



MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

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PROPOSED RATES FOR 2017

Council have endorsed the differential rates for the 2017/2018 budget and resolved to advertise the Differential and Minimum Rates. Submissions on the proposed rates will be accepted from now until 19 June 2017.

Differential Rate Category	Cents in the Dollar	Minimum Rate
GRV Residential	0.093041	\$1076
GRV Commercial	0.094902	\$1076
GRV Vacant	0.093041	\$1076
UV Commercial	0.009048	\$1076
UV Rural	0.009048	\$1076
UV Mining	0.089546	\$538

A statement of objects and reasons for the proposed differential rates is available for inspection at the Shire Administration Office, Windich Street, Esperance during office hours.

Shire President Victoria Brown said, "The proposed differential rates will mean an increase of 4.5% for town properties and only 2.5% for commercial properties, rather than the originally forecast increase of 6.5% in the Long Term Financial Plan.

"This has been through efficiency gains throughout the organisation and cost saving changes being implemented from solar panels at the Bay of Isles Leisure Centre and a new boiler for the pool reducing gas consumption, to a glass crushing machine so that recycled glass no longer has to be sent out of the Shire."

"The proposed differential rates will see an average increase of \$62 per household, and approximately \$31 per eligible pensioner which will in part go towards the cost of running services such as BOILC, the library and maintaining our road network."

The Differential rates proposed will allow the Shire to continue to reduce the identified asset management gap while ensuring funding is made available for major projects such as rural road re-sheeting.

Ratepayers and Electors are invited to make a submission on the proposed differential and minimum payment for Council's consideration.

Ends

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