

FACT SHEET

Water and sewerage charges and typical customer bills from 1 July 2015

Based on *Sydney Water Corporation Determination and Final Report*, June 2012, *Hunter Water Corporation Determination and Final Report*, June 2013, *Gosford City Council and Wyong Shire Council Determinations and Final Report*, May 2013 and *Essential Energy (Water) Determination and Final Report*, June 2014

This Fact Sheet summarises water and sewerage prices commencing on 1 July 2015 for Sydney Water, Hunter Water, Gosford City Council, Wyong Shire Council, and Essential Water (Table 1). We have also provided examples of annual bills for residential customers (Tables 2 and 3) and non-residential customers (Tables 4 to 8), to show the typical change in bills.

For most households, less than 2% of disposable household income is spent on water services.¹ In 2015-16, the typical weekly bill for customers who live in a house and use 200 kL of water per year will increase by:

- ▼ \$0.27 for Sydney, Illawarra and Blue Mountains customers
- ▼ \$0.13 for Wyong customers
- ▼ \$0.28 for Hunter customers
- ▼ \$1.13 for Gosford customers, and
- ▼ \$0.28 for Broken Hill customers.

¹ IPART analysis. See IPART, *Annual Report 2012/13*, October 2013, p 43, Figure 8.

Table 1 Urban water prices from 1 July 2015

	Sydney Water	Hunter Water	Gosford Shire Council	Wyong Shire Council	Essential Water (Broken Hill)
Water service charge for residential houses, flats and units, and other 20mm connections (\$) ^a	102.53	17.75	173.54	166.87	316.73
% change from previous year	-10.0%	1.4%	15.9%	-3.2%	1.3%
Water service charge for residential flats and units with a common meter (\$)	102.53	17.75	173.54	166.87	316.73
% change from previous year	11.8% ^b	1.4%	15.9%	-3.2%	1.3%
Water usage charge (\$ per kL)	2.276 ^c	2.22 ^d	2.26	2.26	1.74
% change from previous year	2.0%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%
Sewerage service charge for houses (\$) ^e	609.13	593.58 ^{f,g}	641.14	477.03	517.84
% change from previous year	2.8%	1.4%	4.7%	1.3%	1.3%
Sewerage service charge for residential units (\$)	609.13	430.34	641.14	477.03	517.84
% change from previous year	2.8%	5.0%	4.7%	1.3%	1.3%
Stormwater drainage charge for houses (\$) ^h	86.02	71.86	113.20	118.14	n/a
% change from previous year	8.0%	-9.1%	10.1%	8.6%	n/a
Stormwater drainage charge for flats & units (\$)	31.54	26.59	113.20	88.60	n/a
% change from previous year	-15.8%	-9.1%	10.1%	8.6%	n/a

a These water service charges apply to individually-metered residential properties and non-residential properties with a 20mm meter and residential multi-premises with a common meter. For non-residential properties with a meter size larger than 20mm, a higher charge will apply.

b The charge for residential flats and units with a common meter has been gradually transitioned to match the charge for other residential properties in the years leading up to 2015-16. The charge for these flats and units has therefore increased by 11.8% this year, while the charge for other residential properties has fallen by 10.0%.

c Sydney Water charges for water usage in \$/kL to three decimal places.

d Applies to filtered water usage of <50,000 kL. Hunter Water's water usage charge for filtered water >50,000 kL per year varies by zone.

e The sewerage service charges apply to residential properties, and non-residential properties with a 20mm water meter. For non-residential properties with a water meter size larger than 20mm, a higher charge will apply.

f Includes Dungog.

g Clarence Town customers incur a Clarence Town sewer service charge of \$78.26 per year, in addition to the standard Hunter Water sewer service charge.

h Includes vacant land.

Residential bills

Table 2 2015-16 typical annual bills for individually metered residential houses (\$ per year)

	Sydney Water	Hunter Water	Gosford City Council	Wyong Shire Council	Essential Water (Broken Hill)
Water and sewerage	1,167	1,094	1,267	1,096	1,183
% change from previous year	1.2%	1.4%	4.9%	0.6%	1.3%

Note: Annual bills are based on 200 kL usage per year. For our report on our determination of Essential Energy's water prices in Broken Hill, we assumed a typical residential customer consumed 300 kL of water per year. IPART, *Essential Energy's water and sewerage services in Broken Hill - Final Report*, June 2014, p 11. Under this assumption, the typical bill would be \$1,357 which is an increase of 1.2% from 2014-15.

Source: IPART modelling.

Table 3 2015-16 typical annual bills for individually metered residential units (\$ per year)

	Sydney Water	Hunter Water	Gosford City Council	Wyong Shire Council	Essential Water (Broken Hill)
Water and sewerage	1,053	819	1,154	983	1,096
% change from previous year	1.1%	3.2%	5.2%	0.5%	1.3%

Note: Annual bills are based on 150 kL usage per year.

Source: IPART modelling.

Non- Residential bills

Table 4 Sydney Water – 2015-16 typical annual bills for individually metered non-residential properties (\$ per year)

Water usage (kL per year)	Meter size	Water and sewerage	% change from previous year
300	20mm	1,394	1.3%
1,000	32mm	5,256	7.4%
10,000	100mm	54,959	5.2%

Note: For presentation purposes we have used the average discharge factor that occurs in Sydney Water's network of 79%. Actual discharge factors will vary for each particular customer. There is a minimum service charge for non-residential customers equal to the residential service charge.

Source: IPART modelling.

Table 5 Hunter Water – 2015-16 typical annual bills for individually metered non-residential properties (\$ per year)

Water usage (kL per year)	Meter size	Water and sewerage	% change from previous year
300	20mm	1,431	0.1%
1,000	32mm	5,003	0.9%
10,000	100mm	49,449	1.2%

Note: For presentation purposes we have used the average discharge factor that occurs in Hunter Water's network of 74%. Actual discharge factors will vary for each particular customer. There is a minimum service charge for non-residential customers equal to the residential service charge.

Source: IPART modelling.

Table 6 Gosford City Council – 2015-16 typical annual bills for individually metered non-residential properties (\$ per year)

Water usage (kL per year)	Meter size	Water and sewerage	% change from previous year
300	20mm	1,603	3.4%
1,000	32mm	5,357	6.5%
10,000	100mm	54,245	6.0%

Note: For presentation purposes we have used the typical discharge factor that occurs in Gosford Council's water network of 90%. Actual discharge factors will vary for each particular customer. A discharge allowance of 150 kL per year has been used to calculate these examples. These examples exclude other bill adjustments that may apply.

Source: IPART modelling.

Table 7 Wyong Shire Council – 2015-16 typical annual bills for individually metered non-residential properties (\$ per year)

Water usage (kL per year)	Meter size	Water and sewerage	% change from previous year
300	20mm	1,422	0.7%
1,000	32mm	3,883	1.3%
10,000	100mm	39,714	1.3%

Note: For presentation purposes we have used the average discharge factor that occurs in Wyong Shire Council's water network of 90%. Actual discharge factors will vary for each particular customer.

Source: IPART modelling.

Table 8 Essential Water (Broken Hill) – 2015-16 typical annual bills for individually metered non-residential properties with treated water (\$ per year)

Water usage (kL per year)	Meter size	Water and sewerage	% change from previous year
300	20mm	1,761	1.3%
1,000	32mm	5,151	1.3%
10,000	100mm	50,954	1.3%

Note: For presentation purposes we have used the average discharge factor that occurs in Essential Water's network of 83%. Actual discharge factors will vary for each customer.

Source: IPART modelling.