



nsw Federation of
Housing Associations inc

Federation Bulletin



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Ministerial Guidelines

The Community Housing Water Charging Guidelines are now available on the [CHD website](#). The Guidelines have been amended to reflect the change to section 139 of the Residential Tenancies Act (the removal of subsection 7) and to clarify the role of the Housing Appeals Committee (HAC) with regard to water usage charges. Under section 139 of the Act, providers wishing to charge for water usage have to develop a policy in accordance with the Guidelines.

Policy writing resource

To help with policy development, the Federation has developed a policy framework for water usage charges. This resource captures the sector's thinking around the important considerations, such as calculation methods, exemptions and communication. The resource was co-developed by the Federation and a sector focus group.

Policy improvement and evaluation

Given that this is a relatively new policy area for much of the sector, the Federation would be happy to hold a follow-up workshop once members' policies have been in place for 6 to 12 months. This would be a chance for the sector to discuss what is and isn't working in practice. Please contact Poppy or Maja if you would be interested in this.

If your organisation would like to share your water charging policy with other providers, we are happy to pass sample policies to the sector via the Middle Managers network. This would be done in the spirit of sector cooperation and support. If you wish to share your policy, please send it to the Middle Managers' network coordinator, Maja Frolich.

Questions

If you have any questions about water charging, contact Poppy on (02) 9281 7144 ext 213 or PoppyD@communityhousing.org.au

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