

City of Rockingham

City Budget 2025/2026



**Information about the City's
budget and rates**



A Word From the Mayor

With a population of more than 150,000 people, keeping pace with the growing needs of the community, and maintaining existing assets and services, remain ongoing challenges for the City.

The budget for 2025/2026 aims to strike a balance between addressing community needs while acknowledging cost of living pressures. Council listened to community concerns about the current economic circumstances facing many households and has kept the rate increase to a minimum. The increase is 3.5%, which equates to approximately \$1.06 per week for the average residence.

In addition, Council has decided not to apply interest charges on rates smoothing payments for the 2025/2026 financial year to assist ratepayers choosing this option.

To help fund future climate change mitigation works along our coastline, 0.5% of rates will be allocated to a Coastal Hazard Management and Adaptation Plan reserve account.

The proposed rate increase will ensure the continued delivery of essential services and the enhancement of our community's future services, facilities, and infrastructure. It will also ensure vital community asset upgrades, such as Aqua Jetty (Stage 2) and Mike Barnett Sports Complex court expansion, can be undertaken in future.

The major capital expenditure for the 2025/2026 financial year is budgeted at \$80 million. There are many projects occurring in the City, but the major ones listed below are likely to be of most interest to the wider community. Some of these projects run over multiple years:

- completion of the Stan Twight Clubroom Redevelopment
- completion of the final stage of Baldivis Sports Complex including outdoor courts, Southern Pavilion and outdoor recreation space
- Anniversary Park Clubroom Redevelopment
- Lotteries House Relocation.

If you would like more information about rates please view the FAQs on the City's website, or contact the City on **9528 0333**.

I thank all the Councillors and City Officers for their hard work in developing and delivering this year's budget.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Deb Hamblin'.

Deb Hamblin

Mayor,
City of Rockingham

FOGO – a change worth making

Our community's vision for the City of Rockingham is ***"a quality lifestyle, a sustainable future"***.

Our Food Organics Garden Organics waste system – better known as FOGO - is a big step towards achieving our vision. FOGO collections commenced at the end of June, in line with the state government's Waste Strategy and many other local governments around the state and the nation that have been recovering food and organic waste for years.

Like any behavioural change, FOGO might take a little while to get used to. But it is a change worth making. With FOGO we expect to be diverting about 12,500 tonnes of waste from landfill per year which will be converted into useful products like soil conditioner. This will help us get much closer to the state's target of recovering 75% of waste from landfill by 2030, and help us create a more sustainable future.



Revaluation

Property valuations are adjusted by Landgate every three years for properties rated using the Gross Rental Value (GRV), and yearly for properties using the Unimproved Value (UV). For more information about revaluations visit rockingham.wa.gov.au/ratesfaq

Rates and Minimum Charges

The City of Rockingham will apply differential general rates and minimum payments for the 2025/2026 financial year as summarised in the following table:

Rate Category	Rate in the \$ (cents)	Minimum Payment
Gross Rental Value (GRV) Properties		
GRV – Residential	8.57394	\$1,425
GRV – Non-Residential	9.76316	\$1,425
Unimproved Value (UV) Properties		
UV – Properties	0.105	\$706

The above rates and minimum payments are lower than advertised to support City of Rockingham ratepayers with cost of living pressures.

Why do we have differential rates?

The City’s rating strategy is to achieve rate revenue that meets the shortfall from other revenue sources and allows for the delivery of services and the creation of infrastructure. The City desires to levy rates that are more equitable across different types of properties, so we have implemented differential general rates which reflect the costs associated with service delivery across the different rating categories.

Objectives of the differential rates

Gross Rental Value (GRV) Properties

Properties rated on a GRV basis make up approximately 99.7% of the total rates levied and have been classified into the following rate categories.

GRV – Residential

A differential general rate of 8.57394 cents in the dollar applies to Residential Land.

“Residential Land” means any land used, or designed, or adapted for use, for the purpose of a dwelling and includes vacant land within the Residential, Development, Rural, Special Rural, Special Residential, Commercial, District Town Centre, Primary Centre Waterfront Village, Primary Centre Urban Village, Primary Centre City Centre, Primary Centre City Living, Primary Centre Campus and Primary Centre Urban Living zones under the City of Rockingham Town Planning Scheme No. 2.

“Dwelling” has the meaning given to it in the City of Rockingham Town Planning Scheme No. 2.

The rate applied to GRV - Residential is the differential general rate used as the basis on which the other GRV rate categories are calculated.

GRV – Non-Residential

A differential rate of 9.76316 cents in the dollar applies to Non-Residential Land.

“Non-Residential Land” means all land other than Residential Land.

The City has implemented a 13.87% differential rate on Non-Residential properties to assist in the cost of infrastructure and services specifically designed to support the Non-Residential sector.

Emergency Services Levy

The Emergency Services Levy (ESL) is a State Government charge applied to all properties in Western Australia to share the cost of funding WA's essential fire and emergency services. The amount collected and the applicable rates and charging parameters are announced each year by the Minister for Emergency Services. The City does not charge this levy but is required to collect it on behalf of the State Government. For more information visit **dfes.wa.gov.au**

Seniors Rebates

Seniors Card holders may be entitled to claim a rebate of up to 25% of the current year's Emergency Services Levy, and up to \$100 (capped amount) of their rates. To find out more visit **info@seniorcard.wa.gov.au**

Pensioner Rates Concession

Since 1 July 2016 the concession allowed to eligible pensioners on local government rates has been capped. The capped amount for 2025-2026 is \$750. Pensioners may also be eligible for a rebate of up to 50% of the current year's Emergency Services Levy and Water Corporation rates.

To register for a rates and/or water rates rebate, apply online at **watercorporation.com.au**, or contact the Water Corporation on **1300 659 951**.

2%

Economic
services

11%

Community
amenities

4%

Education
and welfare

1%

Governance

1%

Health

**How
Revenue
is Spent**

7%

Transport

5%

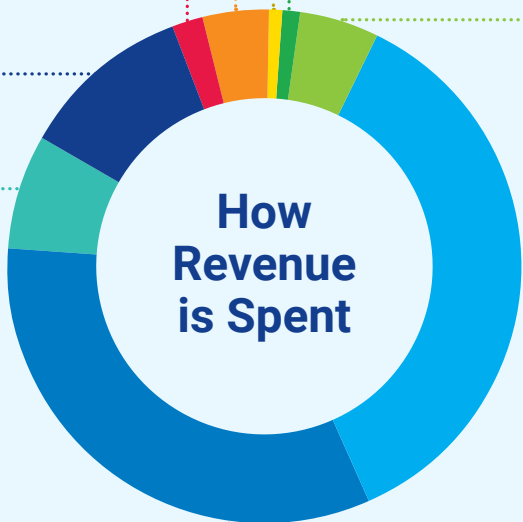
Law, order and
public safety

33%

Recreation
and culture

36%

Other property
and services





Community members at a Waterwise
Verge Workshop in Golden Bay

The logo for the City of Rockingham Rates Smoothing program. It features the text "CITY OF ROCKINGHAM" in a small, sans-serif font, arched over the word "rates" in a bold, dark blue font. Below "rates" is the word "smoothing" in a large, bold, light blue font. A stylized paper airplane is positioned to the right of the text, with a dashed line trailing behind it from the top left towards the center.

CITY OF ROCKINGHAM **rates** **smoothing**

Spread your rates payments over weekly, fortnightly or monthly equal direct debit instalments calculated to pay the full rates amount before the end of each financial year. You can also Rate Smooth straight from your credit card at no extra cost.

Complete the form included with the rates notice and return it to the City by 8 August 2025 in time for payments to begin on 15 August 2025. If the form is not received by this date, unfortunately Rates Smoothing will not be available. Rates Smoothing will automatically continue for future years until you request it to be cancelled.

For more information, contact the City on **9528 0333**.

A dark blue, circular badge with a scalloped edge. Inside the badge, the text "Sign up by 8 August 2025" is written in a white, sans-serif font. The badge is positioned in the lower left quadrant of the page, overlapping a large, stylized paper airplane graphic that extends from the bottom left towards the right side of the page.

**Sign up by
8 August 2025**

Payment Options

Pay in full for
your chance to
WIN \$500

1

Prompt Payment

Pay in one lump sum by 15 August 2025 and to go in the draw to win one of two \$500 prizes from NAB.

2

Two Instalments *

Due on 15 August 2025 and 15 December 2025.

3

Four Instalments *

Due on 15 August 2025, 15 October 2025, 15 December 2025 and 16 February 2026.

4

Direct Debit Arrangement *

Weekly, fortnightly or monthly. Download a Direct Debit form from rockingham.wa.gov.au

5

Direct Debit – Annual Charges or Instalment Options *

Payment may also be made using Direct Debit. Download an Annual Direct Debit form from rockingham.wa.gov.au

6

Rates Smoothing

See the enclosed form for further details about this payment method.

**Fees apply (pensioners are exempt)*

*See inside
for payment
options*

Easy Ways to Pay

Telephone: 1300 133 271

Australia Post: At any Post Office agency or branch

Bpay: Contact your bank or financial institution to arrange payment. Biller code 93716

Online: rockingham.wa.gov.au

Mail: PO Box 2142,
Rockingham DC, WA 6967

In Person: City of Rockingham
Administration Centre
Civic Boulevard, Rockingham
Open Monday to Friday
8.30am - 4.30pm



eRates

To receive your rate notices via email, simply complete the online form at **rockingham.wa.gov.au/erates**



Financial Hardship Policy

If you are struggling to pay your rates, please contact the City as soon as possible to discuss your options. The City has a Financial Hardship Policy which enables eligible ratepayers to enter into alternative payment arrangements.