

## **WATER SMART Government**

State and Local Government together account for around 4% of drinking water use in Sydney. A number of programs have been developed to ensure government water use is as efficient as possible, and that the sector is contributing to a sustainable water supply for Sydney.

Several water saving programs that apply to Government are also applicable to the industry and household sectors. Details of these programs can be found under the 'Water-saving initiatives' fact sheet included in this Communications Kit.

### **Government authorities sector**

A water audit of NSW Parliament House was completed in 2004-05, which identified opportunities to reduce water consumption by 8 million litres a year. NSW Parliament House implemented the recommendations to retrofit the entire building with AAA shower heads, install flow restrictors in all hand basins, install sensor operated flushing units on urinals, install sub-meters on major water using facilities and to connect these meters to the building's management system.

### **Local Government**

Parramatta Council has reduced water use in many of its facilities and public spaces. Council currently reuses groundwater collected from various flooded industrial pits to water its extensive playing fields. An example is the irrigation system at Doyle Ground, North Parramatta which covers the entire sports ground area and, based on seasonal use, will be able to reuse approximately 48 million litres per year for irrigation, saving \$14,000 per year on council's water bill.

### **Health sector**

The public health system accounts for more than 80% of the health sector's water consumption. Two of the major hospitals, Westmead and Prince of Wales, have participated in water audits that have resulted in significant water savings through reduction of leakage and wastage. Prince of Wales Hospital reduced water use by around 200 million litres per year. With the help of Sydney Water, Westmead Hospital staff have identified and rectified leaks, saving more than 60 million litres per year.

### **Education sector**

TAFE's Sydney Institute was given the opportunity to implement several water conservation projects through the Water Saving Pilot Fund, overseen by Sydney Water.

Projects targeted sites with high water use across the institute and involved modifications to amenities at the St George, Gymea and Ultimo Colleges. Approximately 33 million litres per year will be saved as a result of these projects.