



Your ref:

Our ref: 25/3455-08; E25112439

Enquiries: [legislation@LGIRS.wa.gov.au](mailto:legislation@LGIRS.wa.gov.au)

Mr Vernon Lawrence  
Chief Executive Officer  
Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley

Email: [vernon.lawrence@swek.wa.gov.au](mailto:vernon.lawrence@swek.wa.gov.au)

Dear Mr Lawrence

#### **SHIRE OF WYNDHAM EAST KIMBERLEY – DIFFERENTIAL RATES 2025-26**

I refer to the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley (the Shire's) application dated 19 June 2025 requesting approval to impose a differential general rate that is more than twice the lowest rate in the unimproved value (UV) category.

I advise that, under delegated authority from the Minister for Local Government and in accordance with section 6.33(3) of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act), I have approved the Shire's application to impose differential general rates as follows:

Category of Rating (UV)	Rate in the dollar 2025/26
UV Pastoral	0.0993
UV Mining	0.2751

The approval is valid for the 2025-26 financial year.

During assessment, it was noted that the Shire's public notice did not:

- contain the proposed rate in the dollar (RID) and minimum payments; and
- the notice in the "Kimberley Echo" did not provide a closing date for submissions.

As previously advised, the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (LGIRS) will review the public notice requirements with a view to sharing further guidance with the local government sector.

Regarding the Objects and Reasons document, the Shire is encouraged to include the RIDs of the proposed rates and that the Objects and Reasons are formally endorsed by the council via a council resolution.

The Shire has imposed an increase to the RID of UV Pastoral of 61.7% in comparison to the previous year. Whilst this is offset by the decrease in valuations, it still has a significant impact to the ratepayers. The statement of Objects and Reasons published by the Shire does not adequately justify this significant increase. The Shire is encouraged to provide further detail and justification in the document.

It is noted that the Shire elected to proceed with different rates to what was proposed in the original public notice. Accordingly, the Shire should ensure that a suitable note is included in the annual budget and any impacted rate bill where a modified RID is being applied.

Please keep in mind that this approval only applies to the above specified rates and amounts. If the Shire intends to make any further changes to these rates prior to final budget adoption, please notify the legislation team so they can confirm whether doing so will void my approval.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Kimberley Craik, Senior Legislation Officer at LGIRS, on (08) 6552 1530 or by email to [legislation@LGIRS.wa.gov.au](mailto:legislation@LGIRS.wa.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Laura Hunter

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LOCAL GOVERNMENT – SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE**

7 July 2025