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Significant water savings achieved

The equivalent of 80 Olympic sized swimming pools annually is now being saved following a detection of water main leaks across the Warrumbungle Shire water mains.

“Council recently carried out a water leak detection survey to check for leaks from the water mains across the Shire,” said Warrumbungle Shire Council Mayor, Councillor Ambrose Doolan. “The survey was conducted across the six towns of the Shire, which equated to approximately 170km of water distribution mains and identified daily losses of 562KL/day.”

“The aim of the detection survey was to identify leaks that could be affecting the productivity of the water mains system such as holes, cracks or some other kind of flaw present in the system. The information was used to determine where maintenance and repairs may be necessary.”

“On top of that, the survey was also able to determine areas of concern regarding excessive customer water use that identified issues with the internal pipes at the properties of 17 customers and will save the residents thousands,” explained Cr Doolan.

The survey identified a total of 57 leaks in the entire water mains network across the Shire. The total estimated water loss for the all six water supply systems was equivalent to 204 ML/year or 562 KL/day, which is approximately the same as 80 Olympic sized swimming pool each year. “Council has focused on the detection and rectified these leaks and will continue to work diligently through operational programs and maintenance works to reduce this loss,” said Cr Doolan.

“This program was undertaken with the support of NSW Government Department of Planning Infrastructure and Environment. This allowed Council to bring in specialist equipment to identify the problem areas. Without this equipment it is very difficult to identify problem areas,” said Cr Doolan.

“Works around water main replacements and upgrades and water quality and supply testing are a regular part of Council scheduled works, ensuring examination of the water supply network. However, to further improve water maintenance, Council has now purchased leak detection correlation equipment, to ensure early detection of the leaking in the water supply network reducing water loss,” Cr Doolan concluded.

For more information on the water leak detection survey, please contact the Warrumbungle Water Team on (02) 6849 2000.

Media: Leeanne Ryan | (02) 6849 2000

PO Box 191
Coonabarabran NSW 2357
Phone 02 6849 2000
Fax 02 6842 1337
www.warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au