

Title	STRIKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2019/2020 FINANCIAL YEAR
Agenda Number	16.009/19
Strategic Plan Reference	5
File Reference	19/39
Author	Director Corporate Services
Responsible Officer	Director Corporate Services
Reporting Brief	Director Corporate Services presenting a report on the Striking of Rates and Charges for the 2019/2020 financial year
Attachments	Nil

Background

Each year the Council is responsible for determining rates and charges. The level of rates and charges to be imposed by the Council is to be sufficient to generate the income required to deliver the services detailed in the Council's Annual Plan.

The purpose of this Report is to strike rates and charges for the 2019/2020 financial year.

Council Policy

Council's Rates and Charges are set taking into account the *Huon Valley Council Rates and Charges Policy* and the rates resolution is consistent with the Policy.

Legislative Requirements

The rates and charges are levied pursuant to Part 9 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

An absolute majority is required for the rates resolution as it includes variations to the general rate, a variation of a service charge according to the level of service provided as well as the granting of remissions to classes of ratepayers.

Risk Implications

Rates and charges are required to be approved in order for budget estimates to be achieved.

Engagement

The Council has discussed the structure of its budget for 2019/2020, for which the rates and charges are required to fund and reviewed in Council workshops.

Engagement associated with this decision will be undertaken at Inform Level by inclusion within the Council meeting Minutes that will be available to the public on the Council's website and at the Customer Service Centre.

Pursuant to section 118 of the Act the General Manager will, within 21 days after the making of the rates and charges notify that making together with a summary of the rates and charges made in a daily newspaper circulating in the municipal area and provide the Director of Local Government with a copy of the resolution relating to the making.

Human Resource & Financial Implications

Council's budget estimates are adopted in part based upon rates and charges income.

Discussion

The Councillors have considered the range and level of services to be provided to the community over the next financial year.

The services provided are consistent with the Council's strategic planning documentation and are detailed in the Annual Plan.

Council has taken care to ensure that service provision is optimised whilst efficiencies within the Council's organisation are identified wherever possible.

The level of rates and charges now detailed in the recommendation of this report are required to financially underpin the budget developed for the 2019/2020 financial year.

The general rate represents an on average 5.95% increase, this equates to an approximate increase in the general rates on a property with a capital value of \$300,000 of \$60 for the year.

The Huon Valley was the third lowest rating Council in Tasmania in the 2017/2018 financial year for the average rate per rateable valuation.

Conclusion and Recommendation

Rates and charges have been included in order to achieve Budget objectives and are recommended for approval.

16.009/19

RESOLVED

CR WILSON

CR GIBSON

That:

The following rates and charges are made and levied for the purposes contemplated under the *Local Government Act 1993* for the financial year 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

INTERPRETATION

- 1. The words and expressions used in this resolution and in the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Fire Service Act 1979* have in this resolution the same respective meanings as they have in those Acts.**
- 2. In this Resolution:
"Act" means the *Local Government Act 1993*;**

GENERAL RATE

3. Pursuant to section 90 of the Act the Council makes a general rate comprising 0.29075 cents in the dollar of the Capital Value of the land in respect of all rateable land in the Huon Valley Council Municipal Area.
4. Pursuant to section 107 of the Act Council declares that the general rate varies within the municipal area according to use or predominant use of the land as follows:
 - (a) For land used or predominantly used for commercial purposes the general rate is varied by increasing it by 0.253485 cents to 0.544235 cents in the dollar of the Capital Value of the land;
 - (b) For land used or predominantly used for industrial purposes the general rate is varied by increasing it by 0.171795 cents to 0.462545 cents in the dollar of the Capital Value of the land;
5. Pursuant to section 90(4) of the Act the Council sets a minimum amount payable of \$379.00 in respect of the General Rate.

FIRE SERVICE ACT 1979 CONTRIBUTIONS

6. Pursuant to section 93A of the Act the Council makes service rates in respect of the Fire Service Contributions it must collect under the *Fire Service Act 1979* as follows:

General Land Fire District

- (a) A General Land Fire District rate of 0.012775 cents in the dollar of Capital Value of the land on all rateable land in the General Land Fire District which excludes all lands contained within the Volunteer Brigade Rating Districts, subject to a minimum amount payable in the amount of \$41.00.

Volunteer Brigade Fire Rate

- (b) A Volunteer Brigade Fire Rate of 0.01595 cents in the dollar of Capital Value of the land on all rateable land, in the Cygnet, Dover, Franklin, Geeveston and Huonville Volunteer Brigade Rating Districts, subject to a minimum amount payable in the amount of \$41.00.

SERVICE RATES AND CHARGES

Stormwater Removal Charge

7. Pursuant to section 94 of the Act the Council makes a service charge for stormwater removal of \$110.00 on all rateable land (including land which is otherwise exempt from rates pursuant to Section 87 of the Act but excluding land owned by the Crown to which the Council does not supply service to the land) for which a stormwater removal service is made available.

Waste Management – Kerbside Collection Charges

8. Pursuant to section 94 of the Act the Council makes the following service charges for waste management for each premises, tenement, flat, unit, apartment, single strata title, portion of land set aside for separate occupation or Certificate of Title on all rateable land (including land which is otherwise exempt from rates pursuant to Section 87 of the Act but excluding land owned by the Crown to which the Council does not supply service to the land) to which the Council makes available the following services:
- (a) A service charge for Kerbside Refuse Collection Service for the supply and collection of mobile garbage bins (which pursuant to section 94(3A) of the Act the service charge is varied according to the level of service (capacity) provided) as follows:
- | | |
|----------|---|
| \$162.00 | In respect of each 120 litre mobile garbage bin |
| \$217.00 | In respect of each 240 litre mobile garbage bin |

AND

- (b) A service charge for Kerbside Recycling Collection Service for the supply and collection of mobile recycling bins of \$85.00 in respect of each mobile recycling bin.

REMISSIONS

9. Pursuant to section 129 of the Act a remission is granted to rates paid or payable in respect of:
- (a) Rateable land that has been covenanted for conservation in perpetuity under either the Private Forests Reserves or the Protected Areas on Private Land Programs pursuant to the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* of:
- (i) \$5.00 per hectare and
- (ii) with a minimum remission per rateable land of \$126.00 and a maximum remission per rateable land of \$500.00 provided that the minimum general rate will not be less than \$253.00 per rateable land.
- (b) Lessees and licencees who hold leases and licences from the Crown in relation to jetties/slipways and boatsheds so that the total general rate applicable does not exceed \$126.00 Fire service contributions and service charges where applicable are to be levied.

PAYMENT

10. Pursuant to section 124 of the Act the Council determines that all rates and charges are payable by four instalments. The first instalment shall be one-

quarter of the rates and charges together with the smallest additional sum as will allow the subsequent three instalments to be equal to each other and in whole dollars. The first instalment is due to be paid on the 15th day of August 2019, the second instalment is payable on the 31st day of October 2019, the third instalment is payable on the 31st day of January 2020 and the fourth instalment is payable on the 30th day of April 2020.

DEFAULT IN PAYMENT OF INSTALMENT

11. If a ratepayer fails to pay any instalment within twenty one (21) days of the date on which the rates are due to the Council will require the ratepayer to pay the full amount owing pursuant to Section 124 (5) of the Act.

LATE PAYMENTS

12. Pursuant to section 128 of the Act if any amount of rates or charges or an instalment are not paid on or before the date they fall due:
 - (a) a penalty of three (3) percent of that amount will be imposed and payable; and,
 - (b) daily interest will be charged and payable on that amount of eight point one (8.1) percent per annum for the period during which it is unpaid.

ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED

Councillors Enders, Doyle, Gibson, Wilson, Bird, Campbell, Prince and O'May voted for the motion and no Councillors voted against the motion.