

Stormwater drainage charges

1. How does Council currently bill the stormwater drainage charge?

Council currently funds some of the costs of its stormwater drainage services through the Stormwater Drainage Charge set by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART). Residential and business properties located within specific drainage areas pay for this service.

2. Has stormwater drainage billing moved or changed?

Currently, the stormwater drainage charge is included in your Water Rates Notice. From 1 July 2026, IPART has determined that this charge must move to General Rates under the Local Government Act instead. Council's now investigating how to implement this change to ensure continued funding for stormwater drainage services.

3. Will it impact either customers' General Rates or Water Rates bill?

Yes, this change will remove the Stormwater Drainage Charge from your Water Rates notice. If a new charge is introduced under the Local Government Act, it will appear on your General Rates Notice instead. The total amount you pay may not necessarily change – only where it appears on your bill.

4. Will customers be consulted about any future proposed changes the stormwater drainage charge?

Yes. As part of the review process, Council will undertake comprehensive community consultation which will provide multiple opportunities for the community to have a say about any proposed changes to stormwater drainage charge. Community input is essential to help shape Council's final proposal to IPART.

5. What does the stormwater drainage charge fund?

The Stormwater Drainage Charge funds maintenance, renewal and construction of Council's 1,100km stormwater drainage network, which helps manage heavy rainfall and prevent flooding. Even if your property does not have visible stormwater drains, you benefit from a well-maintained system that protects roads, parks and essential infrastructure across the region.

Further reading

For more information, search 'stormwater' at centralcoast.nsw.gov.au