

OPERATIONS MANAGER

COUNCIL REPORT

Meeting: 15 May 2024



Item 1: Essential Services

Item 1.1 - Water Treatment Plant - Daily Testing

Daily testing for pH, free chlorine and turbidity at all test points are compliant with Australian Drinking Water Guidelines for April 2024.

April Results

February Readings	Acceptable Range
Average pH of water after the reservoir = 7.3	6.5 to 8.5
Average turbidity = 0.65 units	0 to 5 Units (NTU)
Average free chlorine = 0.78 mg per litre	0.5 to 5.0 mg per litre

Figure 1 below shows the monthly average pH levels of the water after the reservoir installation. Figure 2 shows the monthly average turbidity while Figure 3 depicts the average monthly chlorine readings per litre.

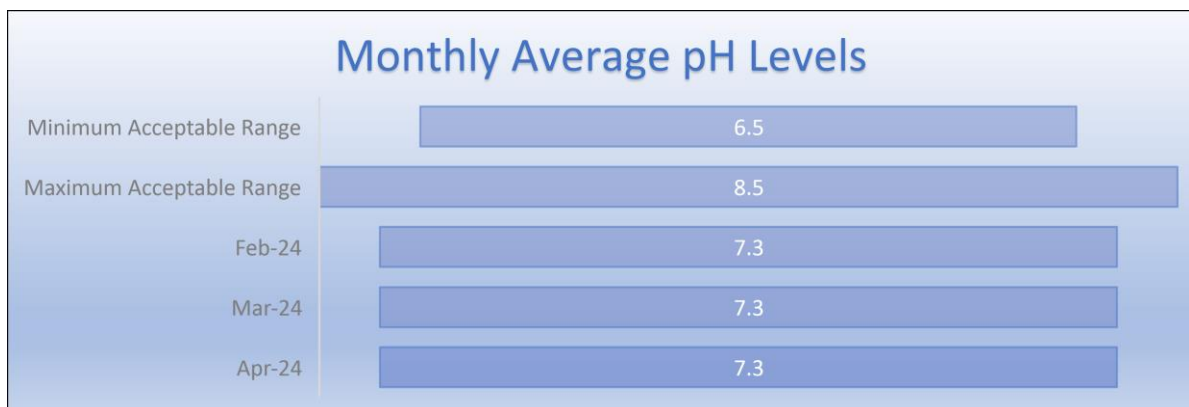


Figure 1 - Chart depicting monthly pH level comparisons.

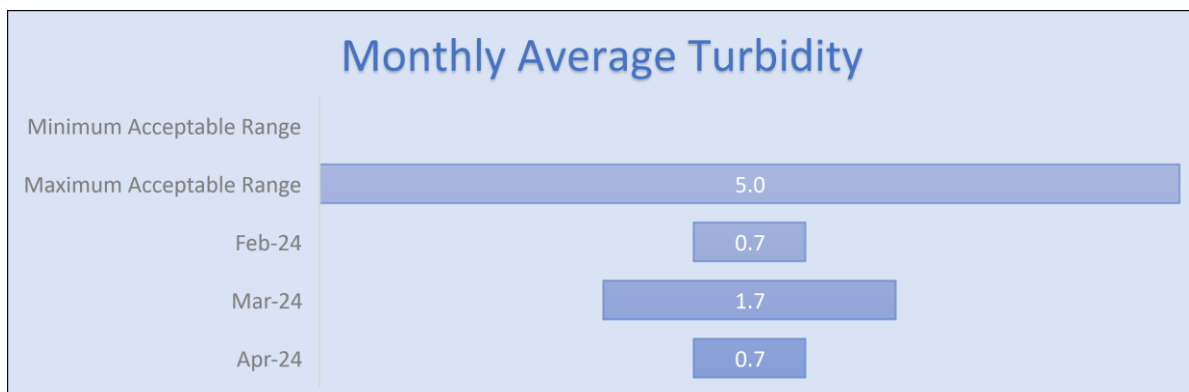


Figure 2 - Chart showing monthly average turbidity.



Figure 3 - Chart showing the monthly average chlorine level readings.

The number of water connections in the Community is **356**.

Volume of water produced at the treatment plant = **21879 kilolitres** from 1 April 2024 – 30 April 2024.

Figure 4 below shows the volume of water produced over the last three (3) months.

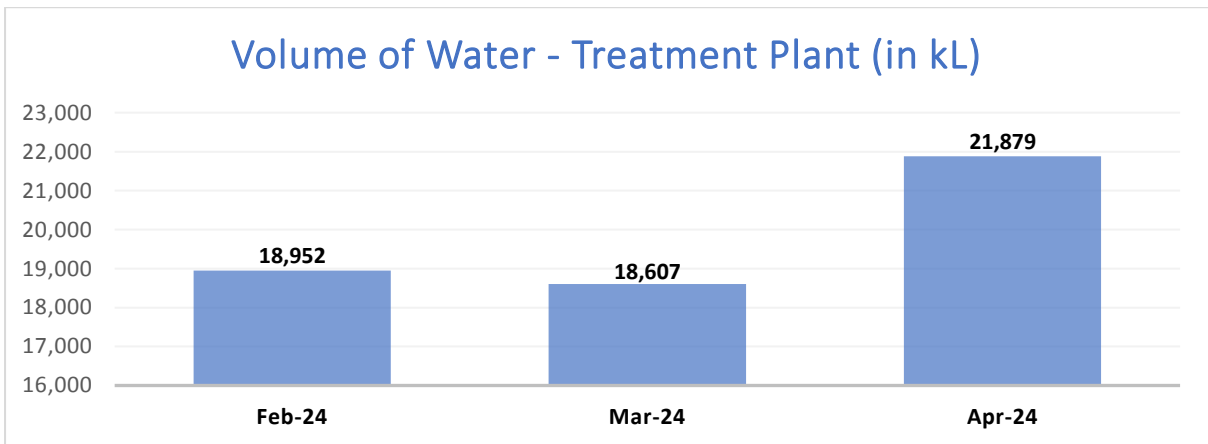


Figure 4 - Chart showing Volume of Water produced at the Water Treatment Plant per month.

Average volume of water usage per day for the town over the April month is **546 kilolitres** per day.

Figure 5 below shows the average town water usage per day for the last three (3) months.

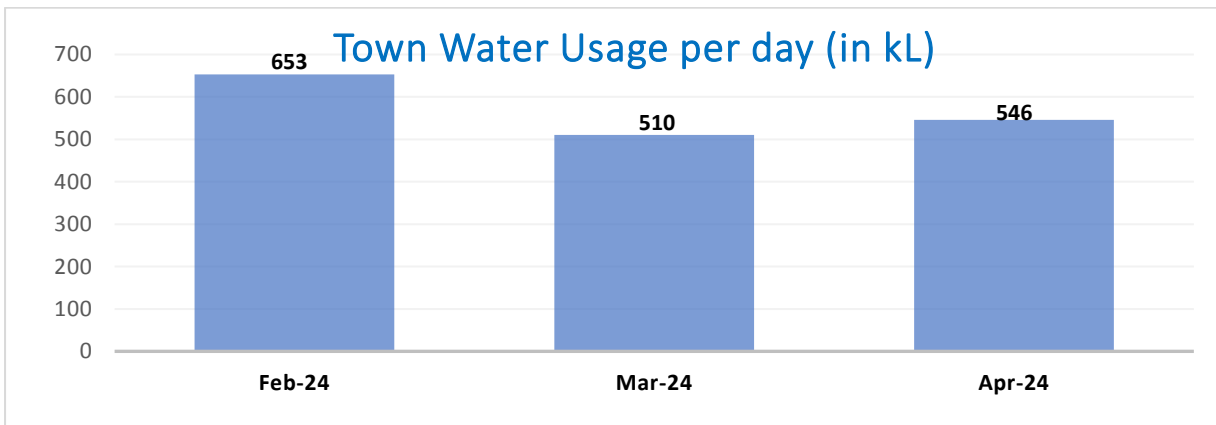


Figure 5 - Chart showing average daily water usage by months.

There have been no incidents of Council water mains leakages for the months of April 2024.

In-house microbiological test results of water for detection of Coliforms/E-Coli were all compliant with Australian Drinking Water Guidelines for the reporting periods.

Item 1.2 - Recruitment of Plumber/Plumbing Inspector

Council has finalised the recruitment of a Plumber/Plumbing Inspector under the Essential Services Unit.

Item 2: Civil Construction

Item 2.1 - Road Maintenance Works

The Civil Unit is undertaking a number of projects/works and are in the process of mobilizing a number of road projects within Hope Vale.

The Council has been approved to temporarily repair three main roads through the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) Emergent Works Program:

- Beach Road
- Alligator Road
- Dump Road

The Civil Unit is focusing on the Beach Road as its first temporary road repair. We will be engaging contractors to provide extra machinery necessary to facilitate completion of these road works.

Item 2.2 - ATSI TIDS - Road Asset Protection Project

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) has funded Council's Road Asset Protection Project.

This funding is for five (5) property entrances at the Cooktown McIvor River Road and is for drainage improvements and sealing the entrances to reduce excessive road material from spillage onto the main road.

Council has engaged a civil engineer to supply documentation for the design of the five entrances. It is anticipated that the final engineering documentation will be available in May 2024. Council's Civil Unit have conducted maintenance of the area, removing overgrown vegetation at the table drains, and removing soil from the culverts to improve the drainage to the sites.

Item 3: Animal Management

Item 3.1 - Veterinary Community Visit - April 2024

The contractor Vet visited Hope Vale between Monday, 29 April 2024 and Tuesday, 30 April 2024. The visit was a successful one with a reasonable number of animals receiving appropriate routine and critical veterinary care, as per the report below.

Tropical Vets Community Outreach

Community Name	Hopevale Aboriginal Shire Council
Project Dates	29/04/24 – 30/04/24
Total Number Neuters	15 – Female dogs 14, Female cats 1.
Non-Surgical Cases	199 – 50 vaccines, 10 dogs treated for pig wounds, all treated for Ticks, Fleas, Mange and Worms.
Euthanasia's	7 dogs – 2 very ill, 5 unwanted
Clinical Complications	Zero
Management of Clinical Complications	N/A
Goals for the Community	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to desex as many animals as possible. 2. Continue treating all dogs for ticks, fleas, mange and worms.
Veterinary Nurse in Attendance	The Tropical Vets supplied two vets for Hope Vale. No Veterinary Nurse attended the visit
Veterinarian(s) in Attendance	Dr Graham Lauridsen BVSc Dr Amberlee Hatcher BVSc

Item 3.2 - Veterinary Services – Proposed May 2024 Visit

The next Vet visit is scheduled for the period between Monday, 17 June 2024 and Tuesday, 18 June 2024.

The vet will be providing veterinary services, including the following: desexing, vaccinations, medications for flea, tick and worming, mange, and microchipping.

The visiting Vet will be operating out of Council's Animal Control facilities.

Item 3.3 - Horse Management Plan Draft

Initial discussions at the April 2024 Council Meeting has provided some direction to commence the process of structuring and implementing a Horse Management Plan within the Hope Vale community.

Council is in the process of completing a draft Horse Management Plan that will provide the guidelines and/or strategies to manage the horses within Hope Vale, in conjunction with the Local Law No 2 Animal Management. It is anticipated that a draft version of the Horse Management Plan will be available for deliberation and review at the next Council Meeting.

Notable key points:

- Community consultation outlining the processes and policies of the Horse Management Plan.
- Engagement and dialogue with horse owners on the processes and requirements for keeping a horse or several horses.
- Understanding the timeframes and responsibilities upon claiming horse ownership. This will be a proposed two-month timeframe after the engagement of the horse owners. Council would disseminate information relative to the required timeframes and responsibilities on various communication mediums such as, Community notice boards, Council Facebook Page and the Council website.
- Understanding the relocation processes of the horse/s out of the Hope Vale community within the two-month timeframe. Horse owners will have the responsibility of containing their horse/s in an appropriate fence enclosure.
- The remaining wandering horses that have not been claimed by owners will be mustered, yarded, and transported out of the Hope Vale Community by an external contractor.
- For any of the horse/s that have been branded, Council will contact the horse owner within a proposed reasonable timeframe to collect the animal. In the event that the horse/s are not collected within the set timeframe, the horse/s will be impounded by the external contractor.

Item 4: Open Spaces

Item 4.1 - Open Spaces Operations

The Open Spaces Unit is responsible for mowing the grass, small tree pruning and garbage collection.

The key areas the Open Spaces Unit have been working in are the Kindergarten Yard, the Hope Vale Aerodrome, Main Council Office and the garbage collection.

A number of staff had undertaken approved staff leave throughout the month of April 2024.

We aim to manage the grass issue within the Community in the month of May 2024 as the staff return to work from leave.

Item 4.2 - Slashing Grass on Side Roads

Each year, in early April 2024, Council usually engages a contractor to slash the grass on the roadsides. The prolonged wet season has delayed these works, however as soon as the conditions become more favourable, the works will be undertaken.

Council is in the process of engaging local contractors within Hope Vale to undertake this work. Council is working with these contractors to ensure that they meet the Council's procurement requirements to enable them to undertake the works.

Item 5: Workplace Health & Safety (WH&S)

Item 5.1 - Recruitment of WH&S Consultant

Council is in process of short listing a Workplace Health & Safety consultant from a Local Buy list.

Recommendation

- A. That Council note and accept this report.

- B. That Council review and approve the key points included in *Item 3.3 - Horse Management Plan Draft* of this Report.



Geoffrey Rewald
Operations Manager
15 May 2024