Rating Information – Frequently Asked Questions

How can I pay my rates?

- In person at the Shire of Irwin Administration Office, 11-13 Waldeck Street, Dongara
- Over the phone
- By mail
- Online with BPAY
- Online with Mastercard or visa www.irwin.wa.gov.au

Am I entitled to a rebate?

All rebates to pensioners and seniors under the *Rates and Charges (Rebates and Deferments) Act 1992* are funded by the Government of Western Australia.

Eligible pensioners & seniors are entitled to receive a rebate on their rates.

Council shall determine the nature and extent of the entitlement from details as at 1 July, in relation to ownership and occupation. A pro-rata rebate amount will be paid if a person becomes the holder of an eligible card type during the financial year which is effective from the date of registration and meets all other eligibility criteria. A deferral arrangement is also possible for eligible pensioners.

For further information regarding pensioner & senior rates concessions, please contact the rates department.

Alternatively, you can visit the Water Corporation Online or phone 1300 659 951 weekdays 8am-5pm.

All other charges must be paid in full by the due date.

You must notify the Shire of Irwin of any change in circumstances, particularly in relation to ownership or occupation of the property or your eligibility for the pensioner or Seniors card.

Deferment of rates and ESL is only available to those pensioners eligible for the full rebate entitlement but may be refused if Council resolve that the sale of land would not cover the liability.

Seniors & Pensioners Fact Sheet

What are Interim Rates?

Some ratepayers may receive amended rate accounts during the year where Landgate considers the Gross Rental Value or Unimproved Value of their property has changed.

The Gross Rental Value (GRV) is the annual amount that the owner could obtain from rental of the property and is assessed by Landgate.

The GRV is used as the base upon which rates are levied and values are generally reviewed every 4-5 years. Any alteration to the property could result in an amendment to the valuation.

Interim Rate Notice Information

What if I can't pay my rates before the due date?

Section 6.49 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, states alternate payment arrangements can be made if agreed to by both the Shire and the ratepayer. Should any ratepayers believe that they may experience difficulties in paying their rates, please contact the Shire of Irwin as soon as possible on 9927 0000 or rates@irwin.wa.gov.au to discuss your situation and alternative arrangements

An interest charge of 7.0% per annum calculated daily will be added to all rates outstanding for a period greater than 35 days from the date of issue of the rate notice. Interest is not charged to entitled and registered pensioners.

What if I don't agree with my valuation?

Rates must be paid as assessed, by the due date, irrespective of any objection being lodged.

Rate Record - Subdivision 7 of part 6 of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides the grounds of objection to the rate record held by a local government.

Valuations - Your valuation (GRV or UV) is only one factor used to calculate your rates notice. Part IV of the *Valuation of Land Act 1978* details how valuation objections can be made. Objections to valuations must be lodged to the Valuer General within 60 days from the issue of a rate notice. For information on how your values are calculated and how to lodge an objection, please visit Landgate's website www.landgate.wa.gov.au/valuations or call Landgate Customer Service on (08) 9273 7373.

PLEASE NOTE under section 6.81 of the *Local Government Act 1995* rates must be paid as assessed, by the due date, regardless of any objections being lodged. In the event of a successful objection or appeal, the rates will be adjusted, and you will be advised accordingly. Credit balances may be refunded on request.