F. Developer contributions

Distributor-retailers collect infrastructure charges (developer contributions) from developers. These are calculated based on the size and type of development. Developer contributions are settled through cash contributions or donated assets (for example, water and sewerage infrastructure). Developer contributions are recognised when a connection certificate is issued for completed works that are compliant with laws and regulations. These contributions are intended to increase the capacity of the water and sewerage networks that are needed to support new developments.

In 2020–21, developer contributions of \$317.2 million were recognised, a decrease of 4.8 per cent from 2019–20. A decline in developer contributions may be linked to the timing between the approval of building applications and when the developer is issued a connection certification. This is despite a 24.8 per cent increase in building approvals in the same time period.

350,000 18,000 16,000 300,000 14,000 Developer contributions (\$'000) 250,000 12,000 **Building approvals** 200,000 10,000 8,000 150,000 6,000 100.000 4,000 50,000 2,000 2016-17 2017-18 2018-19 2019-20 2020-21 Developer contributions—Urban Utilities Developer contributions—Unitywater Building approvals—Urban Utilities Building approvals—Unitywater

Figure F1
Trends in developer contributions and building approvals

Note: Building approvals do not include alterations, additions, and conversions.

Source: Compiled by the Queensland Audit Office from Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Urban Utilities, and Unitywater data.

