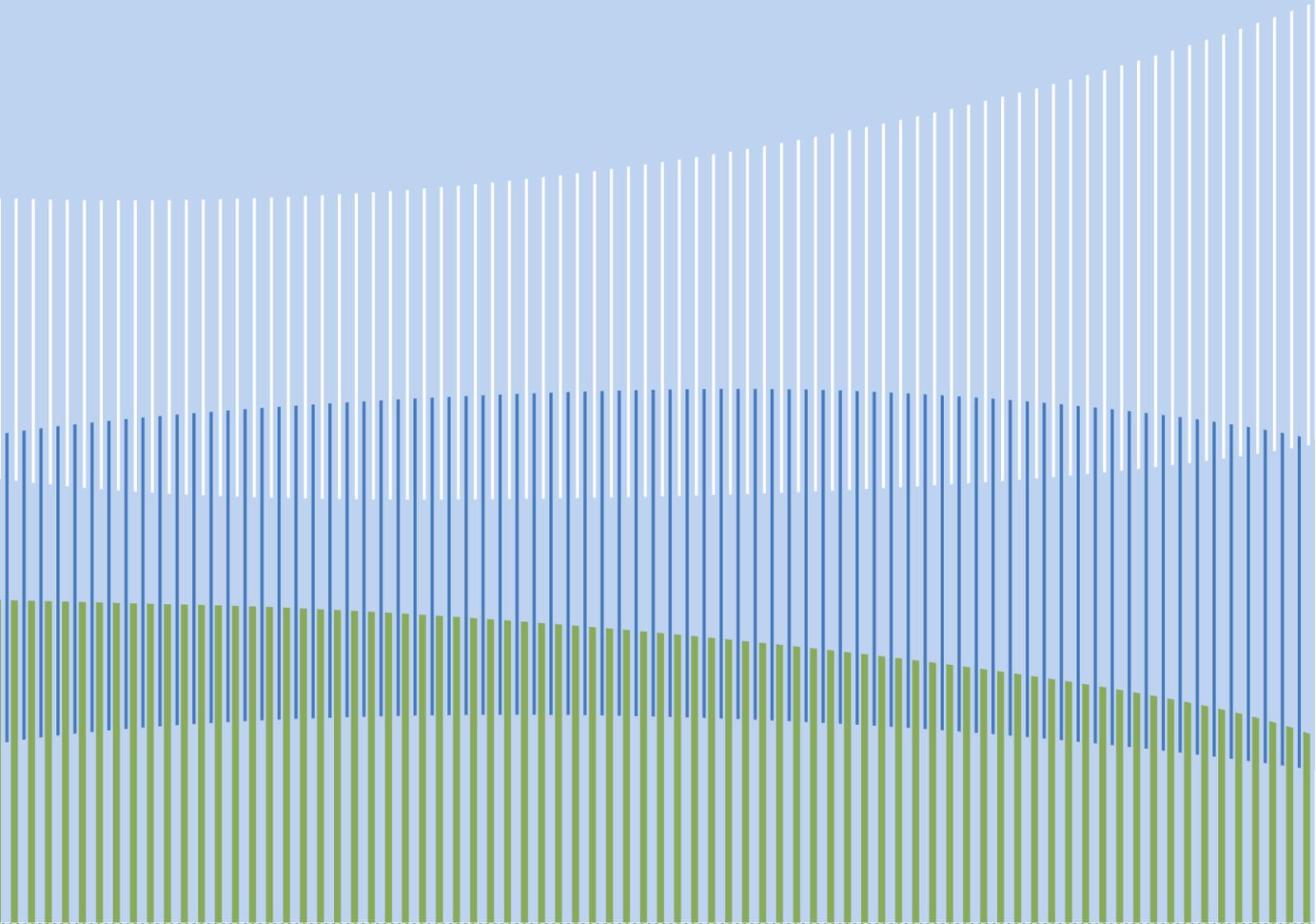


Differential Rates 2019/20

Statement of Objects and Reasons



Proposed Differential Rates and Minimum Payments for 2019/20

Section 6.36 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) requires Council to give local public notice of its intention to impose Differential Rates and Minimum Payments, inviting submissions from electors and ratepayers. This document describes the objects of and reasons for each proposed differential rate and minimum payment, required to be made available for inspection by electors and ratepayers per section 6.36(3)(c) of the Act.

The 2019/20 Budget will not be adopted until after consideration by Council of any elector and ratepayer submissions, pursuant to Section 6.36(4) of the Act. The Act empowers Council to adopt differential rates or minimum payments different from those published in the public notice. In addition, the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 require that if a Council does adopt any differential rates or minimum payments that are different from those set out in the public notice, then its adopted Budget must include a statement providing reasons for adopting any different rates or minimums from those set out in its public notice.

In its deliberations, prior to formally adopting the budget and imposing rates and minimum payments, Council will consider any submissions received and, as part of its due diligence processes, may also consider any new information on any budget-related matters not available to it at the time of giving public notice of intention to impose proposed rates and minimum payments.

This may include for example, Council consideration of any updated advice on inflation forecasts for 2019/20, any changes to forecast changes to costs of State Government utilities including electricity tariffs, street lighting, water or sewerage, or any changes related to any of the local government recurrent grants or any other Federal or State funds forecast to be received.

Minimum Rates

The Shire imposes a single minimum rate across the rating categories with the exception of storage units, ensuring all properties contribute an equitable rate amount to non-exclusive services. The minimum rate recognises that all ratepayers have an equal opportunity to enjoy the facilities and services provided by Council, regardless of the value of their property. The minimum rate for 2019/20 is \$1,143.

A lesser minimum of \$843 is proposed for single storage units in recognition of the significantly lower valuation when compared to other properties. This lesser minimum is only applicable where the calculated rate is less than the general minimum rate.

Differential Rates

GRV Rate Categories	Minimum Payment	Rate in \$
GRV General	\$1,143	0.096760
GRV Commercial	\$1,143	0.077408

URV Rate Categories	Minimum Payment	Rate in \$
UV General	\$1,143	0.006654

Objects and Reasons

Description	Characteristics	Objects	Reasons
GRV General	Properties that are used for purposes other than commercial.	The object of this differential is to ensure that all ratepayers make a reasonable contribution towards the services and facilities provided and maintained by the Shire for the benefit of residents.	Revenue derived from this category to assist funding the service levels expected of the community, achieving the Strategic Community Plan and minimum standards of performance to which the Council will be measured by the State Government and others.
GRV Commercial	Properties that are used for non-residential purposes.	The object of this differential rate is to ensure all income producing facilities contribute to funding the costs associated with the service provided to these properties.	Lower rate in the dollar compared to residential, to reflect the economic circumstances associated with the significant fluctuation in valuations in the 2017/18 financial year. This will encourage retention of commercial activities during current economic circumstances, providing diversification of the economy and opportunity for local employment.
UV General	Properties that are used primarily for rural, farming or mining purposes.	The object of this differential is to ensure that all ratepayers make a reasonable contribution towards the services and facilities provided and maintained by the Shire for the benefit of residents	Revenue derived from this category to assist funding the service levels expected of the community, achieving the Strategic Community Plan and minimum standards of performance to which the Council will be measured by the State Government and others.

Submissions

Submissions are invited from any elector or ratepayer with respect to the proposed rates, and any related matter. Submissions should be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Murray, PO Box 21, Pinjarra WA 6210 and be clearly marked 'Submission – Differential Rating 2019/20'.

All submissions should be received no later than 12.00pm on 26 June 2019.