

MEDIA RELEASE

12 May 2025

Have Your Say: Council's Budget and associated documents on Exhibition

Council is inviting the community to have their say on its suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) documents which are now on public exhibition until 9 June 2025.

These documents have been developed and reviewed in accordance with the NSW Office of Local Government IP&R guidelines and outline Council's plans to responsibly manage essential services, maintain ageing infrastructure, and meet the growing needs of the community over the coming years.

A significant focus is the need to continue delivering safe, high-quality drinking water to residents. With much of Council's water infrastructure ageing and reaching capacity, critical investment is required to upgrade and renew vital assets. This work ensures reliability and safety into the future—but comes with increased costs. The NSW Governments regulatory changes and cost distribution to the water industry is also impacting on costs to our daily activities.

In line with the requirement to effectively recover the cost of water services, Council is proposing a staged increase in water availability charges. This includes an increase in the Availability charge of 20% in 2025/26 and 2026/27 with a return to standard annual adjustments in 2027/28, and a 4% increase to Water Usage charge in 2025/26.

For example, a household with a standard 20mm connection using 155 kilolitres of water per year, this represents an average increase of \$84.80 (9.4%) per year or \$21.20 per quarter. Please refer to the Fact Sheet on Council's website or contact Council if you wish to obtain an estimate of the impact of the changes on your annual water account based on your consumption history.

"This increase is necessary due to the age of Council's infrastructure to continue delivering a quality, safe and reliable water supply, while addressing the real rise in services, materials, infrastructure, and construction costs we've seen grow over recent years," said General Manager, Charlie Harris.

The IP&R documents being exhibited on Council's website include information on how Council is planning to manage long-term financial sustainability, infrastructure renewal, and service delivery across all areas.

Exhibition Dates: 12 May – 9 June 2025

Where to View: www.ctw.nsw.gov.au or at 30 Church Street, Blayney

For more information, go to www.ctw.nsw.gov.au or contact Central Tablelands Water on (02) 6391 7200.