

1.0 AIM

- 1.1 To provide further definition and clarification as to acceptable water supply methods within the Rural Living zones of the Shire.
- 1.2 To inform landowners of the various issues associated with water quality.
- 1.3 To provide flexibility for landowners to select a method of water supply that most suits their particular needs.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Within Rural Living zones, the Local Planning Scheme requires each dwelling house to be connected to an approved potable water supply or a water tank of at least 90 000 litre capacity.

Where Rural Living Estates within the Shire of Gingin have been subdivided without the requirement for a reticulated water supply, landowners purchasing and residing in these estates take on the responsibility of providing their own domestic water supply (eg: Rainwater tanks or ground water bores and tanks).

More recent information in relation to available on-site water supply suggests that the various methods of water supply may not all provide the same level of assurance as to water quality. For example, groundwater supplies have the potential to be affected by activities within the catchment that could undermine the potability and/or capacity of water supply for domestic households.

3.0 POLICY STATEMENT

- 3.1 Each dwelling house within the Rural Living zone should be connected to one of the following water supply options:
 - (a) a 5000 litre rainwater tank for household drinking, supplemented with groundwater supplies for other domestic purposes; or
 - (b) a minimum 90 000 litre rainwater tank; or
 - (c) an approved reticulated water supply.

- 3.2 Householders are advised to install a recognised system of water treatment to ensure water quality achieves the levels recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 1996.
- 3.3 A 90 000 litre rainwater tank shall be serviced by a roof catchment of no less than 300m², in accordance with the WAPC Rural Land Use Planning Policy.
- 3.4 Where onsite water supplies are installed by the landowner, the ongoing maintenance and monitoring of water levels and quality shall remain the responsibility of the landowner in perpetuity.
- 3.5 Council generally does not support the creation of Rural Living zones without a serviced reticulated water supply.

[Adopted 15 January 2013]