permitted due to potential adverse impacts associated with the high salt content on the sewer infrastructure and treatment processes. It is also not appropriate to dispose of such waste to septic tanks or on-site soak wells.

If wastewater is proposed to be transported away for off-site management, the operator of such facilities must provide details of liquid waste transporters and written verification from the receiving facilities acknowledging and agreeing to receive such wastewater.

C5. Discharge from Service station forecourts and other refuelling points

C5.1. New premises

The discharge of wastewater from service station forecourts and other refuelling points (e.g. at bus depot, etc.) is not permitted.

Refer to NSW EPA Practice Note, titled Managing Run-off from Service Station Forecourts, June 2019, for options for managing such wastewater.

C5.2. Existing premises

The discharge from existing service stations and other refuelling areas may be permitted, provided appropriate pre-treatment and discharge control requirements are adhered to. Further information is provided in Chapter 3 and Appendix F of the Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines 2021.

If a refuelling area is refurbished, then the discharge from this area must be disconnected from the sewerage system.

C6. Discharges from liquefaction and/or pulverisation of solid waste by physical or chemical processes

The wastewater arising from liquefaction or pulverisation of solid waste by physical (e.g. pulping, macerating) or chemical means (e.g. dissolving solid waste in highly acidic or alkaline solutions) is not permitted to be discharged to the sewerage system.

Accordingly, discharges from the following devices/processes are not permitted.

- **Macerators** or similar devices that pulverising of solid waste. Solid waste includes, but not limited to sanitary napkin, placenta, surgical waste, disposable nappy, mache bedpan/urine containers, food waste, disposable products and animal waste (dog/cat faeces, cat litter).

- **Food waste disposal units**, also known as in-sink food waste disposers or garbage grinders in commercial premises. Discharges from existing installations in hospitals and nursing homes may be permitted, provided that wastewater is discharged through an adequately sized grease arrestor (additional charges will be applied).
If the kitchen is refurbished, the food waste disposal unit must be removed.
- **Alkaline hydrolysis waste**, process where a human or animal tissue is broken down using alkaline solutions at elevated temperatures and pH. The process may be used in animal care facilities, veterinary premises, animal research laboratories, funeral parlours etc. The generated wastewater is of a high strength and may exhibit high loadings on the sewerage system. Accordingly, the wastewater generated by this process is **not** permitted to be discharged to the sewerage system.

C6.1. Discharge from Solid Food Waste Processing Units (digesters/ composters, etc.)

Discharge from a solid food waste processing unit (digesters/composters, etc) to a Council's sewerage system is a Concurrence Classification C discharge (i.e. Charging Category 3), hence Council needs to obtain concurrence to its approval from the Department of Planning and Environment for individual applications.

The quality of wastewater from this equipment depends on the type of solid waste feed into it and the effectiveness of the on-site pre-treatment, hence frequent sampling will be required for monitoring and charging purposes. Sampling needs to be undertaken by either a Council officer or an independent party acceptable to Council.

Appropriate on-site pre-treatment needs to be provided prior to combining with any other liquid waste stream that discharges to the Council's sewerage system.

Each application will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

C7. Use of additives in pre-treatment systems

The use of bacterial, enzyme and/or odour controlling agents in pre-treatment equipment (e.g. in grease arrestors) is prohibited unless specifically approved by Council with Department of Planning and Environment concurrence.

C8. Discharge of disposable products marketed as flushable

Any disposable solid products including those marketed as "flushable" (e.g. wet wipes, cleaning wipes, cat litter, etc.) is not permitted to flush down the sewerage system.

Contrary to manufacturers' claims, flushable wet wipes do not breakdown in the sewerage system similarly to a toilet paper and may cause blockages within the premises or in the Council's sewerage system and may cause raw sewage overflow to the environment.

D. Appendix D – Non-residential sewerage and liquid trade waste fees and charges

This Appendix provides information on Council's charging criteria for liquid trade waste customers. Some guidance is also provided on the applicable non-residential sewerage charges.

The sound pricing for non-residential sewerage and liquid trade waste services is to ensure that liquid trade waste dischargers pay a fair share of the cost of sewerage services provided by Council. Appropriate pricing is essential to provide relevant signals to non-residential and liquid trade waste customers to use water and sewerage system efficiently.

D1. Non-residential sewerage pricing

A non-residential sewerage bill is based on a cost-reflective two-part tariff with an annual access charge and a uniform sewer usage charge per kL. The total discharged volume to the sewerage system can be either measured (by a flow meter for high users) or estimated using the customer's total water consumption multiplied by a sewer discharge factor (Table D7:

Sewer Discharge Factors (SDFs) for various business activities).

The sewerage bill for a non-residential customer is calculated according to **Equation 1**.

$$B = \text{SDF} \times (\text{AC} + C \times \text{UC}) \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

Where:	B	=	Annual non-residential sewerage bill (\$)
	C	=	Customer's water annual consumption (kL)
	AC	=	Annual non-residential sewerage access charge as shown in Equation 2 (\$)
	SDF	=	Sewer discharge factor
	UC	=	Sewer usage charge (\$/kL)

Access charge

The sewerage access charge is proportional to the square of the size of the water supply service connection (**Equation 2**).

$$\text{AC} = \text{AC}_{20} \times \frac{D^2}{400} \quad \text{Equation 2}$$

Where:	AC ₂₀	=	Annual non-residential sewerage access charge for 20 mm water service connection (\$)
	D	=	Water supply service connection size (mm)

Sewer Usage charge

The sewer usage charge (\$/kL) is applied for the total volume of wastewater discharged to the sewerage system.

Sewer Discharge Factor (SDF, in percentage)

Sewer discharge factors (SDFs) are used for estimating the volume of wastewater discharged to the sewerage system where the discharge is not measured. An SDF represents the percentage of the metered water consumption discharged to the sewerage system from a premises. The quantity of water measured by water meter is multiplied by the SDF, as a fraction, to determine the amount of sewage discharged.

Typical SDFs for various business activities representing generic industry standards are presented in Table D1.

Table D7: Sewer Discharge Factors (SDFs) for various business activities

Business Activity	SDF
Bakery	95
With a residence attached	70
Bed and Breakfast / Guesthouse (max. 10 persons)	75
Boarding House	90
Butcher	95
With a residence attached	70
Cakes, Patisserie, Hot Bread	95
Car Detailing	95
Car Wash – small hand wash only	75
Car/Vehicle Wash – Robo, Carlovers, Gerni type and auto etc	95
Caravan Park – with commercial kitchen	75
Caravan Park – no commercial kitchen	57
Chicken / poultry shop (retail fresh, no cooking)	95
Chicken cooking (e.g. Charcoal Chicken)	95
Club – Direct service to club	95
Club – Bowling, Jockey, Racing, Golf	50
Coal Mine	25
Cold Store	7
Community hall (minimal food only)	95
Concrete Batching Plant (process water to stormwater)	2
Correctional Centre (with laundry)	90
Craft / Stonemason	95
Day Care Centre	95
Delicatessen, mixed business (no hot food)	95
With a residence attached	70
Delicatessen, mixed business (with hot food)	95
With a residence attached	70
Dental Surgery with X-ray	95
With a residence attached	70
Fast Food (e.g. McDonalds, Burger King, KFC, Red Rooster Pizza Hut)	95
Fresh Fish Outlet	95
Hairdresser	95
High School	95
Hospital (public and private)	95
Hostel	90

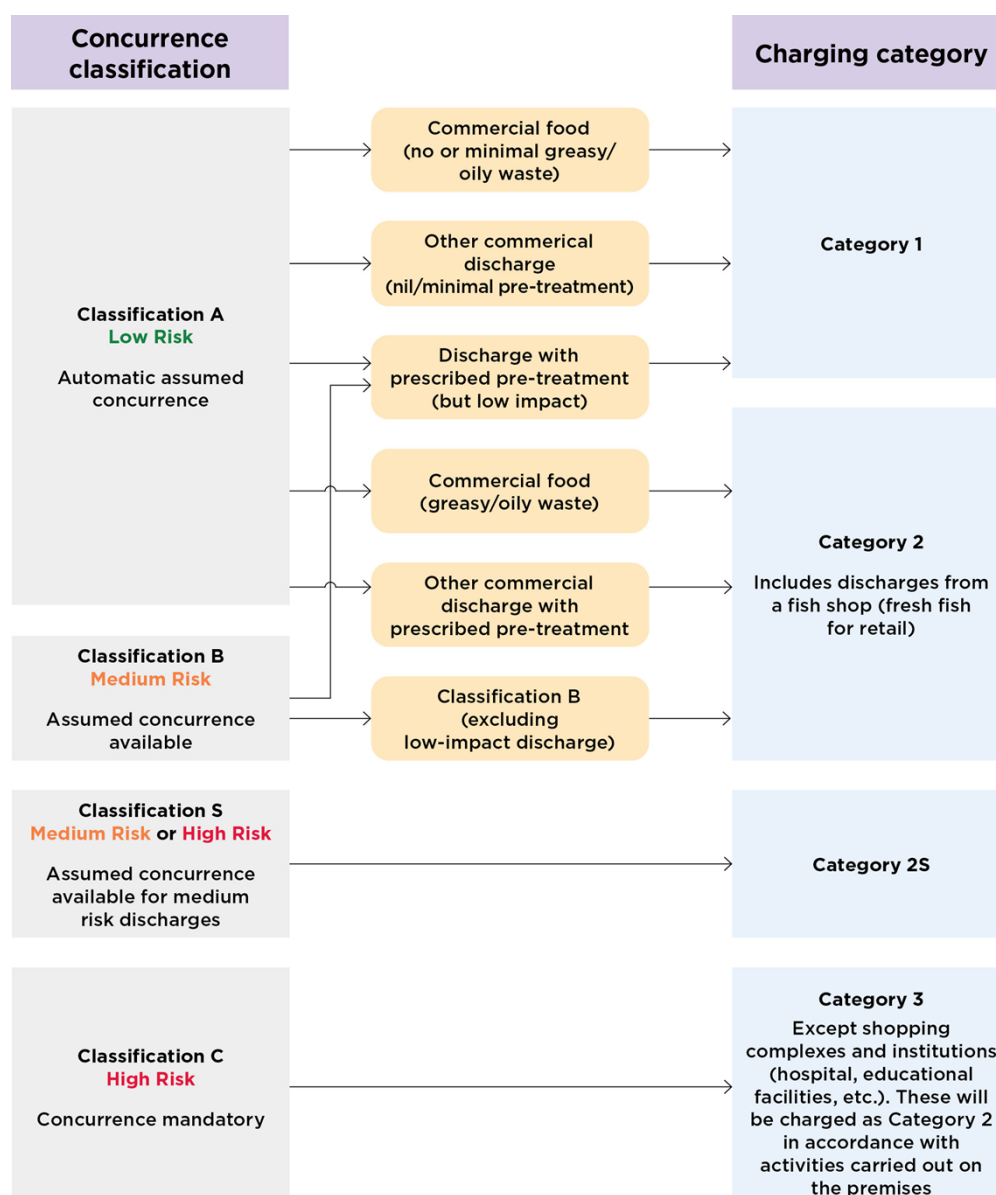
Business Activity	SDF
Hotel	100
Joinery	95
Laundry	95
Marina	90
Mechanical Workshop / Garage / lawn mower repairer / equipment hire etc	95
Mechanical Workshop with car yard / car wash	85
Medical Centre	95
Motel – small less than 15-25 rooms (no hot food)	90
Motel with hot food	90
Nursery	25
Nursing Home	85
Office Building	95
Optical Service	95
Panel Beater / Spray Painter	95
Primary School	95
Photo-Processing	85
Printer	95
Radiator Repair	90
Restaurant (Includes Café, Canteen, Bistro, etc)	95
Self Storage	90
Seafood – Co-ops and Fresh	95
Service Station	90
Service Station (with car washing)	95
Shopping Centre	85
Supermarket	95
Sporting Ovals - Amenities Blocks	25
Swimming Pool (commercial)	85
Take Away Food	95
Technical College or University	95
Veterinary Surgeon (no X-ray), Kennels, Animal wash	80
Wreckers	85

Note: These discharge factors will come to effect on 1 July 2023.

D2. Liquid Trade Waste fees and charges

This section describes various fees and charges associated with liquid trade waste and fees and charges applicable to charging categories. Figure D1 shows the relationship between concurrence classifications and charging categories.

Figure D8: Charging categories for liquid trade waste



In summary, Classification A discharges fall into Charging Category 1 or Category 2. Classification B discharges fall into Charging Category 2, except for a few discharges with low impact on the sewerage system which fall into Category 1. Classification S discharges fall into Charging Category S and Classification C discharges fall into Charging Category 3.

D2.1. Description of various trade waste fees and charges

Council has a suite of administrative and mass charges applying to the management of the discharge of liquid trade waste to Council's sewerage system and associated cost recovery. Followings sections describe various trade waste fees and charges and the methodology of calculating them. IPART, Council's regulator on pricing, determines the maximum prices (fees

and charges) that Council can charge for its liquid trade waste related services. Details on charges applicable to various services can be found in Central Coast Council Website.

D2.1.1 Application fee

The application fee recovers the costs of administration and technical services provided by Council in processing a liquid trade waste application. This fee varies for different charging categories (Category 1, 2, 3 and S) to reflect the complexity of processing the application.

D2.1.2 Annual trade waste fee

The purpose of this fee is to recover the costs incurred by Council for ongoing administration and scheduled inspections, in order to ensure that the discharge complies with the approval conditions.

As part of an inspection, Council may undertake monitoring which may include, but is not limited to, flow measurement and the sampling. In general, cost of one inspection is included in the annual fee, in particular for Category 1 and Category 2 discharges.

Annual liquid trade waste fee varies for different charging categories in order to reflect the complexity of their inspection and administration requirements. In particular, for Category 3 discharges, Council may opt to set the annual fee on a case-by-case basis to reflect the complexity of monitoring requirements and the extent of inspection.

Refer to section D8.3 with regard to annual fees applicable to premises with multiple activities.

Council may require a discharger to pay for monitoring (quantity and quality) based on full cost recovery.

D2.1.3 Inspection fee/re-inspection fee

Cost of one inspection is usually included in annual liquid trade waste fee for charging Category 1, Category 2 and Category S. For charging Category 3, two inspections are included in the annual liquid trade waste fee.

However, it may be required to conduct non-routine inspections or re-inspections of a premise (e.g. non-compliance with approved conditions, investigating an accident, etc.). Also, more frequent inspections may be necessary for large and industrial discharges.

Where additional inspections are undertaken in a financial year and/or the cost of inspections is not included in the annual fee, the cost may be recovered from the discharger as the re-inspection fee.

Council may recover the cost of sample analysis from the discharger, in addition to the re-inspection fee as per the prices recommended by IPART.

D2.1.4 Category specific charges

The following sections describe the charging categories and relevant fees and charges. If a discharge is not listed, Council will determine (in consultation with the Department of Planning and Environment and in alignment with the IPART's pricing principles) the relevant charging category, based on the quality and the quantity of discharge.

D3. Category 1 discharger

This charging category includes:

- Classification A discharges (both commercial retail non-oily/greasy food preparation and other commercial discharges, listed below)
- Classifications B discharges identified as low risk

Some of the above discharges may require prescribed pre-treatment to be installed however, the treated effluent is considered to have a low impact on the sewerage system.

Classification A discharges - commercial retail food preparation activities that do not generate or generate minimal oily/greasy waste: bakery (only bread baked on-site), bistro (sandwiches, coffee only), boarding/hostel < 10 persons, café/coffee shop/coffee lounge (no hot food), canteen/cafeteria (no hot food), community hall/civic centre (minimal food), day care centre (minimal hot food), delicatessen (minimal or no hot food), fruit and vegetable shop, hotel/motel (minimal hot food), ice cream parlour (take away only), juice bar, mobile food van (no hot food), mixed business (minimal hot food), nightclub (no hot food), nut shop, pie shop (re-heating only), pizza no cooking/reheating (pizza heated and sold for consumption off-site), potato peeling (small operation), sandwich shop/salad bar/snack bar (no hot food), take away food outlet (no hot food), school canteen with minimal hot food.

Classification A discharges from other commercial activities: animal wash, beautician/tanning booths/hairdressing, crafts ≤ 1,000 L/d, dental surgery/dental technician (plaster casts), dry cleaning, florist, funeral parlour, jewellery shop, medical centre/physiotherapy (plaster casts), mobile cleaning units, morgue, optical service, pet shop, plants retail (no nursery), non-residential swimming pool/hydrotherapy, veterinary.

Classification A or B discharges with prescribed pre-treatment and low impact on the sewerage system: boiler blowdown, cooling tower, industrial boilers, laboratory (analytical/pathology/tertiary institution), laundry/laundromat, primary and secondary school (significant hot food preparation may lead to Category 2 charges), vehicle washing/detailing (excluding truck washing).

D3.1. Category 1 discharger - Liquid trade waste charges

D3.1.1 Category 1 discharger, other than “Deemed to be Approved”

Category 1 discharger who installs recommended appropriate pre-treatment equipment and maintains them regularly will be required to pay only the annual fee nominated for Category 1 (**Equation 3**).

Liquid trade waste bill for Category 1 discharger (TW_1):

$$TW_1 = A_1 \quad \text{Equation 3}$$

A_1 = Annual liquid trade waste fee (\$) for Category 1

D4. Category 2 discharger

Category 2 liquid trade waste dischargers are those discharging waste generated by an activity listed below:

Classification A discharges – commercial retail food preparation/serving activities that generate oily/greasy waste: bakery (pies, sausage rolls, quiches, cakes, pastries with creams or custards), bistro, boarding house/hostel kitchen (exceeding 10 persons), butcher, café/coffee shop/coffee lounge (with hot food), cafeteria/ canteen (with hot food), chicken/poultry shop –fresh/roast, retail BBQ/charcoal chicken, day care centre with hot food, club, civic centre/community hall (if the type and size of kitchen fixtures installed enable catering for large functions), commercial kitchen/caterer, delicatessen with hot food, fast food outlet, fish shop (retail and cooking on-site), function centre, hotel, ice cream parlour, mixed business (hot food), mobile food van (base), motel, nightclub, nursing home, patisserie, pizza cooking, restaurant, sandwich shop/salad bar/snack bar (with hot food), supermarket, take away food outlet with hot food, school canteen with hot food.

Classification A discharges – other commercial discharges: car detailing, craft activities > 1000 L/d, lawnmower repairs, mechanical workshop, stone working, surfboard manufacture (wet process only).

Classification B discharges: auto dismantler, bus/coach depot, bakery (wholesale), butcher (wholesale) construction equipment maintenance and cleaning, boutique or artisan foods, engine reconditioning, equipment hire, maintenance and cleaning, fish co-op, graphic arts, hospital, micro-brewery, oyster processing – shucking, panel beating, radiator repairer, screen printing, service station forecourt, shopping complex, truck washing (platforms/flat beds) and truck washing (external).

D4.1. Category 2 discharger - Liquid trade waste charges

Category 2 discharger who installs appropriate pre-treatment equipment and maintains them will pay annual fee nominated for Category 2 plus the trade waste usage charge (**Equation 4**).

Liquid trade waste bill for Category 2 discharger (TW_2):

$$TW_2 = A_2 + Q_{TW} \times C_2 \quad \text{Equation 4}$$

Where:

A_2	=	Annual liquid trade waste fee (\$) for Category 2
Q_{TW}	=	Total liquid trade waste discharge volume (kL)
C_2	=	Trade waste usage charge (\$/kL)

In the absence of a dedicated liquid trade waste water meter to measure the discharge volume, a trade waste discharge factor (TWDF) needs to be applied to the consumption (as per the supply water meter reading). The TWDF is used the volume of wastewater that discharges from the liquid trade waste processes only. It is recommended that a dedicated water supply meter or a check meter be installed on a water supply line to the liquid trade waste area. to the hours of operation and a pattern of water usage. Typical TWDFs, along with SDFs, for various business activities representing generic industry standards are presented in Table D2.

Table D2: Sewer (SDFs) and Liquid Trade Waste (TWDFs) Discharge Factors for various business activities

Discharger	Discharge Factor	
	Sewer (SDF)	Trade Waste (TWDF)

Discharger	Discharge Factor	
	Sewer (SDF)	Trade Waste (TWDF)
Bakery	95	25
with a residence attached ¹	70	18
Bed and Breakfast/Guesthouse (max. 10 persons)	75	N/A ²
Boarding House	90	20
Butcher	95	90
with a residence attached ¹	70	65
Cakes/Patisserie	95	50
Car Detailing	95	90
Car Wash	75	70 ⁵
Caravan Park (with commercial kitchen)	75	15
Caravan Park (no commercial kitchen)	75	N/A ²
Chicken/poultry shop (retail fresh, no cooking)	95	90
Charcoal Chicken	95	80
Club – Direct service to club	95	30
Club – Bowling, Jockey, Racing, Golf	50	45
Cold store	7	N/A ²
Community hall (minimal food only)	95	N/A ²
Correctional Centre	90	Note ⁶
Craft/Stonemason	95	80
Day Care Centre	95	N/A ²
Delicatessen, mixed business (no hot food)	95	N/A ²
with a residence attached ¹	70	
Dental Surgery with X-ray	95	80
with a residence attached ¹	70	60
Fresh Fish Outlet	95	90
Hairdresser	95	N/A ²
High School	95	25 ⁵
Hospital	95	30
Hostel	90	20
Hotel	100	25
Joinery	95	10
KFC, Red Rooster	95	80
Laundry	95	92 ⁵
Marina	90	70
McDonalds Restaurant, Burger King, Pizza Hut	95	62
Mechanical Workshop ³	95	70
Mechanical workshop with car yard	85	70
Medical Centre	95	25 ⁵
Motels small (breakfast only, no hot food)	90	N/A ²
Motel (hot food prepared)	90	20
Nursing Home	90	30
Office Building	95	N/A
Optical Service	95	N/A ²
Panel Beating/Spray Painting	95	70
Primary School	95	10 ⁵

Discharger	Discharge Factor	
	Sewer (SDF)	Trade Waste (TWDF)
Printer	95	85
Restaurant ⁴	95	50
Self Storage	90	N/A
Service Station	90	70
Shopping Centre	85	30
Supermarket	95	70
Swimming Pool (commercial)	85	N/A ²
Take Away Food	95	50
Technical College or University	95	Note 6
Vehicle Wash: Robo, Clean and Go, Gerni Type	95	90 ⁵
Veterinary (no X-ray), Kennels, Animal wash	80	N/A ²

Notes:

These discharge factors will come to effect on 1 July 2023

¹ If a residence is attached, that has garden watering, the residential SDF should be applied.

² A trade waste usage charge is not applicable for this activity.

³ Includes lawn mower repairer, equipment hire.

⁴ Includes café, cantéén, bistro, etc.

⁵ A trade waste usage charge applies if appropriate pre-treatment equipment has not been installed or has not been properly operated or maintained.

⁶ A discharge factor to be applied on the basis of the relevant activity, e.g. food preparation/service, mechanical workshop, optical services, etc.

D5. Category S discharger

Category S dischargers include:

- **transporters who tanker human waste** to Council's sewage treatment plants - septic tank waste (effluent and septage), ablution block waste (blackwater and greywater), portable toilet waste, sludge from on-site aerated wastewater treatment systems (AWTSS) for single households, waste from pit toilets, night soil.
- **ship-to-shore pump out facility owners/operators** - toilet waste and/or grey water
- **owners/operators of 'dump points'** directly connected to the sewer for disposal toilet waste and/or grey water from a bus or a recreation vehicle (RV), e.g. caravan, motor home.

D5.1. Category S discharger - Liquid trade waste charges

D5.1.1 Transported human waste

The transporters of human waste will be required to pay waste disposal charge (\$/kL), including annual fee and mass charges (**Equation 5**).

Liquid trade waste bill for Category S waste transporter (TW_{TW}):

$$TW_{TW} = A_{TW} + Q_{TW} \times C_{TW} \quad \text{Equation 5}$$

Where: A_{TW} = Annual fee (\$) for transported waste

Q_{TW}	=	Transported human waste volume (kL)
C_{TW}	=	Charging rate (\$/kL) for the transported waste (may vary based on the type of waste transported)

Note: Charging rate C_{TW} can be varied for different type of waste, i.e. septic tank effluent, septage, ablution block waste, sludge from AWTS, pit toilets etc. Refer to Council's Operational Plan.

There are two different charges for septic tank waste: (a) Septic tank effluents unable to be discharged onsite or raw sewage from residences that are not connected to Council's sewerage and (b) Septage with liquid or combined solid and liquid septic tank wastes.

D5.1.2 Ship-to-shore waste pump-out facility

The owner/operator of a ship-to-shore waste receival facility will be required to pay an annual fee and waste disposal charge based on the discharge volume (\$/kL), if practical to estimate the discharge volume. If the discharge volume cannot be established, Council may negotiate the waste disposal charge based on the expected discharge volume (**Equation 6**).

Liquid trade waste bill for ship-to-shore pump out facility owner (TW_{STS}),

$$TW_{STS} = A_{STS} + Q_{TW} \times C_{STS} \quad \text{Equation 6}$$

Where:	A_{STS}	=	Annual fee (\$)
	Q_{TW}	=	Discharge volume (kL) (measured or negotiated)
	C_{STS}	=	Charging rate (\$/kL)

Note: The above charges are applicable to owners/operators of ship-to-shore pump out facility discharging such waste directly to Council's sewerage system and **not** to individual or commercial boat owners using the facility. This policy does not provide information on how to charge individual boat owners using a facility to dispose of their wastewater.

D6. Category 3 discharger

Category 3 liquid trade waste dischargers are those conducting an activity which is of an industrial nature and/or which results in the discharge of large volumes of liquid trade waste to the sewerage system. Any Category 1 or 2 discharger whose volume exceeds the limits shown below becomes a Category 3 discharger (excluding shopping centres and institutions):

- Classification A discharge > 20 kL/d
- Classification B discharge – as shown in Chapter 5 of the Guidelines.

Classification C discharges include: abattoir, acid pickling, adhesive/latex manufacture, agricultural and veterinary drugs, anodising, bitumen and tar, bottle washing, brewery, cardboard and carton manufacture, carpet manufacture, caustic degreasing, chemicals manufacture and repackaging, contaminated site treatment, cooling towers, cosmetics/perfumes manufacture, cyanide hardening, dairy processing* (milk/cheese/ice cream, etc.), detergent/soaps manufacture, drum washing, egg processing, electroplating, extrusion and moulding (plastic/metal), feather washing, fellmonger, felt manufacture, fertiliser manufacture, fibreglass manufacture, filter cleaning, foundry, food processing*

(cereals/cannery/condiments/confectionary/edible oils/fats/essence/flavours/fish/fruit juice/honey/meat/ pickles/smallgoods/tea/vinegar/yeast manufacture, etc.), food waste processing unit (digester/ composter), fruit and vegetable processing, flour milling, galvanising, glass manufacture, glue manufacturer, ink manufacture, laboratories (excluding those in Category 1 and Category 2), wastewater treatment facility (grease trap receipt depot and other pump-out waste depot), metal finishing, metal processing (refining/rolling/non-cyanide heat treatment/phosphating/ printed circuit etching/photo engraving/sheet metal fabrication etc.), mirrors manufacture, paint stripping, oil recycling (petrochemical) and refinery, paint manufacture, paper manufacture, pet food processing, plants nursery (open areas), pharmaceuticals manufacture, plaster manufacture, powder coating, potato processing, poultry processing, printing (newspaper/lithographic), saleyards, sandblasting, seafood processing, slipway, soft drink/cordial manufacture, starch manufacture, sugar refinery, tannery, tanker washing, timber processing (joinery and furniture/plywood/hardwood), textile manufacture (wool dyeing/spinning/scouring), tip leachate, transport depot/ terminal, truck washing (internal), waxes and polishes, water treatment backwash, wholesale meat processing, winery, distillery, spirit bottling.

* Excluding small boutique, craft or artisan food industries not exceeding the discharge volume shown in the *Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines, 2021*.

D6.1. Category 3 discharger - Liquid trade waste charges

D6.1.1 Excess mass charges

Category 3 discharger will be required to pay the annual liquid trade waste fee plus excess mass charges (**Equation 7**).

Liquid trade waste bill for Category 3 discharger (TW₃):

$$TW_3 = A_3 + EMC \quad \text{Equation 7}$$

Where: A_3 = Annual liquid trade waste fee (\$)**
 EMC = Excess mass charges (\$)

** Annual fee may vary for different business activities, depending on the complexity and time taken for inspection.

How excess mass charges are calculated

Excess mass charges will be applicable for substances discharged in excess of the 'Deemed Concentrations' in domestic sewage. For the purpose of excess mass charge calculation, the deemed concentrations of substances in domestic sewage are listed in Table D3. Substances not listed in Table D3 are deemed not to be present in domestic sewage.

Table D3: Deemed concentration of substances in domestic sewage

Substance	Concentration (mg/L)
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD ₅)	300
Suspended Solids	300
Total Oil and Grease	50
Ammonia (as Nitrogen)	35
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	50

Substance	Concentration (mg/L)
Total Phosphorus	10
Total Dissolved Solids	1000
Sulphate (SO ₄)	50

Excess mass can be determined by multiplying the excess concentration of the substance (above deemed concentrations) by the volume of the discharge.

Equation 8 will be applied to calculate the excess mass charge for all parameters including BOD₅ up to 600 mg/L (but, excluding COD and pH).

$$EMC = \frac{(S - D) \times Q_{TW} \times U}{1,000} \quad \text{Equation 8}$$

Where:

EMC	=	Excess mass charges (\$)
S	=	Concentration (mg/L) of substance in sample
D	=	Concentration (mg/L) of substance deemed to be present in domestic sewage
Q _{TW}	=	Volume (kL) of liquid trade waste discharged to the sewerage system
U	=	Unit charging rate (\$/kg) for the substance (Note that this rate varies from substance to substance. Refer to Council's Operational Plan for charging rates for various substances according to IPART price determination)

D6.1.2 Excess mass charges for BOD

BOD up to 600 mg/L

Equation 8 applies for BOD₅ up to 600 mg/L. Note that there are no excess mass charges if the BOD does not exceed 300 mg/L (deemed concentration of BOD in domestic sewage).

Excess mass charges for BOD exceeding 600 mg/L

If Council approves the acceptance limits for BOD₅ higher than 600 mg/L, an exponential type of equation will be used for calculation of the charging rate U_e (\$/kg) as shown in

Equation 9. This provides a strong incentive for dischargers to reduce the strength of waste. Note that Equation 13 will be used where the discharger has failed to meet their approved BOD limit on more than two instances in a financial year.

The excess mass charging rate U_e (\$/kg) for BOD is calculated as:

$$U_e = 2C \times \frac{(\text{Actual BOD} - 300)}{600} \times 1.05^{\frac{(\text{Actual BOD} - 600)}{600}} \quad \text{Equation 9}$$

Where:

C	=	Charging rate (\$/kg) for BOD ₅ up to 600mg/L
Actual BOD	=	Concentration (mg/L) of substance in sample

If Council approves the acceptance limits for BOD₅ higher than 600 mg/L, Equation 10 will be applied to calculate the excess mass charge BOD₅.

$$EMC = \frac{(S - D) \times Q_{TW} \times U_e}{1,000} \quad \text{Equation 10}$$

D6.2. Tankered Category 3 waste

In some instances, liquid waste that falls into Charging Category 3 is transported to the sewage treatment plant. Examples of such waste may include tankered landfill leachate or dairy waste from un-sewered areas. In such instances, Council will determine the appropriate approval holder (waste generator or the transporter) and invoice accordingly.

Council will determine a fee structure, in consultation and concurrence with DPE, based on the waste type, quantity and quality on a case-by-case basis. These charges may include:

- Volume based charge
This charge should generally be lower than the non-residential sewerage charging rate, as the waste is not transported to sewage treatment plant via Council's sewer infrastructure.
- Mass based charge
Mass charges, where applicable, needs to be based on the quality of the waste, for example:
 - Leachate from a landfill transported to the sewage treatment plants may have a high concentration of Ammonia. In such case, Council may apply a volume-based charge plus mass charge for Ammonia using equations listed under Charging Category 3.
 - Dairy waste is transported to the sewage treatment plant. The mass charges may be applicable based on periodical testing of samples.

D7. Non-compliance liquid trade waste charges

Non-compliance charges for Category 1 and Category 2 dischargers

If the discharger has not installed or maintained appropriate pre-treatment equipment, the following actions and/or non-compliance trade waste usage charges will be applied for the relevant billing period:

D7.1. Category 1 discharger – non-compliance charges

Non-compliant Category 1 dischargers may be subject to Category 2 charges until compliance is achieved, as per Council's Operational Plan based on the discharger's waste, in terms of quantity, quality and their business activities.

D7.2. Category 2 discharger – non-compliance charges

For Category 2 discharger, a non-compliance charge will be applied as outlined in the Council's Operational Plan.

Dischargers who have an undersized grease arrestor and improved the effluent quality by other means (e.g. increased pump-outs, installing additional pre-treatment equipment, etc.) will pay a trade waste usage charges in accordance with a Category 2 discharger.

Dischargers who cannot install a grease arrestor or those who have an arrestor with capacity significantly less than the required size and are unable to improve the effluent quality by means described above will have to pay non-compliance trade waste usage charges, as per Category 2 non-compliance charges. Council will require inspection reports and/or statutory declarations from the discharger regarding the nature and efficacy of the pre-treatment device/s.

D7.3. Non-compliance charges for Category 3 discharger

If a discharger in charging Category 3 does not comply with the acceptance limits specified in Council's approval conditions, several non-compliance charges will be applicable.

D7.3.1 Non-compliance pH charge

If the pH of the waste discharge by Category 3 discharger is outside the approved range,

Equation **11** is used for the calculation of non-compliance pH charges. This equation provides an incentive for dischargers to install and properly maintain a pH correction system, so their waste remains within the approved pH limits.

Charging rate for pH, if outside the approved range (R_{pH} in \$/kL):

$$R_{pH} = K \times |\text{actual pH} - \text{approved pH}| \times 2^{|\text{actual pH} - \text{approved pH}|} \quad \text{Equation 11}$$

Note: $|\text{actual pH} - \text{approved pH}|$ is the absolute (positive) value of the pH difference.

Where: R_{pH} = Charging rate for pH in \$/kL
 K = pH cost coefficient

D7.3.2 Non-compliance excess mass charges

Equation **12** shall apply for non-compliance excess mass charges for various substances, except for BOD₅. Note that non-compliance excess mass charge for BOD is addressed in D7.3.3.

$$NCEMC = \frac{(S - A) \times Q \times 2U}{1000} + \frac{(S - D) \times Q \times U}{1000} \quad \text{Equation 12}$$

Where: $NCEMC$ = Non-compliance excess mass charges (\$)
 S = Concentration (mg/L) of a substance in sample
 A = Approved maximum concentration (mg/L) of pollutant in Council's approval
 Q = Volume (kL) of liquid trade waste discharged for the period of non-compliance
 U = Excess mass charging rate (\$/kg) for the substance
 D = Deemed concentration (mg/L) of the substance

D7.3.3 Non-compliance excess mass charges for BOD

The non-compliance excess mass charging rate (U_n) for BOD₅ is calculated by using Equation 13.

U_n is the BOD₅ non-compliance excess mass charging rate (in \$/kg).

$$U_n = 2C \times \frac{(A - 300)}{600} \times 1.05^{\frac{(A - 600)}{600}} + 4C \times \frac{(\text{Actual BOD} - A)}{600} \times 1.05^{\frac{(\text{Actual BOD} - A)}{600}}$$

Equation 13

$$\text{NCEMC} = \frac{(\text{Actual BOD} - D) \times Q \times U_n}{1000} \quad \text{Equation 14}$$

Where:	NCEMC	=	Non-compliance excess mass charges (\$)
	U_n	=	Non-compliance excess mass charging rate (\$/kg) for BOD
	A	=	Approved maximum concentration (mg/L) of BOD in Council's approval
	Actual BOD	=	Concentration of BOD ₅ as measured in the sample in mg/L
	C	=	Excess mass charging rate (\$/kg) for BOD
	D	=	Deemed concentration (mg/L) of BOD
	Q	=	Volume (kL) of liquid trade waste discharged for the period of non-compliance

D8. Other applicable liquid trade waste charges

D8.1. Solid food waste processing unit

Discharge of waste from a solid food waste processing unit (digester/composter) is classified as Concurrence Classification C and is in charging Category 3.

Excess mass charges for all parameters in excess of the deemed concentrations in domestic sewage and non-compliance charges, above the Council's acceptance limits, will be applicable to the waste stream from such equipment (refer s. D6.1. for further information).

In addition, the discharger needs to bear the cost of frequent sampling as the quality of wastewater dependent on the solid waste input to the processing unit and the effectiveness of the on-site pre-treatment equipment.

D8.2. Discharge of stormwater from large open areas or large quantities of groundwater to the sewerage system

The discharge of roof, rain, surface, seepage or ground water to the sewerage system is prohibited under clause 137A of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 and this policy. Consideration will be given to the acceptance of limited quantities of contaminated stormwater (first flush stormwater) based on a case-by-case assessment.

D8.3. Charges for premises with multiple liquid trade waste streams

Examples of premises with multiple waste streams include:

- shopping centres
- commercial strata units
- institutions, e.g. hospitals, tertiary educational facilities and correctional centres
- other premises with multiple waste streams, e.g. premises comprising food cooking/serving activities and “Boutique/artisan food” businesses. For example, a liquid trade waste application may include a restaurant or a hotel, a microbrewery, a chocolate making and/or a cheese making shops, all located on the same site.

D8.3.1 Rationalised sites i.e. Shopping Centres

Council will apply trade waste usage charges based on the estimated trade waste discharge volume, using metered volumes and apply a trade waste discharge factor.

D8.3.2 Commercial strata title units

Council will issue individual liquid trade waste bills to each owner as apportioned by unit entitlement or apportioned equally across all premises as per the Operational Plan.

D8.3.3 Hospitals, tertiary educational facilities and correctional centres

Council will generally issue a liquid trade waste bill to the owner of the above premises. In some cases, the property owner may request that bills be re-directed to the facility or managing agent. Requests of this nature must be made in writing to Council.

Council will apply trade waste usage charge based on the estimated trade waste discharge volume, using metered volumes and apply a trade waste discharge factor.

D8.3.4 Other premises with multiple waste streams

There are some premises where various “boutique type” businesses are located on the same site as restaurants, café, etc. For example, a premise may include a restaurant, a microbrewery, a chocolate making shop and a cheese making business, all owned by the same owner. When a liquid trade waste application includes a few different activities on the same site, Council will assess the application and determine the relevant charging categories and applicable fees and charges.

E. Appendix E – List of discharges Council may approve

E1. Classification A

Discharges from activities that Council can process without seeking Department of Planning and Environment concurrence, subject to complying with certain requirements.

Food preparation/serving, generating liquid waste, up to 16 kL/day	Other Activities generating liquid waste, up to 5 kL/day
Bakery (retail)	Animal wash (pound, stables, racecourse, kennels, mobile animal wash)
Bed and Breakfast (<10 persons)	Beautician
Bistro	Boiler blowdown
Boarding house/hostel kitchen	Car detailing
Butcher (retail)	Cooling towers
Café/coffee shop/coffee lounge	Craft activities (pottery, ceramics, cutting and polishing of gemstones or making of jewellery)
Canteen	Dental surgery
Cafeteria	Dental technician
Chicken/poultry shop (fresh chicken/game, retail, barbeque/roast chicken)	Dry-cleaning (separator water, boiler)
Club (kitchen wastes)	Florist
Commercial kitchen/caterer	Funeral parlour/morgue
Community hall/civic centre/function centre (kitchen waste)	Hairdressing
Day care centre	Jewellery shop
Delicatessen	Laboratory (pathology/analytical)
Doughnut shops	Laundry or laundromat (coin operated)
Fast food outlets (McDonalds, KFC, Burger King, Hungry Jack, Pizza Hut, Red Rooster, etc.)	Lawnmower repairs
Fish shop (retail—fresh and/or cooked)	Mechanical repairs/workshop
Fruit and vegetable shop (retail)	Medical centre/doctor surgery/physiotherapy - plaster of paris casts, laboratory
Hotel	Mobile cleaning units
Ice-cream parlour	Nursing home (other than food-related activities)
Juice bar	Optical services
Mixed business	Per shop (retail)
Mobile food van	Photographic tray work/manual development
Motel	Plants retail (no nursery or open space)
Nightclub	School (other than kitchen waste)
Nursing home kitchen	Stone working
Nut shop	Surfboard manufacturing (wet process only)
Patisserie	Swimming pools/spas/hydrotherapy pools

Food preparation/serving, generating liquid waste, up to 16 kL/day	Other Activities generating liquid waste, up to 5 kL/day
Pie shop	Vehicle (car) washing (by hand/wand, automatic car wash/bus wash/external truck wash or underbody/engine degrease only)
Pizza shop	Venetian blind cleaning
Restaurant	Veterinary surgery
Salad bar	
Sandwich shop	
School – canteen, home science	
Snack bar	
Supermarket (with butcher/bakery/delicatessen/seafood or roasted chicken)	
Take away food shop	

F. Appendix F – Legislative Provisions

Provisions in the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 in regard to acceptance of liquid trade waste into the sewerage system.

Clause 25 Matters to accompany applications relating to discharge into sewers

An application for approval to discharge trade waste into a sewer under the control of a Council or that connects with such a sewer must be accompanied by the information required by Table 1 of the Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines[#].

Clause 28 Approval to discharge waste into sewers: concurrence required

A Council must not grant an approval under section 68 of the Act to discharge trade waste (whether treated or not) into a sewer of the Council unless the Director-General of the Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services (or that Director-General's nominee) has concurred with the approval. In accordance with the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013*, Director-General refers to the Secretary of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

Note 1: Section 90 (2) of the Act permits any person or authority whose concurrence is required before an approval may be granted to give the Council notice that the concurrence may be assumed (with such qualifications or conditions as are specified in the notice).

Note 2: In accordance with the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013*, Director-General refers to the Secretary of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

Clause 32 Disposal of trade waste

- (1) An approval to dispose of trade waste into a sewer of the Council is subject to such conditions (if any) as the Council specifies in the approval.
- (2) In imposing any such conditions, the Council is to have regard to the matters set out in Table 5 of the Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines[#].

Clause 159 Prevention of waste and misuse of water

The owner, occupier or manager of premises to which water is supplied by the Council must:

- (a) prevent waste of water by taking prompt action to repair leaking taps, pipes or fittings located on the premises
- (b) take any other action that is reasonable to prevent waste and misuse of water.

Clause 137A Substances prohibited from being discharged into public sewers

- (1) For the purposes of section 638 of the Act (Discharge of prohibited matter into sewer or drain), roof, rain, surface, seepage or ground water is prescribed as prohibited matter.
- (2) This clause does not apply in relation to:

- (a) a discharge that is specifically approved under section 68 of the Act, or
- (b) a discharge into a public drain or a gutter of a Council, or
- (c) a discharge in an area of operations within the meaning of the *Sydney Water Act 1994* or the *Hunter Water Act 1991*.

Clause 143 Inspection of pipes and drains and measurement of water and sewage

- (1) The Council may, at any reasonable time:
 - (a) inspect any service pipe connected to a water main, and
 - (b) inspect any drain connected to a sewer main, and

- (c) install meters or other devices for measuring the quantity of water supplied to, or the quality and quantity of sewage discharged from, premises, and
 - (d) measure the quantity of water supplied to, or the quality and quantity of sewage discharged from, premises, and
 - (e) inspect any pre-treatment devices connected to the Council's sewerage system.
- (2) The occupier of the relevant premises must provide to the Council such information as it requires to enable it to estimate the quantity of water actually supplied to, or the quality and quantity of sewage actually discharged from, the premises.
- (3) In this clause,
"pre-treatment device" means any device used to reduce or eliminate contaminants in trade waste, or to alter the waste's nature, before it is discharged into a sewer.

SCHEDULE 12 – Penalty notice offences

Offence under <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>	Penalty
Section 626 (3)-carry out without prior approval of Council an activity specified in item 4 of Part C (Management of waste) of the Table to section 68	\$330
Section 627 (3)-having obtained the Council's approval to the carrying out of an activity specified in item 4 of Part C (Management of waste) of the Table to section 68, carry out the activity otherwise than in accordance with the terms of that approval	\$330

"Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines" means the Guidelines of that name produced by the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability in March 2005, as in force from time to time. The 2005 Guidelines have now been superseded by *Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines, 2021*.