

► RATES INFORMATION

Frequently Asked Rating Questions

■ Why do I have to pay rates?

All property owners have an obligation to contribute to the operations of their Shire through rates. Everyone benefits directly or indirectly through the services provided across the district which contribute significantly to the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of a community.

■ What is the rate?

This rate is determined by the level of revenue that is required in any given budget cycle. It is often referred to as the 'rate in the dollar'. This year, the rate for urban and commercial properties is 10.8442 cents in the dollar, and for rural and non-commercial properties is 0.67354 cents in the dollar.

■ How is the valuation calculated?

In Western Australia, land is valued every four years by the Valuer General's Office (a State Government agency), and those values are forwarded to each Local Government.

Two types of values are calculated:

1. Gross Rental Value (GRV) for urban land/buildings (valued every six years, last issued 1 July 2018); and
2. Unimproved Value (UV) for rural land (valued annually).

■ What if I think my valuation is too high?

An objection to your property's valuation may be lodged with the Valuer General's Office. Refer to the back of your rates notice for details.

■ Why do I pay more rates than my neighbour/brother etc?

As the rate in the dollar is standard across all properties, any difference in the property valuation as assessed by the Valuer General's office will result in a difference in rates. For example, your neighbour's property may be three bedrooms x one bathroom, whereas yours could be four bedrooms x two bathrooms.

■ What is ESL (Emergency Services Levy)?

The Emergency Services Levy is a State Government charge on your 2023/24 rates notice. The levy is collected by the Shire and forwarded to Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES). For information regarding the levy, please call the DFES hotline on 1300 136 099.

■ Do I need to pay my first instalment by 19 September 2023 if I am paying in instalments?

Yes. The Local Government Act states that the first instalment must be paid by the due date to use this payment option. The Shire does offer an informal instalment arrangement, but there are additional fees and penalties for this.

■ I have lost my rate notice, can I get a replacement?

You can get another copy of your rate notice, at no additional cost, by contacting the Shire's Rates Officer on 9771 7777. Your rate notice is an important document and may be required by financial institutions as proof of ownership of the land. Please keep your notice and corresponding receipts in a safe place, to save the inconvenience of requesting an additional copy.

■ I forgot to change my address, do I still have to pay interest for a late payment?

Yes; there is a statutory obligation for owners to ensure that the Shire has the correct address for service of notices. Ratepayers are asked to advise the Shire in writing when their contact details change. We would also appreciate dog owners advising us when they move to another Shire or to a different address within the Shire.

■ Can I get a pension rebate with a health care card?

Subject to the requirements of the Western Australian State Government, the cards eligible for a rebate are:

1. A Pension Concession Card – up to 50% rebate (capped at \$750)
2. A Commonwealth Seniors Health card plus a WA Seniors card – up to 50% rebate (capped at \$750)
3. A WA Seniors Card – up to 25% rebate (capped at \$100.00)

The rebate applies only to your primary place of residence which you must occupy as at 1 July of the rating year.

How Can I Pay My Rates?

Payments can be made in full or by instalments to the Shire in a number of ways

Online	Shire of Manjimup website www.manjimup.wa.gov.au
BPAY	Billcode 57323- Reference number on your rates notice
Post Billpay	Billcode 2631- Reference number on your rates notice
Mail	PO Box 1, Manjimup WA 6258
In Person	Australia Post or Shire of Manjimup Administration Office, 37-39 Rose Street, Manjimup

Did You Know?

■ You can pay weekly, fortnightly or monthly via BPAY

You can easily set this up on your online banking by scheduling weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments to the Shire of Manjimup- Billcode 57323- Reference number on your rates notice. This will allow you to pay your rates off over time in more manageable instalments with a final payment including accrued interest in June. The regular payment plan is available by contacting the Rates Officer (08) 9771 7704 or via email to info@manjimup.wa.gov.au by the due date of 19 September 2023. The following link can assist you <https://bpay.com.au/bpay-for-you#pay-bills>

■ You can pay by Centrepay deductions

Please contact Centrelink on 13 23 00 or visit their office and provide them with the Shire of Manjimup service providers Centrepay Reference Number and your Account Number.

- Centrepay Reference Number: 555 055 705V
- Your account number is your Assessment Number

■ You can pay by special payment arrangements

Council recognises that ratepayers in the community have difficulty in meeting their commitments regarding the payment of rates and charges. The Special Payment Arrangement application is to provide an alternative method of payment and assistance to those who cannot pay as per the Council approved payment methods listed on the annual notice. Please contact the Rates Officer before the due date 19 September 2023 on (08) 9771 7704 or via email info@manjimup.wa.gov.au for an application.

■ If you are in financial hardship

If you are unable to pay your rates due to financial hardship, please contact our Rates Officer as soon as possible to discuss your options.