

# INFORMATION BULLETIN

## **Clarification of Council Construction Standards**

Issue Date February 2023 NUMBER

**Department** Development Services

Program Development Planning & Engineering

DPE02

## 1 Purpose of this Information Bulletin

To provide industry representatives with clear instructions relating to matters raised by the Mackay development industry.

#### 2 Details

Issuer: Jamie Lee

The following matters have been clarified below:

Matter to be clarified:	Reference to Construction Specification:	Council Acceptance:
RPEQ certification of alternative design is often not acceptable to Council and	Not applicable.	Alternatives from Council's specification are considered and assessed on their merit.
Council may nominate alternative options that RPEQ does not support.		Council often puts forward suggestions to assist achieving outcomes however
Will Council provide acknowledgement of responsibility for Council nominated design or instruction?		if the industry is not seeking this, Council can refrain providing advice on these matters.
instruction?		The responsibility of all designs lay with the RPEQ.
What length of stormwater pipe will Council accept?	Construction Specification C220 Stormwater Drainage — General — Section 06 — Siting of Culverts is a witness point. Short lengths would be determined from this witness point and addressed between Council and the RPEQ.	Minimum of 1,200mm as per Construction Specification C221 Pipe Drainage – Section 07(a)1 - Installation Discretion may be provided between Council and the RPEQ during witness points only.
	Construction Specification C221 Pipe Drainage – Section 07(a)1 - Installation prescribes a minimum of 1,200mm.	
What is the maximum gap between lintels and pit walls that Council will accept?	Construction Inspection C271 Minor Concrete Works – Section 24(c) – Finishing of Unformed Surfaces have a 25mm maximum variation from the design and for drainage pits but where adjacent to road pavements	Where gaps exceed the specified maximum tolerance, notification is to be provided with alternative solution agreed between Council and the RPEQ subject to conditions.
	, ,	Note, where gaps are

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	this is 10mm maximum.  Note, the 10mm gap is the thickness of the mortar when setting the lintel.	between 10-40mm, high strength grout is to be used. Where gaps exceed 40mm, epoxy grout or concrete should be used. Grout should not be used where dowels are required.
Can relaxations be provided to the minimum 300mm water service separation to stormwater pipes where crossing roads?	Council Policy 063 – Clearances to Water and Sewerage Assets, Planning Scheme Policy - Water and Sewerage (CTM Water Alliance) and Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) Codes	As per Policy, minimum 300mm horizontal separation and 150mm vertical separation should be achieved.  Designs should be reviewed by the RPEQ prior to lodgement of any Operational Works application.
Will Council accept the construction of stormwater pipes within pavement?	Council Standard Drawing No. A3-00898 C Excavation, Bedding & Backfilling of Stormwater Drainage Pipes & Box Culverts refers to TMR Drawing No. 1379 E Installation, Bedding and Filling/Backfilling Against/Over Culverts does allow for stormwater pipes within pavement.  Note: The appropriate compaction methodology needs to be strictly controlled by the RPEQ for the above to be adhered to.	Council Standard Drawing No. A3-00898 C Excavation, Bedding & Backfilling of Stormwater Drainage Pipes & Box Culverts refers to TMR Drawing No. 1379 E Installation, Bedding and Filling/Backfilling Against/Over Culverts does allow for stormwater pipes within pavement. Designs must be checked by the RPEQ to ensure utility crossings, sub soil drains, and kerb including bedding are able to be laid to meet specifications and policies of MRC.
What are the requirements for lodgement of QA/Survey results for proof roll hold points?  Can proof roll hold points occur separately if all QA/Survey results have not been provided per road?	Construction Specification CQC Quality Control Requirements - CQS4 Definitions & CQC5 Records and Construction Specification CQC Quality System Requirements - CQS4 Definitions & CQS19 Records	The hold point inspection for a proof roll should be requested after all QA/Survey results have approved by Council and must be a minimum of 48 hours prior to the inspection date.
Will Council accept the wider use of 7mm stone used for backfilling in deeper trenches where inundated by a water table?	Construction Specification C221 Pipe Drainage, Council Standard Drawing No.A3- 00898 C Excavation, Bedding & Backfilling of Stormwater Drainage Pipes and Box Culverts and TMR Drawing No. 1379 E Installation, Bedding and Filling/Backfilling Against/Over Culverts does allow for stormwater pipes within pavement.	During a hold point inspection, alternative solutions maybe agreed between Council and the RPEQ subject to conditions.  The use of 7mm stone as an alternative must be used in conjunction with being wrapped in geofabric as per the trench support type proposed

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Clarification on whether the use of sandbags can be used in lieu of hard formwork?	Construction Specification C271 Minor Concrete Works and AS3610 – Formwork for Concrete  Note: Both standards consider timber and neither excludes sandbags however, the RPEQ must demonstrate how construction tolerances are achievable with sandbags.	Sandbags are supported in lieu of hard formwork where it can be demonstrated by an RPEQ that the structure can still be constructed to lines, levels and shapes shown on the Drawings or specified elsewhere, this includes wall thickness within tolerances and cover requirement to reinforcing
Clarification on strength of concrete footpaths?	Council Standard Drawing No.  A2-00500 K Standard  Concrete Footpath – Note 6 –  32MPa  Construction Specification C271 Minor Concrete Works – Section 29 – Strength of Concrete – Table C271.5 – 20 MPa  Planning Scheme Policy – Landscape – Section 2.5 Point 5 – 32MPa	32MPa as per Council Standard Drawing No. A2-00500 K Standard Concrete Footpath – Note 6 and Planning Scheme Policy – Landscape – Section 2.5 Point 5.  Note: Construction Inspection C271 Minor Concrete Works – Section 29 – Strength of Concrete – Table C271.5 – 20 MPa is noted as needing amendment to align with Council Standard Drawing No. A2-00500 K Standard Concrete Footpath – Note 6 and Planning Scheme Policy – Landscape – Section 2.5 Point 5.
Clarification on bitumen spray rates and cutback?	Construction Specification C244 Sprayed Bituminous Surfacing and Construction Specification C245 Asphaltic Concrete nominates all information to follow for bitumen and asphalt.	Alternatives from Council's specification are considered and assessed on their merit.  Council often puts forward suggestions to assist achieving outcomes however if the industry is not seeking this, Council can refrain providing advice on these matters.  The responsibility of all designs lay with the RPEQ.

### 3 Date of Effect

February 7 2023.

## 4 Enquiries

Please direct enquiries concerning this Information Bulletin to Council's Development Planning and Engineering Program by telephoning 1300 MACKAY (1300 622 529) or emailing development.services@mackay.qld.gov.au.

Issuer: Jamie Lee	Issuer Position: Acting Manager Development Planning & Engineering
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