



Burdekin
Shire Council



**COUNCIL
BURDEKIN**

Budget 2016/17



Budget Meeting

- Date/Time:*** Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 9am.
- Location:*** John Drysdale Chamber, Burdekin Shire Council
145 Young Street, Ayr

Purpose of Meeting

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2009 and the Local Government Regulation 2012, the Council will adopt its Budget for the 2016-17 financial year.

Council will consider, at the Budget Meeting, documents providing details of the Council's financial operations and financial position for the previous financial year, the 2016-17 financial year and for the two forecast years for 2017-18 and 2018-19; relevant measures of financial sustainability for the financial years 2016-17 to 2025-26 and the long-term financial forecast covering the period 2016-17 to 2025-26.

Items of Business and Recommendations

1. Mayor's 2016-17 Budget Address

Recommendation - that the Mayor's 2016-17 Budget Address be received.

2. Adoption of 2016-17 Budget

Recommendation - that the Council, in accordance with Sections 169, 170 & 171 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 adopt the following:

i. Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Changes in Equity for the 2016-17 Budget and 2017-18 to 2018-2019 forecast years including amended estimates for the 2015-16 financial year; and

ii. the relevant measures of financial sustainability for the financial years 2016-17 to 2025-26; and

iii. the long-term financial forecast, which includes the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Changes in Equity for the 2016-17 Budget and 2017-18 to 2025-26 forecast years including amended estimates for the 2015-16 year.

3. Adoption of the Revenue Statement for 2016-17 Financial Year

Recommendation - that the Council in accordance with Section 169 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 adopt the Revenue Statement for the 2016-17 Financial Year.

4. Making and Levying of Rates and Charges for 2016-17 Financial Year

Recommendation - that the Council, in accordance with Section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009, make and levy the rates and charges outlined in the Revenue Statement for 2016-17.

5. Adoption of the Debt Policy for 2016-17 to 2025-26 Financial Years

Recommendation - that the Council in accordance with Section 192 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 adopt the Debt Policy which states the new borrowings planned for the 2016-17 financial year and the next nine (9) financial years; and the time over which the local government plans to repay existing and new borrowings.

6. Adoption of Investment Policy for 2016-17 Financial Year

Recommendation - that the Council in accordance with Section 191 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 adopt the Investment Policy for the 2016-17 financial year.

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Mayor's Budget Address

Good morning Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Staff, Ladies and Gentlemen - welcome to the Budget Meeting. Today I present to you the 2016-2017 Budget for Council's consideration and adoption.

The annual budget process is a core function of Council and we undertook this process with a great sense of responsibility. Today's Budget clearly illustrates that as a community we live in times of change and are faced with challenging financial conditions. From the outset, we recognised this and it was first and foremost in all our deliberations. Council is also faced with increased costs, increased difficulty sourcing funding from higher levels of government and more legislative demands.

Today's Budget provides for an average general rate rise of 2%. As explained in previous years, this does not mean that everyone will receive a 2% increase as rate notices are based upon the land valuations provided by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines. The recent property valuations undertaken by the Department has changed relativities within categories which mean ratepayers within individual categories will experience different levels of increases and some ratepayers will have decreases depending on property locations and market trends.

As an example, Residential valuations decreased 5.2% across all properties. This includes 26% of properties that had no change in valuation and 26% that decreased by 10% or more. This wide range of changes to valuations within the category leads to reasonable variations of rate increases.

Council reviewed the differential categories and has introduced three new differential categories. Category G Water has been split into two differential categories based on land size and now includes a broader range of properties. Category A Residential has also been split into two categories with a new rural residential category introduced for all rural residential properties. This categorisation is based upon existing Town Planning land use zones. Category H – Other is a new category for any new land parcels that are not captured by any other category. This ensures Council receives rates from every rateable property in the Shire.

In considering the rating burden that each category should pay, Council has implemented the initial changes to achieve a closer alignment between the categories' valuation proportion of the Shire's total valuation and revenue raised from each category. Council will continue to review this in future budgets. This is the first year to assist in a more equitable distribution of the rating burden.

The agricultural categories, Sugar Cane and Primary Production are this year paying the same rate in the dollar and going forward the Primary Production category will not experience those large increases it has faced over the last couple of years.

Increases to service charges have been kept to a minimum with the water access charge increasing from \$422 to \$438. This is a weekly increase of 31 cents. Electricity tariff increases have impacted on pumping costs – similar to the impact felt by farmers. Within the next 12 months, Council will develop a Water Demand Management Strategy and investigate options to reduce future impacts of forecast energy cost increases. This has led to an increase of 3 cents per kilolitre to 20 cents for water consumption for the first 1,000 kilolitres used and an increase of 15 cents per kilolitre to \$1 for each kilolitre used over 1,000 kilolitres.

Burdekin Shire Council is still able to offer residents some of the most affordable water rates in the state. It is important that ratepayers do consider their consumption and regularly review their meter to ensure water is being used as efficiently as possible. This is particularly important during dry periods. Council encourages clean green tidy towns and leads by example, but by the same token, Council conducts regular reviews of its water usage and encourages ratepayers to do the same.

The charge for sewerage has increased by \$10 to \$529 – this is a weekly increase of 19 cents.

The charges for waste collection have increased also. A 140L residential 3-bin service has increased by \$8 to \$463 – this is a weekly increase of 15 cents.

With legislation compliance requirements, the previous \$30 separate charge for Environmental Separate Charge has been split into two separate charges to clearly identify their usage.

\$20 will be identified as the utility charge, Waste Legacy Landfill Charge to fund projects that assist in remediating or reducing the environmental and human health risks associated with former landfill sites. This charge will be levied on every parcel of rateable land.

\$10 will be identified as the Environmental Separate Charge to fund projects that have an environmental benefit to the Burdekin community. This charge will also be levied on every parcel of rateable land.

In recognition of the ongoing pressures pensioners face, Council has increased the pension rebate this year by \$8 and has flagged the intention to increase the rebate over the next three years. For a pensioner eligible for a maximum rate remission, this decision equates to an annual rate remission of up to \$350 a year from Council. The pensioner remission costs Council approximately \$280,000 per year.

Council appreciates the great work being undertaken by various organisations throughout the shire and will continue to lobby for funding and assistance on behalf of organisations wherever possible. In recognition of the economic benefit that flows to business and community, Council has allocated funding to create a new position supporting community groups.

This Budget includes a Capital Works program of \$12.4 million which will be achieved with no new debt. This includes \$6.75 million for roads and drainage, \$1.13 million for refurbishment and replacement of water supply assets and \$880,000 to improve sewerage network reliability. Obviously funding new projects remains a challenge as State and Federal Governments are reducing funding opportunities to regional councils. Council must also be mindful of the whole-of-life costs associated with new infrastructure however projects only proceed when we are confident that the benefits outweigh the ongoing costs.

Council will commence reviewing the 10-year Capital Program over the next couple of months with the aim of developing a 10-year plan that encompasses Council's priorities and continual development of our communities.

Council eagerly awaits decisions on the guidelines for funding of the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) from the Federal and State Governments. Currently Council has a pool of funds set aside to fund trigger points for the effects of natural disasters. It can also fund some emergency works to ensure the safety of our community should Federal and State funding not be forthcoming.

Council is embracing technology to enhance operations and support efficiencies. This Budget provides funding to improve communication and IT resources at our facilities in Home Hill and introduces technologies that support improved mobility for our workforce. Embracing mobility allows us to better engage with our community as demonstrated by the recent launch of Council's new mobile-friendly website which recognises our community's significant use of smart devices.

I believe this Budget will deliver an appropriate mix of fiscal restraint - keeps rate rises at a minimum, retains existing services, delivers a capital works program, introduces a couple of new initiatives and will not adversely impact Council's sound financial position going forward. We will continue to work towards better efficiencies and cost savings. This is a budget for the times. It is a budget that will keep the Burdekin on the path of a financially sustainable future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge the enormous efforts of my fellow Councillors throughout the 2016/2017 Budget deliberation process. I would also like to pass on appreciation to the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Management; led by the experienced Finance Manager, Kim Olsen and her team, for their commitment, co-operation and guidance in the preparation of the Budget.

I commend the Burdekin Shire Council 2016/2017 Budget document for adoption.

Councillor L. A. McLaughlin
MAYOR

Budget Snapshot

Burdekin Shire Council plans to deliver approximately \$12.4 million in capital expenditure including:

\$6.75 million Roads & drainage

for capital works on roads, drainage and reseals

\$1.8 million Plant & fleet

for capital replacement of fleet and plant equipment

\$1.13 million Water

for refurbishment or replacement of Water Supply assets to improve network reliability, mainly switchboards and variable speed drive

\$880,000 Sewerage

for refurbishment or replacement of Sewerage assets to improve network reliability, mainly switchboards



\$430,000 Service & support

for IT servers and software

\$430,000 Parks & gardens

for upgrades to parks, playground equipment and furniture, cemeteries and public amenities

\$400,000 Beautification of Mount Inkerman Lookout

\$320,000 Facilities/recreation

for works at swimming pools, caravan parks, showgrounds, libraries, theatre and memorial hall



BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL

Budgeted Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the periods ending 30 June

	RBUD 2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue				
Rates and utility charges	37,066,516	37,720,525	38,804,648	39,652,767
Less Discounts	(282,000)	(292,000)	(300,000)	(308,000)
Net rates and utility charges	36,784,516	37,428,525	38,504,648	39,344,767
User fees and charges	1,889,270	1,887,075	1,924,816	1,963,309
Operating grants, subsidies and contributions	4,067,821	3,838,965	3,935,880	4,035,244
Interest revenue	1,657,000	1,684,600	1,451,960	1,461,984
Sales of contract and recoverable works	1,565,000	1,697,500	1,731,450	1,766,079
Other Income	409,034	136,850	139,587	142,376
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	46,372,641	46,673,515	47,688,341	48,713,759
Expenses				
Employee benefits	(18,447,156)	(19,748,102)	(20,309,611)	(20,830,365)
Materials and services	(14,931,477)	(14,698,170)	(15,129,276)	(15,428,652)
Depreciation and Amortisation	(10,321,800)	(10,589,400)	(10,812,966)	(11,028,673)
Finance Costs	(401,231)	(377,475)	(296,375)	(210,629)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	(44,101,664)	(45,413,147)	(46,548,228)	(47,498,319)
Operating surplus (deficit)	2,270,977	1,260,368	1,140,113	1,215,440
Capital income and expenditure:				
Cash capital grants, subsidies and contributions	5,513,479	2,432,460	1,777,000	957,000
Net result for the period	7,784,456	3,692,828	2,917,113	2,172,440

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL**Budgeted Statement of Financial Position**

As at the periods ending 30 June

	RBUD 2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Current Assets				
Cash and deposits	35,136,493	35,878,940	35,739,470	35,424,951
Receivables	3,427,646	3,427,646	3,427,646	3,427,646
Inventories	738,368	953,368	953,368	953,368
	39,302,507	40,259,954	40,120,484	39,805,965
Non-current - Assets classified as held for sale	264,250	264,250	264,250	264,250
	39,566,757	40,524,204	40,384,734	40,070,215
Non-Current Assets				
Receivables	184,449	184,449	184,449	184,449
Property, plant and equipment	492,779,963	494,123,280	495,627,685	496,632,760
Intangible assets	686,375	693,875	698,804	562,456
Capital Work in Progress	3,917,326	3,917,326	3,917,326	3,917,326
	497,568,113	498,918,930	500,428,264	501,296,991
TOTAL ASSETS	537,134,870	539,443,134	540,812,998	541,367,206
Current Liabilities				
Trade and other payables	4,033,547	4,120,764	4,171,785	4,229,751
Interest bearing liabilities	1,590,344	1,664,431	1,751,365	1,329,735
Provisions	2,490,400	2,587,685	2,645,907	2,712,054
	8,114,291	8,372,880	8,569,057	8,271,540
Non-Current Liabilities				
Interest bearing liabilities	5,083,970	3,427,551	1,676,186	346,451
Provisions	21,209,794	21,223,060	21,230,999	21,240,019
	26,293,764	24,650,611	22,907,185	21,586,470
TOTAL LIABILITIES	34,408,055	33,023,491	31,476,242	29,858,010
NET COMMUNITY ASSETS	502,726,815	506,419,643	509,336,756	511,509,196
Community Equity				
Asset revaluation reserve	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053
Accumulated surplus/(deficiency)	224,768,762	228,461,590	231,378,703	233,551,143
TOTAL COMMUNITY EQUITY	502,726,815	506,419,643	509,336,756	511,509,196

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL**Budgeted Statement of Cash Flows**

For the periods ending 30 June

	RBUD 2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities				
Receipts				
Net rates and utility charges	36,784,516	37,428,525	38,504,648	39,344,767
Total fees and charges	1,889,270	1,887,075	1,924,816	1,963,309
Sales of contract and recoverable works	1,565,000	1,697,500	1,731,450	1,766,079
Interest revenue	1,657,000	1,684,600	1,451,960	1,461,984
Contributions and donations	259,980	188,673	194,333	200,161
Government subsidies and grants	3,807,841	3,650,292	3,741,547	3,835,083
Other Income	409,034	136,850	139,587	142,376
	<u>46,372,641</u>	<u>46,673,515</u>	<u>47,688,341</u>	<u>48,713,759</u>
Payments				
Employee benefits	(18,315,673)	(19,550,334)	(20,192,429)	(20,697,232)
Materials and services	(14,931,477)	(14,698,170)	(15,129,276)	(15,428,652)
Finance costs	(401,231)	(377,475)	(296,375)	(210,629)
Land and Development costs		(215,000)		
	<u>(33,648,381)</u>	<u>(34,840,979)</u>	<u>(35,618,080)</u>	<u>(36,336,513)</u>
Cash provided by / (used in) operational activities	<u>12,724,260</u>	<u>11,832,536</u>	<u>12,070,261</u>	<u>12,377,246</u>
Cash Flow from Investing Activities:				
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	380,000	505,000	420,000	450,000
Contributions	68,412			
Government grants and subsidies	5,445,067	2,432,460	1,777,000	957,000
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(20,843,466)	(12,280,217)	(12,572,300)	(12,317,400)
Payments for intangibles	(169,218)	(165,000)	(170,000)	(30,000)
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>(15,119,205)</u>	<u>(9,507,757)</u>	<u>(10,545,300)</u>	<u>(10,940,400)</u>
Cash Flow from Financing Activities:				
Repayment of borrowings	(1,537,161)	(1,582,332)	(1,664,431)	(1,751,365)
Net cash provided by financing activities	<u>(1,537,161)</u>	<u>(1,582,332)</u>	<u>(1,664,431)</u>	<u>(1,751,365)</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held	<u>(3,932,106)</u>	<u>742,447</u>	<u>(139,470)</u>	<u>(314,519)</u>
Cash at beginning of reporting period	39,068,599	35,136,493	35,878,940	35,739,470
Cash at end of Reporting Period	<u>35,136,493</u>	<u>35,878,940</u>	<u>35,739,470</u>	<u>35,424,951</u>

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL**Budgeted Statement of Changes in Equity**

For the periods ending 30 June

	RBUD 2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	\$	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL COMMUNITY EQUITY				
Balance at the beginning of period	494,942,359	502,726,815	506,419,643	509,336,756
Increase (decrease) in net result	7,784,456	3,692,828	2,917,113	2,172,440
Balance at the end of period	502,726,815	506,419,643	509,336,756	511,509,196
Retained Surplus/Deficit				
Balance at the beginning of period	216,984,306	224,768,762	228,461,590	231,378,703
Increase (decrease) in net result	7,784,456	3,692,828	2,917,113	2,172,440
Balance at the end of period	224,768,762	228,461,590	231,378,703	233,551,143
Asset Revaluation Surplus				
Balance at the beginning of period	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053
Increase (decrease) in net result				
Balance at the end of period	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL

Financial Ratios of the Budget

For the year ended 30 June

	RBUD 2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Operating Surplus Ratio											
<u>Net operating surplus</u>											
Total operating revenue	4.9%	2.7%	2.4%	2.5%	2.2%	2.0%	1.9%	2.2%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
The extent to which operating revenue covers operational expenses.											
Target: Between 0% and 10% per annum (on average over the long term)											
Asset sustainability ratio											
<u>Expenditure on Replacement Assets</u>											
Depreciation expense	123.5%	72.0%	64.0%	78.9%	62.8%	57.1%	67.9%	55.1%	53.7%	63.7%	54.8%
The extent to which the infrastructure assets are being replaced as they reach the end of their useful lives.											
Target: >90% per annum (on average over the long term)											
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio											
<u>Total liabilities-Current Assets</u>											
Operating revenue	-11.1%	-16.1%	-18.7%	-21.0%	-26.5%	-28.7%	-32.9%	-40.1%	-44.8%	-49.7%	-51.6%
Measures the extent to which the net financial liabilities of Council can be serviced by operating revenues.											
Target: <60% per annum (on average over the long term)											
Net rates & utility charges original budget prior year	36,561,090	37,428,525	38,504,648	39,344,767	40,204,947	41,043,820	41,908,888	42,792,551	43,695,221	44,617,318	
Net rates & utility charges budgeted for current year	37,428,525	38,504,648	39,344,767	40,204,947	41,043,820	41,908,888	42,792,551	43,695,221	44,617,318	45,559,272	
Change rates and utility charges net of discounts	867,435	1,076,123	840,119	860,180	838,873	865,068	883,663	902,670	922,097	941,954	
Percentage change	2.4%	2.9%	2.2%	2.2%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL**Budgeted Statement of Comprehensive Income**

For the periods ending 30 June

	RBUD 2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue											
Rates and utility charges	37,066,516	37,720,525	38,804,648	39,652,767	40,520,947	41,367,820	42,232,888	43,116,551	44,019,221	44,941,318	45,883,272
Less Discounts	(282,000)	(292,000)	(300,000)	(308,000)	(316,000)	(324,000)	(324,000)	(324,000)	(324,000)	(324,000)	(324,000)
Net rates and utility charges	36,784,516	37,428,525	38,504,648	39,344,767	40,204,947	41,043,820	41,908,888	42,792,551	43,695,221	44,617,318	45,559,272
User fees and charges	1,889,270	1,887,075	1,924,816	1,963,309	2,002,571	2,042,618	2,083,466	2,125,132	2,167,631	2,210,980	2,255,195
Operating grants, subsidies and contributions	4,067,821	3,838,965	3,935,880	4,035,244	4,137,125	4,241,582	4,348,681	4,458,490	4,571,077	4,686,510	4,804,865
Interest revenue	1,657,000	1,684,600	1,451,960	1,461,984	1,461,447	1,489,472	1,520,119	1,611,791	1,755,791	1,868,322	1,979,285
Sales of contract and recoverable works	1,565,000	1,697,500	1,731,450	1,766,079	1,801,400	1,837,428	1,874,176	1,911,659	1,949,892	1,988,889	2,028,666
Other Income	409,034	136,850	139,587	142,376	145,220	148,120	151,080	154,098	157,176	160,316	163,521
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	46,372,641	46,673,515	47,688,341	48,713,759	49,752,710	50,803,040	51,886,410	53,053,721	54,296,788	55,532,335	56,790,804
Expenses											
Employee benefits	(18,447,156)	(19,748,102)	(20,309,611)	(20,830,365)	(21,285,727)	(21,831,508)	(22,377,289)	(22,796,224)	(23,395,441)	(23,906,879)	(24,519,871)
Materials and services	(14,931,477)	(14,698,170)	(15,129,276)	(15,428,652)	(16,019,364)	(16,448,441)	(16,787,390)	(17,207,070)	(17,842,243)	(18,326,007)	(18,716,283)
Depreciation and Amortisation	(10,321,800)	(10,589,400)	(10,812,966)	(11,028,673)	(11,236,959)	(11,452,646)	(11,672,397)	(11,839,344)	(11,928,100)	(12,148,475)	(12,377,791)
Finance Costs	(401,231)	(377,475)	(296,375)	(210,629)	(125,137)	(59,381)	(55,203)	(56,307)	(57,433)	(58,581)	(59,752)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	(44,101,664)	(45,413,147)	(46,548,228)	(47,498,319)	(48,667,187)	(49,791,976)	(50,892,279)	(51,898,945)	(53,223,217)	(54,439,942)	(55,673,697)
Operating surplus (deficit)	2,270,977	1,260,368	1,140,113	1,215,440	1,085,523	1,011,064	994,131	1,154,776	1,073,571	1,092,393	1,117,107
Capital income and expenditure:											
Cash capital grants, subsidies and contributions	5,513,479	2,432,460	1,777,000	957,000	777,000	777,000	777,000	777,000	1,227,000	777,000	777,000
Net result for the period	7,784,456	3,692,828	2,917,113	2,172,440	1,862,523	1,788,064	1,771,131	1,931,776	2,300,571	1,869,393	1,894,107

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL

Budgeted Statement of Financial Position

As at the periods ending 30 June

	RBUD 2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Current Assets											
Cash and deposits	35,136,493	35,878,940	35,739,470	35,424,951	37,208,013	36,779,103	39,409,451	43,758,847	46,922,045	50,336,851	52,213,462
Receivables	3,427,646	3,427,646	3,427,646	3,427,646	3,427,646	3,427,646	3,427,646	3,427,646	3,427,646	3,427,646	3,427,646
Inventories	738,368	953,368	953,368	953,368	953,368	953,368	953,368	953,368	953,368	953,368	953,368
	39,302,507	40,259,954	40,120,484	39,805,965	41,589,027	41,160,117	43,790,465	48,139,861	51,303,059	54,717,865	56,594,476
Non-current - Assets classified as held for sale	264,250	264,250	264,250	264,250	264,250	264,250	264,250	264,250	264,250	264,250	264,250
	39,566,757	40,524,204	40,384,734	40,070,215	41,853,277	41,424,367	44,054,715	48,404,111	51,567,309	54,982,115	56,858,726
Non-Current Assets											
Receivables	184,449	184,449	184,449	184,449	184,449	184,449	184,449	184,449	184,449	184,449	184,449
Property, plant and equipment	492,779,963	494,123,280	495,627,685	496,632,760	495,623,762	496,173,529	495,627,045	493,442,270	492,653,270	491,217,995	491,373,154
Intangible assets	686,375	693,875	698,804	562,456	443,995	304,282	134,569	19,000	94,900	122,700	141,750
Capital Work in Progress	3,917,326	3,917,326	3,917,326	3,917,326	3,917,326	3,917,326	3,917,326	3,917,326	3,917,326	3,917,326	3,917,326
	497,568,113	498,918,930	500,428,264	501,296,991	500,169,532	500,579,586	499,863,389	497,563,045	496,849,945	495,442,470	495,616,679
TOTAL ASSETS	537,134,870	539,443,134	540,812,998	541,367,206	542,022,809	542,003,953	543,918,104	545,967,156	548,417,254	550,424,585	552,475,405
Current Liabilities											
Trade and other payables	4,033,547	4,120,764	4,171,785	4,229,751	4,283,224	4,343,976	4,406,247	4,457,309	4,522,413	4,582,471	4,650,704
Interest bearing liabilities	1,590,344	1,664,431	1,751,365	1,329,735	346,451						
Provisions	2,490,400	2,587,685	2,645,907	2,712,054	2,773,075	2,842,401	2,913,461	2,971,730	3,046,023	3,114,558	3,192,421
	8,114,291	8,372,880	8,569,057	8,271,540	7,402,750	7,186,377	7,319,708	7,429,039	7,568,436	7,697,029	7,843,125
Non-Current Liabilities											
Interest bearing liabilities	5,083,970	3,427,551	1,676,186	346,451							
Provisions	21,209,794	21,223,060	21,230,999	21,240,019	21,248,340	19,657,793	19,667,482	19,675,427	19,685,557	19,694,902	19,705,519
	26,293,764	24,650,611	22,907,185	21,586,470	21,248,340	19,657,793	19,667,482	19,675,427	19,685,557	19,694,902	19,705,519
TOTAL LIABILITIES	34,408,055	33,023,491	31,476,242	29,858,010	28,651,090	26,844,170	26,987,190	27,104,466	27,253,993	27,391,931	27,548,644
NET COMMUNITY ASSETS	502,726,815	506,419,643	509,336,756	511,509,196	513,371,719	515,159,783	516,930,914	518,862,690	521,163,261	523,032,654	524,926,761
Community Equity											
Asset revaluation reserve	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053
Accumulated surplus/(deficiency)	224,768,762	228,461,590	231,378,703	233,551,143	235,413,666	237,201,730	238,972,861	240,904,637	243,205,208	245,074,601	246,968,708
TOTAL COMMUNITY EQUITY	502,726,815	506,419,643	509,336,756	511,509,196	513,371,719	515,159,783	516,930,914	518,862,690	521,163,261	523,032,654	524,926,761

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL**Budgeted Statement of Cash Flows**

For the periods ending 30 June

	RBUD 2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities											
Receipts											
Net rates and utility charges	36,784,516	37,428,525	38,504,648	39,344,767	40,204,947	41,043,820	41,908,888	42,792,551	43,695,221	44,617,318	45,559,272
Total fees and charges	1,889,270	1,887,075	1,924,816	1,963,309	2,002,571	2,042,618	2,083,466	2,125,132	2,167,831	2,210,980	2,255,195
Sales of contract and recoverable works	1,565,000	1,697,500	1,731,450	1,766,079	1,801,400	1,837,428	1,874,176	1,911,659	1,949,892	1,988,889	2,028,666
Interest revenue	1,657,000	1,684,600	1,451,960	1,461,984	1,461,447	1,489,472	1,520,119	1,611,791	1,755,791	1,868,322	1,979,285
Contributions and donations	259,980	188,673	194,333	200,161	206,168	212,354	218,725	225,287	232,046	239,006	246,176
Government subsidies and grants	3,807,841	3,650,292	3,741,547	3,835,083	3,930,957	4,029,228	4,129,956	4,233,203	4,339,031	4,447,504	4,558,689
Other Income	409,034	136,850	139,587	142,376	145,220	148,120	151,080	154,098	157,176	160,316	163,521
	46,372,641	46,673,515	47,688,341	48,713,759	49,752,710	50,803,040	51,886,410	53,053,721	54,296,788	55,532,335	56,790,804
Payments											
Employee benefits	(18,315,673)	(19,550,334)	(20,192,429)	(20,697,232)	(21,162,912)	(21,691,977)	(22,234,269)	(22,678,948)	(23,245,914)	(23,768,941)	(24,363,158)
Materials and services	(14,931,477)	(14,698,170)	(15,129,276)	(15,428,652)	(16,019,364)	(16,448,441)	(16,787,390)	(17,207,070)	(17,842,243)	(18,326,007)	(18,716,283)
Finance costs	(401,231)	(377,475)	(296,375)	(210,629)	(125,137)	(59,381)	(55,203)	(56,307)	(57,433)	(58,581)	(59,752)
Land and Development costs		(215,000)									
	(33,648,381)	(34,840,979)	(35,618,080)	(36,336,513)	(37,307,413)	(38,199,799)	(39,076,862)	(39,942,325)	(41,145,590)	(42,153,529)	(43,139,193)
Cash provided by / (used in) operational activities	12,724,260	11,832,536	12,070,261	12,377,246	12,445,297	12,603,241	12,809,548	13,111,396	13,151,198	13,378,806	13,651,611
Cash Flow from Investing Activities											
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	380,000	505,000	420,000	450,000	505,000	505,000	505,000	505,000	505,000	505,000	505,000
Contributions	68,412										
Government grants and subsidies	5,445,067	2,432,460	1,777,000	957,000	777,000	777,000	777,000	777,000	1,227,000	777,000	777,000
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(20,843,466)	(12,280,217)	(12,572,300)	(12,317,400)	(10,564,500)	(12,337,700)	(11,461,200)	(10,024,000)	(11,638,000)	(11,206,000)	(13,022,000)
Payments for intangibles	(169,218)	(165,000)	(170,000)	(30,000)	(50,000)	(30,000)		(20,000)	(82,000)	(40,000)	(35,000)
Payments for rehabilitation work						(1,600,000)					
Net cash provided by investing activities	(15,119,205)	(9,507,757)	(10,545,300)	(10,940,400)	(9,332,500)	(12,685,700)	(10,179,200)	(8,762,000)	(9,988,000)	(9,964,000)	(11,775,000)
Cash Flow from Financing Activities											
Repayment of borrowings	(1,537,161)	(1,582,332)	(1,664,431)	(1,751,365)	(1,329,735)	(346,451)					
Net cash provided by financing activities	(1,537,161)	(1,582,332)	(1,664,431)	(1,751,365)	(1,329,735)	(346,451)	-	-	-	-	-
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held	(3,932,106)	742,447	(139,470)	(314,519)	1,783,062	(428,910)	2,630,348	4,349,396	3,163,198	3,414,806	1,876,611
Cash at beginning of reporting period	39,068,599	35,136,493	35,878,940	35,739,470	35,424,951	37,208,013	36,779,103	39,409,451	43,758,847	46,922,045	50,336,851
Cash at end of Reporting Period	35,136,493	35,878,940	35,739,470	35,424,951	37,208,013	36,779,103	39,409,451	43,758,847	46,922,045	50,336,851	52,213,462

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL**Budgeted Statement of Changes in Equity**

For the periods ending 30 June

	RBUD 2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL COMMUNITY EQUITY											
Balance at the beginning of period	494,942,359	502,726,815	506,419,643	509,336,756	511,509,196	513,371,719	515,159,783	516,930,914	518,862,690	521,163,261	523,032,654
Increase (decrease) in net result	7,784,456	3,692,828	2,917,113	2,172,440	1,862,523	1,788,064	1,771,131	1,931,776	2,300,571	1,869,393	1,894,107
Balance at the end of period	502,726,815	506,419,643	509,336,756	511,509,196	513,371,719	515,159,783	516,930,914	518,862,690	521,163,261	523,032,654	524,926,761
Accumulated surplus/(deficiency)											
Balance at the beginning of period	216,984,306	224,768,762	228,461,590	231,378,703	233,551,143	235,413,666	237,201,730	238,972,861	240,904,637	243,205,208	245,074,601
Increase (decrease) in net result	7,784,456	3,692,828	2,917,113	2,172,440	1,862,523	1,788,064	1,771,131	1,931,776	2,300,571	1,869,393	1,894,107
Balance at the end of period	224,768,762	228,461,590	231,378,703	233,551,143	235,413,666	237,201,730	238,972,861	240,904,637	243,205,208	245,074,601	246,968,708
Asset Sustainability Reserve											
Balance at the beginning of period	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053
Increase (decrease) in net result											
Balance at the end of period	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053	277,958,053



Revenue Statement for 2016/17

A. GENERAL RATES - OVERVIEW

In accordance with section 94(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 80(1) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Council will levy differential general rates on all rateable land within the Shire.

For the 2016/17 financial year, the Council has determined that it will, in accordance with section 81 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, adopt twelve (12) differential categories.

In making general rates, Council raises an amount of revenue it sees as being appropriate to maintain and improve assets and provide services to the Shire as a whole. In deciding how that revenue is raised, Council takes into account the following factors –

- the use of the land and the economic value of that use;
- the location of the land;
- the level of services provided to that land;
- the access that the land has to services; and
- the rateable value of land, including the potential for the land to produce income.

The annual valuation made by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines of all lands in the Shire shall have force and effect for the period of twelve months commencing on 1 July 2016.

The Council determines that a method of differential general rating be applied to all rateable land in the Shire on the bases set out hereunder.

B. DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATING CATEGORIES

In accordance with section 81 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the categories into which rateable land is categorised, the description of those categories and the method by which land is to be identified and included in its appropriate category is set out in the following table.

Category	Description	Identification
A – Residential	Land which is used or intended to be used for residential purposes.	Land with land use codes 01-06, 08, 09, 21, 72 and 97 and/or a property type of Urban Residential or Urban Vacant and as identified by the CEO, but excluding the following properties with assessment numbers: 1872, 3085, 3094, 3097, 3100, 3112, 6214, 6215, 6220, 6221, 6781, 6782, 12390, 12391, 12463 to 12465, 12580 to 12594, 15251 and 15252.
A1 – Rural Residential	Land which is used or intended to be used for rural residential purposes.	Land with land use codes 01, 02, 04-06, 09, and 72 and/or a property type of Rural Residential or Rural Vacant and as identified by the CEO.



Category	Description	Identification
B – Commercial and Industrial	Land used, or intended to be used, for commercial and/or industrial purposes other than land included with category B1.	Land with land use codes 07, 10-20, 22-59, 90-92, 96 and 99 and as identified by the CEO, and including the following properties with assessment numbers: 1872, 3085, 3094, 3097, 3100, 3112, 6214, 6215, 6220, 6221, 6781, 6782, 12390, 12391, 12463 to 12465, 12580 to 12594, 15251 and 15252.
B1 – Shopping Centre	Land used, or intended to be used, for the purposes of a shopping centre, or as a part of a shopping centre, having a gross floor area greater than 4,500 square metres, and on-site car parking for more than 80 vehicles	Land with land use code 16 and as identified by the CEO.
C – Grazing and Livestock	Land used for the purposes of grazing or livestock.	Land with land use codes 60-69, 85-87 and 89 and as identified by the CEO.
D – Sugar Cane	Land used for the purposes of growing sugar cane.	Land with land use code 75 and as identified by the CEO.
E – Rural (Other) - less than 20 hectares	Land used for rural purposes, other than land included in category C or D, with an area of less than 20 hectares.	Land with land use codes 70-71, 73-74, 76-84, 88, 93, 94 and as identified by the CEO.
E1 – Rural (Other) - 20 hectares or more	Land used for rural purposes, other than land included in category C or D, with an area of 20 hectares or greater.	Land with land use codes 70-71, 73-74, 76-84, 88, 93-94 and as identified by the CEO.
F – Sugar Milling	Land used, or intended to be used, for the purposes of sugar milling, including land used in connection or in association with sugar milling.	Land identified by the CEO.
G1 – Water (less than 10 hectares)	Land used, or intended to be used, for the extraction, storage, delivery, transport or drainage of water, with an area of less than 10 hectares.	Land with land use code 95 and as identified by the CEO.
G2 – Water (10 hectares or more)	Land used, or intended to be used, for the extraction, storage, delivery, transport or drainage of water, with an area of 10 hectares or greater.	Land with land use code 95 and as identified by the CEO
H – Other	Land not otherwise categorized.	Land identified by the CEO.

The land use codes referred to under the “Identification” column in the table above, are those land use codes used by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines to classify land within the Shire boundaries during the period of the valuation which becomes effective for rating purposes from 1 July 2016.

The Council delegates its power, under section 81(4) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, to identify the rating category to which each parcel of rateable land within the Shire belongs to the Chief Executive Officer.



C. DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES AND MINIMUM GENERAL RATES

In accordance with section 77 and section 80 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the differential general rate and minimum general rate for each differential rating category is set out in following table.

Category	Rate (cents) in the dollar (\$)	Minimum General Rate (\$)
A – Residential	1.424	\$1,020
A1 – Rural Residential	1.384	\$1,020
B – Commercial and Industrial	1.558	\$1,040
B1 – Shopping Centre	2.418	\$30,000
C – Grazing and Livestock	2.431	\$1,040
D – Sugar Cane	3.840	\$1,040
E – Rural (Other) less than 20 hectares	2.148	\$1,040
E1 – Rural (Other) 20 hectares or more	3.840	\$1,040
F – Sugar Milling	26.971	\$150,000
G1 – Water (less than 10 hectares)	20.000	\$1,040
G2 – Water (10 hectares or more)	66.775	\$4,832
H – Other	1.424	\$1,020

D. LIMITATION OF INCREASE IN RATES LEVIED

The Council has, in accordance with section 116 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, resolved not to limit the increase in general rates.

E. REBATES AND CONCESSIONS

(a) Rate Concession – Pensioner Rebate

For the 2016/17 financial year, the Council has determined that, in accordance with chapter 4, part 10 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, it shall grant rating concessions for eligible pensioners with respect to a property which is the principal place of residence of the eligible pensioner.

Eligibility

The concession shall only be granted with respect to a property which is owned solely by eligible pensioner/s and where the property is the principal place of residence of the eligible pensioner/s.

An eligible pensioner is one who is in receipt of a full pension/allowance, who produces a Pensioner Concession Card or a DVA Health Card (All Conditions within Australia or Totally & Permanently Incapacitated) issued by Centrelink or the Department of Veterans’ Affairs.

This rebate shall also extend to:

- War Widows who are the holders of a Gold Card;
- Eligible pensioners who occupy a dwelling in respect to which a life tenancy has been granted by way of Will and providing there is no provision in the Will which relieves the life tenant of the obligation to pay the rates and charges; and
- Eligible pensioners who reside in an Institution caring for the aged, including hospitals and Blue Nursing Units, or are in family care irrespective of whether or not the property is occupied on a paid tenancy basis.



The pensioner rebate is to be calculated as half the sum of the relevant General Rates, Water Charges, and Sewerage Charges up to the maximum rebate set at **\$350**.

The Council may in its discretion consider any case on its merits where special circumstances apply; and allow such rebate as it sees fit up to the maximum remission.

Applications for rate concessions by qualifying applicants who own relevant properties on 1 July 2016 are to be dealt with in the following manner:

1. for existing eligible pensioners, the details currently held continue to be used for annual verification with Centrelink/Department of Veterans' Affairs;
2. for new eligible Pensioners, an initial application is required to be made; and
3. for pensioners requesting a rebate due to special circumstances, an annual application is required to be made.

The amount of pension payable at time of the verification from Centrelink/Department of Veterans' Affairs will determine the eligibility for the Council rebate.

Any rebate granted pursuant to this section is only applicable for the period of time that the eligible pensioner is the owner of the property and all requirements set out above remain fulfilled. If the principal place of residence is disposed of during the financial year, a supplementary rates notice will be issued to the new owner of the property representing the proportionate share of the remission from date of sale to 30 June next.

State Government Subsidy:

For the year ending 30 June 2017, an approved pensioner as defined in guidelines for the State Government's Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme shall be entitled to a State Government subsidy equivalent to 20 per cent of the cost of rates and charges levied, excluding any amount in excess of \$1,000 per annum levied. The maximum entitlement is **\$200**.

Donations to Not for Profit Community Organisations:

For each financial year donations equivalent to 45% of the sum of the relevant sewerage charges in respect of second and subsequent pedestals and/or urinals at premises or land used for private schools, churches, welfare and youth organisations, sporting purposes and public halls, excluding premises licensed under the *Liquor Act 1992* will be made to the relevant community organisations immediately upon payment in full of all levied rates and charges, together with any overdue rates and charges, if any. The Council may, in its discretion, consider any case on its merits where special circumstances apply and make such donations as Council considers appropriate.

(b) Application for Rates Relief on Grounds of Hardship

Ratepayers may apply for rate relief with an application on the basis of hardship supported by relevant documentation. The Council's policy governing the consideration of any application for relief on the grounds of hardship is currently as follows:-

1. an applicant will be eligible for consideration of rates concession on the grounds of financial hardship upon complying with the following criteria:-
 - a. the applicant does not have reasonable assets external to the land upon which the application for relief on the grounds of hardship applies to; and
 - b. payment of rates by the applicant would cause financial hardship within the next twelve (12) months;
2. applicants will be required to disclose private financial documentation including, where applicable, the previous two (2) years tax returns, profit and loss statement and balance sheet as prepared by a registered accountant or tax agent; and
3. for ratepayers experiencing difficulties with payment of rates, the Council may consider allowing delayed payment of rates, charges and interest over a period of up to two (2) years, upon written application to the Chief Executive Officer for a periodic payment plan.

Further, if there is evidence acceptable to Council that any eligible pensioner is unable to meet rate obligations and is unable to enter into a periodic payment plan for payment of overdue rates, Council may, in exceptional circumstances agree to the overdue rates remaining a charge on the land to be recovered following the death of an eligible pensioner/pensioners or as a result of sale/transfer of the land, providing such property is the principal place of residence of the pensioner.



F. WASTE MANAGEMENT UTILITY CHARGE

1.0 DEFINITIONS

'Authorised Officer' means a person authorised under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

'Commercial Waste' means waste (other than green waste, recyclable waste, interceptor waste or waste discharged to a sewer) produced as a result of the ordinary use or occupation of the premises, being —

- (a) a hotel, motel, caravan park, cafe, food store or canteen;
- (b) an assembly building, institutional building, kindergarten, child minding centre, school or other building used for education;
- (c) premises where a sport or game is ordinarily played in public;
- (d) an exhibition ground, show ground or racecourse; or
- (e) an office, shop or other premises where business or work, other than a manufacturing process, is carried out.

'Defined Service Area' means the sections of the Burdekin Shire that are provided with a waste service as shown in Schedule 1 of Council's Waste Management Policy.

'Domestic Waste' means waste (other than domestic clean-up waste, green waste, recyclable waste, interceptor waste or waste discharged to a sewer) resulting from the ordinary domestic use or occupation of any premises or any part thereof, being—

- (a) a single unit private dwelling;
- (b) premises containing two or more separate flats, apartments or other dwelling units; or
- (c) a boarding house, hostel, lodging house or guest house.

'Green Waste' means grass clippings, trees, bushes, shrubs, loppings of trees, bushes or shrubs, or similar matter produced as a result of the ordinary use or occupation of premises.

'Industrial Waste' means interceptor waste and waste other than—

- (a) commercial waste;
- (b) domestic clean-up waste;
- (c) domestic waste;
- (d) green waste;
- (e) recyclable interceptor waste;
- (f) recyclable waste;
- (g) waste discharged to a sewer.

'Occupied Land' means land other than vacant land and includes land with a shed, caravan or similar structure, where people may reside, regardless of the length of time.

'Rates' includes supplementary rates.

'Special Event' refers to a community event held by a charitable or non-profit community group.

'Three-Bin Service Area' means a designated area where one 140L mobile bin of refuse is collected and disposed of weekly, one 240L mobile bin of recyclables and one 240L mobile bin of green waste is collected and disposed of fortnightly.

'Two-Bin Service Area' means a designated area where one 140L mobile bin of refuse is collected and disposed of weekly and one 240L mobile bin of recyclables is collected and disposed of fortnightly.

'Waste Service' refers to the storage, collection and conveyance of waste and the disposal thereof.

'Waste Services Charges' means the charges set by Council in this Revenue Statement.



2.0 DOMESTIC SERVICES

2.1 General

Only bins supplied by Burdekin Shire Council are eligible for Council's collection service. The Council may impound ineligible bins that residents leave out for collection, including bins that residents bring from other Councils or buy privately.

The bins supplied to a property are to remain at that property when there are changes in occupants, including with the sale of the property.

2.2 Kerbside Service

The kerbside service for the Shire is either a Three-Bin Service or a Two-Bin Service. Schedule 1 of the Waste Management Policy defines the service areas.

The Two-Bin Service consists of:

- a 140 litre kerbside refuse service, or alternatively a 240 litre service (bin with red lid)* collected weekly;
- a 240 litre kerbside recycling service (bin with yellow lid) collected fortnightly

The Three-Bin Service includes the following in addition to the above service:

- a 240 litre kerbside green waste service (bin with light green lid) collected on alternate fortnights.

* *Residents may request to change to the 240 litre general waste bin. The larger bin will incur a higher charge.*

2.3 Levying of Charges for Kerbside Waste Collection

Council will provide waste services to occupied land only.

The owner of any residential premises or land within the defined service area that is capable of producing waste will be levied a waste service charge. The type of waste service charge will depend on whether the premise is located within a Three-Bin Service or a Two-Bin Service area.

For a residential premise or land outside of these areas, the owner or occupier is required to service their own refuse bins on a weekly basis. Fees may apply for the disposal of these wastes at Council's waste facilities.

2.4 Services Based on Type of Residential Premise

House or House with Granny Flat

All houses must have, at least, a single waste service: i.e. within a Three-Bin Service Area - 1 x 140L mobile refuse bin, 1 x 240L mobile recycling bin, and 1 x 240L mobile green waste bin; and within a Two-Bin Service Area – 1 x 140L mobile refuse bin and 1 x 240L mobile recycling bin.

Multi-Residential Premise including Duplexes

Multi-residential premises include two or more permanently constructed residential units (single occupancy per unit).

Council will supply each unit with 1 x 140L mobile refuse bin and 1 x 240L mobile recycling bin. Council's authorised officer will determine the provision of a green waste service for premises within the Three-Bin Service area.

The green waste service for multi-residential premises will be a communal service with the bins shared between the units. The owner or the owner's representative may make a written request for an extra green waste service for a particular unit.

Alternatively, a bulk waste bin may be provided (through a private contractor) for the general waste portion of the service. The bulk bin must be the equivalent of the calculated volume of the 140L mobile refuse bins, rounded up to the next bulk bin size.



Example

Multi-Residential Premise of five units (5 x 140L = 700L) is required to have at least 5 x 140L mobile refuse bins or the equivalent in bulk waste bin, serviced at least once per week; and at least 5 x 240L mobile recycling bins and up to 5 x 240L mobile green waste bins, serviced at least once per fortnight.

Council's authorised officers will determine the minimum green waste services that the owner must provide.

Residential Unit attached to Commercial/Industrial Premises

Council's authorised officers will determine the waste services for residential unit/s. The commercial/industrial portion of the premises shall receive a commercial/industrial service (refer to Commercial/Industrial Requirements).

2.5 Residential Premises not within the Defined Service Area

All occupied land within the Shire that is outside the defined service area, and therefore not receiving a regular waste collection service, may be required to pay for the disposal of their waste at Council's waste facilities.

Residents who would like to receive a domestic waste service are required to submit a request in writing.

When determining the request, Council's authorised officers will consider the following:

- (i) if the collection vehicles can access the area;
- (ii) whether it is economically viable for the contractor to provide the requested service; and
- (iii) if there is support from 65% of property owners in the road in favour of receiving the service.

3.0 COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SERVICES

Commercial and industrial premises within the defined service area, as described in Schedule 1 of the Waste Management Policy, are required to have a general waste service with a minimum collection frequency of weekly.

Each premise shall have either, a 240 litre mobile refuse bin or equivalent service provided by an approved private contractor plus a recycling service supplied through Council or an equivalent service provided by an approved private contractor.

Where it is deemed by the Manager of Governance and Local Laws that the replacement general waste or recycle service provided by a private contractor are not an equivalent service, then waste charges levied will consist of the relevant component as detailed in the revenue statement.

Item specific recycling services e.g. bulk cardboard, scrap metal and the like may be available through a private contractor.

4.0 CHARITIES AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

Council's authorised officers may grant an exemption, refund, or part refund on payments for waste service charges or for a waste service charge for a 'special event' by charities and non-profit community groups meeting the following criteria:

- The organisation must be based in and provide services to the residents of the Burdekin Shire.
- A charity and non-profit community group includes:
 - Church, ministry and church-administered institutions for non-profit and charitable purposes,
 - Scouts and Girl Guides,
 - Veteran and War Widow Associations,
 - Voluntary, non-profit community and welfare organisations,
 - Volunteer bush fire brigades, and



- Voluntary sporting organisations.
- Organisations that hold a commercial liquor licence or gaming licence do not qualify for an exemption.
- Organisations, the main activity of which is the responsibility of another level of government, do not qualify for an exemption.

5.0 BIN ENCLOSURES

Refer to Council's Waste Management Planning Scheme Policy for more information.

6.0 GENERAL ISSUES

6.1 Change to service level

The owner may request a change to the service in writing or via Council's Customer Service Centre. The charges for these services are set annually in Council's Revenue Statement and Council will levy the amount via the rates notice.

The minimum charge levied for the change to service level will be six months.

6.2 Lost or stolen bins

The replacement of lost or stolen bins will be at the discretion of the Manager Governance and Local Laws.

Repeated reports of lost/stolen bins for a single property may incur a replacement fee.

6.3 Cancelling a service

Cancelling of a waste service will only occur where the building has been demolished or is unfit for occupation. The cancelling of a waste service will not occur where the premises are unoccupied for a period.

A commercial or industrial premise may cancel their waste service provided they are to receive a waste and recycling service from a private contractor. The premises must provide a copy of their waste service agreement as proof of alternative service.

Cancelling a service will lead to a proportional reduction or refund of the annual levied charge.

6.4 Commencing a service

Waste service charges will apply from the date of commencement or availability of service. New services commenced during the year are pro-rata levied.

6.5 Assessment of bin quota/service level

Council's authorised officers have the discretion to amend waste management services depending on the needs of the residents and the waste generated.

6.6 Bulk Bin service

Commercial premises that require a bulk bin service may contact an approved waste contractor to arrange a service at their own cost.

6.7 Variations under this Policy

The Manager Governance and Laws will assess written requests for an exemption, refund, part refund or variation under the Waste Management Policy.

6.8 Requirements to kerbside collection

- Place bins on the kerb prior to 6:00am on collection day, and brought back within the property boundaries as soon as possible after collection, preferably by dusk.



- Place bins approximately one (1) metre apart and not located near trees, parked cars or other obstacles that may prevent the truck from emptying the bins.
- Bins that are overfull (with the lid open more than 45 degrees); or too heavy (weigh more than 55 kilograms) will not be collected. Residents will need to take their waste to the landfill or transfer station, as the truck will not return to empty the bin. Disposal costs may apply.
- Recycling and green waste bins must only contain the products listed on the lid and/or in the brochure provided, which is also available on Council's website. Bins contaminated with unsuitable material may be issued with a notice and information brochure advising of the contamination.

When three (3) notices of contamination are issued in any twelve (12) month period, the service may be suspended:

- (i) initially for one (1) month;
 - (ii) for three (3) months if a further notice is left; and
 - (iii) for three (3) months after one additional notice, at the discretion of the Manager Governance and Local Laws.
- Charges will not be removed where green waste or recycling services have been suspended under this clause.

7.0 BIN CHARGES

The levying of a charge will occur on all lands and/or premises within the defined service area.

7.1 Consistent commencement of charges

- a) The levy for all waste and recycling charges will apply on a pro-rata basis from the date of delivery of the bins to the property.
- b) Where Council identifies that a domestic structure or occupied land is without a general waste, recycling or green waste collection charge, the charge will be levied pro-rata from the time that the structure was completed, or the occupied land was capable of producing waste. The backdating of charges will be for a maximum of one year.

7.2 Removal of charges

Removal of any waste and recycling charge on a pro-rata basis will only occur:

- a) When Council identifies that the domestic or commercial structure has been demolished or is unfit for occupation; or
- b) Upon supply of written evidence (e.g. copy of new waste contract) that a commercial premise has an equivalent service provided by an alternative waste service provider.

Waste Service Charges

The following waste service charges shall apply in the defined service area.

140L Rural Residential 2 Bin Service	\$406
240L Rural Residential 2 Bin Service	\$512
140L Residential 3 Bin Service	\$463
240L Residential 3 Bin service	\$569
240L Commercial 2 Bin Service	\$448
240L Commercial 3 Bin Service	\$505
140L Multiple Residential 2 Bin Service	\$406
240L Multiple Residential 2 Bin Service	\$512
Multiple Residential Green Waste Service as determined by Council authorised officer and in proportion to residences serviced	
Additional 140L Residential Refuse Bin	\$332
Additional 240L Residential Refuse Bin	\$438
Additional 240L Commercial Refuse Bin	\$351
Additional Residential Recycle Bin	\$ 74
Additional Commercial Recycle Bin	\$ 97
Additional Green Waste Bin	\$ 57



8.0 WASTE ACCESS CHARGE

A Waste Access Charge of **\$16** shall be levied on each rateable property without an existing refuse service in Category A (Residential), Category A1 (Rural Residential), Category C (Grazing & Livestock), Category D (Rural Sugar Cane), Category E (Rural (Other) less than 20 hectares) and Category E1 (Rural (Other) 20 hectares or more) for access to free sorted domestic dumping at Landfill and Transfer Stations.

9.0 WASTE LEGACY LANDFILL CHARGE

In accordance with section 92(4) of the *Local Government Act 2009* and Section 99 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Council shall levy a charge on every parcel of rateable land in the Shire to fund expenditure and projects that assist in remediating or reducing the environmental and human health risks associated with former landfill sites located in the Shire, including further detailed assessment of sites if required. For the 2016/17 financial year, the amount of the charge shall be **\$20**.

G. SEWERAGE UTILITY CHARGE

In accordance with section 94(1)(b)(ii) of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 99 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Council shall levy a sewerage charge on each rateable property, both vacant and occupied, that the Council has or is able to provide with sewerage services.

A charge is set, subject to the provisions hereunder, and referred to as classes of buildings in accordance with the "Building Code of Australia" as amended, for each pedestal in residential dwellings and residential lots under the *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997*, or other community titles act that are connected to the Council's sewerage system. Where sewerage services are provided to the common property of sewerage scheme land within the meaning of the *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997*, the Body Corporate shall be levied a charge on each pedestal.

(a) The Sewerage Area shall consist of: -

All land situated in the Shire of Burdekin that the Council is prepared to sewer. A parcel of land shall be deemed to be within a sewerage area if the Council is prepared to sewer any part of the land.

Such charges shall be levied to defray the cost of constructing sewerage including the payment of interest on and redemption of, the instalments into a sinking fund, in respect of any loan money borrowed for or in respect of such function and the cost of operating, maintaining, and managing sewerage.

The charges shall also apply in respect of any land or any structure, building or place on land that is not rateable under Section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

In this subsection reference is made to classes of Buildings. Buildings and portions of buildings shall be classified in accordance with the "Building Code of Australia", as amended as follows -

Class 1: one or more buildings which in association constitute -

(a) Class 1a - a single dwelling being -

(i) a detached house; or

(ii) one of a group of two or more attached dwellings, each being a building, separated by a fire resisting wall, including a row house, terrace house, town house or villa unit; or

(b) Class 1b -

(i) a boarding house, guest house, hostel or the like -

(A) with a total area of all floors not exceeding 300 m² measured over the enclosing walls of the Class 1b; and

(B) in which not more than 12 persons would ordinarily be resident; or



(ii) 4 or more single dwellings located on one allotment and used for short-term holiday accommodation,

which are not located above or below another dwelling or another Class of building other than a private garage.

Class 2: a building containing 2 or more sole-occupancy units each being a separate dwelling.

Class 3: a residential building, other than a building of Class 1 or 2, which is a common place of long term or transient living for a number of unrelated persons, including: -

- (a) a boarding house, guest house, hostel, lodging house or backpackers' accommodation; or
- (b) a residential part of a hotel and motel; or
- (c) a residential part of a school; or
- (d) accommodation for the aged, children or people with disabilities; or
- (e) a residential part of a health-care building which accommodates members of staff; or
- (f) a residential part of a detention centre.

Class 4: a dwelling in a building that is Class 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9 if it is the only dwelling in the building.

Class 5: an office building used for professional or commercial purposes, excluding buildings of Class 6, 7, 8, or 9.

Class 6: a shop or other building for the sale of goods by retail or the supply of services direct to the public, including -

- (a) an eating room, cafe, restaurant, milk or soft drink bar; or
- (b) a dining room, bar area that is not an assembly building, shop or kiosk part of a hotel or motel;
or
- (c) a hairdresser's or barber's shop, public laundry, or undertaker's establishment; or
- (d) market or sale room, showroom, or service station.

Class 7: a building which is -

- (a) Class 7a - a car park; or
- (b) Class 7b - for storage, or display of goods or produce for sale by wholesale.

Class 8: a laboratory, or a building in which a handicraft or process for the production, assembling, altering, repairing, packing, finishing, or cleaning of goods or produce is carried on for trade, sale, or gain.

Class 9: a building of a public nature -

- (a) Class 9a - a health-care building, including those parts of the building set aside as a laboratory;
or
- (b) Class 9b - an assembly building, including a trade workshop, laboratory or the like in a primary or secondary school, but excluding any other parts of the building that are of another Class; or
- (c) Class 9c - an aged care building.

Class 10: a non-habitable building or structure -

- (a) Class 10a - a non-habitable building being a private garage, carport, shed, or the like; or
- (b) Class 10b - a structure being a fence, mast, antenna, retaining or free-standing wall, swimming pool or the like; or
- (c) Class 10c - a private bushfire shelter.



- (b) The charges in the Sewerage Area shall be:-

A charge of **\$529** shall be made where sewerage is provided for a full year to Class 1a or Class 4 buildings and portion of buildings and to a single dwelling unit of a Class 2 building. This charge shall apply subject to Clause (c) hereunder. In respect of each and every parcel of vacant land separately valued for rating purposes, a charge of **\$529** for a full year shall be made.

A charge of **\$529** shall be made where sewerage is provided for a full year to a Lot contained in a *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997* or another community title Act. This charge shall apply subject to Clause (c) hereunder. This charge shall be payable from the date of registration of the community titles scheme and shall be payable by the owner.

A **pro rata charge** based on **\$529** per annum shall apply in respect of any parcel of land to which sewerage supply is or is not connected and which becomes separately valued during the financial year or to which the Chief Executive Officer deems shall be separately valued during the financial year. Such charge is to take effect from the date of possession or date of effect of valuation, whichever is the earlier.

A **pro rata charge** based on **\$529** per annum shall apply in respect of any parcel of land to which sewerage supply is connected.

- (c) Two or more water closet pans installed at Class 1a or Class 4 buildings or portions of buildings and to a single dwelling unit of a Class 2 building shall be permitted without the imposition of charges other than those in Clause (b).
- (d) A charge of **\$529** shall be made for each water closet pan and/or each 1800mm of urinal or part thereof (as defined by the Standard Sewerage By-laws) connected, proposed to be connected or required to be connected (in accordance with the minimum number/s of water closet pans and/or urinals specified in the Building Code of Australia) at Classes 1b, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 buildings, or portions of buildings, where sewerage is available for a full year or on a pro rata basis according to the proportion of the year for which sewerage is available. In this sub-clause, the charge of **\$529** shall also apply in respect of three wall urinals or part thereof.
- (e) Notwithstanding the above, a charge of **\$529** shall be made for the first three and a charge of **\$264.50** for subsequent water closet pans and/or each 1,800 mm of urinal and part thereof (as defined by the Standard Sewerage By-laws) connected, proposed to be connected or required to be connected (in accordance with the minimum number/s of water closet pans and/or urinals specified in the "Building Code of Australia") at premises listed in the **Schedule** below, or as the Council may determine by resolution.

Schedule

Motels, Hotels, Taverns, Accommodation Units, Caravan Parks, Service Stations, Non-Government Offices (includes combined workshops, warehouse), Shops, Restaurants, Skating Rinks, Cinemas, Drive-In Theatres, Factory, Foundry, Private Day Care Centres, Sporting Bodies with permanent liquor licences, Ayr Anzac Club – RSL Premises.

- (f) A charge of **\$529** shall be made in respect of each separately valued parcel of land on which any building and portions of buildings are erected, and not being chargeable as hereinbefore set out.
- (g) Within the Sewerage Area, for premises that pump septic tank effluent to the sewer system, an annual charge equivalent to 60% of the standard sewerage charge of **\$529** which equates to **\$317.40** shall apply. Provided that approval of the Council is received to dispose of the effluent as aforesaid. Provided also that the Council shall apply an infrastructure contribution charge to be set as a General Charge by resolution of the Council.
- (h) Sewerage charges to be levied on sporting and other organisations (including the Burdekin Race Club, Home Hill) located outside the sewerage areas where these organisations provide their own pumping facilities and sewer line for the conveyance of sewage from their premises into the Council's Sewerage System be based on one-third (to the next) of the sum of the number of water closet pans plus each 1800mm of urinal installed for use at the premises at the rate of **\$529** per water closet pan.



H. WATER UTILITY CHARGE

- (1) In accordance with section 94(1)(b)(ii) of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 99 and section 101 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Council has resolved to charge a utility charge for the provision of water services.
- (2) The charge shall be levied as a two-part charge with the following components:-
 - (a) an access charge levied irrespective of the volume of water used; and
 - (b) a consumption charge calculated according to the metered volume of water used.
- (3) The charge shall be levied on every parcel of rateable land within the water area. The water area consists of all land to which the Council is prepared to supply water including the Ayr/Brandon, Home Hill, Mt. Kelly and Giru Water Supply Schemes and the Airdmillan, Klondyke, Colevale, Groper Creek, Alva and Sutcliffe Water Supply Extensions ("the Water Area").
- (4) A parcel of land shall be deemed to be within a water area if the Council is prepared to supply water to any part of the land.

Access Charge

- (5) For the 2016/17 financial year, an access charge of **\$438** shall be levied on all land within the Water Area.

Consumption Charge

- (6) A consumption charge shall apply for each kilolitre consumed as registered by a meter installed by the Council in respect of water consumed. For any rates assessment with more than one (1) meter, consumption charges shall be calculated individually on the basis of water consumption of each meter. No summing of consumption for that rates assessment will occur.
- (7) For the 2016/17 financial year, the following charges shall apply:
 - (a) water usage up to and including 1,000,000 litres - **20 cents** per 1,000 litres; and
 - (b) water usage above 1,000,000 litres - **\$1.00** per 1,000 litres.
- (8) The charge for consumption shall be payable in addition to the minimum access charge.
- (9) For premises containing Lots under the *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997* or another community title Act, where each Lot and Common Property is capable of separate measurement of water, consumption charges shall be calculated from the individual water meters serving each lot and common property.
- (10) For premises containing Lots under the *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997* or another community title Act, where each Lot and Common Property is not capable of separate measurement of water, consumption charges shall be calculated from the property primary water meter and charged to the lots proportional to the lot entitlement schedule for the Community Title unless an agreement between the Body Corporate and Council has been entered into pursuant to section 196(4) of the *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997*. Each such lot shall attract water consumption charges in accordance with clause (o) above.
- (11) In respect of fire hose reel services, all existing services are to have meters fitted retrospectively where practicable. All such services will be then capable of being measured in respect of their water consumption and Council will levy a consumption charge for each kilolitre consumed. Dedicated fire mains are to be installed with no meter and they are not intended to be metered for consumption. Where a fire hose reel is connected off a dedicated fire main, a combination meter is to be installed and the consumption measurement is to be taken from the low flow (fire hose reel) meter only.

Other Matters

- (12) Water meters are read twice per year in October/November (half year reading) and May/June (end of year reading).



- (13) The Council resolves, in accordance with section 102(2) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, that a meter shall be taken to have been read on a day which starts two (2) weeks before, and ends two (2) weeks after, the date the meter is actually read.
- (14) If any meter in use ceases to register or is reported by an officer of the Council to be out of order or registering inaccurately, the Chief Executive Officer may estimate the charge for the water supplied during the period such meter was not in working order by considering the daily average consumption of a comparative period selected by the engineer or the whole of the previous financial year, whichever is the lowest, and multiplying this average by the number of days the meter is out of order or registering inaccurately. Notwithstanding the above, the Chief Executive Officer may cause a check meter to be installed and estimate the charge upon the registration thereof.
- (15) In the case where the Chief Executive Officer is satisfied, on reasonable grounds, that there was a previously undetected leak within the property boundaries, the Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with delegated powers from the Council, will determine the basis for charging consumption charges. His determination, entirely in his discretion, and if he is satisfied as to the bona fides of the claim, may provide a reduction of a maximum 50% of the difference between the consumption for the billing period and the average of the previous consumption history as recorded by Council over the preceding three (3) years.

I. ENVIRONMENT SEPARATE CHARGE

- (1) In accordance with section 94(1)(b)(iii) of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 103 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Council shall levy a separate charge on every parcel of rateable land in the Shire to fund projects that have an environmental benefit to the Burdekin community, including but not limited to the following environmental improvement and natural resources conservation initiatives:
 - (a) Rehabilitation, care or maintenance of the natural environment in areas such as tree planting; fish restocking; aquatic weed management; wetland management; herbicide subsidy; and natural resource management.
 - (b) Preservation or remediation of environmentally important areas.
 - (c) Acquisition of land that has particular environmental value.
 - (d) Promotion and encouragement of sustainable practices such as energy efficiency and waste minimisation.
- (2) For the 2016/17 financial year, the amount of the charge shall be **\$10**.

J. WUNJUNGA SBS TRANSLATOR SPECIAL CHARGE

- (1) In accordance with section 94(1)(b)(i) of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Council shall levy a special charge on land with the area marked on plan number 2016/06 (as annexed hereto), to fund the ongoing cost of repairs and maintenance and the provision of electricity to the Wunjunga Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) translator ("**the Service**").
- (2) The land the subject of the special charge specially benefits from the Service because the Service enables the translator to function and, in doing so, enables SBS television coverage to be provided to those properties which would not otherwise be available.
- (3) For the 2016/17 financial year, the amount of the charge shall be **\$5.68**.
- (4) The overall plan for the Wunjunga SBS Translator special charge is as follows:
 - (a) The special charge is levied to fund the cost of repairs, maintenance and the provision of electricity to the Wunjunga Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) translator.



- (b) The rateable land to which the special charge applies is every parcel of rateable land shown on plan number 2016/06 (as annexed hereto).
- (c) The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$250.
- (d) The time for carrying out the overall plan is 12 months ending 30 June 2017.

K. MOUNT KELLY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE SPECIAL CHARGE

- (1) In accordance with section 94(1)(b)(i) of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and section 128A of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act*, the Council will levy a special charge on land with the area marked on plan number RF2009 (as annexed hereto) to fund the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural fire fighting equipment for the rural fire brigades that operate in the Mount Kelly area ("**the Service**").
- (2) The land the subject of the special charge specially benefits from the provision of the Service, because this land is not otherwise serviced by urban fire fighting brigades.
- (3) For the 2016/17 financial year, the amount of the charge shall be **\$15**.
- (4) The overall plan for the special charge is as follows:
 - (a) The special charge is levied to fund the cost of providing rural fire fighting services to properties in the Mount Kelly area.
 - (b) The rateable land to which the special charge applies is every parcel of rateable land shown on plan number RF2009 (as annexed hereto).
 - (c) The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$2,265.
 - (d) The time for carrying out the overall plan is 12 months ending 30 June 2017.

L. SCOTT RURAL FIRE BRIGADE SPECIAL CHARGE

- (1) In accordance with section 94(1)(b)(i) of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and section 128A of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act*, the Council will levy a special charge on land with the area marked on plan number RF0425 (as annexed hereto) to fund the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural fire fighting equipment for the rural fire brigades that operate in the Scott area ("**the Service**").
- (2) The land the subject of the special charge specially benefits from the provision of the Service, because this land is not otherwise serviced by urban fire fighting brigades.
- (3) For the 2016/17 financial year, the amount of the charge shall be **\$50**.
- (4) The overall plan for the special charge is as follows:
 - (a) The special charge is levied to fund the cost of providing rural fire fighting services to properties in the Scott area.
 - (b) The rateable land to which the special charge applies is every parcel of rateable land shown on plan number RF0425 (as annexed hereto).
 - (c) The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$4,400.
 - (d) The time for carrying out the overall plan is 12 months ending 30 June 2017.



M. TIME WITHIN WHICH RATES MUST BE PAID

Rates and charges must be paid by the due date, with the due date being thirty (30) days after the rate notices have been issued.

N. OVERDUE RATES AND CHARGES

Rates and charges will become overdue if not paid by the due date.

O. INTEREST ON RATES AND CHARGES

It is Council's policy to ensure that the interests of ratepayers are protected by discouraging the avoidance of responsibility for payment of rates and charges when due. To this end, Council will impose interest on rates and charges from the day they become overdue.

The rate of interest to be charged on overdue rates and charges shall be **11%** compound interest charged at daily rests. The interest rate will be the maximum rate prescribed in the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

P. RECOVERY OF OVERDUE RATES AND CHARGES

Council requires payment of rates and charges by the due date.

Overdue rates will attract interest calculated daily and added to the account monthly.

Legal action for rates and charges recovery may commence where ratepayers have overdue rates from a previous financial year.

Q. PERIODIC PAYMENTS POLICY

In arrears

Council will allow landowners who are unable to pay their rates by the due date to enter into an arrangement to make periodic payments in arrears following the levy of the rates and charges. Such arrangements are to be approved by the Chief Executive Officer by way of delegated powers from the Council, with no recovery action being taken while the arrangement is being maintained.

In advance

Council further states that there is no reason landowners cannot make periodic payments in advance of the levy of the rates and charges.

R. REGULATORY, COST RECOVERY, COMMERCIAL AND OTHER FEES

Council shall by resolution fix regulatory fees for services and facilities including but not limited to, an application for, or the issue of, an approval, consent, licence, permission, registration or other authority under a local government act. Such charges will generally be contained in the Register of Regulatory Fees as adopted by Council from time to time in the Fees and Charges schedule.

The regulatory and cost recovery fees shall be no more than the cost to the local government of providing the service or taking the action for which the fee is charged.

In accordance with Council's general corporate and contractual powers under the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Council shall by resolution fix a fee for the commercial or other voluntary supply and acquisition of goods and services.

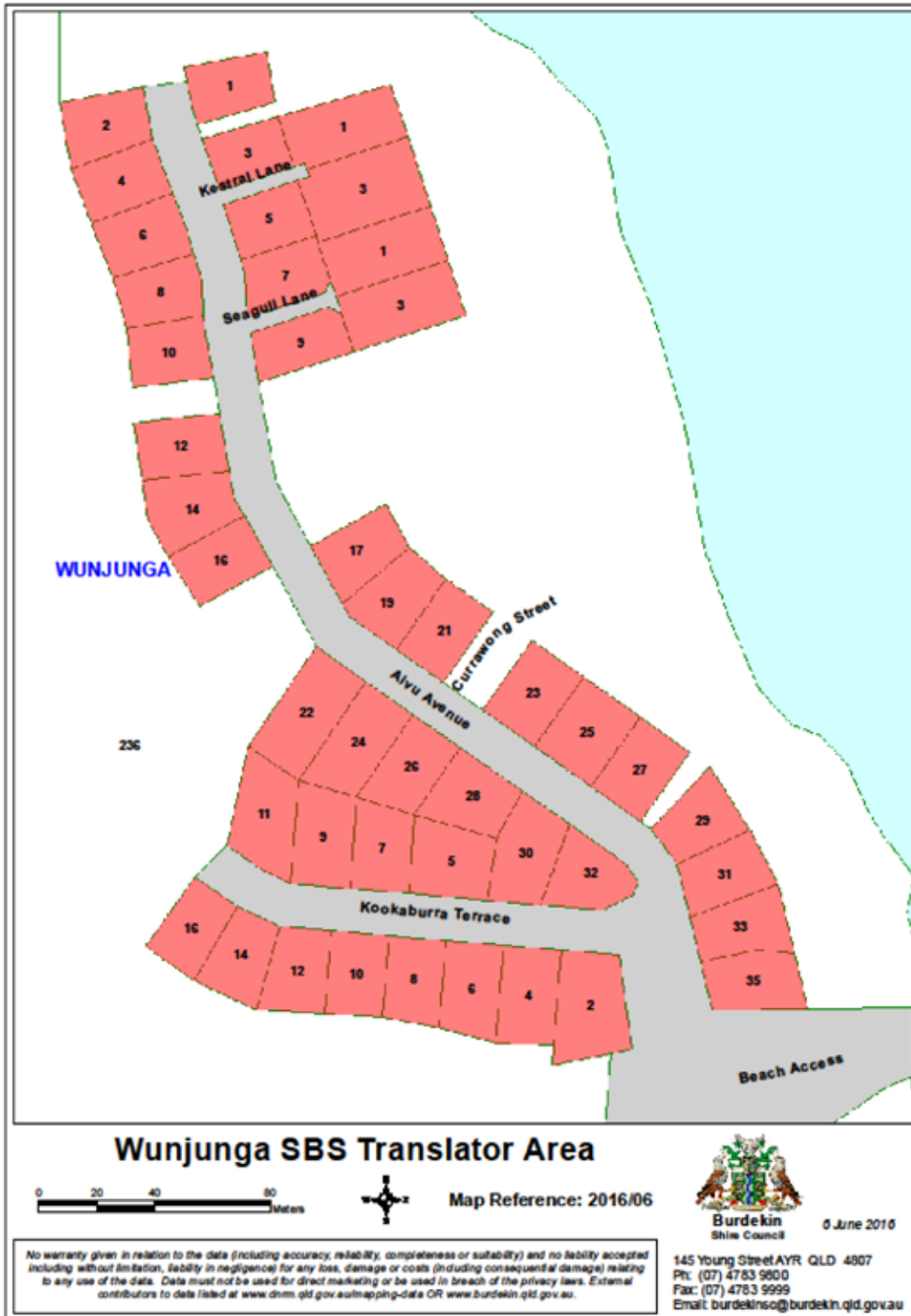
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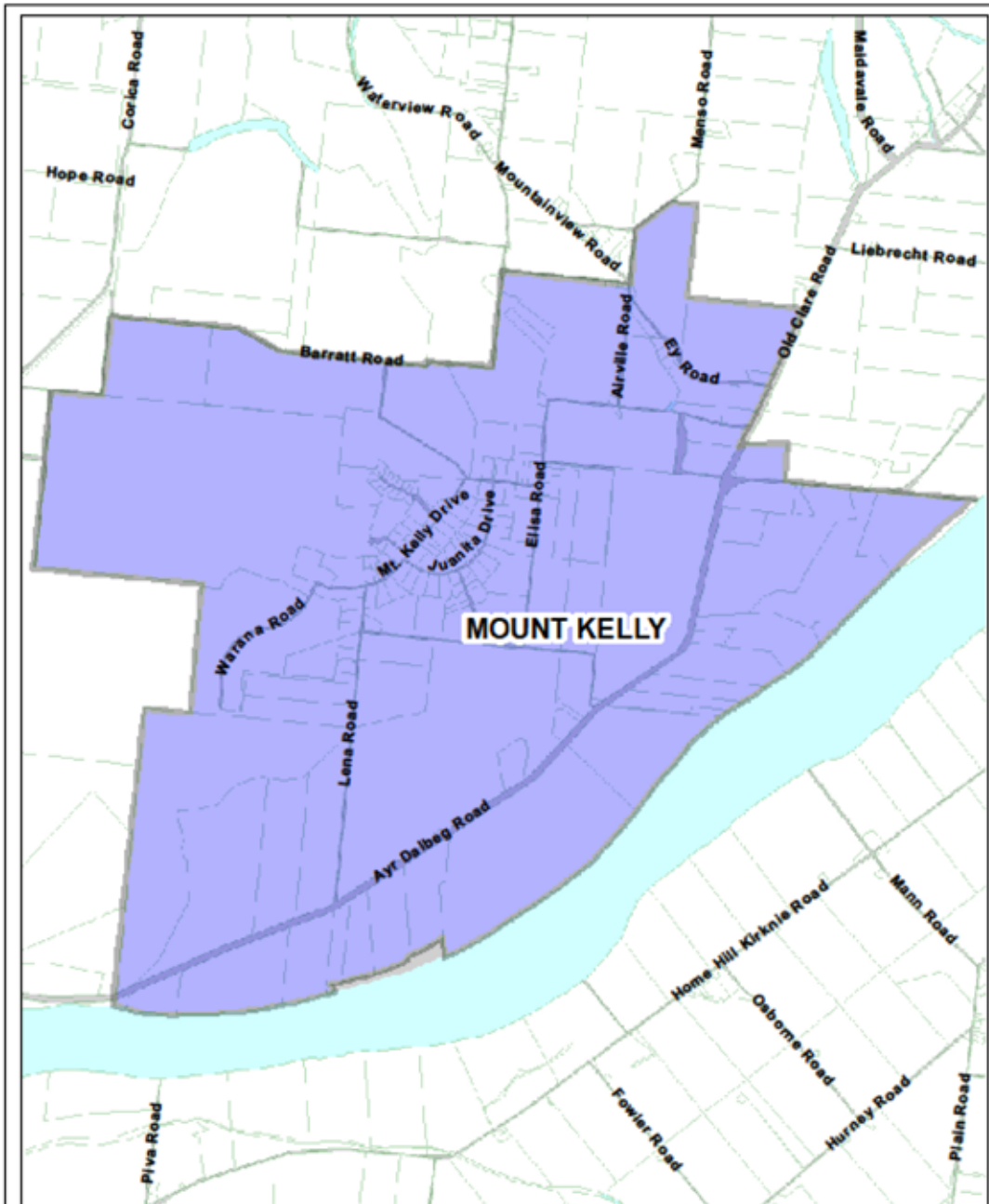


Burdekin
Shire Council

Revenue Statement for 2016/17

ANNEX





Mount Kelly Rural Fire Brigade Area



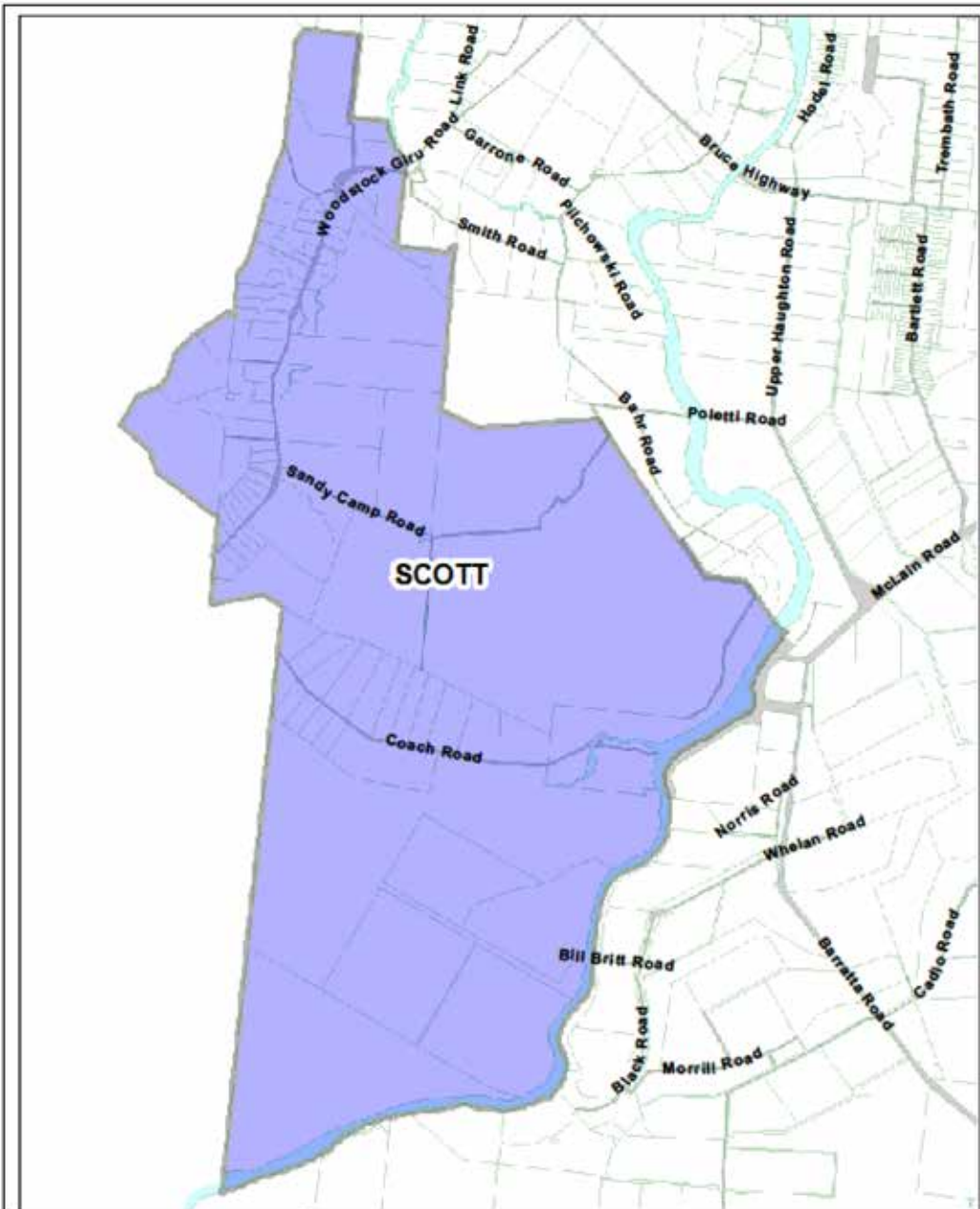
Map Reference: RF2009



1 April 2015

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 E-mail: burdekinpsc@burdekin.qld.gov.au



Scott Rural Fire Brigade Area



Map Reference: RF0425



Burdekin Shire Council 1 April 2016

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Debt Policy

Commencement Date: 1 July 2016

Function: Financial Management

RESPONSIBILITIES

Policy Owner	<i>Manager Financial and Administrative Services</i>
Policy Contact	<i>Financial Accountant - Systems</i>
Approval Authority	<i>Council</i>
Next Review Date	<i>1 June 2017</i>

APPROVAL

Date	Resolution Number

1 PURPOSE

The objective of this policy is to ensure the sound management of Council's existing and future debt.

2 SCOPE

This policy applies to borrowings for capital works by Burdekin Shire Council.

3 POLICY STATEMENT

- 3.1. All external borrowing shall be obtained through the Queensland Treasury Corporation and Council shall continue to use the full range of Queensland Treasury Corporation's fund management services in order to enhance Council's loan/redemption procedures.
- 3.2. Council aims to finance capital works and new assets to the greatest extent possible from revenue, grants and subsidies or any specific reserves primarily established to fund capital works.
- 3.3. Council will not use long-term debt to finance operating activities or recurrent expenditure.
- 3.4. Council will always be mindful of the additional cost incurred by the community when assets are acquired through borrowings, which increases the cost of providing capital infrastructure.
- 3.5. The repayment period for new and existing borrowings will be set at 10 years or less except in the case of borrowings for major long-life infrastructure assets where a repayment period will be determined on an individual basis.



- 3.6. Council will review the level of debt to ensure its relevant financial sustainability indicators do not exceed the minimum limits recommended by the Queensland Treasury Corporation.
- 3.7. Detailed capital works and asset acquisition programs for the next 10 years together with the 10 year financial model will provide the basis for determination of funding options.

Planned Borrowings

There are no planned borrowings in 2016/17 or during the next 9 financial years.

Existing Borrowings

As at 31st March 2016, Council's existing borrowings and expected terms for repayment are as follows:-

Loan	Debt Pool	Expected Loan Term
General 2015	6 Year	4.57
Waste	3 Year	3.09

4 LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulation 2012

Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982

Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Regulation 2007

Investment Policy

Commencement Date: 1 July 2016

Function: Financial Management

RESPONSIBILITIES

Policy Owner	<i>Manager Financial and Administrative Services</i>
Policy Contact	<i>Financial Accountant - Systems</i>
Approval Authority	<i>Council</i>
Next Review Date	<i>1 June 2017</i>

APPROVAL

Date	Resolution Number

1 PURPOSE

This policy provides guidance and a framework for the prudent and appropriate investment of surplus funds controlled by Council that are not required for operational or capital purposes in the short to medium term.

2 SCOPE

This policy applies to Council officers involved in the investment of surplus funds in accordance with Council's investment objectives and risk philosophy.

3 EXCEPTIONS

Not applicable

4 DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise indicated, all terms used in this policy are to have the meanings outlined in:

- Local Government Act 2009
- Local Government Regulation 2012
- Statutory Bodies Financials Arrangements Act 1982
- Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Regulation 2007

5 POLICY STATEMENT

Council is required to prepare an Investment Policy under section 191 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and section 104(5)(c) of the Local Government Act 2009.



Council aims to maximise investment returns on all surplus cash within agreed risk parameters. Capital preservation and liquidity management are the key consideration when entering into investment transactions.

Council is committed to:

- Investing only in investments as authorised under current legislation
- Investing only with approved institutions
- Investing to facilitate diversification and minimise portfolio risk
- Investing to facilitate working capital requirements, and
- Maintaining documentary evidence of investments

Overall the amount invested with institutions should not exceed the following percentage as outlined in the below table:

Long Term Rating (Standards & Poors)	Short Term Rating (Standards & Poors)	Investment Limit
AAA to AA-	A1+	30%
A+ to A	A1	20%
A- To BBB+	A2	5%
Qualifying Local Financial Institution	Unrated or below A2	15%
QTC Cash Management Fund	No limit	No limit

Qualifying Local Financial Institutions (QLFI)

In order to qualify for investment, local institutions must meet the following criteria:

- Provide a benefit to the local community, outside of standard financial institution services; and
- Be able to provide competitive term deposit rates that rival those able to be obtained from rated institutions.

Investment limits relative to their ratings will apply. If unrated or below A2 the investment limit will be 15%

Council’s Qualifying Local Financial Institutions include:

- Queensland Country Credit Union, and
- Bendigo Bank

Authorised Institutions

Only those institutions identified a suitable under the category 1 Investment Powers conferred by the Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982 S44(1) and listed on the APRA website as Authorised Deposit Taking Institutions (ADIs).



Term to Maturity

The term of maturity of any Council investment may range from 'At Call' to 1 year.

Quotations

With the exception of monies held with QTC, at least 3 quotations shall be sought from authorised institutions whenever an investment is proposed. The best quote will be assessed based on the objectives detailed below.

While having regard to the above, Council is a local community service organisation and at times will invest in QLFIs to ensure their continued support of and presence in the local community. These investments will not be subject to competitive quoting but must still provide a reasonable return to Council.

6 OBJECTIVES

- To maximise investment returns within agreed risk parameters and statutory constraints while meeting Burdekin Shire Council liquidity requirements
- Meet or exceed the fair value of each investment as measured by the QTC Fair Value Calculator
- Maintain a diversified portfolio of investments to manage interest rate risk, liquidity risk and credit risk
- Maintain the value of capital invested

7 PRINCIPLES

"Fair value" means receiving an appropriate, or fair return for the risk inherent in the investment and is based on four key considerations

- Credit rating of the institution
- Amount of the investment
- Term of the investment, and
- Interest rate offered

8 PROCEDURES

Council is at all times to have in place appropriate internal controls to prevent the fraudulent use of public money. The following internal controls are required to be in place:

- A person is to be identified as the responsible officer for the investment function
- All investments are to be authorised by the Chief Executive Officer or nominated delegate
- Confirmation advices from the financial institution are to be attached to the Investment Authorisation Form providing evidence that the investment is in the name of Burdekin Shire Council, and
- A person other than the responsible officer is to perform the bank reconciliation at the end of each month.



9 LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulation 2012

Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982

Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Regulation 2007

10 ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Council must keep records that show it has invested in the way most appropriate in all circumstances and retain documentary evidence of the investment.



2016/2017 Revenue Policy

Commencement Date: 1 July 2016

Function: Financial Management

RESPONSIBILITIES

Policy Owner	<i>Manager – Finance and Administrative Services</i>
Policy Contact	<i>Manager – Finance and Administrative Services</i>
Approval Authority	<i>Council</i>
Next Review Date	<i>1 June 2017 (12 months)</i>

APPROVAL

Date	Resolution Number
<i>17 May 2016</i>	<i>1502956</i>

1 PURPOSE

The Revenue Policy identifies the principles that Council intends to apply in the preparation and adoption of the 2016/2017 budget.

2 SCOPE

This policy will identify the principles Council intends to apply for—

- levying rates and charges,
- granting concessions for rates and charges,
- recovering overdue rates and charges, and
- cost-recovery methods.

This policy also addresses—

- the purpose for concessions, and
- the extent to which physical and social infrastructure costs for a new development are to be funded by charges for the development.

3 DEFINITIONS

Refer to dictionary schedules located in the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

4 POLICY STATEMENT

4.1 Principles used for levying rates and charges

In levying rates and charges Council will apply the principles of—

- **Clarity** - making clear Council's and each ratepayer's responsibility to the rating regime;
- **Simplicity** - making the levying system simple and inexpensive to administer; and
- **Equity** - through flexible payment arrangements for ratepayers with a lower capacity to pay.



4.1.1 Making rates and charges

In making rates and charges, Council will raise an amount of revenue appropriate to maintain and improve assets and provide services to the Shire as a whole. In deciding how that revenue is raised, Council will take into account the following factors:

- the rateable value of land, including valuation relativities among land, and the rates that would be payable if only one general rate was adopted; and
- the level of services provided to that land and the cost of providing the services compared to the rate burden that would apply under a single general rate; and
- the use of the land in so far as it relates to the extent of utilisation of Council services; and
- the relative economic value of different land uses within the Shire; and
- location and access to services; and
- with an extensive road network, particularly in rural areas of the Shire and demands on Council to upgrade the standard of roads for harvesting, transportation of rural products, processing and services associated with the sugar, grazing, horticulture and aquaculture industries, Council considers those areas benefiting from access to improved road and infrastructure standards should contribute appropriately to Council's revenue base to maintain the high level of road services expected; and
- at the same time, Council acknowledges and again has taken into account that improved services including but not limited to: recreation and sporting, swimming pools, community, cultural, library, welfare services, public halls, environmental health services and amenities, parks and playgrounds, cemeteries, Council's public buildings, Council's economic development initiatives, improvements and development work in the Council's principal towns are local government services that should be met by the whole community.

4.1.2 Valuations and General Rates

The Council is of the opinion that a system of differential general rating will achieve a fairer and more equitable distribution of the rating burden, rather than if only one general rate was adopted. A differential general rate system will exhibit the following features:

- Flexible - so that Council can adapt its rating system to the economic circumstances of the community's rateable properties as a whole and/or the circumstances of particular sectors;
- Equitable - in relation to the benefits rateable properties receive from the expenditure of rates;
- Simple and easily understood;
- Economical to administer, relative to the revenue derived; and
- Ensures that similar rateable properties are treated in a like manner.

In determining the rating burden to be shared by the differential rating categories, the Council acknowledges the following:

- New valuations issued from time to time may produce a shift in relativities between the various differential rating categories in respect of their share of the rating burden;
- New valuations may also lead to shifts in relativities between properties within the differential rating categories;



- New valuations issued from time to time may also result in a differential rating category contributing less of the rating burden than in the preceding year.

Council proposes to continue to levy differential general rates to ensure that the rate burden is distributed in a fair and equitable way. Council will continue to gather data to further consider and refine this process.

4.1.3 Minimum General Rates

The Council considers that each property in the Shire benefits to some extent from the facilities and services provided by the Council, including the governance costs in administering the Shire. Such expenditure is limited to that funded by the general rate.

Therefore, minimum general rates are made and levied to recover the costs of such services and facilities.

4.1.4 Charges

In general, Council will be guided by the 'user pays' principle in the making of charges to minimise the impact of rating within the local economy.

Council will have regard to the principles of—

- **Transparency** - in the making of charges;
- **Simplicity** - having in place a charging regime that is simple and inexpensive to administer;
- **Flexibility** - to take into account local economic conditions; and
- **Full cost recovery** - of associated expenses, including a reasonable return on capital.

Council has resolved to charge for water services under a two-part consumption based pricing policy. The outcomes of this form of water supply demand management are aimed at community benefit from:

- Establishment of a charging system more closely aligned to the principles of user pays;
- Reduced water consumption resulting in:
 - reduced operational costs,
 - deferment of future augmentation works for water treatment plants and delivery systems, and
 - an improved environmental balance of ground water reserves for future generations.

Council has resolved to eliminate any concessions for any section of the community in respect of consumption based charging.

4.1.5 Special Charges

When providing services or undertaking activities that can reasonably be seen to benefit only a part of the rate base, the Council considers it advantageous to recover those costs from those properties. To facilitate this principle, special charges are used to recover the costs for these services or activities.



4.1.6 Separate Charges

The Council acknowledges that there are various service provisions and infrastructure that the cost recovery of would seem to be unfair if made in accordance with property valuation and are more closely aligned with the concept of equal benefit per property. As a consequence, separate charges are used so that each property in the Shire, regardless of size, pays the same amount towards cost recovery. Separate charges are used to recover costs for these service provisions or infrastructure.

4.1.7 Interest

Council ensures that the interests of ratepayers in general are protected by charging interest, under the Local Government Regulation 2012 (currently 11% compounded monthly), on rates and utility charges that remain overdue immediately after the due date for payment on the rates notice.

4.2 Principles used for granting rebates and concessions

In considering the application of concessions, Council will be guided by the principles of—

- **Equity** - by having regard to the different levels of capacity to pay among the lands of the local community;
- **Consistency** - in treatment for ratepayers receiving concessional rating; and
- **Transparency** - by making clear the requirements necessary to receive concessions.

In accordance with the above principles, Council has developed policies in respect of the following:

- Application for rates relief on the grounds of hardship
- Pensioner Rebate rate concession for pensioners

Council accepts that certain classes of pensioners have contributed rates over a period of time and/or are restricted by a fixed income and should be afforded a concession in respect of rates and charges.

Council also recognises that there are organisations which operate for the general benefit of the community with limited financial resources including private schools, churches, welfare, youth organisations and sporting organisations. Such organisations may receive a donation based on their sewerage charges.

Notwithstanding the above, individual cases will arise and Council has the discretion to consider each case on its merits.

4.3 Principles used for recovery of unpaid rates and charges

Council will exercise its rate recovery powers in order to treat all ratepayers equitably. It will be guided by the principles of—

- **Transparency** - by making clear the obligations of ratepayers and the processes used by Council in assisting it to meet its financial obligations;
- **Simplicity** - making the processes used to recover overdue rates and charges clear, simple to administer and cost effective;
- **Capacity to pay** - in determining appropriate arrangements for ratepayers; and
- **Equity** - by treating all ratepayers in the same way.



4.4 Principles used for cost-recovery methods

Council recognises the validity of fully imposing the user pays principle for its cost-recovery fees, unless the imposition of the fee is contrary to its express social, economic, environment and other corporate goals. This is considered to be the most equitable and effective revenue approach and is founded on the basis that the Shire's rating base cannot subsidise the specific users or clients of Council's regulatory products and services.

However, in setting its cost-recovery fees, Council will be cognizant of the requirement that such a fee must not be more than the cost to Council of providing the service or taking the action to which the fee applies.

4.5 Funding of infrastructure for new development

Mechanisms for the planning and funding of infrastructure for urban growth are contained within the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009 (SPA)*.

The statutory infrastructure charging instruments enables Council to fund the establishment cost of trunk infrastructure associated with those trunk infrastructure networks covered by the Priority Infrastructure Plan. This is achieved through the levying of regulated infrastructure charges on development.

Pursuant to the provisions of the SPA, and Council's relevant planning instruments, developers are required to pay costs associated with the following:

- 4.5.1** any increased demand upon the available capacity of existing trunk infrastructure due to any new development; and/or
- 4.5.2** any additional trunk infrastructure required due to any new development; and
- 4.5.3** where appropriate, a contribution towards social infrastructure changes required to cater for the increase or changes in population caused by new development.

5 PROCEDURES

Procedures arising from this policy are contained in Council's Revenue Statement for 2016/2017.

6 LEGISLATION

The *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012* require Council to review its revenue policy annually and in sufficient time to allow an annual budget that is consistent with the revenue policy to be adopted for the next financial year.

END

2016/17 Budget at a Glance

Rates and Charges	2015/16	2016/17
General Rate (Cents in the Dollar)		
Category A - Residential	1.323	1.424
Category A1 - Rural Residential	-	1.384
Category B - Commercial & Industrial	1.379	1.558
Category B1 - Shopping Centre	1.934	2.418
Category C - Grazing & Livestock	2.395	2.431
Category D - Sugar Cane	3.860	3.840
Category E - Rural (Other) - less than 20 hectares	2.136	2.148
Category E1 - Rural (Other) - 20 hectares or more	3.303	3.840
Category F - Sugar Milling	28.880	26.971
Category G - Commercial Water Business	74.428	-
Category G1 - Water (less than 10 hectares)	-	20.000
Category G2 - Water (10 hectares or more)	-	66.775
Category H - Other	-	1.424
Minimum General Rate		
Category A - Residential	\$981	\$1,020
Category A1 - Rural Residential	-	\$1,020
Category B - Commercial & Industrial	\$981	\$1,040
Category B1 - Shopping Centre	\$981	\$30,000
Category C - Grazing & Livestock	\$981	\$1,040
Category D - Sugar Cane	\$981	\$1,040
Category E - Rural (Other) - less than 20 hectares	\$981	\$1,040
Category E1 - Rural (Other) - 20 hectares or more	\$981	\$1,040
Category F - Sugar Milling	\$16,314	\$150,000
Category G - Commercial Water Business	\$2,761	-
Category G1 - Water (less than 10 hectares)	-	\$1,040
Category G2 - Water (10 hectares or more)	-	\$4,832
Category H - Other	-	\$1,020
Waste Service Charges		
140L Rural Residential 2 Bin Service	\$399	\$406
240L Rural Residential 2 Bin Service	\$503	\$512
140L Residential 3 Bin Service	\$455	\$463
240L Residential 3 Bin Service	\$559	\$569
240L Commercial 2 Bin Service	\$439	\$448
240L Commercial 3 Bin Service	\$495	\$505
140L Multiple Residential 2 Bin Service	\$399	\$406
240L Multiple Residential 2 Bin Service	\$503	\$512
Additional 140L Residential Refuse Bin	\$326	\$332
Additional 240L Residential Refuse Bin	\$430	\$438
Additional 240L Commercial Refuse Bin	\$344	\$351
Additional Residential Recycle Bin	\$73	\$74
Additional Commercial Recycle Bin	\$95	\$97
Additional Green Waste Bin	\$56	\$57
Waste Access Charge	\$16	\$16
Waste Legacy Landfill Charge	-	\$20
Sewerage Charge	\$519	\$529
Water Access Charge	\$422	\$438
Water Consumption Charge (cents per 1,000L)		
For usage up to 1,000,000 litres	\$0.17	\$0.20
For usage above 1,000,000 litres	\$0.85	\$1.00
Environment Separate Charge	\$30.00	\$10
Wunjunga SBS Translator Special Charge	\$40	\$5.68
Mount Kelly Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge	\$35	\$15
Scott Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge	\$50	\$50
Due Date for Payment	30 Days	30 Days
Interest Charged on Overdue Rates	11.00%	11.00%
State Government Pensioner Subsidy (Maximum)	\$200	\$200
Council Pensioner Rebate (Maximum)	\$342	\$350

2016/17 Capital Roadworks Program

Kerb and Channel Bitumen Widening Program

- >> Eleventh Avenue, Home Hill– Sixth Street to Eighth Street
- >> Eighth Street, Home Hill - Eleventh Avenue to Twelfth Avenue

Urban Upgrades

- >> Improvements to parking at junior soccer fields on Beach Road
- >> Bitumen seal Sixth Avenue from Hurney Road towards Sixth Street
- >> Bitumen seal section of Delpratt Street, Dalbeg

Footpaths/Bikeways

- >> Upgrade pedestrian pathway in Graham street adjacent to Ayr State Primary School
- >> Replacement of footpaths in urban areas as identified by Council's asset management framework
- >> Continuation of Burdekin Be Active Trail

Rural Upgrades

- >> Upgrade Inkerman Hill Road including the provision of pull-off/passing zones and replacement of safety guardrail
- >> Widening of Brown Road
- >> Bitumen seal remaining unsealed section of Ramsden Road
- >> Bitumen seal remaining unsealed section of Sandhill Road
- >> Widen narrow section of McDowell Road between Woods and Watt Roads
- >> Traffic management improvements to intersection of Darveniza and Woods Roads
- >> Widen narrow sections of Kelly Road between Fiveways and Mountainview Roads

Road Drainage Structures

- >> Continue road drainage replacement program in accordance with priorities identified by Council's Asset Management framework
- >> Drainage improvements to intersection of Klondyke and Maidavale Roads

Bridges

- >> Repairs to Anabranh Bridge, Rita Island Road; Iron Bark Creek Bridge on Bahr Road; Sheepstation Creek Bridge on Sheepstation Creek Road; Plantation Creek Bridge on Rita Island Road, Kidby's Gully Bridge on Burdekin Road and Viv Cox Bridge over Barratta Creek on Barratta Road.

Embargoed until 10am - Tuesday
June 28, 2016

\$9.8 million for roads, drainage and reseals

Burdekin Shire Council has budgeted \$9.8 million for maintenance and capital works on the road and drainage networks.

Mayor Lyn McLaughlin said Council had allocated \$6.5 million in capital roadworks, with 69 per cent of that being spent on the shire's rural road network and \$900,000 being for reseals of urban and rural road.

"Council has allocated \$400,000 toward upgrading the Mount Inkerman Road which will include the provision of pull-off/passing zones and the replacement of the safety guardrail," she said. "This road is used by many residents walking the hill and by tourists who want a bird's eye view of our region.

"Rural areas to be targeted this year will be:

- the widening of Brown Road, including improvements to the intersection with Ayr-Dalbeg Road;
- kerbing, channelling and bitumen sealing of Grey Street;
- bitumen sealing the remaining unsealed section of Ramsden and Sandhill roads;
- widening a narrow section of McDowell Road between Woods and Watts roads;
- traffic management improvements at the intersection of Darveniza and Woods roads; and
- widening narrow sections of Kelly Road between Fiveways and Mountainview roads.

"We will improve the drainage at the intersection of Klondyke and Maidavale roads and other road drainage culverts as identified by Council's Asset Management Framework.

"Other works will include kerbing and channelling and bitumen widening in Home Hill's Eleventh Avenue and Eighth Street, improvements to parking at the junior soccer fields on Beach Road, bitumen sealing of Sixth Avenue from Hurney Road towards Sixth Street and bitumen sealing a section of Delpratt Street in Dalbeg."

The Mayor said Council had also budgeted to upgrade the pedestrian pathway in Graham Street, Ayr, adjacent to the Ayr State Primary School.

"We will also continue our progress of the Burdekin Be Active Trail and upgrade older footpaths as identified by Council's Asset Management Framework," she said.

"There are a number of bridges in our shire that will also be repaired throughout the year."

Embargoed until 10am - Tuesday
June 28, 2016

Ayr Skate Park to receive shade structure

Burdekin Shire Council has allocated \$50,000 toward erecting a shade structure over the Ayr Skate Park.

Mayor Lyn McLaughlin said this was a project that had been sought by the users of the skate park.

“Council has had a number of requests for provision of shade over the skate park and we were happy to include it in this year’s Budget,” she said.

“The Burdekin Shire Youth Council is consulting with users of the park as to what sort of shade cover they are seeking.

“Council has also allocated \$100,000 to upgrade older playground equipment and park furniture in the Shire’s parks.

“Our Skilling Queenslanders for Work employees will continue to upgrade Plantation Park and Juru Walk in 2016/17 at a cost of \$174,142.

“The public toilet facility at Cromarty Boat Landing in Giru will be replaced at an estimated cost of \$55,000.

“Council has also put aside \$50,000 for the construction of an entry statement at the Mackenzie Street entrance of the Ayr Cemetery.”

Embargoed until 10am - Tuesday
June 28, 2016

Ayr and Millaroo pools and Home Hill Caravan Park to receive minor makeovers

The Ayr Swimming Pool, Millaroo Pool and the Home Hill Caravan Park will be upgraded in the 2016/17 financial year.

Mayor Lyn McLaughlin said Council has a \$2 million carryover project for the Ayr Swimming Pool, but this would depend on the receipt of government funding.

“Council has further discussed the scope of works for the Ayr Swimming Pool refurbishment and has refined it to include works associated with the 50m pool only at this stage,” she said.

“We have made this decision in an attempt to keep our costs as low as possible.

“The proposed works will include new pool plant and equipment. Other works to the pool include new filtered water return lines to the side of the pool walls, cleaning of the tiles and replacing of pool sealants.

“The concrete shell of the pool has been tested and is suitable for another 15 years’ use.

“Further testing has indicated there is water loss from the pool which could be attributed to leaking pipework etc, so once the final design and plans are completed, Council will seek government funding to complete this project.

“Separate to this project Council has also allocated funding to replace the shade sails.”

Cr McLaughlin said the Home Hill Caravan Park would also receive some upgrade works.

“Council has carryover funding available to build a new ablutions block,” she said.

“The current block has had numerous refurbishments over the years and is past its use-by date, so it was decided to build a new one.

“In addition, Council has allocated \$15,000 to replace the existing fence and \$7500 to replace five power heads.”

The Mayor said the Council also still had \$50,000 available to assist with the refurbishment of the Millaroo Pool.

“We have recently agreed on high priority works to be completed for the chemical and plant room at Millaroo,” she said.

“In addition our team is making further investigations to complete some landscaping works through the Skilling Workers for Queensland scheme.”

Embargoed until 10am - Tuesday
June 28, 2016

Council continues works to clear aquatic weeds

Burdekin Shire Council will continue its program to clear aquatic weeds from the Shire's waterways in an effort to return the systems back to their original environmental state.

Mayor Lyn McLaughlin said Council has budgeted to spend approximately \$68,000 on aquatic weed control in nine coastal creek systems across the lower Burdekin.

"Infestations of weeds in our lagoons and waterways cause major problems such as increased mosquito populations and during flood events the dense weed mats being carried downstream can damage our roads, pumps and fences," she said.

"Weed control activities include aerial spraying, edge spraying from boat and land, and mechanical removal using the weed harvester and excavator.

"Council appreciates the support from contributing landholders, NQ Dry Tropics, SunWater and Lower Burdekin Water in providing financial and in-kind assistance toward continuing this valuable work."

Cr McLaughlin said the Council would also receive \$17,500 from NQ Dry Tropics to assist with this work.

"I thank NQ Dry Tropics for their support of Council's aquatic weed clearing program," she said.

"This funding is vital to keeping our waterways clear of aquatic weeds such as Salvinia, Water Hyacinth, Water Lettuce and Hymenachne."

Embargoed until 10am - Tuesday
June 28, 2016

Council to spend more than \$550,000 in community support

Council will spend more than \$550,000 supporting the Burdekin community and local events in the next financial year, according to Mayor Lyn McLaughlin.

“Burdekin Shire Council has put aside \$140,000 for welfare donations, \$40,000 in events funding and another \$57,000 to cover the in-kind support costs, such as setting up for events with bins, signage and the like,” she said.

“We have \$12,000 in standing donations to community organisations and \$7500 in sport grants included in this year’s Budget.

“Council is continuing to support the promotion of our region by the Burdekin Tourism Association and have allocated \$16,000 toward promotional signage, advertising and participating in expos to promote our shire.

“There is also \$20,000 set aside to replace the ageing promotional banners in the main streets of Ayr and Home Hill.”

Cr McLaughlin said the Community Development team had also budgeted \$30,000 for upgrading security at the Burdekin Library Ayr and Home Hill branch library.

“We have allocated \$75,000 to refurbish the Burdekin Library facility and the Music Loft,” she said.

“There is \$10,000 to replace the Burdekin Theatre Auditorium house lights with LED lights and \$15,000 to replace the sound mixing console at the Burdekin Memorial Hall.”

Embargoed until 10am - Tuesday
June 28, 2016

Council upgrades ageing water and wastewater infrastructure

Burdekin Shire Council will spend more than \$2 million upgrading the Shire's ageing water and wastewater networks.

Mayor Lyn McLaughlin said \$1.127 million of the 2016/17 Budget would be spent on water projects to improve network reliability.

"Many of our assets are more than 40 years old and it is important that we continue to upgrade and improve them, to ensure our residents have a reliable water supply and wastewater network," she said.

"Council has allocated \$450,000 to replace the switchboard at the South Ayr Water Treatment Plant and \$200,000 for the refurbishment or replacement of water assets.

"Our Budget includes \$600,000 for the continuation of the Sewage Pump Station switchboard replacement program and \$200,000 for the refurbishment or replacement of sewerage assets to improve our network's reliability.

"These works are ongoing and Council will seek government funding to continue with these essential works."