



MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

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2017-2018 BUDGET ADOPTED

Council have adopted the 2017-2018 Shire of Esperance Budget at yesterday's Ordinary Council Meeting. Rate parameters, fees and charges, reserve movements, proposed borrowings and waste rates for the 2017-2018 financial year were also adopted.

The budget outlines operational expenditure and capital projects being undertaken over the next twelve months and how these will be funded.

On 25 July 2017 Council endorsed the differential rates of 4.5% for town and rural properties, with commercial properties being set lower at 2.5%. The rates are reviewed by Council every year and are set to ensure the rates charged are sufficient to support the facilities and services the Shire provides.

Some of the notable expenditure items in the 2017-2018 budget include:

- \$14.085m on road maintenance
- \$14.817m road construction and renewal
- \$9.703 Coastal Maintenance (this includes \$6m for the Jetty - \$2m from Shire and \$4m from external funding)
- \$150k Construction drawings for the Indoor Sports Stadium
- Funding for CCTV to be installed in the Town Centre, along the Foreshore, the Airport and the Bay of Isles Leisure Centre
- Funding for three major events to be held during the year, these will be give our community a great opportunity to come together and encourage visitors to our town: Edge of the Bay; King of Concrete; and Bay of Isles Beer and BBQ Festival.
- Crushing of Construction and Demolition waste – This crushed product can be utilised for engineering purposes (i.e. road base)
- New hopper for Shire Glass Crusher at Wylie Bay Waste Facility to assist with recycling glass for use in road base construction

Shire President Victoria Brown said "Setting the budget is a huge responsibility when we are dealing with community assets and where expenditure needs to occur. Service expectations are increasing, as are the costs associated with supplying them. Council and Shire Staff are working in a challenging environment to present a budget that will continue to deliver our many diverse high quality services, maintain our significant number of assets and build on making our community stronger".

Shire residents are reminded that the domestic waste service can be altered to suit individual needs. Residents can determine which size recycling and rubbish bins provide the best solution for their household with bins ranging from 140ltr to 360ltr. All rateable properties will receive domestic waste voucher entitlements. The waste rate remains at \$80 per rateable property.

The Emergency Services Levy is collected on behalf of the State Government to fund a range of emergency services organisations, including local bush fire brigades within the Shire of Esperance.

The Shire offers several payment options which can be arranged by contacting our Rates Department and ratepayers are urged to do so promptly to avoid the accrual of late Payment interest. Pensioner or Senior Rebates are available by contacting the Water Corporation on 1300 659 951 to register your concession card details.

Ends

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