



SHIRE OF WYNDHAM EAST KIMBERLEY

Dear Ratepayer,

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley recognises and acknowledges the unique and unprecedented challenges our community is facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I want to take this opportunity to reassure our ratepayers that the Shire is doing everything it can to keep our community safe and bring you the essential services you need. Shire staff continue to seek budget efficiencies and identify strategies and initiatives that will help to support our community financially, socially and economically.

Shire rates currently make up almost half of the Shire's annual income and significantly help to support our community. Rates help pay to maintain community assets, provide legislated services and contribute towards facilities, activities and programs our community consider important. If rates are not paid then these services will be directly affected.

The Shire understands these are challenging times for our community and that the financial impact of the pandemic may result in many individuals and businesses having difficulty in paying their rates. In recognition of this, and to help support our ratepayers during these times, Council adopted the COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 April 2020.

This new policy allows those experiencing difficulties in paying their rates to seek individual payment arrangements. These arrangements will allow ratepayers an extended time to pay as well as a suspension of interest charges, administration fees, and legal action whilst the payment plan is in place.

If you are experiencing hardship please speak to our Rates Officer on 08 9168 4100 or at rates@swek.wa.gov.au. They will be able to discuss the different payment options available to you and arrange a suitable payment plan that meets your financial needs. The COVID-19 Financial Hardship policy and application form including eligibility criteria can be found on our website at www.swek.wa.gov.au under Shire Policies – Corporate Services

Warm regards,

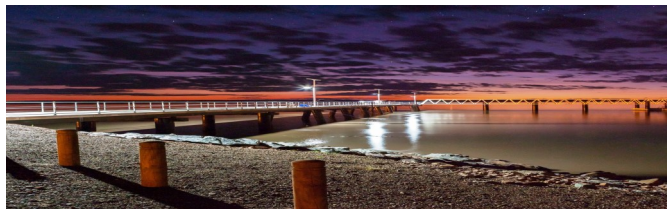
Vernon Lawrence
Chief Executive Officer

DIFFERENTIAL & MINIMUM RATING

The Shire applies differential rating categories, which are determined by land use, zoning, or a combination of these to best reflect the rate in the dollar (RID) contribution from the different property groups for the use of community assets. A minimum payment is established and maintained to ensure all ratepayers make a reasonable contribution. Where the rates calculation provides a figure lower than the minimum, then the minimum payment will apply. This system ensures owners of all types of properties make a proportionate contribution.

	ADVERTISED		ADOPTED*	
	Rate in the Dollar	Minimum payment	Rate in the Dollar	Minimum Payment
GRV Residential	0.1449	\$1,112	0.1449	\$1,112
GRV Other Vacant	0.2247	\$1,112	0.2247	\$1,112
GRV Commercial	0.1429	\$1,112	0.1429	\$1,112
GRV Industrial	0.1389	\$1,112	0.1389	\$1,112
GRV Rural Residential	0.1449	\$1,112	0.1449	\$1,112
UV Rural Residential	0.0110	\$1,112	0.0110	\$1,112
UV Pastoral	0.0570	\$1,112	0.0570	\$1,112
UV Commercial/ Industrial	0.0077	\$1,112	0.0077	\$1,112
UV Agriculture	0.0116	\$1,112	0.0116	\$1,112
UV Horticulture	0.0101	\$1,112	0.0101	\$1,112
UV Mining	0.2740	\$1,112	0.2740	\$1,112
UV Mining Exploration/ Prospecting	0.1369	\$310	0.1369	\$310
UV Other	0.0065	\$1,112	0.0065	\$1,112

**Adopted Rate in the Dollar (RID) is a 0% increase from the 2019/20 Financial Year and is the same as the RID that was advertised through Public Notice*



SHIRE OF WYNDHAM EAST KIMBERLEY RATES



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www.swek.wa.gov.au
mail@swek.wa.gov.au
08 9168 4100

WASTE CHARGES

Waste collection, disposal, and tip maintenance, including a contribution to waste management within the Shire, is funded by these charges:

Waste Management Charge of \$200 per annum.

Waste Receptacle Charge of \$315 per annum for a once weekly waste collection or \$515 per annum for exempt/non rateable properties.

Additional waste collections are charged at \$515 per receptacle per service per annum, which is inclusive of the waste management charge and waste receptacle charge.

KUNUNURRA AND WYNDHAM LANDFILL

Kununurra and Wyndham Landfill sites accept free domestic waste as of 01 July 2019. Domestic Waste is defined as anything that would go inside your curbside bin. The Shire will continue to provide its two free waste weekends in March and November to allow for the disposal of any larger domestic items such as couches, washing machines, etc.

For further information, please contact the Shire or visit our website www.swek.wa.gov.au

EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY (ESL)

This is a levy imposed by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) and collected on its behalf by Local Government in Western Australia. The 2020/21 declared minimum ESL charge is \$84.00. For further information please visit the DFES website www.dfes.wa.gov.au and click on the link to Emergency Services Levy.

PENSIONER/SENIORS

If you hold a current Pension Concession Card (not a Health Care Card) or a Veteran Affairs Gold Card, which stipulates TPI or War Widow, you may be able to claim a rebate on your sole or principal place of residence. New applications can be made by phoning the Water Corporation on 1300 659 951. If you remain eligible and received the rebate last year you do not need to reapply, the rebate amount will be shown on your Rates Notice.

CONCESSIONS

Pursuant to section 6.47 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 26 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, Rate Concessions have been granted to properties under the Differential Rating Category UV Pastoral that received a Valuation increase effective 01 July 2020. This concession will be automatically applied to eligible properties.

CHANGE OF POSTAL ADDRESS OR PROPERTY OWNERSHIP

If you have changed your address or you are about to, please let us know straight away. It is the legal responsibility of the property owner to advise the Shire, in writing, if you:

Change your mailing address and/or residential address.

Change your name (copy of driver's license or relevant certificate required).

Wish to nominate an agent to receive your rates notice.

Wish to nominate your tenant as the ratepayer (ie. as the recipient of the rates notice).

A change of Name & Address form is available from the Shire's website www.swek.wa.gov.au under Council/Rates. This form must be completed and signed by the property owner/s. Delays in mail or payments due to an incorrect address are not considered an acceptable excuse for late payment of rates.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

In Person

Present your rates notice intact to either the Kununurra or Wyndham Administration offices using cash, cheque, or EFTPOS

Pay by Phone - Credit card

Contact the Shire on 08 9168 4100 to pay your rates using your VISA or MASTERCARD

Internet Banking - BPAY

Contact your financial institution to make this payment from your account, quoting Biller Code 102376 and the reference number on your rates notice

Pay by Mail

Detach the lower portion of your rates notice and complete the credit card authority or make your cheque payable to the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley.

CAN I OBTAIN A COPY OF MY RATES NOTICE?

Rates notices are posted, replacement copies are available at a cost of \$24.60 per notice. Please contact the Shire's Rates Officer to request a copy of your rates notice.



IMPORTANT DATES

Due dates for payment of rates are as follows:

Payment in Full	Two Instalments	Four Instalments	Dates
Single Instalment	1st Instalment	1st Instalment	21/08/2020
		2nd Instalment	23/10/2020
	2nd Instalment	3rd Instalment	08/01/2021
		4th Instalment	12/03/2021

Ratepayers can elect any instalment option offered above by paying the applicable first instalment amount as per the rates notice ON OR BEFORE the first due date. Payment of a rate or service charge on any land may not be made by instalments if at the date for payment of the first instalment any part of a rate or service charge imposed on that land in a previous financial year (or interest accrued thereon at the date of issue of the rate notice) remains unpaid.

Interest is charged on all overdue balances. The penalty interest rate is currently 8% for Rates and 8% for ESL per annum calculated daily (excluding eligible pensioners and seniors). Ratepayers who qualify under Council Policy CP/FIN-3219 COVID-19 Financial Hardship – Rates and Sundry Debtors and Eligible Pensioners/Seniors are exempt from penalty interest charges.

If the instalment options shown above are not suitable, ratepayers may request a weekly, fortnightly or monthly payment arrangement at a charge of \$61.30. Contact the Rates Officer for further information.

Ratepayers who qualify under Council Policy CP/FIN-3219 COVID-19 Financial Hardship – Rates and Sundry Debtors are exempt from payment arrangement charges.

Rate payments MUST be received by the Shire by the due date. Please consider this when choosing your method of payment and the length of time for the payment to be received by the Shire.



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www.swek.wa.gov.au mail@swek.wa.gov.au 08 9168 4100

Committed to Investing in our Community and Creating a Great Place to Live.

