



HUON VALLEY COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

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Council delivers balanced budget again

The Huon Valley Council has delivered a balanced budget free of debt for the coming year. The council passed its 2018/19 budget at this week's ordinary council meeting.

Council endorsed a rate rise of 3.95%. This equates to an increase of \$46 per year for the average rateable property in the Huon Valley, or 88 cents per week.

Long term financial sustainability was the Council's main focus in preparing this budget along with maintaining all current services.

There is \$24million allocated for the day-to-day operations of Council. There is a \$6.5million allocation for asset renewal and \$2.5million in 2017/18 for new projects.

Huon Valley Commissioner Adriana Taylor said this year's budget further strengthened the Council's record of fiscal responsibility.

"The Council, once again has been able to provide a budget with no deficit. This budget has been set in accordance with our long term financial plan.

"We've continued to run the Medical Centres in Geeveston and Dover, the Childcare and sporting facilities in the Valley, as well as begin major projects such as the multi-million dollar stormwater project in Huonville, relocating the Visitor Information Centre and maintaining more than 700 kilometres of roads in the municipal area.

"The fact that we are able to do all of this while keeping the budget in balance is a credit to the management and staff at Council.

"The budget ensures the Huon Valley Council remains in a strong financially sustainable position. It will enable us to maintain and replace our existing asset base of \$336million as and when it falls due," Commissioner Taylor said.

A copy of the Huon Valley Council's 2018-19 Budget is available from the Council's website – www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au

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