



2025/26 Progress Report

Onsite Wastewater Management Plan 2025-2030

Summary

All Victorian Councils are required to develop an Onsite Wastewater Management Plan (OWMP) to ensure septic tanks and other onsite wastewater disposal systems are properly maintained and managed across the municipality.

[You can view Wyndham City Council's Plan here.](#)

The purpose of this report is to demonstrate progress made against the commitments within this Plan.

It represents the first year of work undertaken.



Of the 24 total actions within the plan, three have been completed, 12 are progressing and nine have not yet started.

Actions completed in 25/26 include:

- Regularly updating and uploading property connection data obtained from Greater Western Water to Council's **Geographic Information System** (technology that integrates hardware, software, and data to capture, store, manage, analyse, and visualize all types of geographic and spatial information).
- Permits were reviewed to ensure alignment with the implementation of the Guidelines for Onsite Wastewater Management and Onsite Wastewater Management Plan.
- The regulation of Onsite Wastewater Management Systems (OWMS) in accordance with the Environment Protection Regulations 2021 utilising the Onsite Wastewater Systems: Local Government Toolkit

Key Area 1: Information and Data Management

Objective 1: All wastewater data is complete and readily accessible in a single database

Action	Status
Conduct onsite inspections to determine if OWMS in use or the property has connected to sewer	Progressing
Review all existing permit files to update Council database	Progressing
Digitise all historical permits where the OWMS is still in use	Progressing
Finalise any incomplete wastewater application with property owner	Progressing
Update process mapping for all aspects of onsite wastewater	Progressing

Approximately 80% of the Onsite Wastewater Management System data has so far been cleansed. The remainder will be reviewed next financial year.

Objective 2: Maintain accurate database of properties sewered by Greater Western Water

Action	Status
Create GIS overlay for OWMS	Progressing
Regularly update and upload property connection data obtained from Greater Western Water to GIS	Completed

Process to undertake regular updates of sewer connections provided by Greater Western Water has been embedded. Currently a partial GIS overlay exists, and work will continue to complete this.

Objective 3: Improve onsite wastewater management by assessing gaps and improving data collection

Action	Status
Assess any property in an onsite wastewater containment area where Council does not have data. Utilise technology to pinpoint system	Not Started
Collaborate with stakeholders on results of water data from receiving environments	Not Started
Review documentation from maintenance providers to identify permit and system maintenance requirements	Not Started

This work will commence in later years of the plan.

Key Area 2: Education and Awareness

Objective 1: Improve awareness to new homeowners with OWMS

Action	Status
Develop and provide education information to new residents in unsewered areas	Progressing
Provide information to prospective buyers via Section 32 Sale of Land Act	Not Started

Education has been provided to existing landowners on an as need basis. Targeted education will be further developed alongside the Tech One new system implementation.

Objective 2: Improve education and awareness on wastewater management responsibilities

Action	Status
Revise current resident information and explore additional communication and education for homeowners	Progressing
Review documentation from maintenance providers to determine education programs in high-risk localities	Progressing

Documentation from maintenance providers is reviewed and actioned directly with landowner. Further work still needs to occur on development of broad education programs.

Key Area 3: System Improvements

Objective 1: Enhance process efficiency and improve IT capabilities

Action	Status
Develop standard operating procedures for onsite wastewater inspections associated with permit applications	Progressing
Update permit to install and certificate approving use documents to include any GOWM/EDRS and OWMP changes	Completed
Develop IT capabilities within the Tech one upgrade to enable the implementation of a maintenance program	Not Started

Permits were reviewed to ensure alignment with the implementation of the Guidelines for Onsite Wastewater Management and Onsite Wastewater Management Plan.

Standard operating procedures have been developed and require updating to align with the new Tech One system implementation.

The maintenance program implementation hinges on the new Tech One system implementation. This will be explored in the next financial year as we navigate the new Tech One system.

Key Area 4: Regulation and Controls

Objective 1: Encourage property owners to connect to sewer (in declared areas)

Action	Status
Utilise internal building and planning referral process to encourage system upgrades where required	Progressing
Properties provided sewer in Laverton North to be encouraged to connect through notification to the water authority	Not Started

The internal referral process will be improved to align with the new Tech One system implementation.

Objective 2: Ensure OWMS are operated and maintained in a way that minimises risks to human health and the environment

Action Register	Status
Develop standard operating procedures for onsite wastewater inspections associated with complaints and systems without permits	Progressing
Regulate OWMS in accordance with the Environment Protection Regulations 2021 utilising the regulating Onsite Wastewater Systems: Local Government Toolkit	Completed

Process to assess OWMS in accordance with the toolkit have been embedded. Standard operating procedures will require updating to align with the new Tech One system implementation.

Key Area 5: Future Planning

Objective 1: Advocacy for sewer programs

Action Register	Status
Advocate for sewer provision in Little River Township, as per recommendations in the Wyndham City Council Little River Drainage and Domestic Wastewater Treatment Strategy, March 2019	Not Started
Request water authority to develop sewer management plan, to indicate when sewer will be made available to high risk locations including Little River and Hoppers Crossing	Not Started
Advocate for all properties within the UGB to have access to reticulated sewer	Not Started

This work will commence in later years of the plan.

For more information visit
www.wyndham.vic.gov.au

