

## Fire break notice

Owners or occupiers of land within the City of Karratha are hereby notified that you must comply with the Bush Fires Act 1954, (the Act) section 33, and carry out annual fire prevention work as set out in this notice.

It is the responsibility of the owner or occupier to maintain the property free of fire hazards and have all fire breaks installed as per the requirements of this Notice and maintain the land in that condition for the entire year.

Persons who fail to comply with the requirements of this order may be issued with an infringement notice which carries a modified penalty of \$250 and a maximum penalty of \$25,000. In accordance with the Act, Council may carry out the required works at the expense of the land owner or occupier regardless if issued with an infringement notice or prosecuted.

## Requirements

### 1. Rural and Town-site Land (includes residential, commercial and industrial)

(a) Where the area of land is 2024m<sup>2</sup> (approximately half an acre) or less, remove all flammable material on the land except living standing trees from the whole of the land.

(b) Where the area of the land exceeds 2024m<sup>2</sup>, provide fire breaks at least three (3) metres wide, immediately inside all external boundaries of the land and also immediately surrounding all buildings and haystacks situated on the land. Where several adjoining lots are held or used by the owner/

occupier, the firebreaks may be provided inside and along the external boundaries of the group or lot.

### 2. Special Rural Land

The owners of all small rural holdings zoned as Special Rural under Town Planning Schemes must maintain clear of all flammable materials a fire break at least three (3) metres wide, immediately inside all external boundaries of the land.

### 3. Fuel and/or Gas Depots

In respect of land owned and/or occupied by you on which is situated any container normally used to contain liquid or gas fuel, including the land on which any ramp or supports are constructed, you shall have the land clear of all flammable material.

## Remember

Firebreaks must be maintained fuel-free year round. The City of Karratha is a designated "Restricted Burning" area;

A Permit to Burn is required from 1 January to 31 December (inclusive); and

On days of Very High, Severe, Extreme and Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating, as issued by Bureau of Meteorology, you are prohibited to burn-off or to use cooking fires (including gas appliances)

For more information, contact the City of Karratha on **(08) 9186 8555** or visit [www.karratha.wa.gov.au](http://www.karratha.wa.gov.au).

# Understanding your Rates

## Why do we pay rates?

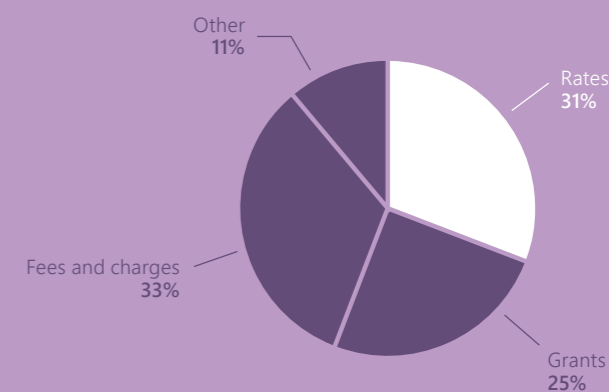
Rates are just one of the sources of revenue that the City of Karratha uses to fund our services and infrastructure.

Our major source of income is fees and charges – the user pays fees charged at facilities like Karratha Leisureplex and Karratha Airport as well as for services like Building and planning applications. Another major source of income is grants received from the State and Federal Government as well as from corporate partners which help us to build new facilities and deliver our services. We also get revenue from other sources including interest, disposal of assets and transfers from our reserves. This year, rates comprise around less than a third of our total revenue.

The City of Karratha collects rates to fund a wide range of services including the maintenance of recreational facilities, roads and footpaths, waste management, parks and gardens, libraries as well as important community infrastructure projects such as the Karratha Leisureplex, Dampier Community Hub and Karratha

Airport Terminal Redevelopment. Rates are the contribution each property owner makes to improving services and facilities within the City of Karratha for the growing needs of our community. Rates are calculated annually from 1 July to 30 June.

## 2015/16 Income Breakdown



# Pay your rates on time to WIN!

Ratepayers who pay their rates and rubbish collection charges in full by the due date will be in the running for the following prizes\*

**1st prize: \$2,000** cheque sponsored by Westpac

**2nd prize: \$1,500** cheque sponsored by the City of Karratha.

**3rd prize: Two nights stay** in a Double Deluxe Spa Suite at Point Samson Resort (valued at \$1260) and dinner at Ta Ta's Restaurant (\$200 voucher)

**4th prize: 2 night weekend stay** for 2 people including full buffet breakfast each morning, at the Perth Ambassador Hotel in a new, refurbished Premium Deluxe Room (valued \$560)

**5th prize: \$500 cheque** sponsored by the City of Karratha.

**6th prize: Two nights stay** in a one bedroom spa apartment at Seashells Resort Broome (valued at \$470)

**7th prize: Overnight accommodation** with breakfast in a Deluxe Eco Tent for 2 adults and 1 child up to 12 years old (value \$349).

\*Terms and conditions apply. For the full terms and conditions please visit [www.karratha.wa.gov.au](http://www.karratha.wa.gov.au).

## Contact us

Front desk: **Administration Building, Welcome Road, Karratha**

Mail: **PO Box 219, Karratha WA 6714**

Tel: **08 91868555**

Email: **enquires@karratha.wa.gov.au**

Web: **www.karratha.wa.gov.au**

Facebook: **/cityofkarratha**

## How are rates calculated?

To calculate how much each ratepayer is required to contribute, Council first determines how much rate income is required to run the City. The required income amount is divided by the total value of all the properties in the City of Karratha to determine the Rate in the Dollar (RID). Council then calculates rates for each property by multiplying its Gross Rental Value (GRV) or unimproved value (UV), as determined by the State Government's Valuer General, by the rate in the dollar.

For example:

$$\text{GRV of } \$31,200 \times \text{RID of } 0.064121 = \text{Total rates bill of } \$2000.58$$

As valuations move up or down the Rate in the Dollar adjusts to ensure the total amount raised in rates still meets the income required to run the City.

## Property Valuations

Residential property valuations are conducted by the State Government's land authority, Landgate, every three years. The total value of all the properties in the City of Karratha is used to determine the Rate in the Dollar. Landgate last conducted a general revaluation in August 2014 with those valuations effective 1 July 2015 and used to determine this year's rates.

## 2015/16 Rates in the Dollar

This year Council has resolved the following rates in the dollar to be applied to properties in the City of Karratha. Final valuations received from the Valuer General have enabled Council to lower the rates in the dollar from those advertised while still achieving Council's desired overall rate yield increase.

Gross Rental Value	Proposed minimum payment	Proposed Rate in the Dollar
Residential	\$1,450	0.064121
Commercial/Tourism/Town Centre	\$1,450	0.073271
Industry/Mixed Business	\$1,450	0.056287
Airport /GRV (Strategic Industry)	\$1,450	0.126515
Transient Workforce Accommodation/Workforce Accommodation	\$1,450	0.216481

Unimproved Value	Proposed minimum payment	Proposed Rate in the Dollar
UV (Pastoral)	\$408	0.096978
UV (Mining/Other)	\$408	0.134010
UV (Strategic Industry)	\$408	0.152053

This means that for residential properties, 6.4 cents of rates will be generated for every dollar of GRV.

## Which rate code applies to me?

A number of different rate codes apply to properties within the City of Karratha based on the zoning or land use of each property. Each property is placed in a rating category according to its predominant use and/or zoning which affects the rates applied to the property. Information about zoning can be found on your rate notice.

### Residential (GRV)

Levied on properties that have a predominant land use of residential. The rate for this category is intended to generate approximately 44% of Council's rate income.

### Commercial/Tourism/Town Centre (GRV)

Levied on properties that have a predominant land use of commercial, or does not have the characteristics of any other GRV rate category. The rate for this category is intended to generate approximately 8% of Council's rate income.

### Industry/Mixed Business (GRV)

Levied on properties that have a predominant land use of industrial. The rate for this category is intended to generate approximately 10% of Council's rate income.

### Airport/Strategic Industry (GRV)

Levied on properties that are located within Karratha Airport Precinct or that are predominately used for strategic industry (such as resource processing). Properties located in the Karratha Airport Precinct receive the direct benefit of significant Airport Infrastructure (Terminal, Runway, Security, etc.) and services more so than any other ratepayer. In addition these properties also receive all other services offered by Council. The rate for this category is intended to generate approximately 3% of Council's rate income.

### Transient Workforce Accommodation/ Workforce Accommodation (GRV)

Levied on properties that are zoned as transient workforce accommodation or that have been predominantly used for workforce accommodation. It is estimated that the circa 13,000 available TWA beds are utilised by FIFO workers annually, all of whom are entitled to the utilisation of Council facilities and services. The rates per accommodation unit remain less than the minimum rate applicable to a residential property. The rate for this category is intended to generate approximately 17% of Council's rate income.

### Pastoral (UV)

Levied on properties with a land use of pastoral. The rate for this category is intended to generate approximately 1% of Council's rate income.

### Mining/Other (UV)

Levied on properties that a mining, exploration or prospecting lease and/or license has been granted, does not have the characteristics of any other UV rating category. The rate for this category is intended to generate approximately 3% of Council's rate income

### Strategic Industry (UV)

Levied on properties that are predominately used for strategic industry (such as resource processing), infrastructure, industrial and transient workforce. The rate for this category is intended to generate approximately 14% of Council's rate income

## Waste Services

A separate annual charge is levied for the provision of a Rubbish Service to each occupied property. This covers a weekly 240 litre household rubbish pickup. The 2015/16 annual Rubbish service charge for each residential property is \$295 per service, plus GST for Commercial and Industrial services.

## Emergency Services Levy

The Emergency Services Levy (ESL) is an important contribution to assist our Fire and Rescue Services, Bush Fire Brigade and the State Emergency Service. Local government in WA is required to collect the ESL on behalf of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services - a State Government authority. If you have any enquiries regarding the ESL please contact FESA on **1300 136 099** or visit [www.dfes.wa.gov.au](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au).

## Private swimming pool inspections

Legislation requires Council to inspect the safety barriers of all private swimming pools and spas so that a period of not more than four years elapses between inspections. The fee charged to property owners with a pool is to cover this requirement. The 2015/16 annual charge for each residential property with a private swimming pool is \$28.00 per inspection.

## Payment Arrangements

If you are unable to pay your rates in full or by the instalment options highlighted on your rate notice, please contact the City's rates office to arrange a suitable payment plan.

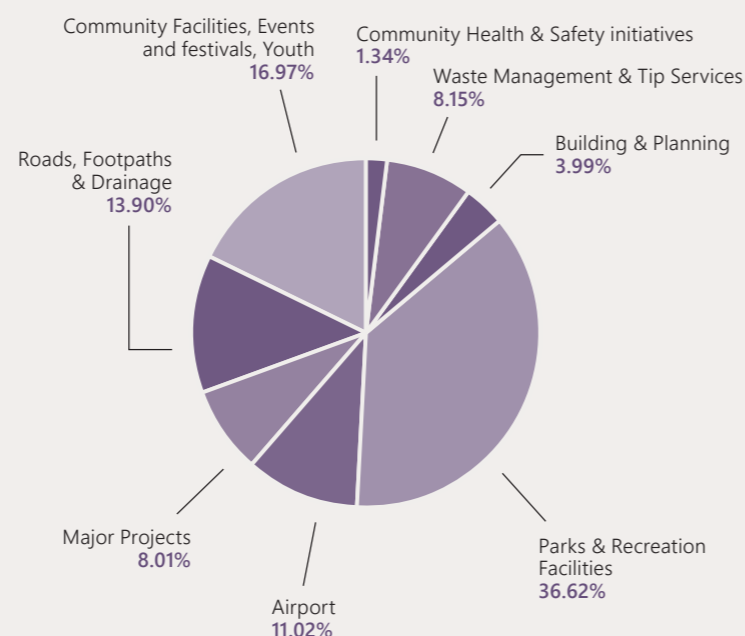
## Penalty Interest

A penalty interest of 11% will be charged on the balance of rates which remain unpaid after the due date.

## Objections









Should you wish to object to the valuation shown on your property's rate notice, please contact the Valuer General's Office on **(08) 9429 8500** or visit [www.landgate.wa.gov.au](http://www.landgate.wa.gov.au) to obtain the objection form.

## 2015/16 Budget Breakdown



## 2015/16 Budget Highlights

Over the next year the City of Karratha will invest \$126 million to improve services and facilities for our growing community, including:

 <b>Community Health &amp; Safety initiatives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pest control</li> <li>- Ranger services</li> <li>- Animal health programs</li> <li>- Food safety initiatives</li> <li>- Crime &amp; safety awareness programs</li> <li>- Litter, anti-graffiti and road safety initiatives</li> </ul>	\$1,678,872.00	1.34%
 <b>Waste Management &amp; Tip Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provision of free tip services at 7-Mile and Wickham</li> <li>- Household waste collection</li> <li>- Landfill operations</li> <li>- Commercial waste services</li> </ul>	\$10,242,785.00	8.15%
 <b>Building &amp; Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Planning for our future</li> <li>- Safeguarding our environment</li> <li>- Facilitating economic development</li> <li>- Tourism</li> </ul>	\$5,013,410.00	3.99%
 <b>Parks &amp; Recreation Facilities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leisure and recreation facilities including the Karratha Leisureplex, Wickham Recreation Precinct, Roebourne Aquatic Precinct, Cossack</li> <li>- Parks and gardens management</li> <li>- Ovals and courts</li> <li>- Pavilions and halls</li> </ul>	\$46,030,322.00	36.62%
 <b>Airport</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enhancing our airport infrastructure to accommodate more passengers and international flights</li> </ul>	\$13,854,884.00	11.02%
 <b>Major Projects</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pilbara Underground Power Project</li> <li>- Effluent Reuse Scheme</li> <li>- Wickham Hub</li> <li>- Karratha Arts and Community Precinct</li> </ul>	\$10,074,472.00	8.01%
 <b>Roads, Footpaths &amp; Drainage</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Resealing and resheeting our roads</li> <li>- Repairing potholes</li> <li>- Footpaths development</li> <li>- Managing our drainage reserves</li> </ul>	\$17,475,831.00	13.90%
 <b>Community Facilities, Events &amp; festivals, Youth</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Events &amp; festivals</li> <li>- Youth services</li> <li>- Libraries</li> <li>- Playgrounds</li> <li>- Community centres</li> </ul>	\$21,338,098.00	16.97%
	<b>\$125,708,674.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>