

MEDIA RELEASE

13 August 2020

60-day rates discount on offer as notices are delivered to letterboxes

Gladstone Regional Council's rates notices for 2020-21 will arrive in ratepayers' letterboxes in the coming days with a 60-day discount period available for payment by the due date.

Ratepayers will have until 19 October 2020 to pay their rates in full and be eligible to receive the 10 per cent discount.

The rate notice includes the general rate levy, water and sewerage availability charges, half-yearly water consumption charge, waste bin charge and the Queensland Government's Emergency Management Levy.

Registered online users already have access to a digital copy of their rates notice.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said there were various payment options for ratepayers to choose from.

"Residents can pay by instalments, online, telephone, mail, in person, direct debit or by wage or Centrelink deductions," Councillor Burnett said.

"Council is ensuring ratepayers for Rural, Residential, Commercial and Light Industrial land categories (Rating Categories 1-16) will not pay more in general rates or service charges than they did last year.

"In addition to this, Council's Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme provides a maximum concession of \$300, which has been increased since the 2019-20 financial year, for eligible pensioners.

"The Queensland Government also provides a maximum subsidy of \$200 per annum for eligible pensioners."

Ratepayers who choose to pay their rates via interest-free instalments are not eligible for the 10 per cent discount.

The following payment options are available:

- Paying by instalments – options to pay weekly, fortnightly or monthly are available
- Online – via Council's Online Services portal or using BPAY
- Telephone – call your bank to pay by BPAY using the biller code and reference number

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MEDIA INFORMATION: For further information contact Council's Communications and Marketing Section on 4977 6803 or media@gladstone.qld.gov.au

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- Mail – cheques and money orders made payable to Gladstone Regional Council
- In Person at Council offices or Australia Post
- Direct Debit – monthly and lump sum options are available
- Deductions – regular deductions from your Centrelink payment. Contact Centrelink and quote Council's Centrepay reference number 555076313K. Payroll deductions may be offered by your employer. Contact your employer for further details.

Cr Burnett added that this year BPAY View has been introduced as a way of ratepayers accessing and paying their notices.

“BPAY View is offered by many banks and billers and is an easy way to have your rates notice delivered directly to your online banking,” Cr Burnett said.

“BPAY View sends notices straight to the same online banking platform you use to pay them, which puts an end to bills getting lost on your desk or in your inbox.”

For further information please visit www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/rates or call 4970 0700.

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