

You have the right to object to the valuation of your property. We suggest you contact Council to discuss and try to resolve your valuation questions before seeking an objection form.

### Municipal charge

The municipal charge is a flat fee of \$202.00 applicable to all assessments, irrespective of the valuation or type of property. It covers part of the administrative costs of operating Council, and assists with the equitable spread of rates across all ratepayers. Single farm enterprises with multiple rate assessments are only required to pay one municipal charge.

### State Government Fire Services Property Levy

It is a State Government requirement for all councils in Victoria to collect the Fire Services Property Levy from ratepayers on behalf of the State Government.

The revenue collected by the Levy is used to fund the Country Fire Authority. For more information visit: [www.firelevy.vic.gov.au](http://www.firelevy.vic.gov.au)

### Waste and Recycling

The waste and recycling charges only apply to households receiving these waste collection services. The Waste Management Fee is collected from all ratepayers as a contribution to waste management costs, including rehabilitation of landfill sites. The total cost of all Council's waste management services is fully funded by waste fees and charges.

The charges for residential waste and recycling collection in 2020/2021 are:

Bin type	Annual Charge
Standard Garbage & Recycling Charge – 80L urban and 140L rural	\$453.00
Non-Standard Garbage & Recycling Charge – 140L urban and 240L rural	\$569.50
Green Waste Collection Charge – 240L urban (optional service)	\$73.20
Waste Management Fee	\$142.40

### Optional Green Waste service

We offer all residents in the urban areas of Dunolly, Talbot, Carisbrook and Maryborough an optional green waste and household organics collection.

Residents can dispose of their green waste and organic household waste via a 240 litre bin (green lid) which is collected on the first and third Friday of the month.

The collected waste is then processed into high quality bagged compost. As a bonus, each participant is entitled to one bag of compost free of charge per month, when available.

### If you wish to request this optional service please:

- Download the form from [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au)
- Email [mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)
- Phone 5461 0610

### Waste Vouchers

Included with your rate notice are eight Central Goldfields Shire Transfer Station Waste Vouchers. The vouchers are valid for use until 30 September 2021.

For more information refer to the contact numbers on the back of the voucher sheet.

### How can I pay my rate notice?

You can pay your rates online, via direct debit, in person\* or by phone.

Details on how to pay your rates is detailed on your rates notice.

Rates can either be paid in full (by 15 February 2021) or by four instalments:

- First instalment: 30 September, 2020
- Second instalment: 30 November, 2020
- Third instalment: 28 February, 2021
- Fourth instalment: 31 May, 2021

### Pensioner Concession

If you hold a Centrelink issued Pensioner Concession Card or Veteran Affairs issued Pensioner Concession Card, War Widow Gold Card or TPI Gold Card, you may be eligible to claim a \$241.00 concession on your rates.

This is in addition to the State Government Rebate of \$50 for the Fire Service Property Levy.

A health care card is not an eligible card to receive a concession. For more information contact our Customer Service team on 5461 0610.

### Financial hardship

Council understands that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused particular hardship to some individuals and businesses. Council offers specific COVID support if you will have difficulty paying your rates. Please contact our rates team to discuss options available to you. To find out more visit: [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/financialhardshipolicy](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/financialhardshipolicy)

### Change of address

You must notify us of a change of address in writing. You can download this form online at [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au) or contact our Customer Service team on 5461 0610.

\* Please note because of government restrictions due to the pandemic this option may not always be available.



## Understanding your rate notice 2020/2021



### Contact us

**ONLINE** [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au)

**EMAIL** [mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)

**BY PHONE** 5461 0610  
Rate enquiries 5461 0681 or 5461 0682

**MAIL** PO Box 194, Maryborough, VIC, 3465

## CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR MESSAGE

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us all and we know the economic and social impacts of the pandemic are widespread.

We've worked to ensure our 2020/2021 Budget respects the challenges of the pandemic situation in the Central Goldfields.

We know the pandemic has created financial hardship for many of our community and so, in March, we moved quickly to develop a financial support package that was designed to directly support both our ratepayers and businesses.

We will also bring forward the review of our COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy in light of the return to restrictions. This will enable us to determine what can be extended or increased to assist ratepayers who are suffering financial hardship as a result of the pandemic.

The central priority of the 2020/2021 Budget is to implement the key objectives of the 2017–2021 Council Plan and fulfil our commitment to deliver more than 40 services to our community.

Thanks to the huge volume of advocacy and planning that has been undertaken by Council over the past two years we're also in a position to deliver the biggest capital works program this Council has ever seen.

Economic recovery is a major priority and the \$15.9 million capital works program will help stimulate our local economy – with this program of work made possible thanks to the securing of \$9.5 million in funding from both Federal and State governments. You can read the full list of projects to be delivered in this brochure.

The \$1.2 million Victorian Government Working for Victoria program will also help boost the local economy and ensure we have the resources to support our economic recovery efforts moving forward.

The budget includes net borrowings of \$331,000 to deliver a cash balanced budget and a rate rise of 2.0% in line with the State Government determined rate cap and an increase of 6.5% for waste charges to meet the increasing costs of managing waste.

The rate rise of 2% was not a decision taken lightly. Whilst there are many in our community who are struggling, there are many – particularly our larger businesses and corporations – that haven't been impacted by the pandemic and are doing really well.

It's not possible for us to only freeze rates for those in need – and so to avoid giving additional assistance to our bigger businesses and corporations – we will continue to offer direct assistance to those in need via our financial support package.

If you are experiencing financial hardship due to the pandemic please make contact with us so that we can discuss how we can support you or your business.

We hope this brochure assists our community to understand the need for rates, what your rates pay for, how rates are calculated and the various payment options available.



**Noel Harvey**

*Chief Administrator, Central Goldfields Shire Council*

## 2020/2021 Budget Highlights

### Capital Works program:

- Upgrades to the Maryborough Outdoor Pool – \$2 million
- Community halls and facilities improvements – \$565,000
- Upgrade to the Talbot Town Hall toilets – \$250,000
- Energy Breakthrough infrastructure upgrades – \$500,000 (\$1.5 million over three years)
- Central Goldfields Art Gallery redevelopment – \$675,000
- Construction of the Skate Park in Maryborough – \$645,000 (\$250,000 grant funded)
- Upgrades to Carisbrook Recreation Reserve – \$2.2 million
- Completion of the Carisbrook Levee – \$2.55 million (subject to grant funding)
- Repairs to Worsley Cottage – \$150,000
- Repairs to Carisbrook Scout Hall and Lions Club roof – \$10,000
- Carpark lighting and disability access – Maryborough Community House – \$10,000
- Road renewal and reseals projects – \$3 million
- New footpaths in Bealiba, Carisbrook, Talbot and Dunolly – \$81,000
- Footpath renewals in Maryborough – \$100,000

### Other key projects:

- Planning and design for a splash park
- Planning and design for a Youth Hub and Youth Strategy
- Planning and design for new toilets in Rene Fox Gardens Dunolly
- Development of a Cultural Heritage Plan for the Princes Park Grandstand
- Development of a Master Plan for the Maryborough Railway Station
- Development of a Climate Adaptation Plan
- Development of a masterplan for the Philips Gardens
- Development of a Reconciliation Action Plan
- Development of a Waste Water Plan for Talbot
- Review of heritage controls in Maryborough

## How are my rates calculated?

To meet the rate cap of 2.0% for 2020–2021 Council has set a rate in the dollar of 0.4727 cents for general rate properties.

This figure is then multiplied by the Capital Improved Value (CIV) of each property to determine how much the property owner will pay.

An example of the general rates calculation for a residential property in Maryborough with a valuation of \$200,000 would be: \$200,000 × 0.004727 = \$945.40 (excluding waste charges, the municipal charge and the Fire Services Property Levy).

## What are differential rates?

The Shire has eight differential rates as shown in the table below:

Rate type	Cents in the dollar (2020/2021)
General rate (residential property) – Maryborough	0.4727
General rate (residential property) – other	0.4160
Vacant Land – Maryborough	0.8509
Vacant Land – other	0.7091
Commercial – Maryborough	0.7563
Commercial – other	0.6429
Industrial	0.5200
Farm Land	0.3782

## How does the property valuation process work?

Current Victorian Government legislation requires us to undertake a general property revaluation every year. The current revaluation took effect on 1 July 2020.

Additionally, a supplementary valuation may be conducted when a change to the property occurs that affects the valuation (for example, building a house or subdividing a block).

## Does the Shire make more money when property values go up?

No, we do not collect extra revenue as a result of the revaluation process. The total combined rates revenue remains the same.

## Who decides on the value of properties?

Valuations are carried out by professional valuers who undertake this work under contract. Properties are assessed according to the Valuer-General Victoria Best Practice guidelines.

For more information visit: [www.propertyandlandtitles.vic.gov.au](http://www.propertyandlandtitles.vic.gov.au)

## What is Capital Improved Value?

The three valuations shown on your rates notice are Site Value (SV), Capital Improved Value (CIV) and the Net Annual Value (NAV).

- **SV** – Site Value is the market value of the land only
- **CIV** – Capital Improved Value is the total value of property as determined by Council's valuers
- **NAV** – Net Annual Value is either five per cent of the CIV or the current value of a property's net annual rental