

Barry Greig

Scottish Government

Water Industry Division

**WATER AFFORDABILITY
IN EUROPE:**

**Challenges, Approaches,
Solutions**

20 October 2016



**Scottish
Government
gov.scot**

Water Affordability in Scotland – Key Points

Scale of charges aligned to local taxation based on house values as a general proxy for income/wealth

Cross subsidies have been removed

Discounts and exemptions for low income / vulnerable groups

Scottish charges on average cheaper than rest of UK

Strong role for Consumer in price setting decision process – balancing service enhancement and increased cost

The Principles of Charges Statement sets out the basis for charging every customer connected to the public water and sewerage network

This makes clear that for households:

The bandings for household water and sewerage charges should replicate council tax bandings,

Reductions on water and sewerage charges must reflect the discounts that apply to council tax

Up to 25% reduction provided to households on Council Tax Benefit.



Nearly all households in Scotland pay unmetered charges

Charges calculated according to value of home.

Charges reflect occupancy – a 25% discount is in place where there is only 1 adult in property

Charges reflect the status of the occupant – discounts and exemptions are offered to e.g. disabled and full-time students, exemptions for charities with low turnover

Scottish Charges for 2016-17

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| | |
| Band A | £282.6 |
| Band B | £329.7 |
| Band C | £376.8 |
| Band D | £423.9 |
| Band E | £518.1 |
| Band F | £612.3 |
| Band G | £706.5 |
| Band H | £847.7 |
| | |
| Average | £351 |

Barry.Greig@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Hydro Nation Manager
Water Industry Division
Scottish Government

