



RATES & CHARGES

In accordance with Sections 104 and 107 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council will issue two (2) six-monthly rates notices to reduce the financial burden on the local economy. The levy for each notice will be one-half of the annual rates and charges, except for water consumption, which will be based on actual water consumed as determined by water meter readings at approximately six-monthly intervals.

1. DEFINITIONS

'Rateable land' is defined by Section 93(2) of the *Local Government Act 2009* as any land or building unit, in the local government area, that is not exempted from rates.

2. DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES

General rates are levied on all rateable properties in the regional area, and are calculated on the basis of the value of land. The value of land is determined by the Department of Natural Resources & Mines according to:

- in the case of rural land, its unimproved capital value; and
- in all other cases, its site value.

Council will make and levy differential general rates for the financial year ending 30 June 2016, on all rateable land in the Local Government area.

Further, Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power (contained in section 81(4) and (5) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*) to identify the rating category to which each parcel of rateable land in Council's area belongs. In this regard, Column 3 is used to assist the Chief Executive Officer in identifying the categories in which rateable parcels of land are included.

In accordance with Section 88 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, owners of rateable land will be informed of the general rating category in which the land has been included and that they have the right of objection to the category in which their land is included.

All objections shall be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer, Bundaberg Regional Council, and the only basis for objection shall be that at the date of issue of the rate notice having regard to the criteria adopted by Council, the land should be in another rating category.

3. MINIMUM GENERAL RATES

The Council will adopt a minimum general rate for each of the aforementioned rating categories. The purpose of adopting a minimum general rate is to:

- set a minimum contribution to be made from all properties situated within the region; and
- ensure that general rate revenue from lower valued properties within the region results in a more equitable contribution from such properties towards the cost of services funded from general rates.

Minimum general rates do not apply to subdivided land with a land use code of 1072.

4. DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATE LEVIES

In accordance with Sections 92 and 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and Section 77 to 82 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council makes and levies differential general rates and corresponding minimum general rates for the year ending 30 June 2016, against rateable land categories as follows:

Category	Description	Rate in the Dollar of Property Value	Minimum General Rate
1	Urban Residential	1.1790	\$951.00
2	Rural Residential	0.9824	\$955.00
3	Intentionally left blank.		
4	Intentionally left blank.		
5	Coastal Towns	0.9240	\$1,056.00
6	Intentionally left blank.		
7	Urban Oceanfront	0.8427	\$1,197.00
8	Intentionally left blank.		
9	Agricultural	1.4742	\$1,056.00
10	Intentionally left blank.		
11	Intentionally left blank.		
12	Bundaberg Commercial	2.1471	\$1,257.00
13	Intentionally left blank.		
14	Other Commercial	1.3143	\$1,257.00
15	Major Shopping Centre	3.6488	\$510,547.00
16	Industrial	1.6172	\$1,526.00
17	Intentionally left blank.		
18	Extractive/Transformers/Substations	2.1567	\$2,392.00
19	Heavy Industry	2.0617	\$102,211.00
20	Other	1.0596	\$955.00

Pursuant to Section 90 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Chief Executive Officer will consider objections from ratepayers to their property's rating categorisation. The only basis for objection shall be that at the date of issue of the rate notice having regard to the criteria adopted by Council, the land should be in another rating category.

Where the rateability of any land alters during the year, adjustment to the differential general rate shall be made from the date such changes become effective.

5. SPECIAL RATES AND CHARGES

For the 2015/2016 financial year, Council shall levy a special charge for Rural Fire Services. Council thereby resolves that:

- (1) Pursuant to section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and section 128A of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990* it shall make and levy a special charge to be known as the "Special (Rural Fire Services) Charge" of \$30.00 on each rateable assessment in the local government area which is situated within a class E levy Area under the *Fire and Rescue Service*

Regulation 2011. Multiple Charges will apply on one (1) rateable assessment if it comprises multiple rural fire brigade areas, with one (1) charge of \$30.00 per rural fire brigade area.

- (2) The special charge shall fund the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural firefighting equipment for the rural fire brigades that operate throughout class E levy areas under the *Fire and Rescue Service Regulation 2011*.
- (3) Land within the local government area which is situated within a class E levy areas under the *Fire and Rescue Service Regulation 2011* is not serviced by urban firefighting services and, as such, specially benefits from the fire emergency response capability that is provided by the rural fire brigades.
- (4) The overall plan for the special charge will be as follows:
 - (a) The rateable land to which the plan applies is each rateable assessment in the local government area which is situated within a class E levy area under the *Fire and Rescue Service Regulation 2011*.
 - (b) The service, facility or activity for which the plan is made is the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural firefighting equipment for the rural fire brigades that operate throughout class E levy areas under the *Fire and Rescue Service Regulation 2011*.
 - (c) The time for implementing the overall plan is one (1) year.
 - (d) The estimated cost of implementing the overall plan is \$380,000.00

6. UTILITY CHARGES

6.1 Water rates:

6.1.1 Declared service area – water

For the financial year 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, the declared service areas (water) to which water charges apply, shall be as per the declared service area (water) maps which, in accordance with Section 163 of the *Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008*, are available for inspection at Council offices or on Council's website.

6.1.2 Service provider (water)

The service provider within the declared service area/s (water) shall be Bundaberg Regional Council through its Infrastructure & Planning Services Department, Water and Wastewater Section.

6.1.3 Water charges

Council levies water rates on properties in the defined water supply areas to recover the full costs of the water supply operation including a return to the community on the assets employed.

Pursuant to Sections 92(4) and 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and Sections 99 to 102 the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the following water charges shall be made and levied for the financial year 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016:

- (a) Water access charge: A common access charge, for same sized meters, applies in all areas receiving a potable and non-potable water supply.

Vacant lands situated in the water area and not serviced with a water connection are charged 100% of the basic 20mm charge. The reason for this is that the major portion of Council's costs associated with providing a water service is in the provision and maintenance of capital infrastructure (pipes, processing plant etc.) and these costs must be financed whether or not a property is actually connected to the water system.

Single residential properties are levied a 100% charge based on the size of the water meter serving the property, since the meter size determines the potential volume of water used.

Where multiple lots are included on one (1) assessment, Council does not levy a water access charge for each allotment, e.g.:

- house and vacant lot together – only one (1) water access charge equal to 100% based on the size of the water meter servicing the property is levied; or
- multiple vacant lots on the one (1) assessment – only one (1) water access charge equal to 100% is levied.

Non Strata Flats

Non strata flats, where water consumption is not separately metered for each unit will be levied with a single water access charge based on the size of the meter/s servicing the block of flats.

Non strata flats where water consumption is separately metered for each unit, will be levied with a water access charge for each of the sub metered units, based on the size of each meter.

Properties with multiple connections

Properties with multiple connections are levied a water access charge for each connection.

Land in a community titles scheme

Land in a community titles scheme, where water consumption is not separately metered for each lot, will be levied with a single water access charge equal to the basic 20mm charge.

Land in a community titles scheme, where water consumption is separately metered for each lot, will be levied a single water access charge based on the size of the meter connected to that lot.

Concessional situations

A concessional water access charge equal to a 20mm service is levied for each registered dedicated fire service connection even though the actual size of the connection is usually larger.

Council will charge unlicensed/restricted sporting clubs a water access charge for their largest connection on each assessment and no access charge will be levied for additional meters.

Section 95 of the *Housing Act 2003* provides that all government portfolio properties are deemed to be non-rateable in accordance with Section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2009*. Services to State land that are capped are deemed to be disconnected and will not attract the relevant vacant service charges.

For the reduced water service areas of Burnett Downs and Sylvan Woods the following special arrangements will apply:

- Burnett Downs – Council identifies Burnett Downs Yard water supply properties as a separate class of consumers, where consumers are provided with water and services at an amount below full cost as per the declared service area (water) map which, in accordance with section 163 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*, is available for inspection at Council offices or on Council's website.
- Sylvan Woods – Council identifies Sylvan Woods non-potable constant flow water supply properties as a separate class of consumers, where consumers are provided with water and services which are restricted in volume and pressure of supply as per the declared service area (water) map which, in accordance with Section 163 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*, is available for inspection at Council offices or on Council's website.

An Access Charge shall apply to all premises or metered connection for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, according to the water meter size/s serving the premises in accordance with the following:

Water Access Charge Description	Potable Water Unrestricted flow	Non-potable Water / Restricted Flow
Vacant and non-metered	\$408.00	\$326.00
20mm meter connection	\$408.00	\$326.00
25mm meter connection	\$488.00	\$390.00
32mm meter connection	\$650.00	\$520.00
40mm meter connection	\$830.00	\$664.00
50mm meter connection	\$1179.00	\$943.00
80mm meter connection	\$2,576.00	\$2,061.00
100mm meter connection	\$4,014.00	\$3,211.00
150mm meter connection	\$8,702.00	\$6,962.00

(b) **Water consumption charge:** Water consumption is levied half-yearly for the readings undertaken prior to the 31 December 2015, and prior to the 30 June 2016. Generally, the consumption within each six (6) month reading period will be levied on a two (2) tiered charging system (Steps 1 and 2) as set out hereunder:

(i) Charge per Kilolitre

Step 1: \$1.12 per kilolitre – for the first 150 kilolitres of consumption per half year;

Step 2: \$1.84 per kilolitre – for each kilolitre of consumption thereafter per half year.

(ii) Charge per kilolitre for the Burnett Downs Yard water supply reticulation group or service area, Sylvan Woods non-potable supply:

Step 1: \$0.90 per kilolitre – for the first 150 kilolitres of consumption per half year;

Step 2: \$1.47 per kilolitre – for each kilolitre of consumption thereafter per half year.

For land, other than land in a community titles scheme, which has multiple water meters, the consumption charge shall be determined as follows:

- where the land is being used for a single use, the consumption recorded by each of the meters shall be totalised and the applicable tariff for that use shall be applied;
- where the land is being used for two (2) or more discrete uses, and the water is separately metered for each use, the applicable tariff for each use shall be applied.

For land in a community titles scheme, Council will charge for water consumption as per the provisions of the *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997*.

For measurement of water use for charging purposes for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, Section 102 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* shall apply to the reading of meters based on the nominal initial meter reading date of 30 June 2015 and nominal final reading date of 30 June 2016.

Council reserves the right to read and levy water consumption at intervals other than six-monthly for specific connections as required.

6.1.4 Dedicated fire services

Water from registered dedicated fire services is for fire emergencies and testing purposes only and no charge will be levied for the first 10 kilolitres in each six (6) month reading period.

However to prevent misuse of these services, Council will impose a penalty charge per kilolitre for consumption greater than 10 kilolitres in each six (6) month reading period of 10 times the step 2 charge per kilolitre applicable to its area, unless evidence is provided proving that the water was used in a fire emergency.

6.1.5 Community service obligations

Pursuant to sections 120 to 122 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council will grant concessions for water charges in certain circumstances.

Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power pursuant to Part 5, Chapter 7 of the *Local Government Act 2009* to determine applications made for a concession in the circumstances set out below.

Unlicensed and restricted sporting clubs

- (a) Council recognises unlicensed / restricted sporting clubs are not for profit entities and provide a community service, namely the provision of recreational services and contribution to the region's aesthetics.
- (b) In recognition of this, Council will charge unlicensed / restricted sporting clubs a water access charge for its largest connection on each assessment and no access charge will be levied for additional meters.

For water meters above 20mm, if unlicensed sporting clubs reduce their current largest water meter size to a smaller size, their Water Access Charge will be reduced accordingly to the Water Access Charge applicable to the revised water meter size. Where it is impractical to do so, Council will charge the equivalent of a 2014/2015 40mm Water Access Charge plus the applicable annual percentage increases, regardless of the actual size of the club's water meter connection.

Unlicensed / restricted sporting clubs with an area:

- up to 3.3 hectares will be entitled to 3,600 kilolitres of water per annum, free of consumption charges; and
 - greater than 3.3 hectares will be entitled to 6,000 kilolitres of water per annum, free of consumption charges.
- (c) The following clubs, identified as requiring higher water allocations based on area and level of use, be entitled to the following kilolitres of water per annum, free of consumption charges:

Association	Kilolitres	Location
Bundaberg Cricket Association	9,600	Kendall Flat
Football Bundaberg Inc.	9,600	Martens Oval
Trustees Hinkler Park (Hockey)	9,600	Hinkler Park
Trustees Hinkler Park (Hockey)	3,600	Special Lease 1209
Bundaberg Rugby League Ltd	9,000	Salter Oval (*)
Bundaberg Cricket Association	9,000	Salter Oval (*)
Bundaberg Touch Association	9,600	Touch Association Grounds

NOTE*: Provided the Bundaberg Rugby League Ltd., and the Bundaberg Cricket Association combine their entitlements at Salter Oval and be levied on one rates notice.

- (d) Water consumption per assessment in excess of these entitlements be levied for the first 300 kilolitres at the 1st tier rate.
- (e) Unused entitlements are not carried forward into the following financial year.

Moore Park Rural Fire Brigade

Council recognizes the Moore Park Rural Fire Brigade as providing a community service in protecting the community against fire and related hazards. As such, Council will charge the Moore Park Rural Fire Brigade the equivalent of a 20mm Water Access Charge for its largest meter connection regardless of the size of the Brigade's water meter connection.

6.1.6 Water meters registering inaccurately

If Council is satisfied that a water meter ceases to register, or is reported to be out of order or registering inaccurately (through no fault of the ratepayer), Council will consider granting a concession. This concession can be applied by using a water consumption charge equal to the quantity of water used during the immediately prior corresponding accurate period of water use measurement and, if applicable, to remit the difference between the actual charge and the charge based on the prior water consumption.

Council grants this concession on the basis that, to require the ratepayer to pay full charges for consumption in circumstances where a water meter ceases to register, or is reported to be out of order, or registering inaccurately (through no fault of the ratepayer), would result in hardship.

6.1.7 Extended area of application of charges

These charges apply to the declared service areas (water) maps and also to:

- All new lots created under a development approval for which all approval conditions have been completed, and which as part of their conditions of approval included a requirement for connection to a reticulated water supply;
- Any other lot which is connected to a reticulated water supply; and
- Any other lot, where Council resolves that the lot becomes capable, by reason of extension of the water supply system, of being connected to a reticulated water supply; i.e. to all lots within any extension of any of the areas serviced by reticulated water supply where such areas are approved by Council. The charges apply in every case where service is provided or available, regardless of whether or not, or the time at which, formal amendment is made to the declared service area.

6.1.8 Service connections outside declared service areas (water)

Any approved water service connections, which are located outside the declared service area (water), will have access and use charges applied in the same manner and at equivalent charges to the use as would apply were they to be situated within the declared service area to which they are connected.

6.1.9 Standpipes

Standpipes will be charged \$2.90 per kilolitre of recorded consumption.

Discount is not applicable to water charges.

6.2 Sewerage rates:

6.2.1 Declared service area – sewerage

For the financial year 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, the declared service areas (sewerage) to which sewerage charges apply, shall be as per declared service area (sewerage) maps which, in accordance with section 163 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*, are available for inspection at Council offices or on Council's website at www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au.

6.2.2 Service Provider (Sewerage)

The service provider within the declared service area/s (sewerage) shall be Bundaberg Regional Council through its Infrastructure & Planning Services Department, Water and Wastewater Section.

6.2.3 Sewerage Charges

Sewerage charges are levied on all properties within the defined sewerage area to cover the cost of:

- Sewage collection and treatment; and
- The disposal of effluent and bio–solids.

The same sewerage charge is levied to connected properties and non–connected properties within the defined sewerage area. The reason for this is that the major portion of Council’s costs associated with providing a sewerage service is in the provision and maintenance of capital infrastructure (pipes, processing plant etc.) and these costs must be financed whether or not a property is actually connected to the sewerage system.

Pursuant to Sections 99 and 100 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the following sewerage charges shall be made and levied for the financial year 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016:

- Single residential properties are levied \$678.00 for the first pedestal only. No additional charges apply for extra pedestals.
- Residential flats, units and residential strata title properties are levied \$678.00 per flat, unit or strata title unit, for the first pedestal only. No additional charges apply for extra residential pedestals.
- Where multiple lots are included on the one (1) rate assessment, Council does not levy a sewerage charge for each allotment, e.g.:
 - house and vacant lot together – only one (1) sewerage charge of \$678.00 is levied; or
 - multiple vacant lots on the one (1) rate assessment – only one (1) sewerage charge of \$678.00 is levied.
- Non-residential properties that are not body corporate/strata title entities will be charged \$678.00 per pedestal.
- Non-residential body corporate/strata title properties are levied a minimum of one (1) sewerage charge of \$678.00 to each strata unit, regardless of whether or not they have an individual sewer connection. Where units have more than one (1) pedestal, a sewerage charge will be levied for each pedestal serving the unit. Each unit owner is levied separately for sewerage charges.
- Waste dump points at caravan parks are charged \$678.00 per dump point.

6.2.4 Multi accommodation self-contained residential units for the aged under the control of charitable/church organisations:

Pursuant to sections 120 to 122 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, multi accommodation self-contained residential units for the aged under the control of charitable/church organisations (excluding care centres); and pedestals installed in Department of Housing & Public Works units for the aged, including those identified in the table below, be granted a remission of 60% of the sewerage rates.

Property Owner and Location
The State Of Queensland (Represented by Department of Housing & Public Works), 11 Mulgrave Street, Bundaberg West
The State Of Queensland (Represented by Department of Housing & Public Works), 30 Sugden Street, Bundaberg South

Property Owner and Location
East Haven, 1 Ann Street, Bundaberg East
East Haven, 49 Victoria Street, Bundaberg East
East Haven, 51 Victoria Street, Bundaberg East
The Corporation of The Synod of The Diocese of Brisbane, 4 Mezger Street, Kalkie
The Baptist Union of Queensland, 9 Kepnock Road, Kepnock
Churches of Christ Care, 71 & 83 Dr May's Road, Svensson Heights and 6E Mulgrave Street, Gin Gin
The State of Queensland (Represented by the Department of Housing & Public Works), 9 Griffith Street, Bundaberg South
The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q), (balance) 341 Bourbong Street, Millbank
The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q), (part) 1 River Terrace, Millbank
The State of Queensland (Represented by Department of Housing & Public Works), 181 Barolin Street, Avenell Heights
The State Of Queensland (Represented by Department of Housing & Public Works), 147 Barolin Street, Avenell Heights
Forest View Childers Inc., 3 Morgan Street, Childers
Forest View Childers Inc., 4 Morgan Street, Childers
Kolan Centenary Seniors Village, 3 Tirroan Road, Gin Gin

Council grants this remission on the basis that multi accommodation self-contained residential units for the aged, under the control of charitable/church organisations, are entities whose objects do not include the making of a profit.

Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power, pursuant to Part 5, Chapter 7 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, to determine applications made for this remission.

6.2.5 Extended area of application of charges

These charges apply to the declared service areas (sewerage) maps and also to:

- All new lots created under a development approval for which all approval conditions have been completed and which, as part of their conditions of approval, included a requirement for connection to the reticulated sewerage system;
- Any other lot which is connected to the reticulated sewerage system;
- Any other lot, where Council resolves that the lot becomes able, by reason of extension of the sewerage system, to be connected to the reticulated sewerage system.

That is, to all lots within any extension of any of the areas serviced by reticulated sewerage system where such areas are approved by Council. The charges apply in every case where service is provided or available, regardless of whether or not, or the time at which, formal amendment is made to the declared service area.

Discount is not applicable to sewerage charges.

6.3 Waste collection charge:

6.3.1 Declared service area – waste

The declared service areas (waste) to which Waste Collection Charges apply, shall be as per the declared service area (waste) maps which are available for inspection at Council offices or on Council's website at www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au.

6.3.2 Service provider (waste)

The service provider within the declared service area/s (waste) shall be Bundaberg Regional Council through its Environment, Regulatory, and Public Health Department, Waste & Recycling Section.

Council makes and levies utility charges for the provision of waste management services, which are calculated to recover the full cost of providing the service. Waste management utility charges incorporate the cost of providing and maintaining refuse tips and transfer stations and the cost of implementing waste management and environment protection strategies. The type or level of service to be supplied to each property in the waste area will be determined by Council as is appropriate to the premises, and in accordance, where relevant, with the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008* and *Waste Reduction & Recycling Regulation 2011*.

Council will levy a waste and recycling collection charge of \$325.00 per annum to the owner of residential property and/or structure within the waste collection areas, regardless of whether ratepayers choose to use the domestic general waste collection and/or recycling services provided by Council. Council will refer to the Building Classification Code for determination, if required. The service is available to non-residential properties on application. Requests for services to a body corporate common area will need to comprise a written agreement between the service provider (Council) and the body corporate as per the *Body Corporate & Community Management Act 1997*.

Where there is more than one (1) structure on land capable of separate occupation a charge of \$325.00 will be made for each structure. A waste collection charge of \$325.00 will apply to each house, strata titled unit, granny flat, flat or other dwelling designed for separate residential occupation, whether it is occupied or not.

Retirement Villages may be residential or commercial enterprises and as such waste services requirements will be reviewed on an individual basis by Council's Waste & Recycling Section.

A summary of the waste and recycling services/levies is as follows:

Service level – Removal, transport and disposal of waste	2015/2016 Levy
Residential Properties	
240 litre refuse weekly / 240 litre recycling fortnightly (minimum service)	\$325.00
Additional Services	
240 litre refuse weekly / 240 litre recycling fortnightly	\$325.00
240 litre recycling – only available if in receipt of a minimum service	\$90.00
240 litre refuse weekly – only available if in receipt of a minimum service	\$235.00
Non-Residential Properties	
240 litre refuse / 240 litre recycling (minimum service)	\$325.00
240 litre refuse	\$235.00
240 litre recycling fortnightly service	\$90.00

Note: The bin sizes mentioned above may be substituted by Council however the service and levy will remain the same as a 240 litre refuse / 240 litre recycling bin service.

Where insufficient space is available for the storage of multiple bins at strata titled properties, these properties may apply to Council for approval to make private arrangements to receive an alternative service, in which case a Council waste collection charge will not apply.

The charges for the service are annual charges and credits cannot be allowed for periods of time when the premises are unoccupied.

Discount is not applicable to waste and recycling charges.

6.4 Trade Waste Charge

6.4.1 Pursuant to Section 99 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, trade waste charge/s be made and levied by the Council upon all properties discharging trade waste to Council's sewer.

6.4.2 The following be adopted as the basis for making and levying the trade waste charge:

- (i) The volume of trade waste effluent discharged into Council's sewerage system;
- (ii) The content/strength of the trade waste; and
- (iii) The size/capacity of the pre-treatment device required by the ratepayer to treat trade waste before it is discharged into Council's sewerage system.

The content/strength level of the trade waste will be based on the level of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅), Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) and Suspended Solids which are defined in Appendix 2 – sewer admission limits - of Council's Trade Waste Management Plan.

The level of BOD₅, COD and Suspended Solids determines, in accordance with Section 5.3 of Council's Trade Waste Management Plan, if the trade waste discharge is a Category Minor, 1,2, or 3 in terms of concentration and volume as follows:

- Category Minor: Compliant discharge,
- Category 1: contains a low strength/low volume,
- Category 2: contains a low strength/high volume;
- Category 3: contains a high strength/any volume, or non-compliant discharge.

Discharge category criteria is determined by level and strength of content of trade waste, as shown below:

Parameter	Minor	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
BOD ₅ mg/L	Compliant Discharge * Refer to sewer admission limits	<300mg/L	<300 mg/L	Non-compliant Discharge Refer to sewer admission limits
COD mg/L		<1500 mg/L	<1500 mg/L	
Suspended Solids mg/L		<300 mg/L	<300 mg/L	
Volume (kL/Annum)	<150kLs	<500kLs	>500 kLs	Any volume

*Effluent meets the stated quality and quantity limits prior to treatment or monitoring.

The following charge/category will apply to all properties discharging trade waste to Council's sewer for 2015/2016:

Trade Waste connection/ Capacity of Pre-treatment Device Litres	Category 0 Minor 150kls	Category 1 (Low Strength/Low Volume ≤500 Kilolitres Per Financial Year)	Category 2 (Low Strength/High Volume >500 Kilolitres Per Financial Year)	Category 3 (High Strength/Any Volume Per Financial Year)
0	\$150.00 1.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
550	N/A	\$263.00 1.1	\$525.00 2.1	\$788.00 3.1
>550≤1000	N/A	\$525.00 1.2	\$788.00 2.2	\$1,050.00 3.2
>1000≤1500	N/A	\$788.00 1.3	\$1,050.00 2.3	\$1,315.00 3.3
>1500≤2000	N/A	\$1,050.00 1.4	\$1,315.00 2.4	\$1,575.00 3.4
>2000≤2500	N/A	\$1,315.00 1.5	\$1,575.00 2.5	\$1,840.00 3.5
>2500≤3000*	N/A	\$1,575.00 1.6	\$1,840.00 2.6	\$2,100.00 3.6

* For properties with trade waste connection capacity >3,000 litres the charge will be calculated by multiplying the relevant category charge.

Discount is not applicable to trade waste charges.

7. STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEVY

In accordance with the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*, Council is required to collect a State Emergency Management Levy on all rateable properties on behalf of the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services. The Levy is not a Council charge and the funds collected are remitted to the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services. However, Council is entitled to an administration fee for collecting this levy, as prescribed by the *Fire and Rescue Service Regulation 2011*. Rate assessments with multiple properties are levied per parcel, in accordance with the State's legislation, excluding contiguous agricultural parcels in the same ownership.

Council discount is not applicable on the State Emergency Management Levy.

8. REBATES AND CONCESSIONS

Part 10 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* empowers Council to grant a concession in certain circumstances.

Pensioners

Council's *Pensioner Rate Remission Policy* provides an annual rate rebate to approved pensioners. A copy of this policy, together with the necessary application forms, are available from Council offices or www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au. The definition of pensioner is an 'approved pensioner' as provided under the State Government Pensioner Rebate Subsidy Scheme, that is a pensioner who is either a registered owner or life tenant of their principal place of residence and who hold a Queensland Pensioner Concession Card or a DVA Health Card (All Conditions within Australia) or a DVA Health Card (Totally & Permanently Incapacitated) issued by either Centrelink or the Department of Veteran Affairs.

For the 2015/2016 financial year, Council grants a total rebate of up to \$140.00 per annum (\$70.00 per half year levy) on rates and charges for approved pensioners. This remission is provided in addition to any Pension Subsidy Scheme operated by the Queensland Government.

Where the property is in joint ownership, a pro rata remission shall be granted in proportion to the share of ownership, except where the co-owners are an approved pensioner and his/her spouse, (including de facto relationships as recognised by Commonwealth Legislation), in which case a full remission will apply. However, in the case where the pensioner/s has/have rights to exclusive occupancy (life tenancy by way of a will which must be provided to Council by way of proof) a full remission will be granted.

The State Government Pensioner Rate Subsidy is not a Council remission. This subsidy is provided by the State Government and does not affect the rates and charges determination. The subsidy is a 20% rebate of Council rates and charges up to a maximum of \$200.00 per annum, calculated at \$100.00 per half year, plus up to 20% rebate of the State Emergency Management Levy.

Community Service Obligations

Council will grant a rebate up to a maximum \$1,500.00 per annum for the financial year 2015/2016, towards the payment of rates and charges, with the exception of water consumption charges, for the following:

- Apple Tree Creek Memorial Hall
- Bucca Hall
- Bullyard Hall
- Drinan Hall
- Gin Gin & District Historical Society Hall
- Pine Creek Hall
- Sharon Hall
- Tegege Hall
- Avenell Heights Progress Association Hall
- Burnett Heads Progress Hall
- Kepnock Progress Association Hall
- North Bundaberg Progress Association Hall
- CWA Hall Bargara
- CWA Hall Bundaberg
- CWA Hall Yandaran
- CWA Hall Childers
- CWA Oakwood
- CWA Wallaville
- Bundaberg Kindergarten, Electra Street
- Burnett Heads Kindergarten
- Childers Kindergarten, Pizzey Street
- Forestview Community Kindergarten
- Gin Gin Kindergarten
- South Kolan Kindergarten
- Wallaville Kindergarten
- Trustees Booyal Memorial Hall
- Bundaberg & District Air Sea Rescue
- Sandy Hook Ski Club
- Avondale Football Club
- Bundaberg Railway Historical Society

Council will grant a full concession for all rates and charges, except water consumption charges, for the following properties:

- Bundaberg Surf Life Saving Club
- Elliott Heads Surf Life Saving Club
- Moore Park Surf Life Saving Club

This community service obligation is to be reviewed prior to the formulation of the 2016/2017 Budget.

9. DISCOUNT ON GENERAL RATES

A discount of 10% of the current year's Council general rates is conditional on the payment of current rates, service charges and all arrears by the due date stated on the rate notice which is at least 30 clear days from the issue date of the rate notice. In addition, pursuant to Section 130 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a grace period of two (2) days will be allowed to provide for the receipt

of payments made remotely to payment agencies. Proof of payment may be requested. Discount is granted for prompt payment. Council's pension remission is not a payment and is therefore deducted from the general rate before discount is applied.

For the sake of clarity, the discount for the prompt payment of rates applies only to general rates levied by Council. No discount shall apply for any other rate or charge levied by Council, including special rates and charges and utility charges.

10. RECOVERY OF OVERDUE RATES

Council's adopted *Rates Recovery Policy* (available at www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au) has been prepared in respect of the recovery of overdue rates, to reinforce Council's practice and intentions in this regard. Council will actively pursue all available options under the *Local Government Act 2009*, including the sale of land for arrears of rates, to ensure that overdue rates are not a burden on the region's ratepayers.

11. INTEREST ON OVERDUE RATES

Council determines this matter from time to time by resolution in accordance with the provisions of Section 133 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. Currently compound interest is charged at 11% per annum on overdue rates and charges, calculated on daily rests as from the seventh day following the due date stated on the rate notice.

12. LEVYING AND PAYMENT OF RATES AND CHARGES

Council currently levies rates twice in each financial year. The first rates levy is issued as soon as possible after the annual budget has been approved by Council. The second rates levy is issued as soon as possible in the second half of the financial year after 1 January. Rates are due and payable by the due date stated on the rate notice.

13. PAYMENT IN ADVANCE

Council accepts payments in advance by lump sum or by instalments. Interest is not paid by Council to ratepayers on any credit balances.