



## eRATES

To receive future rates notices via email, register at [www.plantagenet.wa.gov.au](http://www.plantagenet.wa.gov.au). Electronic versions of the Annual Bushfire Mitigation Notice, Kerbside Recycling Collection Calendar and Emergency Services Levy brochure are available on our website.

## PAYMENT OPTIONS

### PROMPT PAYMENT

Ratepayers who pay their rates in full by the 11 September 2023 due date enter the rates incentive prize draw.

### TWO INSTALMENTS

Ratepayers may elect to pay by two instalments. Instalments are due on 11 September 2023 and 15 January 2024. A \$7.50 administration fee per instalment reminder notice is payable when electing to pay by instalments.

### FOUR INSTALMENTS

Ratepayers may elect to pay by four instalments. Instalments are due on 11 September 2023, 13 November 2023, 15 January 2024 and 18 March 2024. A \$7.50 administration fee per instalment reminder notice is payable when electing to pay by instalments.

If you are struggling to pay your rates, please contact our Rates Officer as soon as possible on (08) 9892 1128 to discuss your options.

## YOUR RATES AT WORK

Your rates are at work year-round, funding essential day-to-day services and infrastructure projects to benefit our community.

Rates are a vital contribution to the Shire's capacity to meet the immediate and future needs of the Plantagenet community.

The **Emergency Services Levy (ESL)** is collected on behalf of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. It funds responding to 000 calls, fire and emergency services vehicles and facilities, volunteer fire brigades, State Emergency Service units and the volunteer emergency services unit. Direct ESL enquiries to DFES Head Office on (08) 9395 9300.

A Waste Levy applies to all properties to fund waste management at our facilities in Mount Barker, Kendenup, Kamballup, Rocky Gully and Porongurup.

A Domestic Rubbish Bin Collection charge applies to properties that are serviced by a weekly kerbside household rubbish bin collection and a fortnightly kerbside recycling bin collection. Residential rural properties that do not receive this service receive a 26 token tip pass to dispose of household waste at the tip. Additional tip pass tokens can be purchased from the Shire office. Green waste disposal is free for all ratepayers. It is accepted at the Mount Barker, Kendenup and Rocky Gully tip sites.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR RATES

Rates are the contribution each property owner makes to services and infrastructure for the Plantagenet community.

Other income sources include grants from the State and Federal Governments, and fees and charges.

The Shire collects rates to fund day-to-day services including the maintenance of recreational facilities such as the Mount Barker Memorial Swimming Pool and Mount Barker Recreation Centre, the construction and maintenance of roads, footpaths and trails, lighting, rubbish collection and waste management, the Mount Barker Public Library, parks, gardens, playgrounds, public open spaces and reserves, and emergency services.

Rates are calculated annually from 1 July to 30 June.

## HOW ARE RATES CALCULATED?

Rates are a charge on your property based on its Gross Rental Value (GRV) or Unimproved Value (UV). Rates are calculated by multiplying the rate in the dollar (set by the Council) by your property valuation. The Council sets the rate in the dollar as part of each year's budget process. It is based on the Shire's expenditure requirements, offset by income streams.

The valuation of your property is assessed by the State Government Valuer General's Office using the following methods:

**Unimproved Value (UV)** is based on the unimproved capital value of the land. It is used for farming and horticultural properties.

**Gross Rental Value (GRV)** is used for all other properties. It is based on a theoretical annual rental value should the property be rented to a third party. If the land is vacant, the Valuer General's Office will base the valuation on five percent of the capital value.

The Council sets a minimum rate for all properties to ensure property owners make an equitable contribution to the essential services and infrastructure provided to the Plantagenet community.

Minimum rates for the 2023/2024 budget:  
Rural Townsites (GRV) \$1020  
Rural (GRV) \$1020  
Mount Barker Townsite (GRV) \$1020  
Strata Titles (GRV) \$1020  
Rural (UV) \$1050  
Mining (UV) \$1050.

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Postal address: PO Box 48, Mount Barker WA 6324

Phone: (08) 9892 1111

Email: [info@sop.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@sop.wa.gov.au)

Website: [www.plantagenet.wa.gov.au](http://www.plantagenet.wa.gov.au)

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## 2023/2024 BUDGET AND RATES INFORMATION

Shire President Chris Pavlovich said the budget, adopted by the Council on 25 July, comprised \$20.6 million of operating expenditure and \$10.2 million of capital expenditure.

"We have targeted spending to services and projects that are important to the community, highlighted through engagement and strategic planning," Cr Pavlovich said.

"Major projects include up to \$3.75 million towards the next stage of the Mount Barker Memorial Swimming Pool redevelopment, subject to final design and costing," he said.

"The Council has allocated \$370,000 towards infrastructure on Pwackenbak (Mount Barker) Tower Hill to complement the 10 kilometres of mountain bike trails being built by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, as part of our vision to become one of the state's premier mountain biking destinations."

"In addition, \$150,000 has been allocated towards the development of a youth recreational precinct at Wilson Park, in response to community engagement that identified enhancing parks, recreational spaces, and youth services and facilities as key priorities, and \$120,000 to upgrade the ablution facilities at the Porongurup Hall."

"The community has told us that roads and footpaths are high priorities, so the Council has allocated \$2.43 million to road and drainage programs. This budget sees us transition from a construction period to a maintenance period, aimed at improving drainage, culverts, and preventing vegetation regrowth. Our aim is to preserve vital road assets for future generations."

"The Council will provide financial support to community groups and organisations through grants worth more than \$108,000, across sport, arts and tourism, among others. We value our strong volunteer base and always strive to provide support for sustainability into the future."

Cr Pavlovich said that despite increasing operating costs, these projects and services would be delivered by keeping a tight rein on spending to retain a modest five percent rates increase, less than the Consumer Price Index.

"This budget aligns with our vision to build a sustainable and respectful community where the environment is preserved and natural beauty and diversity provide opportunities for all," he said.

View the full budget on the Shire website. Hard copies are available at the Administration Centre and the Mount Barker Public Library.

## CONCESSIONS AND REBATES

### PENSIONER REBATES

Pensioner Concession Card holders may be eligible for a rebate of up to 50 percent of their rates to a maximum of \$750. Pensioners may also be eligible for a rebate of the current year's Emergency Services Levy and water service charges.

### SENIORS REBATES

Seniors Card holders may be entitled to a rebate of up to 25 percent of their rates to a maximum of \$100. Seniors may also be eligible for a rebate of the current year's Emergency Services Levy.

Partial concessions are available to pensioners and seniors who own and occupy their property at 1 July and become eligible during that financial year.

Eligible pensioners are exempt from being charged interest on deferred and current rates. For further information regarding rates concessions, contact our Rates Officer on (08) 989 1128.

## PAY ON TIME TO WIN

Ratepayers who pay their rates in full by the 11 September 2023 due date enter the rates incentive prize draw.

**FIRST PRIZE:** \$750 bank account with the Mount Barker Community Bank Branch Bendigo Bank.



**SECOND PRIZE:** A two night stay for two people in a premium deluxe room at the Quality Ambassador Hotel Perth with full buffet breakfast daily and complimentary parking.



**THIRD PRIZE:** Access to the Mount Barker Recreation Centre or Mount Barker Memorial Swimming Pool to the value of \$250.



Prizes are awarded to the first three entries drawn at random. Instalment options are ineligible for the rates incentive prize draw.

## HOW TO PAY YOUR RATES

**MAIL:** PO Box 48, Mount Barker, 6324.

**TELEPHONE:** Using Mastercard or Visa card by calling 1300 276 468. Quote Biller ID 000225 and use the reference number on the rear of your rates notice as the reference.

**IN PERSON:** at the Administration Centre on Lowood Road in Mount Barker.

**BPAY:** Contact your financial institution to make payment using your debit card. Quote Biller Code 93211 and use the reference number from the rear of your rates notice as reference.

**BPOINT INTERNET PAYMENT FACILITY:** Using a Mastercard or Visa card. Visit [www.bpoint.com.au/payments/plantagenet](http://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/plantagenet) and use the reference number on the rear of your rates notice in the Customer Reference Number field.

**NEED HELP?** Contact our Rates Officer on (08) 9892 1128.



## 2023-2024 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

### MAJOR PROJECTS

\$3.75 million: stage 1B of the Mount Barker Memorial Swimming Pool redevelopment, subject to final costing and design.

\$2.43 million: road and drainage projects.

\$370,000 - infrastructure (parking and public amenities) on Pwackenbak (Mount Barker) Tower Hill.

\$150,000 - development of the Wilson Park youth recreational precinct.

\$150,000 - Martin Street land subdivision.

\$120,000 - Porongurup Hall ablution facilities upgrade.

\$108,154 - returned to the community via grants.

### ROADWORKS PROGRAM

#### Roads to Recovery (fully Federal funded)

Barrow Road SLK 3.75-13.46 gravel overlay \$255,000  
Mitchell Street SLK 0.0-2.35 additional width \$79,128  
Newman Road SLK 0.0-0.46 widen, sheet and construct \$134,784

Memorial Road resurface \$126,720.

#### Regional Road Group (2/3 State and 1/3 Shire)

Red Gum Pass Road SLK 4.33-7.59 reseal \$135,000  
Martagallup Road SLK 5.0-10.65 reseal \$158,490  
Carbarup Road SLK TBD reseal \$352,688  
Palmdale Road SLK 8.42-11.5 resheet \$123,713.

#### Council and other funded

Chauvel Road SLK 0.49-2.23 reseal (Council) \$76,910  
Knights Road SLK 8.99-14.69 gravel resheet (Council) \$150,000.

