



# Residential Rates Notice 2016/17

# THE COMPONENTS OF YOUR ANNUAL COUNCIL RATES BILL



General rates



Waste charges



Fire services property levy



Your rates bill

In 2016/17, the State Government has imposed a 2.5% rate cap in Victoria, including the City of Ballarat. Rate revenue delivers the projects and works of the 2016/17 Budget and more than 100 City of Ballarat services.

The waste charge pays for kerbside waste collection, recycling, waste disposal and State Government landfill levy - a charge City of Ballarat must pay when depositing waste at landfill. A green waste collection service has been introduced in the City of Ballarat and properties receiving this service have a charge of \$57.25 on the 2016/17 Rates Notice. Waste charges are not subject to the rates cap.

All Fire Services Property Levy money collected by councils is passed on to the State Government to fund fire agencies. This charge is set by the State Government and is not subject to the rates cap.

Your bill may be more or less than you expected because the 2.5% rate cap applies to the **overall rate revenue collected by each council, not your individual property**. The 2.5% rate cap does not apply to waste charges, the fire services property levy or property revaluations.



## HOW GENERAL RATES ARE CALCULATED



Council budgeted rate revenue  
(e.g. \$60 million)



Combined value of all rateable properties  
(e.g. \$14 billion)



"The rate in the dollar"  
(e.g. 0.0043)



Market value of your property  
(e.g. \$400,000)



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Your general rates  
(e.g. \$1,720)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q:** Has the promised 2.5% rate cap been applied to your rates bill?

**A:** Yes.

**Q:** So why isn't my rate bill 2.5% more than last year?

**A:** The 2.5% rate cap applies to the overall rate revenue collected by each council and does not include waste charges and fire service property levy, both of which collect revenue for the State Government.

# PROPERTY REVALUATION

**Q:** Does your council get more money when your property value goes up?

**A:** No.

**Q:** Has the council increased the market value of my property to get more money?

**A:** Your council does not receive extra money if your property valuation increases. Some ratepayers will pay less than the 2.5% cap and others will pay more, but the overall general rates collected by the council won't exceed the rate cap.



**By law, individual property values must be reviewed every two years based on market movements and recent sales trends. The 2016/17 Rates Notice reflects the latest valuation.**

If the value of your property has increased by a greater percentage than others in the City of Ballarat, you will pay a larger percentage of the combined general rates total. If the value of your property has increased by a lesser percentage than others in the City of Ballarat, you will pay a smaller percentage of the combined general rates total.

**The total combined general rates collected by the council remains the same.**

