



MEDIA RELEASE

17 October 2023

Important update on Tasmania Fire and Emergency Services Reform

The State Government released the draft Tasmania Fire and Emergency Services Bill on 28 September 2023.

The Bill establishes the Tasmanian Fire and Emergency Service (TFES) by combining Tasmania Fire Service and State Emergency Services.

It also includes a new funding model that the State Government believes will be more equitable and sustainable to fund the fire and emergency services.

Although this is a State Government levy, it is proposed that Councils continue to be responsible for collecting the funds.

The proposed changes will have an impact on ratepayers by increasing what is now known as the Fire Services Contribution paid through rates.

The new funding model abolishes the Insurance Fire Levy and extends the existing motor vehicle levy to include motorcycles.

“The reform will ensure our fire and emergency services are funded appropriately, now and into the future, so they can continue to protect us,” said Huon Valley Mayor Sally Doyle.

The table below shows the average and median increase for different land classifications as calculated by Council* for the different funding options.

Funding option 1 is a single set rate across Tasmania, and option 2 is a two-tiered rate across Tasmania, depending on whether you live in a rural or urban area.



Land Classification	Option 1		Option 2	
	Average Increase	Median Increase	Average Increase	Median Increase
Industrial	\$1,695	\$749	\$1,807	\$800
Commercial	\$1,025	\$728	\$1,119	\$794
Community Services	\$58	\$33	\$79	\$47
Primary Production	\$724	\$509	\$323	\$227
Other	\$20	\$15	\$26	\$20
Residential	\$150	\$138	\$129	\$113

"We want to bring these proposed changes to the attention of our community, and encourage ratepayers to have their say."

Visit <https://www.fire.tas.gov.au/reform/> for more information and to have your say.

Submissions are open until 11.59pm on Sunday, 5 November 2023.

**Please note the new levy will be calculated using each property's Assessed Annual Value (AAV), as determined by the Valuer-General, multiplied by the relevant land classification rate as outlined in the Options Paper.*

Council's rates are based on the Capital Value (CV) of the property and the current contribution is levied at 0.01120 cents in the dollar for the General Land Fire District, and 0.01310 cents in the dollar for the Volunteer Brigade Fire Rate.

For more information: Mayor Sally Doyle (03) 6264 0300