



StreamNews

A bulletin for Melbourne Water diverters
Issue 34 - June 2026

Price submission 2026 final decision

The Essential Services Commission (ESC) has released its final decision on Melbourne Water's 2026–31 Price Submission, confirming prices and service standards from 1 July 2026. The decision provides surface water diverters with pricing, service standards, and regulatory certainty for the next five years.

Melbourne Water proposed, in consultation with customers, to retain its existing tariff structures for diversion services. Licence fees and volume charges would increase by inflation only in 2026–27, then by up to 0.2 per cent (before inflation) each year from 2027–28 to 2030–31.

The licence application fee for stormwater harvesting would increase by 10 per cent (before inflation) in 2026–27, with inflation-only increases in later years, while other diversion-related fees would rise by inflation only.

With the final decision now in place, Melbourne Water is preparing to implement the new pricing period from 1 July 2026.

Diverters are encouraged to stay informed about any changes relevant to their licences and operations through Melbourne Water communications with fees to be published on the website. The decision supports our commitment to maintaining customer service and water compliance.

Licence fee comparison comparing 2025 to 2026

Licence fee (summary)	1 July 2025	1 July 2026
Licence Service Fee (per annum)	\$329.39	\$342.87
Charge \$ per ML – All months unregulated	\$43.21 /ML	\$44.97 /ML
Charge \$ per ML – All months regulated	\$90.45 /ML	\$94.15 /ML

Note: Full list of prices to be published on the Melbourne Water website from 1 July 2026





Telemetry Update May 2026

In 2025, Melbourne Water embarked on our largest ever telemetry installation program, with 252 flow meters to have telemetry installed as part of the project.

Melbourne Water engaged Kallipr, an Australian based remote monitoring company that has partnered with utilities and council across the country as well as our installers, SAGE Automation, to delivery this project.

At the start of 2026, all 252 of these devices had been installed and commissioned onto flowmeters across our operational area.

Licence holders can now have access to live flowmeter data through a cloud-based solution that will be support by Melbourne Water.

Similar to the flowmeters, these devices are the property of Melbourne Water, and it is an offence under the Water Act to tamper or alter in any way either the meter or the telemetry device.

Data can be viewed by users, if you wish to have access to your meter data, please contact diversions@melbournewater.com.au.

METERING ACTION PLAN COMPLETED



Melbourne Water has updated our Metering Action Plan to ensure it meets current statewide requirements as well as national standards whilst continuing to meet customer and Melbourne Water expectations.

The plan can be viewed on our website: [Metering Action Plan](#)

Water for the Environment update – Maribyrnong 2026

In the 2025-26 water year, water availability allowed the transfer of 302ML of water for environmental purposes to the Victorian Environmental Water Holder (VEWH).

The release program for summer/autumn 2025-26 has now concluded, with all priority flow event targets achieved. These comprised the delivery of 'freshes' (short duration flow pulses) and the supplementing of low flows.

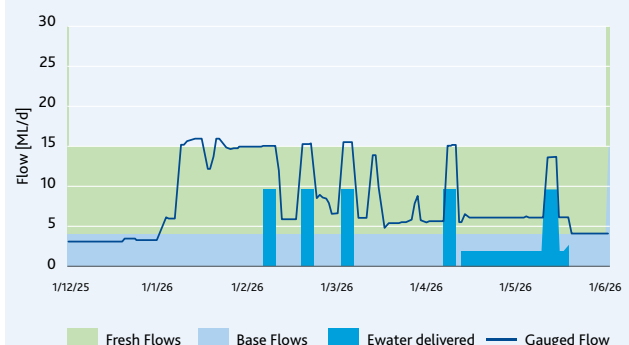
A target of 5 summer/autumn freshes was achieved for reach 6 (Jacksions Creek Gisborne), comprising 4 via active deliveries of water for the environment, and 1 fresh via the delivery of irrigation water. Despite protracted dry, warm conditions, overall compliance with low flow targets was 83% of the season in reach 6. Live water quality monitoring during summer/autumn did not detect any sustained periods of flow stress-related water quality issues.

Deliveries of water for the environment were coordinated with irrigation water deliveries from Melbourne Water's Bulk Entitlement in Rosslynne Reservoir, ensuring shared benefits for the environment and licensed diverters in the Keilor irrigation district.

Further information on use of water for the environment in the Maribyrnong catchment can be found on the VEWB [Seasonal watering plan](#) webpage.

Jacksions Creek at Gisborne (Reach 6)

Flow compliance 2025/2026





Safe access to meters

The health, safety and wellbeing of our people is our number one priority. Good access to water meters improves the safety for our customers, staff and contractors and the breakdown response time is improved if we can access the site quickly and safely.

Some reasons why we may not be able to safely access the meter on your property include:

- Dogs or livestock
- Vegetation or rubbish around your meter area (snake/spider hazard)
- Debris such as rocks, farm equipment laying in the area, pipework that has been installed at or near ground level
- Ruts created from heavy machinery or works around the meter site creating uneven ground surface
- Locked gates and meter boxes
- Meters are located in a flood-prone area
- The approach road or track is dangerous
- Hot electric fences

Some helpful tips

Pumps/Machinery – Make sure that any moving parts i.e., belts are isolated or protected from access and that they have appropriate guards in place e.g., belts, pulleys and shafts. Any oil spills to be banded under pumps and remote start pumps are identified at the meter.

Biosecurity sites – Make sure the contact numbers or any directions to your office or appropriate location are clearly visible on the biosecurity signs.

Diversions Management Advisory Committee

Melbourne Water convenes a Customer Advisory Committee for Diversions customers to provide feedback to Melbourne Water on a range of issues relating to diversions management.

The committee also assists Melbourne Water in the development and review of policies and procedures regarding diversions management likely to impact on the interests of diverters, the environment and the broader community. It is expected that no more than 3 meetings per year, generally convened within normal business hours, would be required.

If you are interested in being on the committee, please contact the Diversions Team at diversions@melbournewater.com.au.

FLEXIBLE PAYMENT OPTIONS



Melbourne Water offers payment support and flexibility to suit your situation. We have a number of ways to help you pay your bill. If you are experiencing financial difficulty, we're here to help. For more options call us **131 722** and find out how we can help you.





Wandin Silvan Field Days

The next Wandin Silvan Field Days will be held on **Friday 16th October and Saturday 17th October 2026** at Wandin East Recreation Reserve, Monbulk-Seville Road, Wandin East.

The Field Days continue to be the principal focus for the Horticultural and Agricultural producers of this particular region, and beyond.

Melbourne Water will have an exhibitor display and members of the Diversions team will be in attendance. We look forward to meeting our customers face to face during the event.

Gates will be open to the public:

8.30am - 5.00pm Friday 16th October 2026

8.30am - 4.00pm Saturday October 17th 2026

The entrance fee, which benefits local CFA brigades, is \$17 per person, with no concession rate. Children under 15 are admitted free of charge. For more information visit www.wandinsilvanfielddays.com.au.

Keep up to date with what's happening

For more information about the information in this newsletter or our other activities please call the Diversions Team on 131 722 or visit Melbourne Water's Waterway Diversions www.melbournewater.com.au/water-data-and-education/waterway-diversions.



For an interpreter, please call the **Translating and Interpreting Service** (TIS National) on 13 14 50



Get to know your Diversions Team

Sarah Gaskill

Service Lead Water Resources and Compliance

Adam Roszak – Senior Diversions Officer

Peter Theoharakos

Diversions Officer (Authorised Water Officer)

Stef Cooper – Diversions Officer

The team are available to assist in any matter relating to Diversions Management and can be contacted directly through our Customer Call Centre on 131722 or through diversions@melbournewater.com.au.

