

# RATES NOTICE FACT SHEET

## Guide to understanding your 2023/2024 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 28 June 2023.

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

Description	Charge/Rate
General Rate	see table
Municipal Charge	\$380.00
Environmental Levy	\$130.00
Kerbside Landfill Service (per bin)	\$267.50
Kerbside Recycling Service (per bin)	\$135.00
Kerbside Organic Service (per bin)	\$110.00
FSPL Fixed Charge	see table
FSPL Variable Charge	see table
FSPL Pension Rebate	-\$50.00
Pension Concession (rebate)	-\$253.20

### 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 2023/2024 rate in the dollar:

Example of the calculation for residential property:

$$\text{\$230,000 (CIV)} \times \text{0.00223766 (rate)} = \text{\$514.66}$$

Description	2020/21 Rate
Residential & Rural - Vacant	0.00447532
Residential & Rural - Building	0.00223766
Farm - Vacant	0.00223766
Farm - Building	0.00223766
Commercial & Industrial - Vacant	0.00447532
Commercial & Industrial - Building	0.00313273
Cultural & Recreational	0.00217053

### 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 (including vacant land)	\$125.00	0.000046
Commercial	\$254.00	0.000565
Industrial	\$254.00	0.000778
Primary Production	\$254.00	0.000169
Public benefit	\$254.00	0.000057
Vacant (excluding vacant residential)	\$254.00	0.000118

\*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:

$$\text{\$230,000 (CIV)} \times \text{0.000046 (rate)} = \text{\$10.58}$$

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 2024

## FOUR (QUARTERLY) INSTALMENTS

Instalment	Due Date
1st instalment	30 September 2023
2nd instalment	30 November 2023
3rd instalment	28 February 2024
4th instalment	31 May 2024

## TEN INSTALMENTS (Direct Debit only)

Instalment	Due Date
1st instalment	28 August 2023
2nd instalment	28 September 2023
3rd instalment	28 October 2023
4th instalment	28 November 2023
5th instalment	28 December 2023
6th instalment	28 January 2024
7th instalment	28 February 2024
8th instalment	28 March 2024
9th instalment	28 April 2024
10th instalment	28 May 2024

## 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.

