



## 2016/2017 Rates Frequently Asked Questions

### **Has the 2.5% rate cap set by the State Government been applied to my rates bill?**

No. The Essential Services Commission agreed that Council could increase the average property rate by up to 4.3% in 2016/2017 to assist with the cost of renewal of infrastructure. There are also other items on the rates bill that are not covered by the rate cap, and these are set out below.

### **Why has my property value gone up?**

2016 is a revaluation year for all rateable properties across Victoria. This means Council is required to appoint an independent valuer to assess all properties within the Shire.

The independent valuation of your property may have increased, either due to changes that effect the value of your property specifically (for example due to building improvements or land rezoning) or trends in the broader property market.

### **Does Council get more money if property values go up?**

No. The property revaluations are not linked to decisions about the percentage rate increase. The revaluation determines how the annual rate increase is distributed across all properties in the Shire.

### **Why isn't my total rate bill simply 4.3% more than last year?**

The 4.3% rate increase only applies to the property rate and municipal charge components of your bill. It does not include waste and recycling charges or the State Government's fire services property levy, which are excluded from rate cap calculations.

Your rate bill is also dependent on the valuation of your property relative to the valuation of other properties in the Shire. For example, if your property has increased in value more than the average rise in property values across the Shire, your rate increase will be higher than 4.3%.

Further, Council has increased the rate discount for properties classified as Rural 1 and Rural 2 for 2016/2017. The cost of this discount has been distributed across all other property classes in order to achieve an overall average rate increase of 4.3%.

Further information regarding your rates can be found on the reverse side of your rate notice or by referring to sections 7 and 15 of the 2016/2017 Council Budget, available on Council's website at [www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au](http://www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au). You can also contact Council by phone on 5772 0333.

# Council Services

funded by the 2016/17  
Operating Budget of \$32.8 million

Infrastructure Services **\$12.36m**



Corporate Services and  
Governance **\$3.60m**



Waste Management Services **\$3.29m**



Recreation Services **\$2.53m**



Aged and Disability Services **\$2.35m**



Planning, Building and Local Laws **\$1.60m**



Parks and Gardens **\$1.46m**



Children and Family Services **\$1.44m**



Financial Services **\$1.00m**



Economic Development and  
Tourism Support **\$0.95m**



Communications  
and Customer Services **\$0.88m**



Environmental Health and  
Natural Environment Programs **\$0.53m**



Library Services **\$0.51m**



Emergency Services **\$0.33m**



**Council is also funding a Capital Works Program of  
\$7.15 million for 2016/2017.**

