

# Rates Information

## Why do I pay rates?

Rates help to provide services to our local communities such as Maternal and Child Health, playgroups, business support and sporting facilities. This is in addition to the essential services that people are most familiar with: roads, footpaths, parks and gardens, weed management, waste and recycling.

You might not need or use all of the services at every stage or your life, but paying rates helps to ensure our local communities remain vibrant and well-served. Your rates also go towards the upgrade of facilities and the delivery of major projects.



## How does Council work out the rate level for individual properties?



Council uses property values as the basis for distributing rates across the Shire. The total amount of rate revenue is divided across the total value of rateable properties to establish the 'rate in the dollar'. The rate in the dollar is then multiplied by each individual property's Capital Improved Value (CIV) to calculate how much each property owner pays.

Some properties will also have a waste charge which pays for kerbside collections (rubbish, recycling) and waste management including the State Government Landfill Levy - a charge Council must pay when disposing waste into land fill.

## Why have my rates increased by more than the 3.5 per cent rate cap?



Every year Council is required by legislation to revalue every property in South Gippsland as at 1 January. Properties may have increased in value and some properties may have decreased in value. Rates and charges may increase/decrease by a different percentage due to a change in relativity between valuations on different properties. The rate level will not be a uniform 3.5 per cent increase across the municipality. Some property owners will pay more this year while others will pay less.

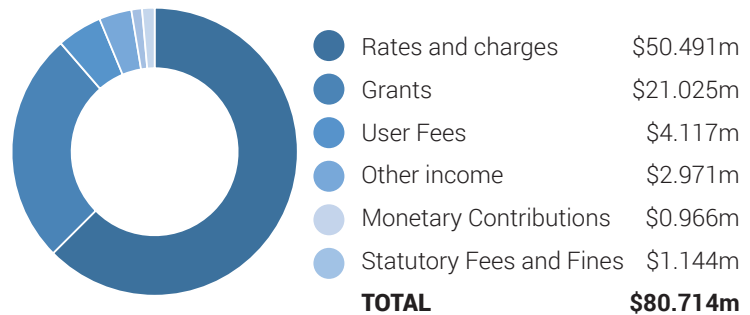
## What are our rating challenges?

South Gippsland is geographically large with a small population. Like many other rural councils this presents a number of challenges that urban councils don't face. Much of South Gippsland Shire Council's budget is directed to our substantial road network, which is costly to maintain. Additionally, due to the geographical size of the shire, services often need to be replicated in many townships (e.g. pools, recreation reserves, parks).



Council	Population	Roads	Land Area
South Gippsland	30,680 people	820km sealed roads 1,280km unsealed roads	3,295km <sup>2</sup>
Darebin	150,325 people	509km sealed roads	53km <sup>2</sup>
Stonnington	106,310 people	164km sealed roads	26km <sup>2</sup>

## Operating Income



## Operating Expenditure



## Find out more

To find out more about rates, please visit:  
[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/rates](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/rates)

