

RICHMOND VALLEY COUNCIL POLICY REGISTER

File No: S.320.02

Policy No: 1.4.6

POLICY:	FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - ON-SITE SEWAGE AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT.
FUNCTION:	Finance
OBJECTIVE:	To identify circumstances and procedures for advancing financial assistance to property owners to complete works associated with on-site sewage management systems.
DIVISION RESPONSIBLE:	ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AND CORPORATE SERVICES.

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POLICY

1. Aim of the Policy

The aim of this Policy is to outline circumstances and procedures which apply for an owner resident to obtain financial assistance from Council.

2. Objectives

To provide, as a means of last resort, financial assistance to an owner/resident to enable essential work to be completed to an on-site sewage and wastewater management system (SMS) in order to prevent either an adverse public health or environmental impact.

3. Definition

For the purpose of this Policy, applicable definitions are contained within Council's adopted on-site sewage and wastewater management strategy.

4. Criteria

The adverse public health or environmental impacts of the SMS must extend beyond the boundary of the allotment on which it is situated.

5. Matters for consideration

5.1 Environmental Development Services:

- Determine the nature and extent of the adverse impact and identify the work necessary to the SMS.

5.2 Corporate Services

- Determine whether the financial position of the owner/resident warrants Council's assistance and the owner resides on the property (it is not a rental property)
- Determine the interest rate, being the borrowing rate indicative as determined by the State Treasury, that applies at the time of the application.
- Prepare standard agreement form, finalise the agreement and repayment schedule.

6. Application Process

- 6.1 The owner/resident be advised of the opportunity to borrow money to the value of the required work.
- 6.2 The applicant to submit two (2) quotations from separate licensed plumbers and written request for financial assistance to the equivalent value.
- 6.3 Council consider the request and prepare an agreement binding the property as security.
- 6.4 Council pay the contractor on receipt of the account and verification by Council's Environmental Development Services staff that all works are satisfactorily completed.