

31 JULY 2025

# **Shire of Esperance**

# **NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA**

A Special Council meeting of the Shire of Esperance will be held at Council Chambers on 5 August 2025 commencing at 10:00 am to consider the matters set out in the attached agenda.

S Burge

**Chief Executive Officer** 

#### **DISCLAIMER**

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Esperance for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or Committee meetings. The Shire of Esperance disclaims any liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or Committee meetings. Any person or legal entity who acts or fails to act in reliance upon any statement, act or omission made in a Council or Committee meeting does so at that person's or legal entity's own risk.

In particular and without derogating in any way from the broad disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a licence, any statement or intimation of approval made by a member or officer of the Shire of Esperance during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not to be taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Esperance. The Shire of Esperance warns that anyone who has any application lodged with the Shire of Esperance must obtain and should only rely on written confirmation of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Esperance in respect of the application.

#### ETHICAL DECISION MAKING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Council is committed to a code of conduct and all decisions are based on an honest assessment of the issue, ethical decision-making and personal integrity. Councillors and staff adhere to the statutory requirements to declare financial, proximity and impartiality interests and once declared follow the legislation as required.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Please be advised that in order to save printing and paper costs, all attachments referenced in this paper are available in the original Agenda document for this meeting.

#### **RECORDINGS**

The Meeting will be live streamed. The recording will be made publicly available as soon as practical following the meeting.

Special	Council:	Agenda
_ ^ .		

Signature

- p	
5 August 2025	Page 3

	Disclosure of Interest						
☐ Agenda Brief	ing	□ Ordinar	y Counci	l Meeting	□ S	pec	ial Meeting
Details							
Name of Person	n Declaring an I	nterest	[				
Position				Date of Meeting	I		
<del>_</del>	the regulations	of Section 5.65	5, 5.70 ar	nd 5.71 of the <i>L</i> o			erest in the matter in nent Act 1995 and the
Interest Disclo	sed						
Item Number		Item Title					
Nature of Intere	st						
Type of Interest	☐ Finar	ıcial		Proximity			Impartiality
Interest Discl	osed						
Item Number		Item Title					
Nature of Inter	est						
Type of Interest	☐ Finar	ıcial		Proximity			Impartiality
Interest Disclo	and						
	seu						
Item Number	sed	Item Title					
Item Number  Nature of Intere		Item Title					
		Item Title					
	st	ı		Proximity			Impartiality
Nature of Intere	st	ı		Proximity			Impartiality

Date

# **Disclosure of Interest**

#### **Notes for Your Guidance**



# Financial Interest (Sections. 5.65. & 5.67. Local Government Act 1995)

A member who has a Financial Interest in any matter to be discussed at a Council or Committee Meeting, that will be attended by the member, must disclose the nature of the interest:

- a. in a written notice given to the Chief Executive Officer before the Meeting; or
- b. at the Meeting immediately before the matter is discussed.

A member, who makes a disclosure under section 5.65 must not:

- a. preside at the part of the meeting relating to the matter; or
- b. participate in, or be present during, any discussion or decision making procedure relative to the matter,

unless, and to the extent that, the disclosing member is allowed to do so under *Sections 5.68* or *5.69* of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

The following notes are a basic guide for Councillors when they are considering whether they have a Financial Interest in a matter.

- 1. A Financial Interest, pursuant to s. 5.60A or 5.61 of the Local Government Act 1995, requiring disclosure occurs when a Council decision might advantageously or detrimentally affect the Councillor or a person closely associated with the Councillor and is capable of being measured in money terms. There are expectations in the Local Government Act 1995 but they should not be relied on without advice, unless the situation is very clear.
  - 2. If a Councillor is a member of an Association (which is a Body Corporate) with not less than 10 members i.e sporting, social, religious etc, and the Councillor is not a holder of office of profit or a guarantor, and has not leased land to or from the club, i.e, if the Councillor is an ordinary member of the Association, the Councillor has a common and not a financial interest in any matter to that Association.
  - 3. If an interest is shared in common with a significant number of electors and ratepayers, then the obligation to disclose that interest does not arise. Each case needs to be considered.
  - 4. If in doubt declare.
  - 5. As stated if written notice disclosing the interest has not been given to the Chief Executive Officer before the meeting, then it must be given when the matter arises in the Agenda, and immediately before the matter is discussed. Under s. 5.65 of the Local Government Act 1995 failure to notify carries a penalty of imprisonment for 24 months and a fine of \$24 000.
  - 6. Ordinarily the disclosing Councillor must leave the meeting room before discussion commences. The only exceptions are:

- 6.1 Where the Councillor discloses the extent of the interest, and Council carries a motion under s.5.68(1)(b)(ii) of the Local Government Act 1995; or
- 6.2 Where the Minister allows the Councillor to participate under *s.5.69(3)* of the *Local Government Act 1955*, with or without conditions.

## Proximity Interest (Section. 5.60B Local Government Act 1995)

- 1. For the purposes of this subdivision, a person has a proximity interest in a matter if the matter concerns;
  - a. a proposed change to a planning scheme affecting land that adjoins the person's land; or
  - b. a proposed change to the zoning or use of land that adjoins the person's land; or
  - c. a proposed development (as defined in s 5.63(5) Local Government Act 1995) of land that adjoins the person's land.
- 2. In this section, land (the proposal land) adjoins a person's land if;
  - a. the proposal land, not being a thoroughfare, has a common boundary with the person's land; or
  - b. the proposal land, or any part of it, is directly across a thoroughfare from, the person's land; or
  - c. The proposal land is that part of a thoroughfare that has a common boundary with the person's land.
- 3. In this section a reference to a person's land is a reference to any land owned by the person or in which the person has any estate or interest.

# Impartiality Interest

An interest, pursuant to Regulation 22 of the Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021,

- a) That could, or could reasonably be perceived to, adversely affect the impartiality of the person having the interest; and
- b) Arising from kinship, friendship or membership of an association.

It does not include an interest as referred to in s. 5.60 Local Government Act 1995.

There are very different outcomes resulting from disclosing an interest affecting impartiality compared to that of a financial interest. With the declaration of a financial interest, an elected member leaves the room and does not vote.

With the declaration of this type of interest, the elected member stays in the room, participates in the debate and votes. In effect then, following disclosure of an interest affecting impartiality, the member's involvement in the meeting continues as if no interest existed.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	OFFICIAL OPENING	8
2.	ATTENDANCE	8
3.	APOLOGIES & NOTIFICATION OF GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE	8
4.	DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:	8
	4.1 Declarations of Financial Interests – Local Government Act Section 5.6	0a 8
	4.2 Declarations of Proximity Interests – Local Government Act Section 5.6	0b 8
	4.3 Declarations of Impartiality Interests – Admin Regulations Section 34c	8
5.	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	8
6.	PURPOSE OF MEETING	9
	6.1 Rates Concession for 2025/26	9
	6.2 Adoption of 2025/2026 Annual Budget	12
7.	MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS	19
	7.1 Elected Member Legal Assistance Request	19
8.	CLOSURE	20

#### SHIRE OF ESPERANCE

#### **AGENDA**

# SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON 5 AUGUST 2025 COMMENCING AT 10:00 AM

#### 1. OFFICIAL OPENING

The Shire of Esperance acknowledges the Nyungar and Ngadju people who are the Traditional Custodians of this land and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and we extend that respect to other aboriginal Australians today.

#### 2. ATTENDANCE

#### **Members**

Acting Shire President Town Ward Cr J Obourne Town Ward Cr G Johnston Town Ward Cr S McMullen Cr L de Haas Town Ward Cr W Graham Rural Ward Rural Ward Cr S Starcevich Cr S Flanagan Town Ward Cr C Davies Town Ward

#### **Shire Officers**

Mr S Burge Chief Executive Officer

Mr D Gleave Acting Director Asset Management
Ms G Ryan Acting Director External Services

Mrs F Baxter Director Corporate & Community Services

Mrs C Hoffrichter Executive Assistant

#### **Members of the Public & Press**

#### 3. APOLOGIES & NOTIFICATION OF GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Pres Chambers has a granted Leave of Absence from 20 July 2025 - 11 August 2025 inclusive

#### 4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:**

- 4.1 Declarations of Financial Interests Local Government Act Section 5.60a
- 4.2 Declarations of Proximity Interests Local Government Act Section 5.60b
- 4.3 Declarations of Impartiality Interests Admin Regulations Section 34c

#### 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

#### 6. PURPOSE OF MEETING

Item: 6.1

#### Rates Concession for 2025/26

Author/s Vicki Thomson Coordinator Revenue

Sarah Bridge Corporate Accountant

Authorisor/s Felicity Baxter Director Corporate and Community Services

File Ref: D25/20946

#### **Applicant**

Shire of Esperance

#### Location/Address

Various locations around the Shire.

#### **Executive Summary**

For Council to consider offering a rates concession equivalent to half of the minimum rates to those properties considered to be provided with no services.

#### **Recommendation in Brief**

That Council grant a concession of \$747.50 under GRV and \$765.00 under UV to the properties as attached to be included within their 2025/26 rate notice.

#### **Background**

There are a small number of properties including Development Area 3 which have no infrastructure services such as roads, paths and drains to the property. Similarly, there is a property at Israelite Bay. Since 2018/19, Council has granted a concession to these properties to ensure fairness and equity to these property owners.

The Israelite Bay property has historically received a concession as it is leased crown land with a heritage building on it of whom the lessee has the responsibility to maintain. It is also located at least 40km beyond the last farming property in the area.

The Development Area 3 property owners have the option to sell their property to the Shire. For year ending 30 June 2025 there were no properties sold to the Shire. There was 1 property sold to Western Australian Land Authority (Development WA), which under *Section 32 Western Australian Land Authority Act 1992* is now non-rateable. Attached is a list of properties that received the concession last year and the proposed list for 2025/26 year.

#### **Officer's Comment**

To ensure fairness and equity to these property owners, it is requested that Council offer a rates concession as per the previous year.

The concession has been calculated based on the projected minimum rate of \$1,495 for GRV and \$1,530 for UV. This will result in a total waiver of \$16,462.50.

#### Consultation

Nil

#### **Financial Implications**

The financial implications arising from this report is \$16,462.50 and this has been allowed for within the draft budget.

#### **Asset Management Implications**

Nil

#### **Statutory Implications**

Section 6.47 Local Government Act 1995

#### **Policy Implications**

Nil

#### **Strategic Implications**

Council Plan 2022 - 2032

Leadership

A financially sustainable and supportive organisation achieving operational excellence

#### **Environmental Considerations**

Nil

#### **Attachments**

A.J. Rates Concessions 2025/2026

#### Officer's Recommendation

That Council grant a concession of \$747.50 for GRV and \$765 UV to the properties as attached to be included within their 2025/26 rate notice.

Voting Requirement Absolute Majority

#### **Rates Concession for 2025/26**

				2025	2026 Proposed
Assessment Number	Lot #	Street	Suburb	Concession	Concession
<b>GRV Vacant Unserviced</b>					
16527	62	Parsons	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
16535	63	Parsons	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
16543	64	Parsons	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
30585	26	Gladstone	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
30593	27	Gladstone	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
30601	33	Gladstone	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
32896	17	Gibson	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
32920	21	Gibson	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
32938	22	Gibson	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
33001	34	Bay View	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
33019	35	Bay View	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
33027	36	Bay View	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
33175	51	Bay View	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
33266	60	Gladstone	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
33274	61	Moir	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
33282	62	Moir	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
33332	68	Moir	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
33399	75	Synnot	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
33431	79	Synnot	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
39529	135	Off Sims	PINK LAKE	\$715.50	\$0.00
57091	6	Parsons	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
57109	68	Parsons	SINCLAIR	\$715.50	\$747.50
UV Rural Unserviced					
76919	11	Balladonia	ISRAELITE BAY	\$732.00	\$765.00
				\$16,473.00	\$16,462.50

SOLD

Item: 6.2

## Adoption of 2025/2026 Annual Budget

Author/s Sarah Bridge Corporate Accountant

Authorisor/s Felicity Baxter Director Corporate and Community Services

File Ref: D25/22017

**Applicant** 

Corporate and Community Services

#### Location/Address

Internal

#### **Executive Summary**

To present to Council the FY2025/2026 Annual Budget for adoption.

#### **Recommendation in Brief**

That Council adopt the Statutory Budget and supporting documents along with rate parameters, fees and charges, reserve movements, proposed borrowings and waste rate for the FY2025/2026 financial year (FY).

#### **Background**

A series of Integrated Planning and Budget Workshops were held with Council Members, which focused on reviewing and developing the FY2025/26 Budget. The outcomes of these recommendations to fine tune the projects have been discussed and included in the formal budget prepared for adoption.

The statutory format required by the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government and Financial Management Regulations 1996* is included in this report. The proposed budget as discussed and considered during the draft budget workshops resulted in a deficit of \$44,437.

During the Budget Workshops with Councillors, considerable effort was made to keep any Rate increase to a minimum and in line with the Long-Term Financial Plan. The FY2025/26 Statutory Budget is developed from the strategic direction embedded in the Council Plan taking into consideration operational capabilities, asset renewal commitments and community need in the current economic conditions.

Key local and state-wide issues have influenced the budget proposed. In particular, the continuing pressure on material and employment costs. The challenge to availability of contractors and the cost increases for those services. Accommodation shortages continue to drive higher contractor and service fees. At the time of developing this budget, the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI) for June 2026 was predicted at 3.3%, and WA CPI rose 2.8% to the March quarter driven by a strong labour market and a resilient construction industry. Forecast Perth Consumer Price Index (CPI) over the next 12 months is 2.75%, suggesting a continued easing of inflation.

The Shire's three-year Industrial Agreement was under review at the time of preparing of this budget. This has resulted in an increase of 5% in the first year, with a further 3.5% increase in the following two years which meets the overall three-year projection of a 12% increase. There has also been an increase of 0.5% to the legislated Superannuation Guarantee. With contingency for the pressures of inflation and the result of the Industrial Agreement, Council have agreed to a 4.5% increase in Shire Rates for both Gross Rental Value (GRV) and Unimproved Capital Value (UV).

Fees and Charges were also considered by the Council on the 27 May 2025 at the Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) with the draft fees and charges to be included with the budget adoption. Since then, there have been some minor descriptive and grammatical changes, as well as the following:

#### **Esperance Home Care**

- Addition of Nursing Care fee under the Commonwealth Home Support Program, separating it from Domestic Assistance and Personal Care Services.

#### Bay of Isles Leisure Centre (BOILC)

- Addition of a fee for Private Group Fitness Classes (minimum 8 participants) at the same rate as the Health and Fitness Entry fees. This gives the ability for sporting teams or other community groups to engage in private classes, providing variety in training options, as well as allowing the facility to increase its participation in the local community.

#### Airport

 Inclusion of a separate Head Tax fee for non RPT airline service passengers (charter) from the negotiated contract fee for RPT service passengers, following Council Resolution O0525-108.

The revised fees and charges will become effective with the adoption of the budget except for Bay of Isles Leisure Centre and Esperance Home Care, where the fees will be effective from 1 September 2025.

Officers have finalised the accounts for the end of the previous financial year and now present the budget in the official statutory format ready for adoption. Since the Budget Workshops with Council, several adjustments have been made to the budget estimates, including the addition of a Library Community Cohesion project, being funded by grant monies from the Australian Library and Information Association. Some additional expenses were included to finalise some small works on residential properties being constructed, which is funded by the Land Purchase & Development reserve. Following end of year reserve transfers reviews, minor changes have been made to reduce reserve funding required. At the July Ordinary Council Meeting, the Community Grants Program Budget Allocation increased by \$10k as per Council Resolution 00725-090, which is now reflected in these estimates.

After completing all the necessary adjustments as of 30<sup>th</sup> June and completing reserve transfers, the predicted closing position for the FY2024/2025 year is a net \$2,795,133 which covers carryover projects which have consequently been re-budgeted into the FY2025/2026.

#### **Officer's Comment**

The preparation of this budget commenced with the FY2024/2025 Revised Budget adjusted for one off revenues and expenses, with the key project and asset service delivery as determined in the Shire's revised Long Term Financial Plan. The annual budget is constructed using "Zero Based Budgeting". In doing so, the Operational budgets are already limited in capacity for further reductions without alterations to the service levels or program outcomes.

In reaching the end of year position the annual reserve movement reconciliations have been performed. A complete list of the Shire's Reserve Account balances as of 30 June 2025 is provided within the Statutory Budget document. The opening "cash" position (net of unexpended grants) carried forward into the FY2025/2026 budget is a surplus of \$2.8mil. In adopting the budget, there remains the possibility that the opening balance may need adjusting, if end of year calculations, or external audit review identifies an adjustment prior to finalising the FY2024/25 financial statements. If this occurs, corrections will be reported during the Budget Review process or an additional agenda item to Council if required.

Council will notice that Financial Assistance Grants (FAG) of \$4.3m was received prior to the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2025. Although this is a good result for the FY2024/2025 operating position it means that the FAG money that is relevant to the FY2025/2026 year will not be recognised during the FY2025/2026 year. These funds will be fully applied to the FY2025/2026 Budget by way of recognising unspent grants.

The Rate base increase aligns with the Long-Term Financial Plan that was adopted by Council in April 2025. This factors in the continued impact of cost increases over the past three years. In particular, the escalation of contract costs in our region; and the rising cost of living which has put pressure on the Rate levy. With the commencement of significant Building projects, including the Myrup Transfer Station; The James Street Colocation and Cultural Hub, and Airport upgrades, Council have supported a strategy to minimise the impact on Rates. Over the next four years, the current Municipal contribution to Road Upgrade Projects of \$2.5M per annum, will be diverted to support the completion of these projects.

The Rate in the dollar has been adjusted to maintain a total yield increase of 4.5%, however depending on the change in property values, some properties may be more or less of the yield variance. The Shire does not have a role in determining the rental valuation of properties or the ability to appeal a valuation provided by the Valuer General. However, if a property owner does not agree with the GRV change they may lodge an objection directly with Landgate. These are updated by the Valuer General every five years, with each property subject to a different GRV outcome.

For the FY2025/2026, there has been an increase of 4.53% to the Emergency Service Levy (ESL) which is imposed by the State Government but included on the Rates Notices for both GRV and UV properties. Council has no decision-making authority for the ESL levied but provide the service of collecting the levy on behalf of the State Government and Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES).

This budget includes an increase of the Waste Rate to \$115 per rateable assessment for FY2025/2026. This will assist in spreading the inter-generational cost of servicing the project loan required for the new Myrup transfer station, landfill capping and rehabilitation work which will be required at the existing Wylie Bay site.

A penalty interest rate of 11% is proposed and the Rates Notice instalment interest is 4%. These are within the regulations from the State Government requiring penalty interest to not exceed 11% and instalment interest not exceeding 5.5%.

Depreciation continues to be monitored with the ongoing fair value revaluation of the Shire's assets. Depreciation significantly impacts the operational loss reported on the Statement of Comprehensive Income which the Shire will continue to address through asset renewal management strategies that aim to meet sustainability into the future.

The Statutory Budget as presented has been prepared within the parameters that were set at the Draft Budget workshops that were held in June. Several of the estimates that were presented at the Workshops have been updated to reflect the known carryovers and unspent grants being recognised within the FY2024/2025 budget. The Shire's capital program was developed with a key focus this year on maintaining, renewing and replacing existing assets and infrastructure.

An indication of the capital works program for the FY2025/2026 budget includes the following projects:

•	Myrup Waste Management Facility	\$9,650,000
•	James Street Colocation Cultural Hub Project Stage 1a	\$15,903,000
•	Civic Centre Building Upgrades	\$1,250,000
•	Worker's Accommodation Project (initiation)	\$2,000,000
•	Grass Patch Fire Brigade Shed	\$170,090
•	Building maintenance program	\$2,606,000
•	Road upgrades and improvements	\$17,314,000

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 34 (5) requires that each financial year a local government adopts a percentage or value, calculated in accordance with AAS5 (Australian Accounting

Standards 5), to be used in the monthly statement of financial activity for reporting material variances. AAS5 provides some guidance as to what may be regarded as a material amount when dealing with the balance sheet, operating statement and statement of cash flow when it states an amount which is equal to or greater than 10% of the base amount may be considered to be material while an amount less than or equal to 5% may not be material, unless in both cases there is a convincing argument to the contrary.

Based on this guidance, historical reference and having regard to the fact that the users of this financial information are management and Council requiring assistance with making management decisions, the 10% variance would be reasonable lower limit for highlighting material variances, however this limit could be adjusted in the future if necessary. The use of this limit also does not preclude reporting lesser variances if it is considered their disclosure would be of benefit to the user of the monthly financial report. The proposed material reporting variance is proposed to remain the same as previous years.

#### Consultation

Management Draft Budget Workshops throughout May 2025 Council Draft Budget Workshops held throughout June 2025.

#### **Financial Implications**

Integrated planning and reporting documents such as the Council Plan, Long Term Financial Plan, and Asset Management Plan have all been referenced and utilised in the preparation of the FY2025/2026 Budget.

#### **Asset Management Implications**

A significant amount of the budget is directed towards addressing asset management issues. Road and infrastructure construction program are predominantly focused on asset renewal/improvements and improving road safety.

#### **Statutory Implications**

The statutory implications associated with this item are the *Local Government Act 1995* Section 6.2 and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations* 1996 Part 3 prescribes the requirement of the annual budget.

A 5% increase to salaries and wages has been included for staff within the FY2025/2026. Due to updates in federal superannuation legislation, a further 0.5% increase from 11.5% to 12% is also included.

#### **Policy Implications**

Industrial Agreement 2025 and Council Policies that relate to staff entitlements.

#### **Strategic Implications**

Council Plan 2022-2032

Outcome 15. Operational excellence and financial sustainability

#### **Environmental Considerations**

The budget items that deal with environmental issues to either improve the environmental outcomes or seek approvals to reduce the Shire's risk with environmental issues.

#### **Attachments**

A. FY2025-26 Statutory Budget - Under Separate Cover

#### Officer's Recommendation

#### **That Council**

- 1. AUTHORISE, by absolute majority, the income and expenditure contained within the Municipal Fund Budget pursuant to the provisions of Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act (1995) and Part 3 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 and adopt the Statutory Budget FY2025/2026.
- 2. IMPOSE for the purpose of yielding the deficiency disclosed by the Municipal Fund Budget that Council pursuant to Sections 6.32 and 6.35 of the *Local Government Act (1995)* the following general and minimum rates on Gross Rental and Unimproved Values

General Rates	
Residential (GRV)	9.8832 rate in the dollar (cents)
Commercial / Industrial (GRV)	9.8832 rate in the dollar (cents)
Vacant Land (GRV)	9.8832 rate in the dollar (cents)
Rural (UV)	0.3159 rate in the dollar (cents)
Minimum Rates	
Residential (GRV)	\$1,495.00
Commercial / Industrial (GRV)	\$1,495.00
Commercial / Industrial (GRV) Vacant Land (GRV)	\$1,495.00 \$1,495.00

- 3. IMPOSES, by absolute majority, in accordance with section 6.51(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 an interest rate of 11% applicable to overdue and unpaid rate and service charges.
- 4. IMPOSES, in accordance with section 6.45(3) of the Local Government Act 1995 an interest rate of 4% applicable to rate and service charge instalment arrangements.
- 5. That for those ratepayers not paying by instalments, the penalty interest will commence to be calculated no earlier than 35 days after the rates notice issue date.
- 6. Pursuant to Section 6.45 of the Local Government Act (1995) and Regulation 64(2) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, Council nominates the following due dates for the payment in full or by instalment:

Full payment and 1 <sup>st</sup> Instalment due date	24 <sup>th</sup> September 2025
2 <sup>nd</sup> Instalment due date	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
3 <sup>rd</sup> Instalment due date	14 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
4th and final quarterly instalment due date	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2026

- 7. Pursuant to Section 66 of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act (2007), Council adopt a Waste Rate of 0.000001 cents in the dollar for both GRV and UV property categories, with a minimum of \$115 for all GRV and UV rateable properties.
- 8. Pursuant to Section 67 of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act (2007), and section 6.16 of the *Local Government Act 1995* Council adopts the following charges for the removal and deposit of domestic and commercial waste:

140ltr bin waste collection	\$210.00
240ltr bin waste collection	\$311.00
360ltr bin waste collection	\$433.00

140ltr recycling collection- Domestic Fortnightly	\$160.00
240ltr recycling collection- Domestic Fortnightly	\$205.00
360ltr recycling collection- Domestic Fortnightly	\$212.00
240ltr recycling collection- Commercial Fortnightly	\$206.00
360ltr recycling collection- Commercial Fortnightly	\$273.00
240ltr recycling collection- Commercial Weekly	\$382.00
360ltr recycling collection- Commercial Weekly	\$516.00
Residential and Commercial Premises	
Additional waste bin collection	
(140, 240 & 360ltr bins)	\$38.00
Additional recycling bin collection	
(140, 240 & 360ltr bins)	\$38.00

- 9. Every rateable assessment be issued with 4 free, up to 1m³ domestic waste vouchers.
- 10. Authorise the transfers/movements to and from the Reserve Accounts, as detailed within the Statutory Budget document.
- 11. ADOPT, pursuant to Section 6.16 of the Local Government Act (1995), the Fees and Charges, as included in the Statutory Budget for the FY2025/2026 year with all fees and charges becoming effective immediately except those for the BOILC and Esperance Home Care which will become effective from 1 September 2025.
- 12. Pursuant to section 5.99 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 34 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, council adopts the following annual fees for payment of elected members in lieu of individual meeting attendance fees:

President	\$25,773
Councillors	\$21,338

Pursuant to section 5.99A of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulations 34A and 34AA of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, council adopts the following annual allowances for elected members:

Telecommunications Allowance \$1,700

Pursuant to section 5.98(5) of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 33 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, council adopts the following annual local government allowance to be paid in addition to the annual meeting allowance:

President \$44,087

Pursuant to section 5.98A of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulations 33A of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, council adopts the following annual local government allowance to be paid in addition of the annual meeting allowance:

Deputy President \$11,022

13. ADOPT, for the FY2025/2026 financial year a variance in the Statement of Financial Activity of \$100,000 or 10% (whichever is lesser) for the reporting of material

variances between the year-to-date budget and year to date actual information for disclosure purposes.

14. Authorise the transfer of \$99,606 from the Building Maintenance Reserve to fund net costs for the Civic Centre Disability Access and Toilet Upgrade, within carryovers.

**Voting Requirement** 

**Absolute Majority** 

#### 7. MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

#### Officer's Comment:

It is recommended that the meeting is behind closed doors for the following item, in accordance with section 5.23(2) of the Local Government Act 1995.

Item: 7.1

## **Elected Member Legal Assistance Request**

#### **CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

This report is considered confidential in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995, as it relates to a matter affecting an employee or employees (Section 5.23(2)(a)); and the personal affairs of any person (Section 5.23(2)(b)); and legal advice obtained, or which may be obtained, by the local government and which relates to a matter to be discussed at the meeting (Section 5.23(2)(d)).

# 8. CLOSURE