

PORT PIRIE REGIONAL COUNCIL

RATES: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How are rates calculated?

The rating structure includes various components which make up the rates payable, depending on the land use of the property.

Rates comprise of the following:

Fixed Charge (applicable to all properties)

@ \$465 per property (an increase of \$5 from \$460)

+ Capital Valuation x Rate in \$

(differential rates determined by land use/locality)

Residential	0.394 cents in the \$
Commercial/Industrial	0.788 cents in the \$
Industrial (Smelter)	4.779 cents in the \$
Vacant	0.788 cents in the \$
Primary Production	0.315 cents in the \$
Other	0.394 cents in the \$

+ Waste Management Service Charge

(applicable to all residential properties in the district) @ \$220

+ CWMS Service Charge (per serviced property)

Crystal Brook Occupied \$185, Vacant \$139

Napperby Occupied \$432, Vacant \$324

+ NRM Levy (paid to the NYNRM Board)

(applicable to all properties) @ 0.01815 cents in the \$

= Total Rates Payable

Who works out the value of my property?

Council has adopted Capital Valuations, as provided by the Valuer-General, as the basis to raise its annual rates.

For 2017/18 the total valuation of the region has increased by 2.54% to over \$2,364 million, of which 1.15% is growth. There are 10,250 rateable properties.

Valuations have generally remained stable, with only a small proportion of properties subject to minor variations.

Why have my rates increased this year?

One or more of three reasons:

- Increased valuation
- Increased rate in the dollar
- Change in rate Land Use (Residential / Commercial / Industrial / Primary Production / Vacant / Other).

What can I do about a large increase in my rates?

- You can object to your valuation if you feel it is too high; or
- You can object to your land use category if it is not accurate.

Adjustments may occasionally result in increased valuations and therefore rates.

If you are suffering hardship, please see the Rates Officer to discuss payment terms.

When are Rates due for payment?

Rates can be paid in full or by instalments. Rate Notices advise the minimum amount that is due for payment by a certain date.

The instalment dates for 2017/18 are:

Wednesday, 13 September 2017

Wednesday, 13 December 2017

Wednesday, 14 March 2018

Wednesday, 13 June 2018.

How does Council decide on the land use categories?

The categories are Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Primary Production, Vacant and Other, as defined in legislation. Council cannot adjust these categories. Land is categorised (and valued) by the Land Services Group (SA Government).

How do Port Pirie Council rates compare with other Councils?

The average residential and primary production rates are still amongst the lowest in SA.

Why is there a fixed charge?

The fixed charge enables a standard fee to be applied to every property in the council area, regardless of value. In total, it raises about one third of all rate revenue. A single fixed charge is applied to adjoining properties or where they are part of a single farming enterprise.

Has my Waste Service Charge increased?

Council has a three bin waste collection service for all residential properties. Council is required to recover no more than the actual cost of providing the service.

The cost of the current 3 bin service is expected to remain at approximately \$212 per residential property. This is the same as last year. Council only recovers the amount it costs to collect and dispose of the collected waste, which has to be transported to Inkerman.

Why do I have to pay if I'm not on the collection route?

You will receive a 25% discount if your property access is 0.5km to 2km from the waste collection point, a 50% discount for 2km to 5km and no charge for over 5km.

Has CWMS fees changed?

Council provides effluent disposal systems to residential and commercial properties in Crystal Brook and Napperby. The full cost of operating and maintaining the service is recovered through a charge for each property to which the service is available, including non-rateable properties.

Vacant properties pay 75% of the full rate, as occupied properties also incur the cost of pumping out of septic tanks. All surplus funds previously raised are kept as dedicated funds for future use.

The fees will be reviewed in consideration of the latest information every few years.

Why do businesses pay a higher rate in the dollar than residences?

Businesses often incur higher costs to Council to maintain roads and other infrastructure for increased activity associated with their premises. Most Councils apply this principle for business.

What is Council doing with the money?

Council adopts its Business Plan and Budget each year, detailing its projects and services for the coming year. Council also updated and adopted the long term financial and asset management plans which included the planned capital works for the next ten years.

Detailed information is available on Council's website.

Why hasn't Council told anyone about the changes?

Council conducted public consultation from late May until mid June, including the Recorder, Flinders News, television, radio and website, and held a public information session. This occurs every year prior to adoption of the Business Plan and Budget which includes the approach to the setting of Rates.

What do I get for my rates?

Port Pirie Regional Council provides all of the following services and more.....

- ✓ ***Art Gallery***
- ✓ ***Barbecues***
- ✓ ***Beach facilities***
- ✓ ***Bicycle paths***
- ✓ ***Boatramps***
- ✓ ***Bridges***
- ✓ ***Building assessment***
- ✓ ***Bus shelters***
- ✓ ***Business support***
- ✓ ***Bylaw administration***
- ✓ ***Caravan Park***
- ✓ ***Cemeteries***
- ✓ ***Community bus***
- ✓ ***Community development programs***
- ✓ ***Community grants***
- ✓ ***Community halls***
- ✓ ***Community housing***
- ✓ ***Community information***
- ✓ ***Community leadership/advocacy***
- ✓ ***Community services***
- ✓ ***Control of pest animals & plants***
- ✓ ***Crime prevention***
- ✓ ***Cultural programs***
- ✓ ***Cycling tracks***
- ✓ ***Development assessment***
- ✓ ***Dog and cat management***
- ✓ ***Drummuster***
- ✓ ***Dry zones***
- ✓ ***Economic development***
- ✓ ***Effluent disposal schemes***
- ✓ ***Employment/training programs***
- ✓ ***Environmental health***
- ✓ ***Environmental management***
- ✓ ***Environmental protection***

- ✓ *European wasp, mosquito control*
- ✓ *Festivals and events*
- ✓ *Fire prevention*
- ✓ *Flood prevention*
- ✓ *Food inspection*
- ✓ *Footpaths*
- ✓ *Free internet in libraries*
- ✓ *Information services*
- ✓ *Internet Suite*
- ✓ *Jetties*
- ✓ *Kerbing*
- ✓ *Libraries*
- ✓ *Library events*
- ✓ *Litter control*
- ✓ *Local road safety*
- ✓ *Nature strips*
- ✓ *Off street parking*
- ✓ *On street parking*
- ✓ *Online services*
- ✓ *Ovals*
- ✓ *Parks and gardens*
- ✓ *Pedestrian crossings*
- ✓ *Planning*
- ✓ *Playgrounds*
- ✓ *Public conveniences*
- ✓ *Recreation facilities*
- ✓ *Recycling*
- ✓ *Reserves and picnic areas*
- ✓ *Road Safety Education Centre*
- ✓ *Roads – local and access*
- ✓ *Roadside vegetation*
- ✓ *Rural property addressing*
- ✓ *Senior citizens support*
- ✓ *Skate parks*
- ✓ *Stormwater drainage*
- ✓ *Strategic planning*
- ✓ *Street cleaning*
- ✓ *Street lighting*
- ✓ *Street trees*
- ✓ *Swimming pools*
- ✓ *Tourism information*
- ✓ *Traffic management*
- ✓ *Vandalism and graffiti repair*
- ✓ *Volunteer programs*
- ✓ *Waste collection*
- ✓ *Waste disposal*
- ✓ *Water re-use projects*
- ✓ *Weed control*
- ✓ *Wetlands*
- ✓ *Youth programs*