

Stormwater Quality In-lieu Contributions Guidelines

October 2024

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Version 2: Revised 9 January 2017

Version 3: Revised 2 October 2024

1. Purpose of the Guidelines

The Kingston *Stormwater Quality In-Lieu Guidelines* (the Guidelines) complement the Kingston *Stormwater Quality In-Lieu Contributions Policy* that was first approved in June 2016 and updated in July 2024.

It provides specific guidance to developers and Council officers in understanding how the Kingston *Stormwater Quality In-Lieu Contribution Scheme* works, and advice to applicants on the implications of the Scheme when submitting a planning permit application.

The Guidelines are intended to apply a standard approach to the interpretation and implementation of Kingston's stormwater quality guiding principles, targets and standards and explain the alternative pathways to meet 'Best Practice Stormwater Management' obligations. They offer a degree of certainty to applicants, Council and the community and ensure that the process is easy to understand and transparent to all.

The stormwater quality in-lieu developer contribution scheme provides a range of benefits, such as:

- Accelerating the construction of Council projects, that have a comparatively better cost-benefit ratio, with better environmental outcomes.
- Transferring the cost and responsibility for maintaining stormwater treatment measures from future property owners to Council. This ensures that treatment systems are regularly inspected as part of a robust asset management program to ensure their long-term sustainability.
- Avoiding a situation where developers need to install treatment measures in tight spaces or implement solutions that may be less effective.
- Simplifying the process for developers, as it by-passes the design and approval requirements for on-site measures.



Stormwater treatment installed at Keeley Park, Clayton South (2023)

2. Background

Kingston's Stormwater Quality in-lieu Contributions Scheme (the Contribution Scheme) was first introduced as a two-year trial in June 2016, then made permanent in August 2018.

The scheme provides developers with the flexible option to meet their stormwater quality obligations under their planning permit by either:

- Treating polluted stormwater runoff on-site (e.g construct rain gardens) or;
- Making an in-lieu payment whereby council will use the accumulated funds to construct suitable stormwater treatment and reuse projects.

Payments are made in the Drainage Reserve Fund accordance with Kingston's Stormwater Quality In-lieu Contributions Policy (2016). During the period from 1 January 2017 to 30 June 2023, the fund has been accumulating at the rate of around \$520,000 each year.

Further information is available on council's website at:

[Stormwater requirements for developers - City of Kingston.](#)

2.1 CONTEXT

Across Melbourne, urbanisation, urban density and population growth is increasing hard surface areas. As hard surface area increases, more rainfall runs off these surfaces and enters stormwater drains and waterways.

These flows contribute substantial loads of litter, sediment and chemicals to Kingston's waterways, as well as causing flooding in some areas. The flows reduce waterway quality by increasing pollution and turbidity, changing flow structure of waterways and eroding stream banks, and increasing waterway litter. As the stormwater releases from Kingston into Port Phillip Bay, the Bay is also degraded.

Because of these impacts, achieving improved stormwater quality is a key objective in reducing the environmental impact of urban development on waterways and receiving water bodies in the Port Phillip catchment.

Managing stormwater can also help by reducing demand for potable water (for example when stormwater is used for irrigation of public open spaces). This can contribute towards a more robust and resilient water supply across Victoria.

The implementation of Kingston's *Integrated Water Strategy 2022* (the Strategy) provides an overall direction for Kingston by setting guiding principles and best-practice targets for the integrated management of stormwater and potable mains water.

Delivering the Strategy will improve the condition of Kingston's waterways, the health of the Port Phillip Bay, and will generate other benefits for people living in Kingston and surrounds. The Guidelines provide guidance for the management of stormwater runoff as a resource.

2.2 MEASURING STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE

To address and measure stormwater quality outcomes, the *Urban stormwater best practice environmental management guidelines* (BPEMG)¹ were developed and published by the Victorian Stormwater Committee. These guidelines establish specific stormwater quality objectives, to assist in determining the level of stormwater management necessary to meet the *State Environment Protection Policy* (Waters of Victoria) requirements.

2.3 KINGSTON PLANNING SCHEME

The Municipal Strategic Statement in the Kingston Planning Scheme puts strong emphasis on improving water quality and enhancing environmental values of local water bodies. In particular, a key objective under Clause 21.09 *Environment, Wetlands and Waterways* is to improve water quality within the municipality's waterways and the Port Phillip Bay.

Strategies to achieve this objective include ensuring proposals for new development provide appropriate stormwater treatment measures and that construction activities do not have a negative impact on the regional drainage function and performance of waterways, floodplains, drains and other water bodies.

Kingston undertook a detailed Planning Scheme Review in 2023 with section 19 focussed on Stormwater Management, including the following information:

- Kingston receives stormwater runoff from the Dandenong Ranges, via the Dandenong creek, and therefore, activities occurring in neighbouring LGAs impact on our waterways. For these reasons, Kingston has long recognised the need for regional collaboration on stormwater management issues and has a proud history of being pioneers in Integrated Water Management.
- Kingston has played an important role in stormwater quality and other related initiatives since the 1990s.
- The Kingston Planning Scheme supports a transition towards best practice stormwater management to address legacy issues and deliver stormwater management to a new standard. This includes a local policy (Clause 19.03-3L-01 and 19.03-3L-02) of the PPF. This allows for Council to seek a stormwater quality in-leu developer contribution to integrated water management where best practice is not achieved by a development.
- The adopted Integrated Water Management Strategy for Kingston provides direction for Council to spend these funds in accordance with the adopted Strategy.

2.4 KINGSTON'S STORMWATER QUALITY GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND TARGETS

The Contribution Scheme is referenced within *Kingston's Integrated Water Strategy* (IWS, 2022) that was endorsed by Council on 28 November 2022 and includes the following primary objectives:

- To improve the quality of stormwater runoff from local areas flowing into water courses and Port Phillip Bay, with a focus on reducing litter and all forms of pollution.

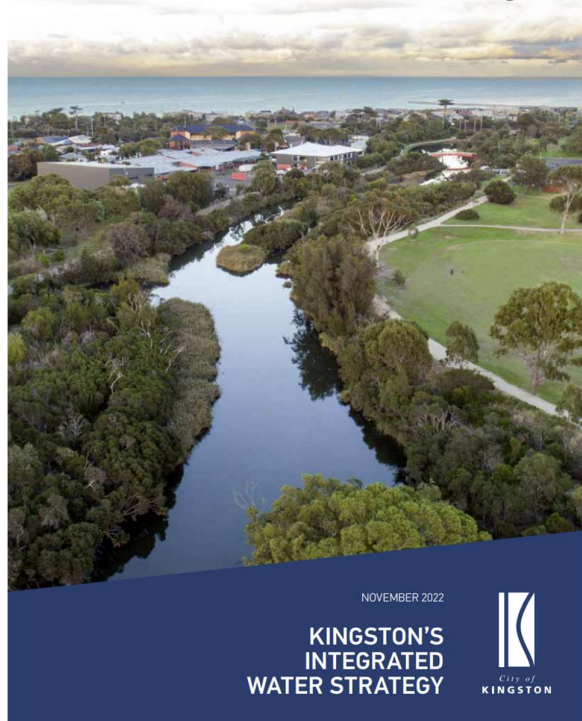
¹ <http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/business-and-industry/guidelines/water-guidance/urban-stormwater-bpemg>

- To use water throughout the City of Kingston wisely, including less drinking water (potable water) and more use of alternative water such as rainwater tanks, harvested stormwater and recycled water.

The Strategy's implementation plan includes an aligned action to:

- Investigate, design and implement Council's master plan for installing large multi-purpose projects that treat stormwater, to remove pollutants such as silt and nitrogen, and reuse the stored clean water for irrigating Council reserves.
- The supporting document references plans to construct 7 additional bio-retention systems, between 2022 and 2050.

Our Local Water Ways



2.5 STORMWATER QUALITY OBLIGATIONS

Kingston's Integrated Water Strategy commits Kingston to pursuing the best practice urban water performance objectives for stormwater quality.

The Kingston *Civil Design Requirements for Developers: Part A – Integrated Stormwater Management* clearly specifies Council's expectations for managing stormwater runoff. This includes requirements for small, medium and large scale residential, commercial and industrial planning applications to satisfy their obligations associated with flood management, stormwater treatment and reuse.

This document explains the requirements for addressing all aspects of stormwater management including flood management by catering for 1% AEP storm events (previously known as 1 in 100 year events), pipe capacity and on-site detention systems, Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principles and stormwater and rainwater reuse for potable water conservation.

To meet the stormwater quality requirements as outlined in the Kingston *Civil Design Requirements for Developers: Part A – Integrated Stormwater Management* to the satisfaction of the Council, the development must undertake stormwater works on-site in accordance with an approved Stormwater Management Plan (Drainage), unless Council supports an alternative, such as the Contribution Scheme.

Victoria's 6-Star building standard

To meet Victoria's 6-Star building standard, new developments may be required to install a rainwater tank. For a single dwelling, a rainwater tank must:

- have a storage capacity of at least 2,000 litres;
- drain a roof area of at least 50 square meters; and
- be connected to all internal toilets.

3. What is the Kingston Stormwater Quality In-lieu Contribution Scheme?

3.1 ACHIEVING BEST PRACTICE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

The Stormwater Quality In-lieu Contributions Scheme presents two alternative pathways for applicants to achieve Best Practice stormwater management. Where an applicant is proposing a solution that is different from the identified Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) treatments, the onus is on the applicant to demonstrate the facts and circumstances to support the solution. These Guidelines do not preclude alternative innovative solutions proposed by the developer or applicant.

The applicant may opt to undertake stormwater works on-site in accordance with an approved Stormwater Management Plan (Drainage). The type and complexity of information required to accompany each permit application will be proportionate to the type of development taking into consideration the risks and opportunities associated with each.

Alternatively, if the applicant prefers not to achieve the required Victorian Best Practice stormwater management objectives on-site, they can opt to pay a nominated stormwater quality contribution in-lieu of the on-site works. The in-lieu contribution shall be determined by Council and shall be paid to Council prior to the development commencing. All other stormwater related conditions remain unchanged and must be met as outlined in the Kingston *Stormwater Quality In-Lieu Contributions Policy (2024)*.

The Kingston *Civil Design Requirements for Developers - Part A: Integrated Stormwater Management* outlines the various on-site solutions for different scales of development.

3.2 WHY IS THE KINGSTON STORMWATER QUALITY IN-LIEU CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEME A GOOD ALTERNATIVE?

Driven by the stormwater quality best practice targets in Kingston's Integrated Water Strategy (IWS, 2022) and concerns over the performance and longevity of privately built stormwater quality assets in Kingston, Council has explored over the past years how it could cost effectively improve stormwater water quality in the municipality.

Kingston's evaluations have shown that the municipality cannot meet the stormwater quality targets in the IWCS within a reasonable timeframe by relying on privately built stormwater assets and smaller streetscape treatments alone.

The strategic, city wide delivery of stormwater quality treatment provides a range of opportunities to maximise the achievement of overall water quality objectives in Kingston, while also minimising on-going maintenance requirements associated with individual treatment assets.

The most cost-effective means of achieving stormwater targets is for Kingston to build and manage an alternative type and scale of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) projects. The medium scale off-site WSUD projects will be managed by Council and located on public land or recreational open space for the purpose of treating and reusing stormwater. Detailed modelling work has confirmed that Council's medium scale WSUD projects located within public open space is cost effective, affordable and has a broad range of community benefits.

The value and priority of Council's ongoing WSUD works program will be continually reviewed and refined each year taking into consideration a range of factors. The stormwater funding mechanism has been designed to support this review process.

The Scheme is a low-risk approach to funding works that will help to achieve Kingston's stormwater quality targets in an affordable, efficient and sustainable manner. It is a policy option which minimises pressure on Council rates, and allows developers to adopt a response to stormwater requirements that best suits their needs.

4. How is the Kingston Stormwater Quality In-lieu Contribution rate calculated?

4.1 CALCULATION BASIS

The in-lieu contribution rate is a per square meter developed impervious area based charge that decreases with increasing impervious area. The reason the charge decreases with increasing impervious area is because the available evidence suggests as the area of hard (impervious) surface increases, the cost to treat stormwater on-site also increases, but at a decreasing rate. For developments with impervious areas of 300 square meters or less, a flat rate is applicable that is based on 300 square meters.

Council, at its discretion, will decide whether the Scheme will apply to developments that exceed the imperviousness area outlined in Table 1.

The rates outlined in Table 1 are subject to change at Council's discretion and are set for each financial year within the advertised Council budget under 'Fees & Charges'.

The rates will be assessed for comparison with actual costs and offset fees charged by Melbourne Water to ensure that contribution rates are competitively priced.

Table 1: Developer in-lieu contribution rates for the 2024-2025 financial year.
Refer the Kingston's website for the latest information.

Description of Fees and Charges	Unit of Measure	2024/25 Fee Inc GST
STORMWATER QUALITY IN-LIEU CONTRIBUTION		
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area <300 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$2,200
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 400 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$13,930
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 500 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$15,824
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 600 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$17,560
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 700 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$19,176
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 800 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$20,695
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 900 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$22,135
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 1000 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$23,508
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 1500 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$29,634
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 2000 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$34,925
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 2500 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$39,672
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 3000 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$44,025
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 3500 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$48,077
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 4000 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$51,887
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 4500 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$55,497
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 5000 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$58,939
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 5500 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$62,236
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 6000 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$65,407
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 6500 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$68,466
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 7000 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$71,426
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 7500 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$74,296
Stormwater quality in-lieu contribution rate for total impervious area 8000 sqm (optional contribution)	Per SQM	\$77,086

Council, at its discretion, may allow developers to partially meet their stormwater quality obligations on-site and pay a reduced contribution amount. i.e

The Net Contribution payable = (Gross Contribution) less (Credit) for any rainwater tanks or other stormwater treatment measures to be installed onsite.

The method to be used to reduce the contribution is outlined below:

(i) For development sites that use the STORM calculator to assess stormwater quality, the contribution payment shall be reduced by the same percentage achieved in the STORM assessment. For example, a development that achieves a STORM rating of 70% shall, subject to Council approval, have the in-lieu contribution payment reduced by 70%.

(ii) For development sites that are required to use MUSIC outputs to assess stormwater quality, the contribution payment shall be reduced by the same percentage as the ratio of Total Nitrogen removal (TN) to the Best Practice target of 45% reduction. For example, a development that achieves a TN removal of 13.5% shall, subject to Council approval, have the in-lieu contribution payment reduced by 30% (i.e 13.5 divided by 45).

5. How does the Scheme apply to various types of developments?

5.1 TYPES OF APPLICABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Scheme applies to all privately owned residential and non-residential properties in the City of Kingston and is available to persons who are required to deliver stormwater quality works on-site in accordance with a planning permit or any relevant policy forming part of the Kingston Planning Scheme.

Council recognises that the type and complexity of information required should be proportionate to the type and scale of development taking into consideration the risks and opportunities associated with each. The level of documentation required is based on the following categories:

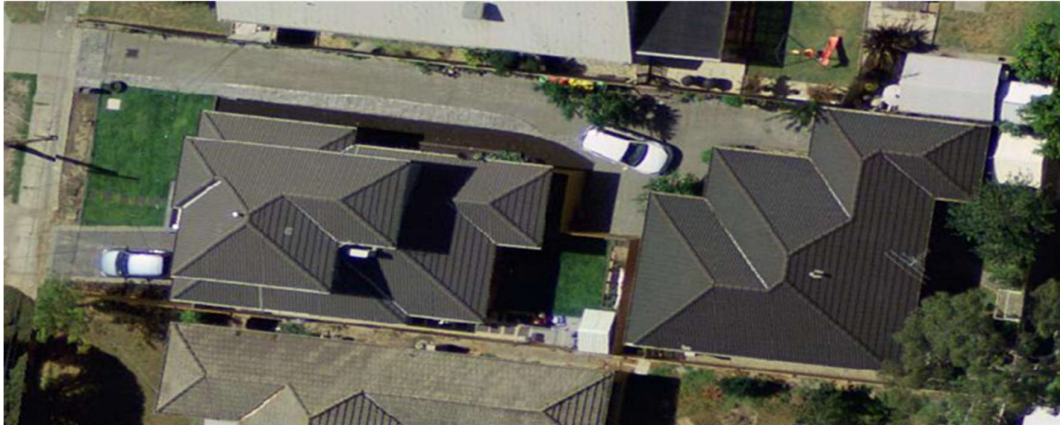
- Small Scale
- Medium Scale
- Large Scale

For further details about the above development types and the application requirements for each, refer to the *Kingston Civil Design requirements for Developers: Part A – Integrated Stormwater Management*.

5.2 CASE STUDIES

The following case studies demonstrate how the in-lieu contribution rate is applied to different types of development, based on the contribution rates for the 2024-2025 financial year.

Small residential



Proposed development	One unit
Development site area	320sqm
Development impervious area	175sqm (55%)
Council requirements	2,000L rainwater tank
In-lieu contribution	The contribution option is not applicable as a mandatory rainwater tank will achieve a STORM rating of 100%.

Medium residential



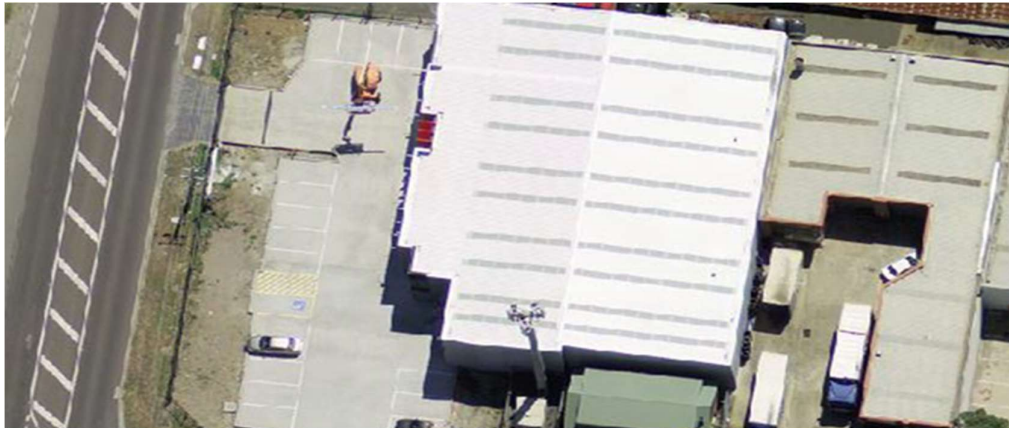
Proposed development	Four units
Development site area	778sqm
Development impervious area	545sqm (70%)
WSUD best-practice requirements	4 x 2,000L above ground tanks and 4 toilet connections Raingarden 10 m ²
Total estimated WSUD on-site costs	\$49,000
In-lieu contribution	\$16,605.20 assuming no treatment measures. E.g If rainwater tanks are planned to be installed and they hypothetically achieve 55% of the STORM rating, the contribution would be \$16,605.20 x 45% = \$7,472.34

Large residential (multi-unit)



Proposed development	Multi unit apartment building with 18 units and 36 bedrooms
Development site area	1,240 sqm
Development impervious area	1,050sqm (85%)
WSUD best-practice requirements	10,000L re-use and 9,000L on-site detention tanks Raingarden 10m ²
Total estimated WSUD on-site costs	\$80,000
In-lieu contribution	\$24,120.60 assuming no treatment measures. E.g If WSUD works are planned to be installed and they hypothetically achieve 60% of modelled compliance, the contribution would be \$24,120.60 x 40% = \$9,648.24

Large commercial



Proposed development	Car sale yard
Development site area	2,100sqm
Development impervious area	1,800sqm (87%)
WSUD best-practice requirements	10,000L below ground tank.
Total estimated WSUD on-site costs	\$78,000
In-lieu contribution	\$32,808.60 assuming no treatment measures. E.g If minimal WSUD works are planned to be installed and they hypothetically achieve 35% of of modelled compliance, the contribution would be \$32,808.60 x 65% = \$21,325.59

6. What is the process involved in making a voluntary Stormwater Quality In-Lieu Contribution?

6.1 STEPS IN THE PLANNING PERMIT AND ENGINEERING ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The applicant's proposed approach to Integrated Stormwater Management (ISWM) should be discussed with Council officer(s) during the preliminary consultation phase with the outcomes influencing the proposed development's site layout and configuration as appropriate. Applicants wishing to provide an in lieu contribution should consider this early in the process so that plans can be adjusted as required.

The following steps explain the process in further detail:

Step 1 – Pre-application consultation

Find out whether a permit is required, what information must be provided with the application, and what relevant policies and provisions council will use to assess it. Different information will need to be provided for different types of permit applications.

In relation to stormwater management, find out:

- If any State government conditions or Clauses apply; and
- Whether the site is included in a Special Building Overlay (SBO) or Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO).

It is important to find out whether there is an existing or proposed local planning policy in the Kingston Planning Scheme that may require specific stormwater related information to be submitted as part of the application.

Step 2 – Stormwater treatment requirements identified

Discuss any concept design detail that could potentially increase the level of imperviousness of the site. Council can advise you on the most appropriate ways to minimise the imperviousness levels within your development and meet some or all of the best practice stormwater quality requirements on-site.

For small scale developments, the provision of appropriately sized rainwater tanks connected to toilets is considered to adequately meet Council's stormwater quality requirements and may be all that is required for a single dwelling. The plans for endorsement will show the minimum 2,000 L rainwater tank connected to toilets.

For medium and large scale developments, it may be necessary to engage a specialist to assist in the selection and design of a stormwater treatment to suit the type of development proposed. While specialists involved with project design will assess the development's performance using software such as MUSIC, STORM is an online assessment tool that has been simplified and can be used by people with no formal training. A treatment score of 100 or greater in the STORM tool meets Council's stormwater quality requirements.

If the applicant is not willing to meet some or all stormwater treatment requirements on-site, alternative pathways to meet stormwater quality obligations should be discussed with Council's development engineers including the alternative pathway of making an in-lieu contribution for the total impervious area of the development.

Step 3 – Council checks the application

In relation to stormwater treatment, Council requires specific documentation to be submitted as part of the planning approval process. The requirements are outlined in the *Civil Design Requirements for Developers: Part A – Integrated Stormwater Management*. It has been designed to provide applicants with advice on the information that should be submitted with a planning permit application for the following types of residential and non-residential development:

- Small scale
- Medium scale
- Large scale

It is important to seek advice from the planner and refer to the local planning policies in the Kingston Planning Scheme that may require specific information to be submitted as part of the application.

For large scale developers, applicants opting to meet stormwater quality requirements fully off-site or partially on-site, the alternative pathway of making an in-lieu contribution may be discussed at this stage. The in-lieu contribution will be based on the per square meter impervious area rate as outlined in Table 1.

Your application might also be formally referred to external agencies such as Melbourne Water if the application is affected by a SBO, LSIO or Clause 56. If Melbourne Water agrees to a voluntary contribution being made to Council in-lieu of meeting stormwater quality treatment on-site, the applicant may proceed and offer to make a payment to Council.

Step 4 – Decision is made

If Council issues a permit, you will receive a copy of the permit and the endorsed plans. Council or its delegate may refuse to grant the permit if the application fails to demonstrate how the development meets best practice and Council's stormwater requirements.

At this stage, applicants will be provided with information about the voluntary in-lieu contribution payment option to assist them with making a decision.

Step 5 – Detailed design

For large scale developments, an Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) will need to be submitted to Council for approval prior to preparing detailed stormwater design drawings. The IWMP will be in the form of a comprehensive report with associated functional drawings that demonstrate how the development meets best practice and meets Council's requirements.

For large developments opting to make an in-lieu contribution to meet stormwater quality requirements off-site or partially on-site at the planning permit endorsement stage, the stormwater

quality component of an Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) may be waived. The in-lieu contribution will be based on the per square meter impervious area rate as outlined in Table 1.

Step 6 – Engineering assessment

For large scale developments opting to treat stormwater on-site, Council's development engineers will assess the submitted IWMP and detailed stormwater design drawings to ascertain that all necessary information has been provided.

If any changes to the application results in higher or lower level of imperviousness, this will be used as the basis for recalculating the in-lieu contribution.

Once the detailed design is approved by Council's development engineers, you will be requested to make the in-lieu contribution and receive a confirmation of payment.

Step 7 – Statement of compliance (if applicable)

For subdivision applications, Council must issue a statement of compliance as soon as the applicant has provided all the prescribed information and has satisfied all requirements under the planning system and the *Subdivision Act 1988*.

A formal agreement between the Council and applicant would be entered into that includes the terms obliging the owner to pay more if imperviousness increases, or entitling them to seek a refund if it reduces.

6.2 POST PLANNING PERMIT AND ENGINEERING ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Permit conditions and expiry

If the permit is granted, you must comply with all of the permit conditions. Check the conditions very carefully and note any that must be complied with before the use or development commences.

If a permit condition is unacceptable, you have 60 days from the date the permit was issued, or the Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit was given, to apply for a review. Lodge an application for review of the conditions as soon as possible so you get in the VCAT system.

The right to appeal is not available if you have opted to make a voluntary in-lieu contribution.

Amending a permit

After a permit is issued, a situation may arise that requires a change to your permit and approved plans. Instead of applying for a new permit, you are able to apply to Council for an amendment to your permit. The request for an amendment to the permit will follow the same process as a new application and may include advertising and referral of the application.

If there is any change to the level of imperviousness and the applicant has already made a voluntary partial or full in-lieu contribution to Council, the contribution amount will be reviewed based on whether the imperviousness has increased or decreased.

7. How will the in-lieu contributions be collected and spent?

7.1 COLLECTION AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

Contributions will be accounted for in a specific interest-bearing Reserve Fund, known as the Stormwater Quality Reserve, for the purpose of aggregating funds. The administration of the Stormwater Quality Reserve and financial reporting responsibilities for Council has been outlined in the Kingston *Stormwater Quality In-Lieu Contributions Policy*.

Contributions collected will be used to fund the full range of costs incurred by Council to implement and manage the priority WSUD projects, including costs associated with:

- Planning
- Project managing
- Design
- Construction and maintenance
- Cost of administering the Scheme
- Maintenance - Funds from the Stormwater Quality Reserve will not be used for the repair or maintenance of stormwater assets existing as at the commencement of this policy. An allowance may be made for periodic maintenance of new capital works funded from the Stormwater Capital Reserve over the expected useful life of the asset. The balance of maintenance funds should be derived from other sources.

If a new funding stream, or an alternative revenue source materialises during the year offering Council an opportunity to deliver priority project(s) earlier than anticipated, or proposed expenditure changes, the reporting processes will be undertaken as per the CEO to Staff Instrument of sub-delegation.

7.2 SELECTION AND PRIORITISATION OF PROJECTS

Council has undertaken a financial analysis to identify level of funding required to achieve best practice targets, the most cost-effective combination of projects based on realistic opportunities and the rate of government versus private sector investment required.

An innovative outcome of this analysis was the development of the unique Project Comparison Factor (PCF). This factor was used to compare the relative benefits of each stormwater quality improvement opportunity based on the cost of treating and storing the harvested stormwater for reuse. The factor incorporates the 'real' cost per annum based on estimated construction and maintenance costs averaged over an assumed 30 year 'whole of life' for each project.

The PCF was calculated by adding together:

- A factor that measures the cost-effectiveness of treating stormwater based on \$/kg per year for removing Total Nitrogen from the catchment, and
- A factor that measures the cost-effectiveness of harvesting stormwater based on \$/KL per year of water that can be reused.

This factor was then used to 'rank' projects and compare the value of investing in one large project versus many smaller projects. The factor can be considered similar to a Benefit - Cost factor where scores higher than 1.0 are an indication of viable projects.

Typically, the smaller scaled projects (e.g. rainwater tanks and rain gardens) achieved factors around 1.0 whereas the top 7 medium sized projects (e.g. large rain gardens in parks) achieved factors ranging from 5 to 27.

7.3 LIST OF PRIORITISED PROJECTS

The list will be updated at regular intervals with regard to the priorities document within *Kingston's Integrated Water Strategy (2022)* (available on Council's website) to reflect Council priorities, stormwater management needs and market conditions:

8. How will the progress of the Scheme be monitored and evaluated?

The Kingston *Stormwater Quality In-Lieu Contributions Policy (2024)* outlines how Council will undertake regular monitoring, reporting and review of the monies received and expended through existing financial years reporting process.



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