

YOUR RATES FOR 2018/19

There are some changes to your rates and charges for this year. Rate increases have been necessary in order to keep up with inflation and meet the increased costs of providing core services.

The increase in rate income for 2018/19 is 2.2% on the previous year. Household waste collection fees have increased by \$7.60 and the waste management charge has increased by \$1.40.

Included with your 2018/19 rates notice are two waste drop-off vouchers, which can each be used as payment for a load of domestic waste at the Regional Waste Management Facility (terms and conditions apply).

HOW YOUR RATES ARE CALCULATED

Your rates are calculated as the greater of a percentage of the unimproved capital value of your land, or as the minimum rate of \$1,287.70 for residential property or \$1,358.20 for each commercial property.

Council uses a number of rating zones in the municipality based on planning zones in the zoning maps for Alice Springs (in the Northern Territory Planning Scheme). The rates levied are set for each rating zone.

Property (land only) valuations are determined by the Valuer-General. Valuations are performed every three years. The last valuation was completed in early 2016, setting values as at June 2015.

Council's rate revenue has been increased by 2.2% since the 17/18 financial year which is equivalent to an additional \$518,691 for the 18/19 financial year.

THE EARLY BIRD DRAW – WIN A RATES REFUND –

Pay your full annual rates and charges (and any arrears) by the first instalment date of 7 September 2018 and you could win a rates refund!

Ten winners will be drawn by the Mayor on Monday 17 September 2018 and their names published in the Centralian Advocate on Friday 21 September 2018.

The Early Bird Draw applies only to individuals (being a natural person, not companies, government bodies, or incorporated bodies), who are entered in the Early Bird Draw to win a refund on their rates not exceeding \$3,000. The refund does not include the cost of waste management charges. **Permit No. TLP1021**

HOW TO PAY YOUR RATES

BPAY View

Register for BPAY View to manage rates electronically. Information regarding how to register can be found on the Council's website by following the BPAY View links.

Online Payments

Log on to Council's website and follow the payment links.

In Person

Make your payment at the Civic Centre on Todd Street from 8am to 5pm weekdays by cheque, cash, MasterCard, or Visa.

Mail

Post a cheque or money order to:
Alice Springs Town Council, PO Box 1071, Alice Springs NT 0871.

Phone

Phone 1300 437 967 with your MasterCard or Visa details.

BPAY

Contact your participating bank to make payment directly from your cheque, saving or credit card account. Just quote the biller code and reference number as indicated by the BPAY logo on your rates notice.

Direct Debit

Complete an application form, which is available from Council's website, or from the Civic Centre. Council will then be authorised to draw on your account on the instalment date that rates are due, or on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis.

Payroll Deduction

Employees of NT Government and some other organisations can pay their rates through regular payroll deductions. Please contact Council's rates department for details. Please note: Ratepayers remain responsible for ensuring payments are made in full by the instalment due dates.

Concessions for Pensioners

Concessions for eligible pensioners should automatically be included on the rates notice. If you find this is not the case, please contact Council.

Other Concessions

Under Council's Revenue Policy ratepayers intending to apply for any other type of concession allowed therein must do so before the first instalment falls due.



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Working for the Community



YOUR RATES 2018/19

For further information
please contact our
friendly Council staff



A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Resident,

The four strategic objectives of the 2018/2019 budget are focused on enhancing the strengths of the Alice Springs community by supporting healthy lifestyles, inclusiveness, sustainability, social and economic prosperity, as well as delivery of good governance and service excellence.

Each year, the *Municipal Plan*, lists funds allocated to integral measures, such as community safety, upgrading of public amenities, and tourism initiatives. In addition, this year's Plan includes several measures to decrease Council's energy consumption and carbon footprint in line with the *Climate Action Plan*. Please have a look at the initiatives contained in the *Municipal Plan*, available from the Council website.

To achieve these important objectives, the *Municipal Plan* includes an increase in rate income of 2.2%.

Damien Ryan
Mayor, Alice Springs

COUNCIL'S BUDGET FOR 2018/19

Council's expenditure budget has been based on four strategic objectives:

1. Dynamic Community – To create a dynamic, prosperous community where everyone is included, underpinned by safe, reliable infrastructure and social investment (\$7.7M).
Key outcomes include:

- Inclusiveness and support
- Economic growth and prosperity
- Safe and reliable public infrastructure

2. A great place to live – To provide a great place to live that attracts and retains residents because of the unmatched leisure and healthy living opportunities and embrace of our unique landscape and culture (\$9.3M).
Key outcomes include:

- Community life, promoting a healthy, vibrant culture
- Sense of place and public amenity
- Enhance life-long learning, library and technology services

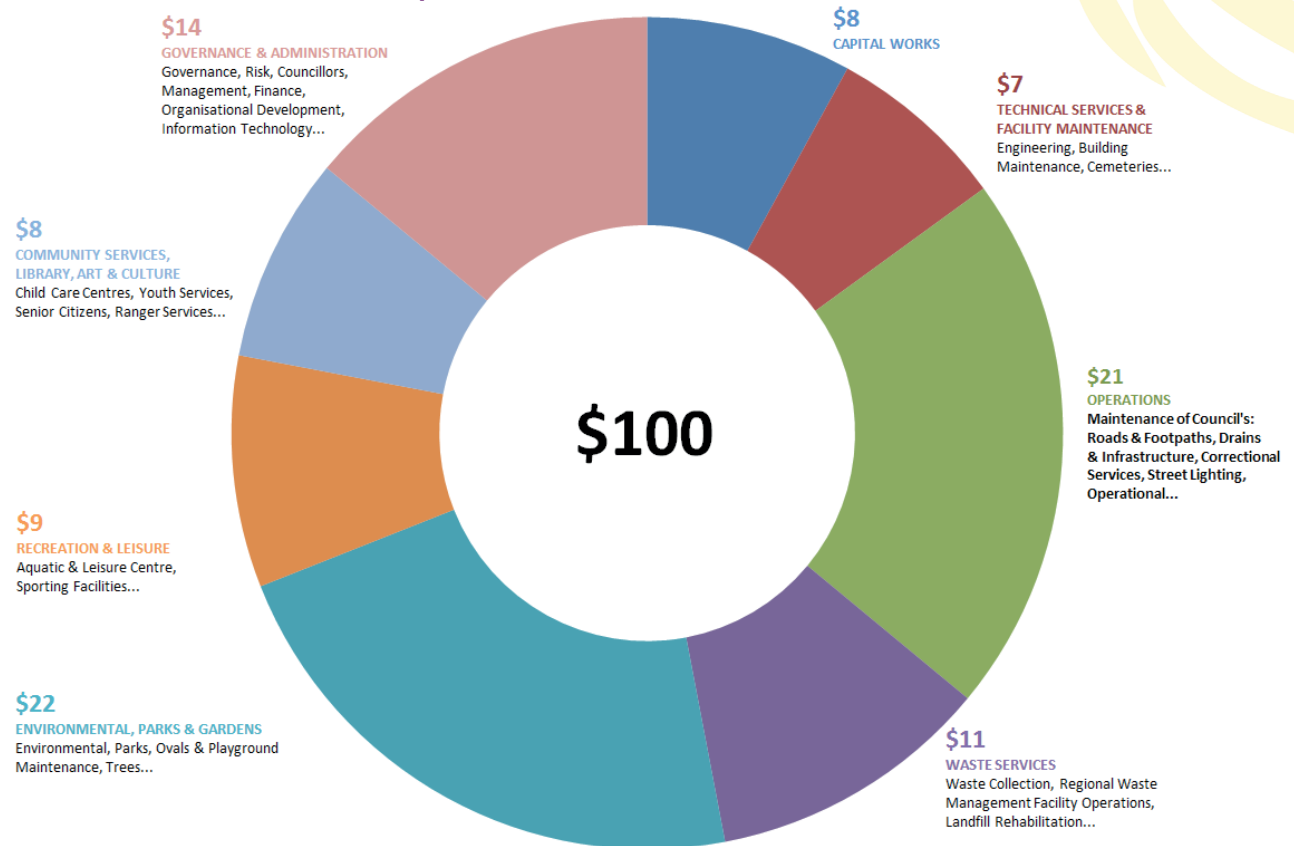
3. Leader in sustainability – To be a leader in sustainability and best practice, living well in our desert context and minimising our impact (\$5.6M).
Key outcomes include:

- Reduce Council's carbon footprint
- Reduce Alice Springs' carbon footprint
- Conserve and protect the Alice Springs environment

4. Dynamic Council – A well governed Council that leads by example, advocates for our community, innovates and delivers excellent services, and works with others collaboratively to help create the community we want to live in (\$12.2M).
Key outcomes include:

- Leadership and advocacy excellence
- People & workplace excellence
- Service excellence
- Governance excellence

WHERE DO YOUR 2018/19 RATES GO?



WHEN TO PAY YOUR RATES

If you do not wish to use the instalment method for paying your rates your rates will be payable in full by the first instalment date (7 September 2018). Alternatively your rates can be paid in four equal instalments before or on the following dates:

- First Instalment – Friday 7 September 2018
- Second Instalment – Friday 2 November 2018
- Third Instalment – Friday 1 February 2019
- Fourth Instalment – Friday 5 April 2019

If your instalment is not received by the due date, a penalty will apply on the outstanding instalment from the due date until the date of payment. This penalty will be 19% per annum, calculated on a daily basis. All other instalments will still be due on the date specified above and will not incur a penalty unless they become overdue.

If you are having difficulty paying by the due date, please make a simple phone call to the Rates Officer on (08) 8950 0500 to save embarrassment and possible recovery costs.