

Media Release

31 March 2020

Financial help for those facing hardship during COVID-19 pandemic

The City of Cockburn is providing residents, community groups and businesses facing hardship with a range of financial assistance measures, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Residents and community groups

- The deferment of rate payments for three months or the ability to enter into a more generous payment arrangement
- Removal of penalty interest and other charges on rates until 30 June
- Defer repayments of existing debts for three months for community based debtors
- More affordable payment options for Naval Base shack lessees
- Full refund on all cancelled bookings and events at City facilities
- Sporting Clubs COVID Support Package - Stage 1: assistance paying ongoing costs to ensure clubs remain financially viable
- Delay on final notices and referrals to Fines Enforcement Registry for issued infringements until 30 June, and
- A more lenient approach from the City with infringements. Cautions will be issued where appropriate.

Business

- The deferment of rate payments for three months or the ability to enter into a more generous payment arrangement
- Compassionate payment options for commercial based debtors



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- The ability for tenants of City owned or controlled premises to suspend/defer up to 100 per cent of their rent payments (not including outgoings) for an initial three month period to 30 June, and
- Paying suppliers 15 days from the date of invoice.

Your rates in 2020/21

The City is preparing the draft Municipal budget, 2020/21 for Council consideration and has requested the Local Government Minister defer the Gross Rental Value (GRV) revaluation scheduled to apply for 2020/21 to ensure a zero rate increase for all properties.

Proposed budget measures to be considered by Council at the 9 April Ordinary Council Meeting include:

1. Removing interest and other fees and charges on rates, and
2. Removing the mandatory waste service levy from commercial/industrial properties not currently utilising the City's service.

ENDS

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