



# YOUR RATES NOTICE 2024-2025

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The cost of living is ever increasing for households and for Council. We have delivered an overall rate increase consistent with CPI at 4%. On average a typical residential property in St George will see an increase of less than \$100 per half year in their rate notice. Council has had to balance the need for full cost recovery for our waste, water and sewerage charges with the increasing requirements for environmental compliance – particularly for our landfill sites and contractor costs.

### Discount Period Extended

Council will continue to offer a 30 day discount period of 10% for the August 2024 and February 2025 rate levy. It is proposed to continue the relief from the accrued interest on outstanding rates for those who enter and honour their payment plans.

### Utility charges

All residential categories will see a 6% increase in utility charges – water, sewerage and cleansing (waste). The rise in cost represents the move to full cost recovery for the services provided and increasing environmental compliance requirements at our landfills sites.

### Mungindi

Residents in Mungindi will see changes to waste utility charges in line with Moree Plains Shire Council including a 5% administration fee across all categories.

### Limitations

Council will continue its 30% limitation across all rating categories (excluding feedlots). This means that any property that experienced a significant increase in their land valuation in the 2022/2023 revaluation may experience an increase in their general rate of up to 30% for 2024/2025. If you disagree with your land valuation you can contact the Valuer General to dispute the valuation. <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/land/title/valuation/about/dispute>.

### When will these changes occur?

Council must set its rates and charges each financial year. The budget was adopted at its Special Meeting on 25 July 2024. Council will levy rates in August 2024 and again in February 2025.

### Why the change?

Council's adopted its rating strategy consistent with the principles of its Revenue Policy and recommendations of the Queensland Audit Office for councils to:

- consult with the community on its rating strategy;
- ensure that annual revenue statements on rates and charges support financial sustainability; and
- adopt a long-term rates strategy
- rural categories will see a pause in the single rural rate so that council can assess the level of and access to services (refer to the rural factsheet for more information)

### Payment Options

- A payment arrangement can be agreed that will ensure no interest is accrued if the payment arrangement is met;
- Pre-payments can be made prior to levying by contacting Council; and
- Payment within the discount period will result in a 10% discount period of 30 days for both the August and February levy.

To receive your rates notice by email complete a change of address form located on our website. For more information on each of the rating categories or changes refer to the Rates Fact Sheets at [www.balonne.qld.gov.au](http://www.balonne.qld.gov.au) or contact Council on (07) 46208888 or at [council@balonne.qld.gov.au](mailto:council@balonne.qld.gov.au) or by posted PO Box 201, St George, Qld 4822.

*Disclaimer: this information is general information applicable to residential categories in the Balonne Shire. Information on specific properties is available on request – please quote your Assessment number or address.*