

2025 – 2026 Annual Business Plan Summary



Message from the Chair of the Board

On behalf of the inaugural Board of GMB Water I am proud to present the GMB Water Annual Business Plan for the 2025 – 2026 financial year. This plan outlines the proposed priorities and programs of work in relation to the provision of wastewater, recycled water and bore water services to the community for the coming financial year.

Our focus this coming year is on significant investments, both underway and planned, to maintain essential services, support growth, and improve environmental and economic outcomes. This includes starting construction of the new Laratinga Water Recovery Plant in Mount Barker and continuing the trunk sewers program. These major projects require intergenerational investment as the Mount Barker district continues to grow and support the state and federal government housing roadmaps and commitments to deliver affordable housing. We will also continue to invest in ensuring the wastewater, recycled water and bore water infrastructure is maintained, upgraded and expanded where needed so we provide the levels of service our customers and the community want.

Having taken over day-to-day governance of what was the Mount Barker District Wastewater Service, we continue the commitment of that entity to operating a contemporary water utility delivering an essential service, including major projects, for an affordable level of service charges for our customers both now and into the future.

– Sean Keenihan
Chair of the Board



How the Annual Business Plan is Funded

Revenue from wastewater charges and fees is dedicated to funding the service, covering both the maintenance of existing infrastructure and the expansion needed to support growth. In 2025 – 2026, there are 14,519 ratable properties, with 14,928 designated as wastewater customers and 308 as non-drinking water customers.

Funding from costs associated with the management of growth and urban development is borne by those

initiating and/or benefiting from that development through wastewater infrastructure fees.

Wastewater infrastructure fees will increase by 1.8% in the 2025 – 2026 financial year in line with the Road and Bridge construction index of 1.8%. Total revenue from wastewater infrastructure fees from developers is \$5.4 million.

Service Charges Overview

Revenue from wastewater charges and fees is dedicated to funding the service, covering both the maintenance of existing infrastructure and the expansion needed to support growth. In 2025 - 2026, there are 14,519 ratable properties, with 14,928 designated as wastewater customers and 308 as non-drinking water customers.

2025 - 2026 is the second year of transitioning to a single district wide wastewater service charge. This change reflects the narrowing of the difference in services provided and more truly reflects the income required to sustainably run the subsidiary and meet the increasing expectations of our customers and the community. The transition is smoothed over a five-year period.

The increase to annual service charges in 2025 - 2026 will be, Community Wastewater Management Systems (CWMS) - 6.5% and Sewer - 2.4%. This will result in an average increase of \$30 above CPI per year for CWMS customers during the period.

The prescribed service charges, levied in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, will be:

- CWMS Service Charge \$740 per property
- Sewer Service Charge \$835 per property

The rebate to wastewater customers in the town of Brukunga for the sewer annual service charge will reduce each year for a minimum of 10 years as advised in June 2022 until equity in the sewer service charge with other customers is achieved. The rebate for wastewater customers in Brukunga for 2025 - 2026 will be \$67.

We provide non-potable and recycled water services to a number of customers in the district. For the Meadows township, the service charges for 2025 - 2026 will be:

- Non-potable water service charge for each connected assessment (outside of the growth areas) as per a long standing historical arrangement will be \$499.
- Recycled water service charge on some land within the township of Meadows will be \$73 per allotment plus a variable (metered) charge of \$3.42 per kilolitre (KL) of usage to be issued half yearly by tax invoice.

For 2025 - 2026 the revenue to be raised from wastewater fees and charges including recycled and bore water supply is estimated to be \$12.5 million.

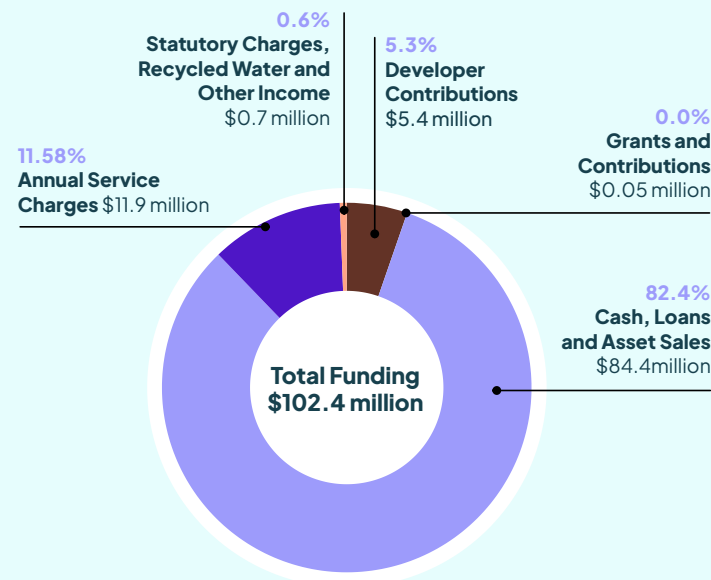
Our Vision

Delivering sustainable wastewater services for the benefit of our economy, community and the environment.

Total Funding Summary

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

Total funding \$102.4 million



WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Total spending \$102.4 million

