

## Important Information

### 1. PAYMENT OPTIONS (as shown on front of rates notice)

- Option 1 – Amount Due by the due date.
- Option 2 - Elect to pay by 4 instalments. Full details of due dates and interest costs are displayed on the front of this notice. Reminder notices will be sent for payment of subsequent instalments. Any arrears are due and payable immediately although if legal action has not been taken for recovery, arrears may be included with the first instalment (penalty interest accrues daily on arrears). To elect to pay by instalments, please ensure that your payment of the FIRST INSTALMENT is received by the DUE DATE, or the right to pay in instalments is FORFEITED.
- Should none of the instalment options listed on the front of this notice be suitable, ratepayers are welcome to approach Council with an alternative payment plan. This plan must be agreed upon by both parties.

### 2. LATE PAYMENT PENALTY (SECTION 6.51 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995)

Interest will accrue daily at the rate detailed on the front of this notice for unpaid rates and/or charges as follows:

No Instalment Option Taken - Interest accrues daily on rates and/or charges that remain unpaid after the due date and continues to accrue until such time as payment is made. Eligible pensioners/seniors are exempt.

Instalment Option Taken - Interest accrues daily on any Instalment payment that remains unpaid after the due date of the instalment and continues to accrue until such time as the instalment is paid. Eligible pensioners/seniors are exempt.

Arrears - Interest accrues from 1 July on all rates and/or charges, including previous interest charges, that remain in arrears. Eligible pensioners/seniors are exempt.

### 3. INTERIM RATES

Council may be required to issue interim rates during the course of the financial year. The main reasons are: Subdivision of land – amalgamation of land – an error in the valuation – completion of a new building – additions to existing buildings – demolition of improvements.

### 4. EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY (ESL)

The ESL is a State Government levy for all property owners that Council is required to collect on their behalf and remit to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. For further information see brochure or contact DFES on 1300 136 099 or [www.dfes.wa.gov.au](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au). Pensioners and Seniors who are eligible for a concession on rates will also be entitled to a similar concession on the ESL.

### 5. OBJECTIONS AND APPEALS - RATE BOOK

- Rate Book** - The Local Government Act 1995 provides the grounds on which and time and manner in which, individual objections and appeals may be instituted as to entries in the Rate Book regarding ownership, or whether the property is rateable.
- Valuations** - The Valuation of Land Act describes the manner in which objections and appeals may be instituted regarding valuations. Objections must be lodged in writing to the Valuer General on their website WITHIN 60 days from date of issue of the Rate Notice.

**Note: The Local Government Act 1995 provides that rates must be paid as assessed irrespective of an objection being lodged. Any reduction in rates resulting from a successful objection will be refunded.**

### 6. PENSIONERS AND SENIORS – STATE GOVERNMENT REBATE (Applicable to RATES and ESL charge only, all other charges to be paid in full)

Pensioners who meet the eligibility criteria below, are entitled to claim a rebate of up to 50% off the current years rates and ESL charge, or may defer payment of those rates. Persons who hold a Seniors Card issued by the Office of Seniors Interests and a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card are entitled to the same level of concession as a pensioner. Seniors who meet the following eligibility criteria are entitled to claim a rebate of up to 25%, where the rebate is limited to a maximum amount.

Eligibility Criteria - to be eligible for concessions, under the **Rates and Charges (Rebates and Deferrals) Act 1992**, an applicant must:

- be the owner and reside in the property on 1 July of the rating year;
- if a Pensioner, either:
  - be in receipt of a pension and hold a Pensioner Concession card or State Concession card; or
  - hold both a Seniors Card issued by the Office of Seniors Interests and a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card;
  - or if a Senior, hold a Seniors Card issued by the Office of Seniors Interests;
- register your entitlement with Council or the Water Corporation (concessions only apply once your application is received and registered).
- A pro-rata rebate may be available from the **date of registration** to Pensioners and Seniors who become eligible after 1 July of the rating year.
- Please contact Council where you have rate arrears outstanding on the property and you meet the eligibility criteria. You may be able to enter into an arrangement that entitles you to a rebate or deferment.
- If your circumstances change - particularly with respect to your ownership or occupation of the property, or your eligibility as a Senior or Pensioner - you **MUST** give notice immediately to Council so that registration may be amended or cancelled.
- The rebates to pensioners & seniors rates are funded by the State Government of WA and capped at \$750 and \$100 respectively.

### 7. CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP

Under the provisions of the Local Government Act, when a person (whether as principal or agent) sells or disposes of land the principal or agent must advise the Council in writing within 21 days of the change of ownership and provide full details of the name and address of purchaser.

### 8. CHANGE OF ADDRESS (fill out slip below)

Please advise Council in writing of any change to your address. There is a statutory obligation for an owner to ensure that Council has the correct address for services of notices.

---

#### CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OR ADDRESS

Assessment No.....

Name(s) in full.....Phone No.....

Address.....Postal Address.....

Signed.....Date.....