

## Reduced fees and charges at Leongatha Memorial Hall

There are now three categories of fees and charges pertaining to the hire of the Leongatha Memorial Hall complex, making the hire of the facility more affordable for community groups.

Feedback received from community groups indicated that the fees and charges for Non-Commercial Community Group bookings at the hall were too high. As a result, Council has supported changes to the adopted 2016/17 Fees and Charges to include a new category. With this change, the fees and charges categories are:

1. Commercial
2. Non-Commercial Community Groups (horticultural society, sporting clubs, etc)
3. Private Functions

The change distinguishes the difference between Non-Commercial Community Groups and Private Functions to allow community groups to receive a lower hire rate on the basis that revenue is given back to the community.

Acting Director Sustainable Communities and Infrastructure, John Moylan, said lowering the 2016/17 Fees and Charges would allow groups to be able to afford to use the Leongatha Memorial Hall complex and still give back to the community.

“This will hopefully attract some community groups back to the complex with the lower rates,” he explained. “Lowering the 2016/17 Fees and Charges for Non-Commercial Community Groups could result in a slightly less income than budgeted based on no groups moving. However, lowering the fees may minimise the drop in income by retaining some of the groups who are proposing to move, and may also attract other new non-commercial groups to use the venue.”

The proposed 2016/17 Fees and Charges are set as follows:

- Non-Commercial Community Groups are set at approximately 40% of the Commercial rates.
- Private Functions are to remain at their current level, which are approximately 80% of the Commercial rates (as per adopted budget on 22 June 2016 for Non-Commercial bookings).

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