

3.6 Rates

3.6.1 ASSESSMENT OF THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE RATING POLICY AND DECLARATION

Rates to be levied on property owners by Roper Gulf Regional Council in 2016-17 remain affordable and at very low levels compared to other Local Government jurisdictions in Australia. Further, rates levied on Territory Housing dwellings are paid in the first instance by Territory Housing, so have no direct financial impact on public housing tenants. As such, the Council does not anticipate any detrimental socio-economic impact from levying rates in 2016-17.

Additionally, rates revenue remains a small proportion of the Council's total budget, at less than 4.5 per cent of the total. This underlies the fact that the Council is effective in securing significant non-rate revenue for all of its communities, including Government grants and contracts. This allows for services and employment opportunities to be delivered to Council residents far above what the rates revenue would alone enable, resulting in a net positive socio-economic impact for residents

3.6.2 RATES DECLARATION SUMMARY 2016-2017

SUMMARY

The following rates declaration has been prepared as per section 158 of the Local Government Act. Adjustments have been made to incorporate the Minister for Local Government's approved conditional rating levies for mining and pastoral leases.

The rates declaration for 2016-17 will levy approx. \$836,066.93 in rates revenue as compared to \$746,721.28 in 2015-2016. The Waste Collection charges will be approximately \$656,556.78 in 2016-17 as compared to \$551,533.31 in 2015-16. Council has also declared a special rate this year to cover for the Animal Health Management in various communities and will be collecting \$62,000.00 in 2016-17.

Rates for all the properties are to increase by 10% from the 2015-16 rates except Mining and Pastoral properties.

Please note that revenue estimates for pastoral and mining leases are based on accepted rates proposal by the Minister for Local Government and Community Services.

RATES: RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

RESIDENTIAL RATE 1: For residential properties on Aboriginal land and in areas excluding Borrooloola, Mataranka, Larrimah and Daly Waters townships:

2015-16	2016-17
\$ 761.83	\$ 838.01

RESIDENTIAL RATE 2: For residential properties in Borrooloola, Mataranka, Larrimah and Daly Waters townships:

2015-16	2016-17
\$ 617.01	\$ 678.71

RESIDENTIAL RATE 3: For vacant land in Borrooloola, Mataranka, Larrimah and Daly Waters townships, a flat rate of:

2015-16	2016-17
\$ 617.01	\$ 678.71

RATES: COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

COMMERCIAL RATE 1: For commercial properties on Aboriginal land and in areas excluding Borrooloola, Mataranka, Larrimah and Daly Waters townships, a flat rate of:

2015-16	2016-17
\$ 902.56	\$ 992.82

COMMERCIAL RATE 2: For commercial properties in Borrooloola, Mataranka, Larrimah and Daly Waters townships, a flat rate of:

2015-16	2016-17
\$ 816.61	\$ 898.27

RATES: RURAL PROPERTIES

RURAL RATE 1: For rural residential living, horticultural or agricultural purpose properties under 200 hectares, a flat rate of:

2015-16	2016-17
\$ 637.45	\$ 701.20

RURAL RATE 2: For rural residential living, horticultural or agricultural purpose properties over 200 hectares, a flat rate of:

2015-16	2016-17
\$ 707.59	\$ 778.35

RATES: CONDITIONAL RATING

CONDITIONAL RATE 1: Pastoral Leases - For pastoral properties, with an assessed value of the property under \$ 1,230,000, a flat rate of:

2015-16	DECREED 2016-17
\$ 366.48	\$ 366.31

For pastoral properties, with an assessed value of the property of over \$ 1,230,000, a differential rate multiplying the assessed value of each property by:

2015-16	DECREED 2016-17
0.0297%	0.0299%

CONDITIONAL RATE 2: Mining and Extraction Leases - For mining and extraction leases with an assessed value of the property under \$255,100, a flat rate of:

2015-16	DECREED 2016-17
\$ 867.34	\$ 871.68

For mining and extraction leases with an assessed value of the property of over \$255,100, a differential rate multiplying the assessed value of each property by:

2015-16	2016-17
0.34%	0.34%

OTHER

For all other properties not defined elsewhere in the proposal, a flat rate of:

2015-16	2016-17
\$ 761.83	\$ 838.01

SPECIAL RATES: ANIMAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT

Pursuant to Section 156 of the Act, Council declared the special rate (“Animal Health Management”) to assist with the implementation of animal management in the area. For all residential allotments within Barunga, Beswick, Bulman, Jilkmिंगgan, Eva Valley, Ngukurr, Numbulwar, Weemol, a flat rate of:

2015-16	2016-17
	\$125.00

WASTE MANAGEMENT CHARGES

For all town or community properties, or those receiving waste management services from or on behalf of Roper Gulf Regional Council, a flat charge per annum per property in respect of the garbage collection service provided, multiplied by the number of standard rubbish bins at the property and by the number of services per week.

2015-16	2016-17
\$ 217.14	\$ 257.07

All other service charges and fees are listed in the Fees and Charges Schedule under 3.7 of this Regional Plan.