

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

This year, the Shire proposed to Council a 1% increase in rate yield after three consecutive years of 0% yield increases. This has allowed the organisation to examine its cost structure and make efficiency gains. While there is still more work to do on this front, the cost of providing municipal services increases at a rate that exceeds CPI. Additional rate funding will assist in maintaining and improving service levels.

Our Shire is expected to go through a period of exciting economic growth with private enterprises investing capital into projects such as the Cotton Gin, the expansion of the Ord Irrigation Area, SeaFarms Project Sea Dragon, Boab Metals Sorby Hills mining development and the possibility of a green hydrogen production facility. The Shire is hopeful that our rate base will increase with these investments and residential investments, which will enable Council to continue with a low rating strategy.

This year, an unexpected problem arose in our rate-setting process concerning the land auction at Valentine Falls Estate in 2020. This caused a fluctuation in rates payable for some UV Rural Residential property owners. The Shire found that the most equitable way to mitigate this was to apply a rate in the dollar together with a concession to achieve the desired net 1% increase in rates payable. Unfortunately, it was not given Ministerial approval by the Department of Local Government. As a result, the Shire has adopted a rate in the dollar without concessions that reduces rate revenue by \$89,000. Some ratepayers in this category will therefore experience either a rise or decline in rates payable this year.

With the reduction, we have a total rate revenue of \$10.5M that contributes to funding operating and capital expenditure, which includes maintenance and renewal of local roads, drains, footpaths, parks, playgrounds, sporting facilities and more. Rate revenue funding operating expenditure also provides various services, including waste and recycling, planning and building and community services.

The Shire also understands that we are continuing to navigate through the Coronavirus pandemic. If you are experiencing financial hardship due to the impact of COVID-19, the COVID-19 Financial hardship policy is in place.

As we move into the 2021/22 year, I would like to encourage you to view our projects highlights for the year. We look forward to delivering these projects.

Sincerely,
Vernon Lawrence.

DIFFERENTIAL & MINIMUM RATING

Please refer to Shire Policy CP FIN-3200 Strategic Rating Policy for further information regarding the Shire's rating principles and methodology.

	Advertised		Adopted	
	Rate in the Dollar	Minimum	Rate in the Dollar	Minimum
GRV Rating Categories				
Residential	0.1463	1,123	0.1463	1,123
Vacant	0.2269	1,123	0.2269	1,123
Commercial	0.1443	1,123	0.1443	1,123
Industrial	0.1403	1,123	0.1403	1,123
Rural Residential	0.1463	1,123	0.1463	1,123
UV Rating Categories				
Rural Residential	0.0111	1,123	0.0132	1,123
Pastoral	0.0570	1,123	0.0570	1,123
Commercial/Industrial	0.0078	1,123	0.0078	1,123
Agriculture	0.0117	1,123	0.0117	1,123
Horticulture	0.0102	1,123	0.0102	1,123
Mining	0.2767	1,123	0.2767	1,123
Mining Exploration and Prospecting	0.1383	313	0.1383	313
Other	0.0066	1,123	0.0066	1,123

2021-22 Adopted Rating Categories and Rate in the Dollar

* Advertised rate for UV Rural Residential category differs from the rate adopted due to the following reasons:

- In developing the advertised model assumptions are made in relation to changes in property values expected in the annual UV revaluations from the Valuer General.



	Kununurra or Wyndham Administration offices		You can now pay using your credit card via our website.
	Contact your financial institution to make this payment from your account, quoting Biller Code 102376 and the reference number on your rates notice		Detach the lower portion of your rates notice and make your cheque payable to the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley.

Rate payments MUST be received by the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley 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.

SHIRE OF WYNDHAM EAST KIMBERLEY YOUR RATES 2021/22

FOLLOW US ONLINE
@ShireofWyndhamEastKimberley

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

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 for the 2021-22 financial year to properties under the Differential Rating Categories UV Pastoral. This concession will be automatically applied to eligible properties.

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 \$318 per annum for a once weekly collection or \$518 per annum for exempt/non rateable properties.

Additional waste collections are charged at \$518 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. 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 2021/22 declared minimum ESL charge is \$88.00. For further information please visit the DFES website www.dfes.wa.gov.au and click on the link to Emergency Services Levy.

CHANGE OF POSTAL ADDRESS OR PROPERTY OWNERSHIP

If you have changed your address or you are about to, please let us know as soon as possible. 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/documents/86/change-of-address. 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.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Kununurra Water Park - \$3M



The Shire is constructing the new Kununurra Water Park after receiving funds from the State Government. Works are about to commence, and provided there are no delays due to Covid restrictions, it is due to be completed towards the end of the year.

Kununurra Leisure Centre Pool Redevelopment - \$9M



The Shire is preparing to upgrade the Kununurra Leisure Centre, including installing a 50m pool and associated wet areas. Should the Shire be successful with a BBRF Grant application, additional new storage space and program space will be added.

Clarrie Cassidy Oval Infrastructure Upgrade - \$960k



The Shire will be upgrading the Oval lights and playing surface at

Various Road Works - \$8.2M



These include renewal works on both the sealed and unsealed road network and Disaster Recovery Works on our unsealed road work.

Clarrie Cassidy Oval in Wyndham after receiving \$591,783 in funding from the State Government in this financial year.

PAYMENT DUE DATES

Full Payment	Two Instalments	Four Instalments	Due Date
Single Payment	1st Instalment	1st Instalment	08/10/2021
		2nd Instalment	10/12/2021
	2nd Instalment	3rd Instalment	11/02/2022
		4th Instalment	22/04/2022

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.

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

Interest is charged at 7% per annum on all overdue balances (excluding eligible pensioners and seniors) and is calculated daily. Ratepayers who qualify under Council Policy CP/FIN-3219 COVID-19 Financial Hardship – Rates and Sundry debt and Eligible Pensioners/Seniors are exempt from penalty interest charges.

Rates notices are either posted or emailed. Replacement copies are available at a cost of \$24.80 per notice. Please contact the Rates Officer at rates@swek.wa.gov.au to request a copy of your rates notice

OWNER OCCUPIERS ROLL

The next local government ordinary elections will be held in October 2021. If you own a property in the Shire but do not live here or you operate a business in the Shire, you may be eligible for enrolling on the owner/occupier roll. For more information visit our website www.swek.wa.gov.au/council/local-government-elections.

If you would like your Annual Rates notice to be emailed rather than sent by post, please visit our website to see the Terms and Conditions and complete our consent form.

