



# BANANA SHIRE COUNCIL

## Blockage or Damage to Sewer Jump Ups Procedure

TITLE	<b>BLOCKAGE OR DAMAGE TO SEWER JUMP UPS PROCEDURE</b>
RELATES TO POLICY	<b>N/A</b>
APPROVED BY CEO	<b>APRIL 2016</b>
REVIEWED/AMENDED	
NEXT REVIEW DUE	<b>APRIL 2020</b>

### Claiming and applying for reimbursement where blockage/damage is believed to be in Councils Sewer Jump-Ups

#### **Please Note:**

Banana Shire Council does not automatically accept liability for blockages or damages until the circumstances have been investigated.

1. All residential blockages should be attended by a private plumber
2. The drainer clears from the top end and proceeds to go downstream until the blockage is cleared, a major obstruction is met or the main sewer is reached.
3. The drainer should contact Banana Shire Council Reticulation Crews if the following conditions are satisfied:
  - i. The blockage is in the main, or;
  - ii. The blockage is outside the property boundary and the blockage cannot be cleared by conventional means and/or the drainer considers that the replacement of the pipes may be required. Follow the procedure explained in section 4.
4. In circumstances such as section 3 ii) above, the drainer shall expose the property drain at the property boundary house drain for inspection by a Banana Shire Council representative who will advise after viewing CCTV footage whether Banana Shire Council will accept liability. If Banana Shire Council accepts liability, Banana Shire Council will clear the blockage or repair the damage to the pipe work, except in some exceptional circumstances where the drainer will be authorised to clear the blockage or repair the pipe work at Banana Shire Councils expense.
5. Private plumber to submit invoice directly to Banana Shire Council only if the conditions are satisfied:

- i. Work done in establishing that the blockage/damage was in the sewer main or jump-up, and/or;
- ii. Work done in locating and clearing blockage or repairing damage in sewer jump-up where the blockage/damage was outside the property boundary and the cause of the blockage was Banana Shire Councils responsibility.
- iii. Banana Shire Council Plumbers Reimbursement Claim form to be signed by Banana Shire Council Authorised representative & submitted with Invoice.

6. In all other cases the private property owner is to be billed.

**Please Note:**

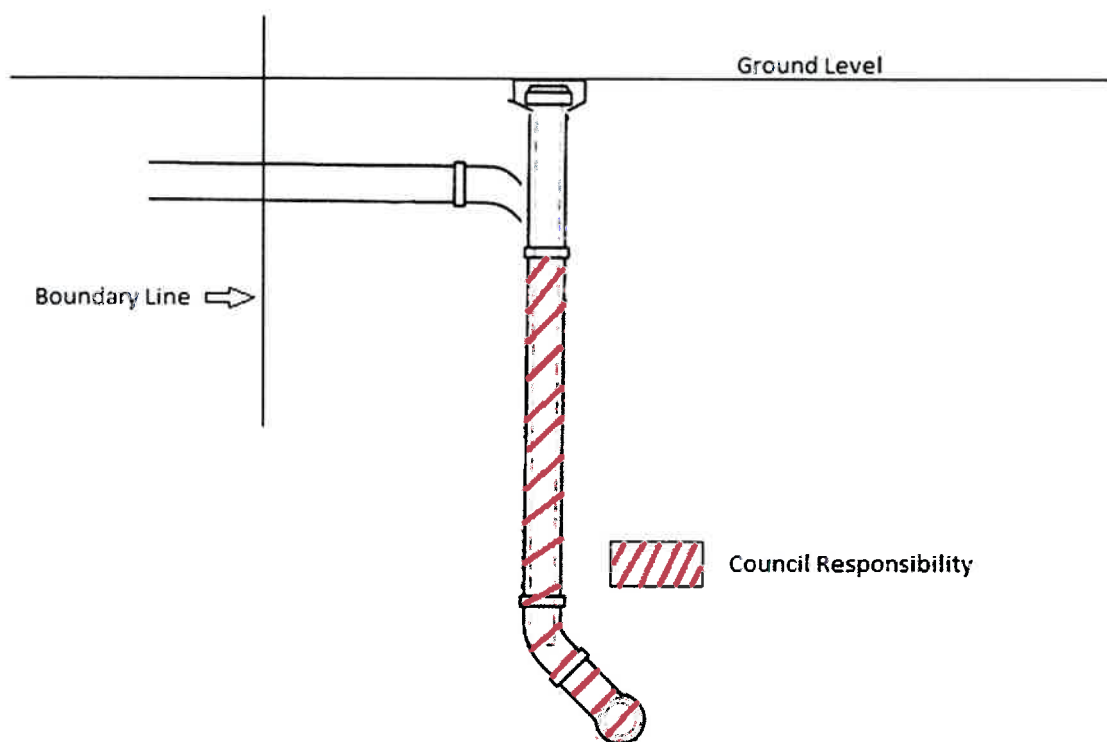
The following points should be especially noted and understood in relation to the matter of clearance of sewer blockages:

- i. An assertion by the plumber that the length of coiled rods inserted into the drain through a house drain exceeds the distance from the point of entry to the property boundary will not be accepted as evidence that the source of the blockage is beyond the property boundary. This is because the coiled rods may compress and twist and in any case the drainer may have pushed the obstruction downstream.
- ii. Should the inspection opening (IO) at the property boundary be under a concrete slab or be inaccessible for any other reason, the drainer may open at the next accessible IO upstream. The inspection procedure as detailed at section 4 above should then be followed.
- iii. In the case of a deep jump-up, opening at the top of the jump-up may be permitted with the inspection procedure as outlined in section 4 above to be followed. Should any disagreement develop, then the IO at the property boundary must be opened up and if Banana Shire Council is proved to be liable, the drainer will be reimbursed for the extra work involved.

## Typical Jump-Up Assembly

The sewer main is situated inside the property

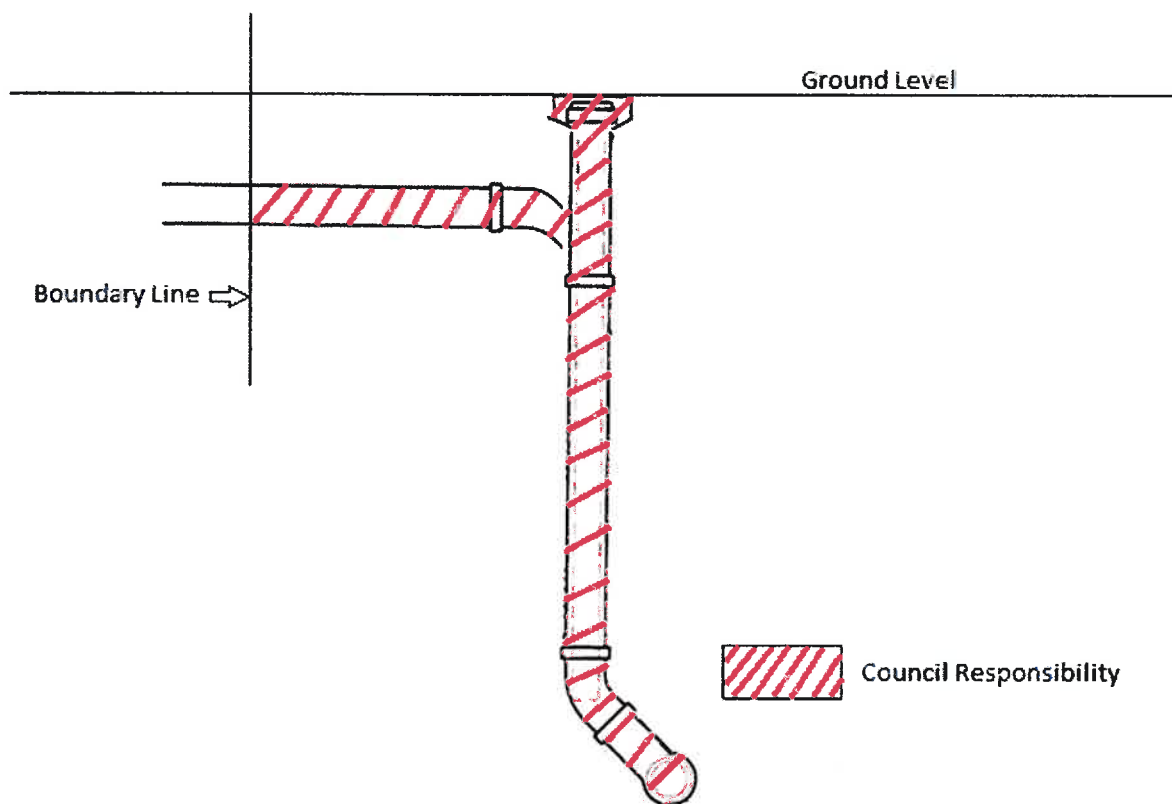
- The Property Owner is responsible for clearing **ALL** blockages in the property drain including the top junction of jump-up.
- Banana Shire Council is responsible only for repairing any structural failure to the property connection point assembly (shown by hatching).



Connection point assembly with Sewer Main inside the property boundary.

The Sewer main is situated outside the property boundary

- The Property Owner is responsible for clearing **ALL** blockages in the property drain up until the property boundary.
- Banana Shire Council is the responsible only for repairing any structural failure to the house drain pipe work after the property boundary (shown by hatching)



Connection point assembly with Sewer Main outside the property boundary.

**APPROVED**



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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
BANANA SHIRE COUNCIL**

27-4-16

.....  
**DATE**