

Appendix two – Key terms

Key term in the report	Description
Best Practice Management (BPM) Guidelines	The Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines Guidelines first produced by the NSW Government in 2004, updated in 2007 and gazetted under the New South Wales' <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> . The Minister for Local Government has concurred with the BPM Guidelines.
Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) planning guidance	Guidance produced by the department to inform LWUs' planning This guidance accords with the IWCM section of the Best Practice Guidelines. Since 2014, the department's key requirements are presented in the form of the IWCM Checklist. This checklist connects IWCM planning to guidance on strategic business planning. Planning by LWUs that reflects this guidance is assessed by the department as 'sound'.
Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) planning documents	Documents produced by LWUs in accordance with IWCM guidance IWCM issues paper, IWCM strategy, and a Strategic Business Plan. The department intends that these IWCM planning documents inform a sound, strategic approach to LWUs' town water infrastructure planning.
Local Water Utilities (LWUs)	Water and/or sewer service providers in regional NSW cities and towns There are 92 LWUs in NSW, 89 are operated by councils under the New South Wales' <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> , and the remainder are operated by authorities under New South Wales' <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> . LWUs are regulated by the department.
Regional town water strategies	Planning to facilitate town water security across LWU boundaries The department developed guidance in 2019 for Joint Organisations of Councils (JOs) to undertake this planning.
Regional water strategies	Planning to set objectives and coordinate priorities for water resource management across regional NSW catchments Department-led planning that considers a range of water uses and users: town water is one element.
Town water	Water for consumptive use in regional NSW cities and towns
Town water infrastructure	Infrastructure that provides water supply and/or sewer services in regional NSW cities and towns
Town water infrastructure funding programs	Programs managed by the department that provide funding for town water infrastructure This is usually provided as co-funding grants, and can include funds for infrastructure scoping and planning, and construction. LWUs are the core applicant group.
Town water infrastructure planning	Planning for the provision of infrastructure for town water and/or sewer services LWUs and JOs may undertake this planning in various forms. It can include project-specific planning (e.g. scoping studies or business cases) and planning that considers non-infrastructure solutions. When done by LWUs, the department expects the town water infrastructure plans should have strategic alignment with the IWCM planning documents.
Town water security	A safe and reliable supply of town water.