Media Release

16 August 2021

Rates notices arriving this week with 60-day discount period on offer

Gladstone Region ratepayers will receive their 2021/22 rates notice within the coming days, with a 60-day discount option available for those who pay their rates and service charges in full by the due date.

The rates notice issued on 18 August includes annual availability charges for water and sewer in addition to applicable rates, waste, water consumption and the State Government's Emergency Management Levy.

Registered online users already have access to a digital copy of their rates notice.

Ratepayers will have until 19 October 2021 to pay in full and receive a 10 per cent discount on their rates and charges.

The 10 per cent discount does not apply to the State Government's Emergency Management Levy or water consumption charges.

Ratepayers who would like to pay by weekly, fortnightly, or monthly instalments should apply before 19 October to be eligible for an interest-free approved instalment plan.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said in addition to the 10 per cent discount, eligible pensioners will continue to receive an increased concession of \$310 through Council's Pensioner Concession.

"This is in addition to the Queensland Government's Pensioner Concession that provides a maximum subsidy of \$200 per annum," Councillor Burnett said.

"The Queensland Government also grants an additional concession of 20 per cent on the State Emergency Management Levy for a pensioner's principal place of residence.

"Please contact Council if you have recently been granted the pension and our friendly team can assist to see if you are eligible for these concessions."

Cr Burnett said various payment options are available to ratepayers.

"Residents can pay by instalments, online, mail, in person, direct debit or by Centrelink deductions," he said.

"Rate instalment applications need to be returned to Council by the discount due date of 19 October.

MORE



For further information contact Council's Brand and Communications Team on 4970 0700 or media@gladstone.qld.gov.au

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"Interest will be raised on all outstanding rates unless an approved instalment plan is being maintained."

The following payment options are available:

- Paying by instalments options to pay weekly, fortnightly or monthly
- Online via Council's Online Services portal or using BPAY
- Mail cheques and money orders made payable to Gladstone Regional Council
- In Person at Council offices or Australia Post (payment by credit card is not accepted at Australia Post)
- Direct Debit monthly and lump sum options
- **Deductions** regular deductions from your Centrelink payment. Contact Centrelink and quote Council's Centrepay reference number 555076313K. Payroll deductions may be offered by your employer. Contact your employer for further details.

For further information please visit <u>www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/rates</u> or call 4970 0700.

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