



2020-2021 Rates Information

Council rates are a contribution each property owner makes towards the cost of providing facilities and services in the Shire of Irwin

Gross Rental Value (GRV)

The rates are levied based on the values of the rateable properties as provided by Landgate. Gross Rental Values (GRVs) are used for urban properties and these are re-assessed once every four (4) years. The current values are based on the revaluation effective 1 July 2019.

Unimproved Value (UV)

Unimproved Values (UVs) of properties, provided by Landgate, are used as the basis for the levying of rates for rural properties. Annual revaluations apply for all rural land within the Shire.

Mining UV

All land for which a mining tenement has been issued by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety and valued as such by Landgate. Land used for mining is rated higher than the UV rural rate to ensure fairness and equity due to the different valuation method and relatively lower valuation. Also, to recognise the often-short-term nature of mining projects in the region.

Minimum Rates

Council believes that in view of the level of service and facilities available to all ratepayers, the minimum rate is representative of the minimum contribution that should be made by owners of all rateable land regardless of the value of the property. A minimum rate of \$1021 applies for 2020/21.

Rate Charges

Rates in the dollar for the 2020/21 financial year for each rating category are shown below:

Rate Category (GRV)	
General Rates	11.1808
Rate Category (UV)	
Rural General Rate	1.4193
Mining Differential Rate	18.9882

Objections to Valuations

Property valuations are set by Landgate and are used to determine the rates payable on each property. A revaluation of properties in the UV area is undertaken annually, and once every 4 years in the GRV area. As such, a change in your property valuation may have an impact on your annual rates.

If you have a query with your property value, or wish to lodge an objection, more information can be found on their website

www.landgate.wa.gov.au/valuations

Objections must be lodged within 60 days after the issue of the rates notice. Rates must still be paid pending the outcome of the objection. A refund will be issued if the objection is upheld.

Pensioner and Senior Discounts

If you are a Pensioner or Senior, you may be able to apply for a rebate for your Council Rates, Emergency Services Levy and annual Water Corporation Rates. Please note that rubbish and pool fees are not subject to a concession.

To be eligible for a concession, an applicant must be:

- the owner and reside at the property on 1 July of the rates year; and

- in receipt of a pension or hold a Pensioner Concession Card or State Concession Card; or
- in receipt of a Senior's Card or Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

Eligible pensioners are entitled to claim a rebate of 50% of the current year's rates, up to a maximum of \$750 or may apply to defer those rates. Seniors who meet the eligibility criteria are entitled to claim a rebate of 25% of the current year's rates, up to a maximum of \$100.

Concessions apply after eligible ratepayers have registered their entitlement with the Water Corporation.

Pro-rata rebates may be offered. You must notify the Water Corporation if you change your circumstances in relation to your pension, ownership of the property or whether you continue to occupy the property.

Emergency Services Levy

All local governments are required to collect the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) on behalf of the Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES). For further information, visit www.dfes.wa.gov.au

Rate Payment Options

Your rates notice is enclosed with this leaflet. If you believe any of the details are incorrect, please let us know.

You have a choice about how and when you pay your rates, as follows:

Option 1

One lump sum payment due on Tuesday 15 September 2020. Please note, there will be no Early Ratepayers Prize Draw.





Option Two

Pay over two instalments due on Tuesday 15 September 2020 and Monday 16 November 2020.

Option Three

Pay over four instalments due on Tuesday 15 September 2020, Monday 16 November 2020, Monday 18 January 2021 and Thursday 18 March 2021.

How to Pay Your Rates

Your rates can be paid:

- In person at the Shire of Irwin
- Over the phone
- By Mail
- Online with BPay
- Online with Mastercard or Visa - www.irwin.wa.gov.au

If you think you may have trouble paying your rates by the due date, please contact the Shire of Irwin's Rates Officer to discuss alternative payment arrangements. We can help you establish a weekly, fortnightly or monthly payment plan. Note that rates must be paid within the financial year and interest will be charged on overdue amounts.

Covid-19

For those suffering genuine hardship due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, please ask about our financial hardship policy.

Instalments

All arrears and interest still outstanding on your account need to be paid in full along with the first instalment for 2020/21 for you to be eligible to enter into the instalment options.

The cost of the instalment plans will comprise of 5.5% interest per annum calculated from the date the first instalment is due, together with an administration fee of \$5 for each instalment notice. Please note these charges are only incurred after the first instalment.

Overdue Rates

Don't be late! Rates that are not paid by the due date will incur a daily interest charge. Interest will be applied to instalments outstanding past the due date, or where the instalment option is not in place 35 days after the date the rate notice

was issued. The interest rate is 8% per annum, calculated daily.

Contact Your Elected Members

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Shire President's Message to the Community

To the Community and Ratepayers of the Shire of Irwin, there is no denial that the challenges of the past 6 months have put an enormous amount of pressure on our staff and Councillors, to not only balance the budget but to also maintain our existing high service delivery on the rural roads network, parks and gardens as well as customer service in general.

The primary focus of the budget is to secure all the above, as well as creating infrastructure development along with continual forward planning for future projects that will enhance and secure economic development in our region.

I am pleased to note that Council's resolve on a 0% rate increase will hopefully allow businesses and community members alike, to navigate through these uncharted times of uncertainty.

I also wish to pay tribute to an outstanding performance under extreme circumstances that staff and our CEO have achieved since the previous budget. I urge the community of Irwin to get behind them going forward, as we are a long way off returning to "normal" from one of the most confronting and challenging periods in modern history.

I wish everyone good health and well being in the future and thank you all for the self-discipline in fighting the pandemic.

Yours Sincerely
Mike Smith
Shire President