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Media release

Allconnex staff delivering safe and reliable services

Allconnex Water staff are getting on with the job of delivering safe, reliable and high quality water and wastewater services to residents of the Gold Coast, Logan and Redland.

CEO Kim Wood said Allconnex was very proud of its approximate 800 staff, who included chemists, water samplers, engineers, water treatment operators, laboratory scientists and technicians, microbiologists, safety officers, customer service staff, field officers, electricians, fitters and turners, plumbers, boiler makers, maintenance workers and planners, mechanics, apprentices, construction workers and gangers.

"More than 600 of our staff work in infrastructure services analysing, building, testing, monitoring and fixing our water and wastewater infrastructure," Mr Wood said.

"In addition, approximately 100 staff are in customer services carrying out roles including customer inquiries and visiting customers in the field.

"Staff also work in corporate service areas such as information technology, human resources, safety, finance, communication, regulation and governance."

Allconnex Water Human Resources General Manager Wayne Merrotsy said all council staff who were involved in water delivery transferred to Allconnex Water when it was created in July 2010.

"They transferred at level and with no effect on their entitlements or terms and conditions," he said. "This occurred under the *SEQ Distribution and Retail Water Reform Workforce Framework 2009* and protects conditions and wages of all existing staff until 30 June 2012."

As a statutory authority, we also have some new functions that did not exist under the council model, for example, regulation. Some corporate areas also did not transition wholly from council to Allconnex Water including human resources, billing, finance, information technology and communication.

Mr Merrotsy said the organisation structure was regarded as flat - without many layers.

"Pricewaterhouse Coopers was engaged during 2010 to design a simple, flat structure that also preserved equity and fairness to transferred employees," he said. "They delivered that structure for us."

Like many Australian utilities, Allconnex Water bases its executive remuneration on the salary data provided by Australian utility remuneration experts, Geoff Nunn & Associates.

The majority of Australia's electricity and water utilities participate in the remuneration survey conducted by the firm. Allconnex intends to target its remuneration for senior managers at typically no more than the median range of the Geoff Nunn salary data.

Allconnex Water has seven General Managers who are responsible for: Strategy and Development, Customer Service, General Counsel, Finance, Information Technology, Human Resources and Operations.

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