

FACT SHEET – RESIDENTIAL RATES – 2023/2024

RESIDENTIAL RATE CATEGORIES

Council adopted its budget at a special meeting on 29 June 2023 including its revised rating strategy. Council must calculate the rates for land by using the rateable value of the land. On average a typical residential property will see an increase of \$105 per half year rate notice. Landholders may have experienced changes in land valuations with the 2022/2023 revaluation, that will come into effect 1 July 2023. It is noted however that a majority of our residential categories did not change. Where land valuations have increased substantially Council has applied a limitation of 30% across all rating categories (excluding feedlots). If you disagree with your land valuation you can still contact the Valuer General to dispute the valuation.

<https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/land/title/valuation/about/dispute>.

Discount Period Extended

Council has applied a 10% discount for a period of 30 days for both the August 2023 and February 2024 levy. Pension concessions will still apply.

Utility charges

All residential categories will see a change in utility charges. These will increase with water and sewerage up by 6% and cleansing (waste) base charges up by 14.5% with waste collection charges up by 7%. The rise in cost represents the move to full cost recovery for the services provided and increase in compliance requirements from the Environmental Protection Authority for our landfill sites.

Mungindi

Waste utility charges in Mungindi will remain consistent with Moree Plains Shire Council including a 5% administration fee across all categories. Water charges will remain the same for Mungindi as previous years.

River Water Charges – St George – Residential and Rural Residential only

Council has adopted a scale of excess charges on water allocations for river water in St George. Refer to the Utility Fact Sheet for more information.

When will the changes occur?

Council must set its rates and charges each financial year. The budget was adopted at its Special Meeting on 29 June 2023. Council will levy rates in August and February each year.

Why the change?

Council's adopted rating strategy is consistent with the principles of its Revenue Policy and recommendations of the Queensland Audit Office for councils to:

- consult with the community and adopt a long term rating strategy;
- ensure that annual revenue statements on rates and charges support financial sustainability; and

The rating strategy has been developed to ensure equity and fairness and provides a similar rate revenue base for council to maintain existing facilities and necessary services.

Payment Options

- A payment arrangement can be agreed that will ensure no interest is accrued if the payment arrangement is met;
- Pre-payments can be made prior to levying by contacting Council

To receive your rates notice by email complete a change of address form located on our website. For more information on each of the rating categories or changes refer to the Rates Fact Sheets at www.balonne.qld.gov.au or contact Council on (07) 46208888 or at council@balonne.qld.gov.au or by posted PO Box 201, St George, Qld 4822.

Disclaimer: this information is general information applicable to residential categories in the Balonne Shire. Information on specific properties is available on request – please quote your Assessment number or address.