



10. REVIEW OF STANDARDS, ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS, AND OPERATIONS, BY ORION AND NEWS MEDIA REPORTS

The purpose of this report is to accurately record the Council's intentions concerning the study being carried out currently by Orion staff at the Council's invitation.

The Council is continuing its search for efficiencies and better ways of providing its services to the community. Orion is 87% owned by the Council and is an experienced and highly successful infrastructure network operator. It is the Council's intention to leverage off that expertise in its search for cost effectiveness and better service delivery. That is the purpose of the study. When the report is complete it will also be possible to see whether the Council can use Orion in improving the way the Council does business.

There is no implication of privatisation, corporatisation or the charging for services on a user pays basis. The Council has always been clear about no charging for water or wastewater services by volume. Nothing has changed on these matters.

Recommendation: That the Council confirm.

1. That it has no intention of privatising/corporatising water or wastewater services.
2. That it has no intention of transferring water or waste assets to Orion or any other operator.
3. That it has no intention of removing any of its governance functions in respect of any of these services.
4. That it has no intention of charging for water or wastewater services by volume.
5. That it has no intention of transferring management of the Water Services or Waste Management Units to Orion or any other operator.
6. That it does intend to continue its search for cost effectiveness, better services, and efficiencies, in various ways, including the Orion study.
7. That it be noted that the Council has a contractual arrangement with City Care for some of the services in question.