

ATTENTION PLUMBERS

Connections to Beachport CWMS (Sewer)

Background

At a meeting to discuss connections to the Beachport sewer scheme concerns were raised by plumbers about procedural matters relating to sewer connections at Beachport. Council has considered these concerns and settled on an amended procedure for licensed plumbers wishing to carry out plumbing works to connect existing dwellings to the Beachport sewer scheme.

Prior to the commencement of works:

Council will advise property owners and plumbers when connections to sewer can be carried out. When this occurs plumbers are then able to proceed with works on site.

- Before any works are undertaken a signed (by owner and applicant) and completed application for an On-site Wastewater Works Approval must be lodged to Council at any of the offices. Fees are exempt for all existing dwellings.

Please note: That for all new dwellings or additions to dwelling that require plumbing works, the normal process of obtaining waste water system approval is required before works are commenced.

After works are completed:

Within 28 days of completing the on-site works, the following information must be submitted to Council:

- A Certificate of Compliance . noting that the Certificate must state that the septic tank has been decommissioned in accordance with the following requirements.
- ~~As~~ constructed+underfloor plumbing Plan.
- A copy of records stating that the septic tank has been pumped out by a licensed contractor.

Please note: Once all the above information is provided, Council will issue a Waste Water System Approval to the property owner and a copy to the applicant (plumber).

What information needs to be shown on the “As constructed” Plan:

- Provide a detailed site plan drawn to a scale showing drain to connection point. Plan needs to show method of connecting the internal sanitary plumbing fixtures of a building to the external sanitary drainage system - including location of the sewer drain, inspection openings and inspection shafts, junctions and bends, size and grade of sewer drain, position and size of overflow relief gullies, vents and waste pipes.
- Plans of the Scheme will be made available at the Beachport Office, so plumbers can obtain the location of the sewer connection to the properties.
- Existing underfloor plumbing must be compliant with AS/NZS 3500, the Plumbing Code of Australia (PCA) and the SA variations and additions in Appendix A of the PCA.
- In some older dwellings, the standards for the sanitary plumbing and drainage system may vary from the current requirements. Council will require sections of the existing sanitary plumbing and drainage to be upgraded and/or required testing to be carried out to determine the suitability of the system for connection to the sewer.

Decommissioning existing septic tank:

- To disconnect your existing septic tank, you must first have the contents pumped out by a licensed contractor and the tank is then crushed on site and backfilled with sand, or alternatively you can have the tank removed and disposed of offsite.
- It is not normally necessary to backfill disused soakage trenches, unless they are dangerous, create an insanitary condition or do not meet other relevant authority requirements.

For any other queries, please contact Council's Environmental Health Officer, Catarina Santos, on 87 330900.