

Developer Deeds Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Why is Barwon Water changing its current Agreements?

There are a number of benefits that include:

- Improving relationships - clarity around roles and responsibilities for all parties.
- Ensuring delivery of quality assets – clearer requirements and processes.
- Providing consistency across the water industry and align with other water agencies.
- Providing better protection – ensures appropriate insurances are held in line with industry expectations, including provision of public liability policies by the developer/land owner.

2. Will my Letter of Offer/ Costs and Conditions remain current when the new Deeds are introduced?

Yes. All letters will remain in force for the balance of the 12 month validity period or extension period where applicable.

3. Is the Accredited Consultant still the only party able to apply for a Developer Deed where new infrastructure is required (under the “Developer Works” process)?

No. The developer/land owner can apply however the Deed can only be executed once the Accredited Consultant has been appointed, as the Accredited Consultant is now signatory to the Deed.

4. Why does the Accredited Consultant need to sign the Developer Deed?

A requirement of the Deed is the Accredited Consultant acts as the Developer/ Land Owners representative and acceptance of this role is by signing the Deed.

5. I’m an infill developer, do I need to sign a deed?

Barwon Water will determine the need for and type of deed required once you have submitted the *Application for Developer Deed and/or Servicing Requirements and Costings*. If your development requires the construction of new reticulated assets, then you will need to enter into a Developer Works Deed. All other developments are considered Private Works. Generally, if your development will create more than 3 lots, then you will need to enter into a Private Works deed. Most small developments will be issued Service Requirements and Costings and will not require a deed.

6. Why is an application fee being applied?

The application fee replaces the Acceptance fee for the existing Letter of Offer and Administrative fee for the Preliminary Costing.

The application fee ensures Barwon Water is paid upfront for the service it provides rather than collecting the fee after the fact, which at times means Barwon Water is not paid for the service provided when the development does not proceed.

7. Will it cost more to complete my development?

No, all fees and charges remain unchanged for the current period.

8. Can I continue to use a plumbing panel contractor to connect private works?

No. Only accredited contractors within the appropriate category can undertake connection of private works to Barwon Water’s existing assets.

Plumbing panel contractors are for Barwon Water’s exclusive use although you can engage a contractor from this list as an accredited contractor should they fall into the appropriate category to undertake the corresponding works.

Using accredited contractors means there is greater variety and availability for you to choose.

9. Can I continue to use a licensed plumber for private works?

Yes. For works beyond the connection to Barwon Water's assets a licensed plumber is able to perform these.

10. Am I still required to make two applications for an Infill development involving a main extension (also known as a 'combined' development)?

No, upon receipt of your development application, Barwon Water will determine the works required and issue the relevant Deeds for execution.

11. Why is there a need to lodge security for non-subdivisional developments?

Barwon Water experiences a high number of projects where 'as constructed' information is not lodged. Providing and maintaining security has proven successful with other aspects of the development process in ensuring compliance with requirements imposed on a development project.

12. Am I still required to make two applications for a Greenfield development project where a sewer pump station or water supply tank is required in addition to reticulation works?

No. Upon receipt of your development application, Barwon Water will determine the works required and issue the relevant Deeds for execution which will include one for the reticulation works and the other for major infrastructure.

Due to the introduction of accreditation categories, you may find more than one accredited consultant is required for your project.

It is expected that delivery of the sewer pump station or water supply tank works will continue to be delivered in parallel with any reticulation works, and by different contractors and/ or suppliers.

13. Will I be able to request an extension to the existing Letter of Offer?

Yes. Where an existing Letter of Offer expires, a request for extension of up to 12 months can be submitted.