



Southern Grampians
SHIRE COUNCIL

RATING STRATEGY POLICY

April 2019

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APPROVED	Chief Executive Officer Michael Tudball	
DATED		

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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide an equitable basis for levying rates and charges.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

2.1 Period of Application

This policy provides a basis for the levying of rates and charges from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2021.

2.2 Rates and Charges to be Levied

2.2.1 A Municipal Charge will be levied on all rateable land to cover some of the administrative costs of Council.

2.2.2 Differential General Rates will be levied on the capital improved valuation of all rateable land to reflect the different standard, range and access to municipal services available to the residents and ratepayers of the Shire.

2.2.3 Annual Service Charges will be levied on all rateable land within the Balmoral, Branxholme, Byaduk, Byaduk North, Coleraine, Dunkeld, Glenthompson, Hamilton, Penshurst and Tarrington urban areas and defined refuse collection areas to provide for the collection and disposal of refuse and recycling.

Commercial and industrial properties in the Shire will not be provided with this service and will be exempt from this charge, except when the service is requested and payment of the charge is made.

2.2.4 Organic Waste Service Charges will be levied on rateable land within the Hamilton and Tarrington urban areas and defined refuse collection areas if the ratepayers for individual properties elect to receive the service.

2.2.5 Council will take into consideration the total cost of waste management when considering the method and area of collection of Annual Service Charges and Organic Waste Services Charges to move to the provision of cost neutral services.

2.2.6 A Special Rate will be levied on the capital improved valuation of all rateable land in the Yatchaw Drainage Area for the purpose of defraying the cost of drainage in that area.

2.3 Basis of Differential General Rates

2.3.1 It is considered that the levying of differential rates will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of Council's functions.

2.3.2 The purpose of levying differential general rates is to recognise the following inherent characteristics and historical circumstances:

- the different standard of municipal services provided to the residents and ratepayers in different areas of the Shire,
- the different range of municipal services available to the residents and ratepayers in different areas of the Shire,
- differences in the accessibility to municipal services for the residents and ratepayers in different areas of the Shire,

2.4 Differential General Rates to be Levied

2.4.1 Differential General Rate No.1 - will be levied on the capital improved valuation of all rateable land in the parishes of North Hamilton and South Hamilton, excluding farm land (as defined in the Valuation of Land Act 1960) comprising all or part of a single farm enterprise with an area of 40 hectares or more.

2.4.2 Differential General Rate No.2 - will be levied on the capital improved valuation of all rateable farm land (as defined in the Valuation of Land Act 1960) in the parishes of North Hamilton and South Hamilton comprising all or part of a single farm enterprise with an area of 40 hectares or more.

2.4.3 Differential General Rate No.3 - will be levied on the capital improved valuation of all other rateable land in the Shire.

2.4.4 Differential Rates Nos. 2 and 3 will be fixed at the same rate.

2.4.5 Differential Rates Nos.2 and 3 will be fixed at 80% of Differential Rate No.1.

2.4.6 The municipal charge shall be adjusted annually to reflect any variation in the total amount of revenue required to be raised from rates and charges.

2.5 Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed every 4 years with the next review prior to the 2021/22 rating year.

END