

Rating Review 2025/26

Strategic Alignment - Our Corporation

Tuesday, 22 April 2025

**City Finance and Governance
Committee**

Presenter: Anthony Spartalis,
Chief Operating Officer.

Public

PURPOSE OF WORKSHOP

The 2024-28 Strategic Plan commits Council to reviewing its rating system to optimise Council's efforts towards budget repair, through responsible and sustainable financial management, while balancing intergenerational equity and delivering quality services, and maintaining and enhancing community assets.

Administration identified seven focus areas for this rating review (the Review):

1. Minimum rate or fixed charge.
2. The existing 10% rate increase cap
3. The approach to discretionary rebates
4. A separate rate to fund a Hindley street tenancy mix manager
5. Reviewing existing property exemptions and mandated rebates
6. Rating incentives for council initiatives
7. Rating commercial short stay accommodation properties

An independent consultant has been engaged to provide advice and options in relation to 1-4 and 6 above, using rates data provided by the Administration. Legal advice has been sought in relation to 5 and 7 from law firm Kelledy Jones.

Tonight's workshop outlines the Review outcomes finalised to date which can be incorporated as rating changes for 2025/25 into the draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget for public consultation, and details the implications of the various options proposed.

A full report on all the Review outcomes will be provided to the 20 May 2025 meeting of the City Finance and Governance Committee after consultation.

KEY QUESTIONS

Do Council Members have any issues or concerns with the rating system changes proposed for 2025/26?

- END OF REPORT -