

2 October 2026

Urban Water Price Monitoring Investigation 2026–30
Queensland Competition Authority
GPO Box 2257
Brisbane QLD 4001

Dear Sir / Madam,

Subject: Price Monitoring Investigation: Unitywater and Urban Utilities 2026-30
Our Ref: 2026-27 Submissions

Thankyou for the opportunity for stakeholders to provide submissions on the Queensland Competition Authority price monitoring investigation into the monopoly business activities of Unitywater and Urban Utilities for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2030.

Somerset Regional Council supports Urban Utilities and its independent Board model, including the role the Board plays in overseeing the business and setting prices. Council understands the importance of planned growth and the necessity of coordinated (and funded) infrastructure to support both Council's planning schemes and its growth priorities. Urban Utilities (UU) shares this objective with Council, and where infrastructure delivery is coordinated with State and Federal Governments, the broader community will be better positioned to achieve housing targets, economic development and regional prosperity.

In undertaking your investigation, Council submits the following salient points:

1. Affordability

Council supports UU maintaining affordable services while ensuring it can continue to invest in the Somerset.

2. Equitable infrastructure costs

Council supports UU managing infrastructure costs equitably across its service area, without unfairly impacting individual communities or developments.

3. Supporting housing

UU should have capacity to invest in water and wastewater infrastructure needed to unlock planned housing growth in the Somerset.

4. Government funding

Infrastructure delivered by UU to support broader government housing objectives should not be funded solely through customer prices. Government funding should complement UU investment where appropriate.

5. Infrastructure Assistance Fund

Council supports an Infrastructure Assistance Fund, or equivalent mechanism, to assist UU in overcoming infrastructure barriers to viable housing and development.

6. Local circumstances

The regulatory framework should enable UU to respond to the Somerset's distinct growth patterns, infrastructure needs and development economics.

7. Capacity to invest

Council supports UU retaining sufficient financial capacity to maintain existing assets and invest in infrastructure for future growth.

8. Coordinated planning

UU's infrastructure investment should align with Council planning and Queensland Government housing objectives.

9. Shared responsibility

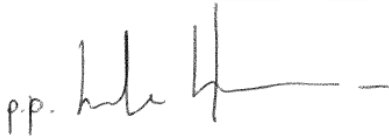
Council supports UU, Governments, Councils and developers sharing responsibility for enabling growth, with costs appropriately balanced.

10. Economic development

Council supports UU investment that enables housing, employment and economic development across the Somerset.

Thankyou in advance for considering Council's submission. For further information, please do not hesitate contacting either myself or my office on 07 5424 4000.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "p.p. Andrew Johnson", followed by a horizontal line.

Andrew Johnson
Chief Executive Officer