

FACT SHEET

Rates



Why do we Pay Rates?

Councils use rates to fund the facilities and services that they deliver to their communities.

Facilities include:

- roads
- parks
- recreation centres
- libraries
- cemeteries
- airports

As well as services like:

- child care assistance
- community grants and events
- citizenship ceremonies
- recycling and waste
- swimming pools
- radio

Many of these facilities and services are provided free to residents and ratepayers.

It is not only funds from rates which supports the Shire's projects and activities. Council aims to keep rates as reasonable as possible by raising approximately 70% of its income from investments, fees and charges and through Federal and State Government grants.

How does Council calculate rates?

The Shire adopts a balanced budget methodology during the budget setting process. The Shire determines the budget deficiency before the imposition of rates and this then provides the amount required to be raised from rates to fund the new financial years operating, investing and financing activities. This amount is used to calculate the rates in the dollar required to be applied against the total rateable property valuations.

Minimum Rates

Minimum rates are determined by Council on the basis that all ratepayers must make a reasonable contribution to the cost of local government services, facilities and investment for the future. (s6.35 of the Local Government Act 1995)



Emergency Services Levy (ESL)

The Emergency Services Levy (ESL) is an annual charge paid by all property owners in Western Australia.

Every dollar raised through the ESL pays for the delivery of critical and life-saving fire and emergency services across the State. The Shire collects the ESL on behalf of DFES through rates payments.

Paying Your Rates

There are numerous ways you can pay your rates including:



BPAY

Bill ID:
71126



Over the Phone

(08) 9671 2500



In Person (cash, card or cheque)

Shire of Wongan-Ballidu and Wongan Hills CRC Customer Service Centre
"The Station" 1 Wongan Road
Wongan Hills, WA 6603

Payment Assistance and Financial Hardship

Ratepayers experiencing financial hardship in paying rates and charges should contact the Shire's Rates Officer on 9671 2500 prior to the due date shown on the rate notice to discuss alternative payment arrangements.

Overdue Rates Accounts

If no arrangements have been made and rates and charges remain outstanding after the due date, legal action may be taken for their recovery. Costs associated with any legal action will be added to the rate account.

Arrears

Interest will continue to accrue daily on any arrear balances, until these arrears have been paid in full.

Change My Contact Details



Sign up to E-Rates

Pensioner and Senior Rebates



Or visit our website for more information:

www.wongan.wa.gov.au/residents/rates/rates.aspx