

30 June 2026

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Prime House
8 Davidson Terrace
JOONDALUP WA 6027

Attention Fitzroy-Derby water planning team
via consult.dwer.wa.gov.au

RE: Submission – Draft Fitzroy-Derby water resources management plan

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Fitzroy-Derby water resources management plan.

Water Corporation have appreciated the opportunity to work collaboratively with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation in the development of this plan. We strongly support the aims of the plan to protect and manage this significant river system and highly valuable groundwater systems in this region.

We support the use of a data and risk based adaptive approach to the management of groundwater resources on the Derby peninsula and the surrounding region. These resources are critical for the supply of public drinking water and for future growth within the region.

There are some areas of the plan that we feel may benefit from further clarification and these are detailed in Attachment 1.

As a key water user within this region, we would appreciate the opportunity to be considered for membership on the potential Water Advisory Committee should this be established by the Minister in the final plan. Should you have any queries on our response please contact Carolyn Hills, Manager Regulation and Research [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Helen Forte.

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Helen Forte
Head of Asset Strategy

ATTACHMENT 1

Page	Section	Comment
15	Groundwater allocation limits	Is water allocated to Public water supply reserves expected to cover both future drinking water supplies and the existing usage in Aboriginal Communities that are in the process of being licensed under the Aboriginal Communities Water Services (ACWS) program? The majority of groundwater abstraction in ACWS communities has been established for many years, often preceding proclamation of groundwater areas, and their usage could be deemed as historical as opposed to new future usages.
20	Local Licensing Policy 4.3	This section states that 5 year licence tenures will be granted in line with DWER <i>Policy – Section 5C licence tenure</i>. It is our understanding that that the standard tenure under this (public facing) policy is 10 years and that this local licensing rule is not aligned to the standard tenure.
22	Local Licensing Policy 5.2	This section states that samples should be taken from bores and submitted to the local DWER office in March and October each year, or that regular salinity monitoring should be taken. Water Corporation currently monitors salinity as per the operating strategy requirements and it is anticipated that these requirements will not change. For individual licensees this requirement may be seen as being vague and without a specific condition applied to their licences, would not be able to be enforced.