

# Media Release

13 August 2024

## **Rates notices arriving from this week with 60-day discount period available**

Gladstone Region ratepayers will receive their 2024/25 rates notice within the next week, with a 60-day discount option available for those who pay their rates and service charges in full on or before the due date of 16 October 2024.

This year's notices will include general rates, water consumption, availability charges for waste, water and sewer in addition to the State Government's Emergency Management Levy.

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

Ratepayers have until 16 October 2024 to pay in full and receive a 10 per cent discount on their rates and charges.

The 10 per cent discount does not apply to the State Government's Emergency Management Levy or water consumption charges.

Ratepayers who would like to pay their rates by instalments must submit a new rate instalment application by the due date each year.

Weekly, fortnightly or monthly instalments can be approved for an interest free payment arrangement upon application. Ratepayers who choose to pay by instalments will not be eligible for the 10 per cent discount.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said this year, eligible pensioners would see a rates remission of \$320 through Council's Pensioner Concession, an increase of \$10 from last year.

"Our Council concession is in addition to the Queensland Government's Pensioner Concession that provides a maximum subsidy of \$200 per annum," Councillor Burnett said.

"The Queensland Government also grants an additional concession of 20 per cent on the State Emergency Management Levy for a pensioner's principal place of residence.

"Please contact Council if you have recently been granted the pension and our friendly team can assist to see if you are eligible for these concessions."

Various payment options are available to ratepayers including online, by mail, in person, direct debit, Centrelink deductions or by lodging an instalment application.

**MORE**

Rate instalment applications need to be returned to Council by the discount due date of 16 October 2024.

Interest will be raised on all rates outstanding after the due date unless an approved instalment plan is being maintained.

Legal action may result if an approved payment plan is not in place after the due date.

The following payment options are available:

- **Paying by instalments** – options to pay weekly, fortnightly or monthly
- **Online** – via Council's Online Services portal or using BPAY
- **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
- **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.

For further information please visit [www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/rates](http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/rates) or call 4970 0700.

**ENDS**