

# RATES NOTICE FACT SHEET

## Guide to understanding your 2019/20 Rates Notice

### What are Rates and Charges?

Rates and charges are annual payments made by property owners to help Council meet the costs of providing services and maintaining assets on behalf of the community. The rates and charges are determined through the Annual Budget, which was adopted on 13 June 2018.

Your Rates are made up of the following charges and levies:

| Description                     | Charge/Rate |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| General Rate                    | see table   |
| Municipal Charge                | \$348.24    |
| Environmental Levy              | \$120.00    |
| General Waste (per bin)         | \$240.00    |
| Recycling Service (per bin)     | \$118.00    |
| Organic Waste Service (per bin) | \$103.00    |
| FSPL Fixed Charge               | see table   |
| FSPL Variable Charge            | see table   |
| FSPL Pension Rebate             | -\$50.00    |
| Pension Concession (rebate)     | -\$235.15   |

### Can I get a Pension rebate?

To be eligible for a Pension rebate, you must hold a current:

- Pensioner Concession card (issued by Centrelink or Department of Veterans Affairs);
- Department of Veterans Affairs Gold Card TPI - Totally and Permanently Incapacitated; or
- Department of Veterans Affairs Gold Card WW - War Widow.

Health Care Cards do not entitle you to a rate rebate.

A rebate may only be claimed for your principal place of residence.

### How is the General Rate calculated?

The General Rate is different for every property and is based on the Capital Improved Value (CIV) applied against the nominated rate in the dollar. This rate is determined by the category of your land.

These categories are listed in the table below which also shows the 2019/20 rate in the dollar:

Example of the calculation for residential property:

$$\text{\$230,000 (CIV)} \times \text{0.0035000 (rate)} = \text{\$805.00}$$

| Description                        | 2019/20 Rate |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Residential & Rural - Vacant       | 0.0070000    |
| Residential & Rural - Building     | 0.0035000    |
| Farm - Vacant                      | 0.0035000    |
| Farm - Building                    | 0.0035000    |
| Commercial & Industrial - Vacant   | 0.0070000    |
| Commercial & Industrial - Building | 0.00490000   |
| Cultural & Recreational            | 0.00339500   |

### What if I disagree with the valuation?

You have the right to lodge a formal objection to the valuation of your property under the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*. Council must receive the objection within two months of the date of issue detailed on your Rates notice.

The process of appeal can be lengthy so ratepayers are encouraged to continue making the scheduled payments to avoid any interest charges.

## What is the Fire Service Property Levy?

From 1 July 2013, the Fire Services Levy was removed from insurance premiums.

This is now collected through council rates which mean that all property owners contribute to funding Victoria's fire services, not just those with adequate insurance.

The levy includes a fixed charge as well as a variable component, which is calculated based on the type of property you own.

| Property Sector                          | Fixed Charge | CFA Variable Rates* |
|--|--------------|---------------------|
| Residential<br>(including vacant land)   | \$111.00     | 0.000066            |
| Commercial                               | \$226.00     | 0.000795            |
| Industrial                               | \$226.00     | 0.000953            |
| Primary Production                       | \$226.00     | 0.000190            |
| Public benefit                           | \$226.00     | 0.000066            |
| Vacant<br>(excluding vacant residential) | \$226.00     | 0.000249            |

\*cents per \$1,000 of CIV

## How is the FSPL variable rate calculated?

The variable charge is calculated by applying the nominated rate (as shown in the above table) against the Capital Improved Value (CIV) of your property.

Example of the calculation for residential property:

$$\text{\$230,000 (CIV)} \times \text{0.000066 (rate)} = \text{\$15.18}$$

Property owners who currently receive a concession on their rates will automatically receive a \$50 rebate.

**For more information visit  
[www.firelevy.vic.gov.au](http://www.firelevy.vic.gov.au)**

## When are my Rates due?

Council offers the following payment options:

**PAYMENT IN FULL DUE:** 15 February 2020

## FOUR (QUARTERLY) INSTALMENTS

| Instalment     | Due Date          |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1st instalment | 30 September 2019 |
| 2nd instalment | 30 November 2019  |
| 3rd instalment | 29 February 2020  |
| 4th instalment | 31 May 2020       |

## TEN INSTALMENTS (Direct Debit only)

| Instalment      | Due Date          |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1st instalment  | 28 August 2019    |
| 2nd instalment  | 28 September 2019 |
| 3rd instalment  | 28 October 2019   |
| 4th instalment  | 28 November 2019  |
| 5th instalment  | 28 December 2019  |
| 6th instalment  | 28 January 2020   |
| 7th instalment  | 28 February 2020  |
| 8th instalment  | 28 March 2020     |
| 9th instalment  | 28 April 2020     |
| 10th instalment | 28 May 2020       |

## How much interest will I be charged?

Interest will be charged at 10.0% on any overdue payments from the date payment is due until the date of payment.

This interest rate is set by the State Government.

