

# Water and sewerage bills in Sunshine Coast – the facts

## Water and sewerage bills have two parts

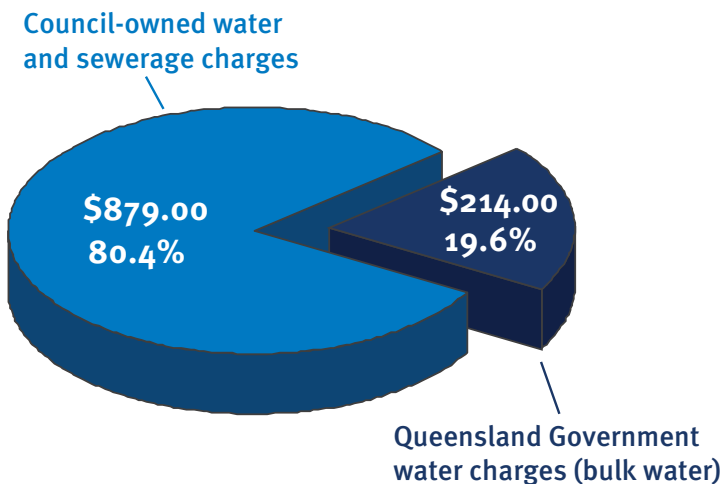
Charges imposed by Council-owned Unitywater include:

- Water consumption charges – based on the amount of water used
- Fixed water access charges – for connection to the water network.
- Fixed sewerage charges – for connection to the sewerage network.

## Queensland Government water charges (bulk water)

Queensland Government charges are limited to the cost of wholesale treated drinking water delivered to Unitywater.

## Where your water and sewerage bill payment goes



Based on an average Sunshine Coast water and sewerage bill of \$1,093.00

Change in your bill from 2009/10 to 2010/11 financial years		Components of total bill in 2010/11		
Council	Comparison with other areas	Council-owned water and sewerage charge	Queensland Government bulk water charge	Council-owned businesses share of total bill
	-\$100   -\$50   \$0   \$50   \$100   \$150   \$200   \$250   \$300   \$350			
Somerset (Esk)		\$867	\$417	68%
Somerset (Kilcoy)		\$719	\$417	63%
Lockyer Valley		\$834	\$342	71%
Redland		\$1,090	\$186	85%
Scenic Rim		\$1,007	\$363	73%
Sunshine Coast		\$879	\$214	80%
Brisbane		\$754	\$303	71%
Ipswich		\$1,033	\$291	78%
Moreton (Pine Rivers)		\$968*	\$330	75%
Moreton (Caboolture)		\$940*	\$330	74%
Logan		\$962	\$369	72%
Gold Coast		\$1,047	\$337	76%
Moreton (Redcliffe)		\$840*	\$330	72%

Figures based on a three person household using 180 litres per person per day, equivalent to 200 kilolitres per year.

\*Water and sewerage charge after Moreton Bay Regional Council rebate of 50% applied.

Target 200 for long-term water security

For general enquiries phone 1300 789 906 or visit [www.qwc.qld.gov.au](http://www.qwc.qld.gov.au)



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## What has the Queensland Government done to ease the cost of water?

The Government has reduced the price impact of the SEQ Water Grid by:

- Increasing the pensioner water rebate to \$100
- Selling water to the council owned water businesses at a loss of \$407 million this year
- Not making a profit on the \$7 billion investment in the water grid.

## How the Government is reducing the costs of operating the water grid

Water supply in South East Queensland is now secure. This is because the water grid is complete, the community continues to save record amounts of water and the dams are full.

Costs are being reduced by:

- Operating the desalination plant in standby mode until dams fall to 60%
- Taking half the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme off-line, and keeping the other half running to supply water to power stations and industry. Purified Recycled Water will not be added to dams until they reach 40%
- Merging state water authorities – Water Secure and SEQ Water.

## Putting downward pressure on future prices

In 2008 the Government announced a 10 year price path for bulk water prices.

This has now been revised down in light of operational savings and continued world-class water conservation by SEQ households.

This will mean for the average household\* in 2011–12, the state bulk water price will increase by \$5 less than previously announced and water prices will now be lower than predicted every year.

\*An average household consists of three people using 180Litres/person/day, equivalent to 200 kilolitres per year.

**In 2008, as part of securing water supplies in SEQ, the Queensland Government paid Sunshine Coast Regional Council \$86,444,647 for the acquisition of their bulk water assets.**