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## Retail water customer account assistance

Responsible Officer: Group Manager Corporate & Commercial (Geoff Ward)

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### Recommendation

That Council in accordance with section 356 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and its 'Retail Water Customer Account Assistance' policy, approve financial assistance as listed in Table 1 of this report.

### Background

One application for financial assistance in accordance with section 356 (1) under Council's 'Retail Water Customer Account Assistance' policy has been received. Details of the application are set out below.

**Table 1**

<b>Section 356 (non pensioner)</b>					
Account	Date application received	Nature of leak	Original water charges due	S356 financial assistance to be approved	Adjusted water charges due after approval
10795-10000-6	24-Oct-22	Underground leaks could not be located, replaced all pipes	\$2,020.52	\$493.13	\$1,527.39
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$2,020.52</b>	<b>\$493.13</b>	<b>\$1,527.39</b>

### Finance

The 2022/23 financial year budget allocation for applications made in accordance with the 'Retail Water Customer Account Assistance' policy is \$25,000.

<b>Budget Table S356/S582</b>		
<b>2022/23 financial year budget</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b><u>No. of applications</u></b>
S356 assistance approved financial year to date	\$18,235.77	6
S582 assistance approved financial year to date	\$0.00	
S582 assistance approved since last Council meeting	\$0.00	
Proposed S356 assistance approval this Council meeting	\$493.13	1
Proposed S582 assistance approval this Council meeting	\$0.00	
<b>Budget remaining 2022/23 financial year</b>	<b>\$6,271.10</b>	

### Legal

Section 377(q) of the *Local Government Act 1993* provides that a decision under section 356 to contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance may not be delegated and that the decision must be made by resolution of Council.

### Conclusion

The total value of section 356 financial assistance equates to \$ 493.13 by application of Council's 'Retail Water Customer Account Assistance' policy. It is proposed that Council grant the recommended financial assistance.