

Rate Summary

To fund the Annual Business Plan and the ongoing development and maintenance of facilities, infrastructure and services, the Council has adopted a net zero rate increase (inflation and natural growth excepted).

The actual amount payable by each individual ratepayer may be more or less than this, depending on movement in the capital value of each property as determined by the State's Valuer-General.

These valuations demonstrate significant variability in property values and will result in some ratepayers receiving higher increases and others lower than average.

A fixed charge of \$680 for all properties plus a differential general rate in the dollar based on each property's capital value and the relevant land use, will be applied.

Rate Capping Rebate

A rebate of differential general rates for the FY18 financial year may be granted to the Principal Ratepayer of an assessment under Section 166 (1) (L) of the Local Government Act 1999 on application to the Council. Rebates are only available for residential properties with an increase beyond 10% on differential general rates, further conditions apply.

All photos courtesy of Adrian Scroop

Payment of Rates

Payment of rates can be made in full by 18 September 2017 or in **four (4) instalments** due on: 18 September 2017 18 December 2017 19 March 2018 18 June 2018

Utility Tariffs & Charges

The charges for electricity and water will be reviewed in November with changes coming into effect in January 2018. As foreshadowed in the Annual Business Plan, the budget provides for a 1% increase (adjusted for -1.1% inflation) in the charges and tariffs for utilities (power & water).

Hardship

Ratepayers experiencing hardship may seek assistance. If you are concerned about the payment of your Council rates, please contact us to discuss your personal circumstances and organise alternative payment arrangements where applicable.

For your copy of the Annual Business Plan and Budget visit www.roxbydowns.sa.gov.au

or view a printed copy in the Library or Council Office





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2017/18 **Annual Business Plan Budget Summary**

The Annual Business Plan and Budget is reviewed each year with Public Consultation, review from the State Government and BHP.



Overview

The FY18 Annual Business Plan and Budget is predicated on the following assumptions:

- an austere operating environment (for the second consecutive year);
- maintaining the current levels of services and facilities;
- a zero (0%) property rate revenue change (real terms
- -2.1% taking inflation into account);
- a 1% utilities (electricity & water) increase (real terms
- -1.1%);
- no debt;

Operating efficiencies and cost savings measures on all facets of our business will be reviewed over the next 3 years. For example electronic billing (e-billing) has been introduced for rates, electricity and water/sewer accounts from 1 July 2017 and online credit card payment options are also planned. A full service review has commenced on the operation of our Roxbylink facility. Business Plans will be written for each of our operating entities – Roxby Power, Roxby Water and Roxbylink. New waste recycling arrangements at Opal Road will be put in place from 1 August 2017.

Property valuations remain a challenge. The Valuer-General's Office has now released its property valuations which are across all classifications down by -16% (residential component -19%). This means over the past 2 years the valuations have decreased by 38% and 41% respectively. Unfortunately this can result in distorted rate calculations for some properties. To ameliorate this last year we introduced a rate rise cap of 10% which will be available again this year on application (conditions apply). All the current economic signs in Roxby Downs indicate a positive year ahead which should see valuations rise again.

Three significant improvements to public amenities this year will be an enhancing of the public space of Richardson Place and the Emu Walk – both projects attracting major funding from the State Government. Roxbylink playing surfaces will be repaired and upgraded to meet contemporary standards.

Finally, the governance review of the administration arrangements of the town were supported by the Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy with the separation of functions which will now see the Administrator role become part-time and a full-time Chief Executive, Roy Blight, an experienced local government executive, will commence in August.

Geoff Whitbread Administrator



Key Budget Facts

No Rate Increase (-2.1% CPI)

Power & Water charges to increase by 1%

\$200,000 Grant for the Emu Walk



Domestic Waste Collection Service Charge

Council provides residential properties with a collection and disposal of domestic waste and recycling service. A fixed waste removal charge of \$458 down from \$467 per annum applies (a decrease of 1.93%) Council is required by the Environmental Protection Agency to transfer waste to Inkermann (north of Adelaide).

Natural Resource Management

The NRM levy is a fixed charge of \$60.70 per property declared on all rateable land in the Council area. This levy is collected for the State Government and raises funds on behalf of the SA Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board. It is shown as a separate charge on the rates notice.