

SHIRE PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Local government authorities are required to adopt budgets for the forthcoming financial year. This process legally requires local governments to consider the Strategic Community and Corporate Business Plans. These statutory plans are supported by the Long Term Financial, Asset Management and Workforce Plans.

The preparation of the 2026/2027 budget is based on Council's direction for the forthcoming year. The focus is on maintaining existing services and facilities at a suitable level, whilst also reflecting the prioritised goals of the Strategic Community Plan. As always, Council works to share the resources and spend across the various communities.

This year Council has been forced to make a larger than desired increase to rates. The overall rate increase is 7.75%, 2.75% of which has been added specifically for health services. While it is not the responsibility of Local Government to provide medical services, Council does recognise the importance of having access to a GP for the overall economic benefit of our communities. Two years ago, we had assigned 2% of the increase specifically for health services in our shire, and unfortunately, we need to do this again. Please be aware that Council has not done this lightly and are not planning to make this an ongoing solution. However, at the point of setting the rate rise, the situation in Kalbarri has not been resolved.

We will continue to work to improve our road infrastructure and plant to ensure better efficiencies of road prioritisation and plant purchase and usage, the goal being to improve productivity. Like all things, it does take some time to get the structure right.

Progress on the plans for the Kalbarri Foreshore Revitalisation will continue in 2026/2027. Improvements along the foreshore are planned, noting that groundworks, power, water and sewer are an expensive, but necessary element to any landscape improvement.

Our Community Grant program has been slightly refined and will continue for 2026/2027.

Our core asset is always our people, including our shire staff, and also each and every resident. We have a strong and committed Council who will continue to work for the best outcomes for our communities. We must strive to work together to get the best outcome for our community.

Liz Sudlow – Shire President

2026/2027 BUDGET INFORMATION

- Medical Services
- Kalbarri Foreshore Revitalisation
- Oval Refurbishments
- Community Carparks Security Lighting
- Community Grants Program
- Horrocks Sand Replenishment
- Increased Chemical Verge Spraying
- Northampton Refuse Site Office
- Horrocks Memorial Garden Reticulation

Major Roadworks

- Horrocks Rd Widening, Stage 1 & 2
- Ogilvie East Road – Stage 2 Construction
- Chilimony Rd Reconstruction
- Port St Gregory reconstruction
- Karina Mews, Kalbarri – Reconstruct and Seal
- Ajana-Kalbarri Road (Black Spot Funding)
- Port Street, Port Gregory- Stage 1
- Culvert replacements throughout the Shire
- Gravel Re-sheeting throughout the Shire
- Reseals, Explorer Rd, Balaam Rd

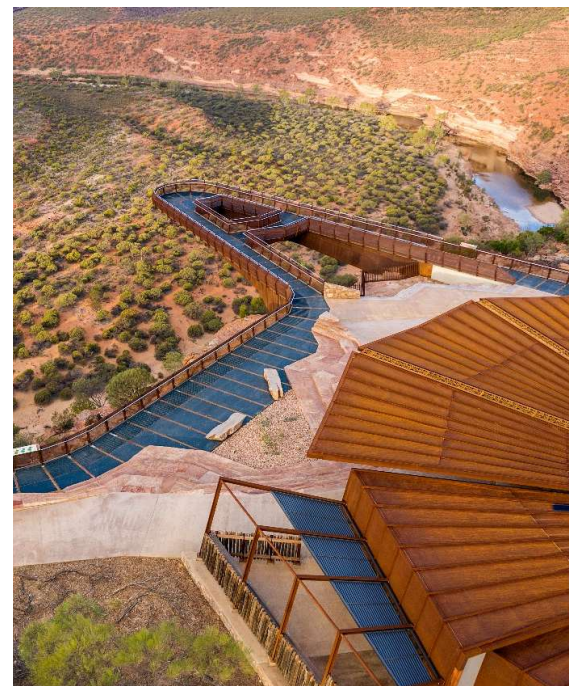
Footpath Projects

- Stephen Street, Northampton – North West Coastal Highway to West Street

Plant Replacement Program

- Funds totalling \$670,000 have been allocated towards plant replacement

2026/2027 Budget Overview



RATING INFORMATION

Council has increased rate charges by 7.75% for Gross Rental Valued (GRV) properties (Town Sites) and Unimproved Valued (UV) properties (Rural) for 2026/2027. The date of issue for 2026/2027 Rates Account is the 28th August 2026.

HOW DO I PAY MY RATES

Rates will become due and payable 35 days from the date of issue being 2nd October 2026. Rates outstanding after this date will incur a daily penalty percentage rate based on an annual rate of 7%.

INSTALMENT OPTIONS

Four Instalments – includes an administration fee of \$15 plus interest at an annual rate of 5%.

1 st Instalment	2 nd October 2026
2 nd Instalment	4 th December 2026
3 rd Instalment	5 th February 2027
4 th Instalment	9 th April 2027

Two Instalments – includes an administration fee of \$5 plus interest at an annual rate of 5%.

1 st Instalment	2 nd October 2026
2 nd Instalment	4 th December 2026

Should a ratepayer not meet one of the instalment payments, penalty interest will immediately start to accrue, at the above daily rate, from the date after the instalment due date until the instalment payment is made.

Council offers the below payment facility.

METHODS OF PAYMENT					
DIRECT DEPOSIT NORTHAMPTON NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK BSR: 086-886 ACC: 508 363 005 SHIRE OF NORTHAMPTON ACCOUNT QUOTE ASSESSMENT NUMBER AS REFERENCE	PAY ANYTIME Telephone 1300 276 468 Or visit www.northampton.wa.gov.au TELEPHONE PAYMENTS To pay by credit card (Mastercard and Visa) telephone 1300 276 468 Please have your credit card details ready.	BPAY Telephone & Internet Banking - BPAY @ Contact your bank or financial institution to make this payment from your cheque, savings, debit, credit card or transaction account. More info: www.bpay.com.au	INTERNET Using Council's secure Online Payments options, click the "Payments" button on Council's web site www.northampton.wa.gov.au	BY MAIL Detach payment slip and mail with cheque to: Shire of Northampton PO Box 61 Northampton WA 6535	IN PERSON You may pay by EFTPOS, cash, Money Order, Credit Card or Cheque crossed "Not Negotiable". Payments are accepted at: Northampton Office Hampton Road Northampton WA 6535 or Kalbarri Office Grey Street Kalbarri WA 6536

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP DETAILS

**** Please ensure Council is notified of any change of postal address or ownership details in writing and if other information on the rate notice is incorrect, please contact Council immediately.**

PROPERTY VALUATIONS

The Valuer General's office provides Council with property values upon which Council rates are based. Each year Unimproved Values (UV's) are revalued with Gross Rental Values (GRV's) revalued every three to six years.

In 2026/2027 the UV properties were re-valued with adjustments made according to market demand.

Should you wish to object to the valuation of your property, objections must be lodged with the Valuer General within 60 days of the issue of the Notice of Valuation and Rates via any of the following options.

Valuer General, vs@landgate.wa.gov.au
PO Box 2222
Midland 5936
Phone: 08 9273 7373

It is important to note that Section 6.81 of the Local Government Act 1995 provides that rates must be paid but are subject to adjustment if your objection is successful.

SPECIFIED AREA RATES

Kalbarri Tourism Specified Area Rate

Council over previous years and again in 2026/2027 has raised a specified area rate over all rateable Kalbarri Gross Rental Value properties zoned Residential, Residential Development, Places of Public Assembly, Special Site, Special Rural, Commercial, Tourist Accommodation, Service Industry, Light Industry, Composite Light Industry, within the Kalbarri Town Planning Scheme No. 9 being for Tourism Infrastructure related projects and Tourism Promotional Advertising within the Kalbarri Area.

Council will be raising \$30,000 from this rate during 2026/2027.. Kalbarri Tourism Specified Area Rate to continue marketing the Tourism Promotional Advertising.

Port Gregory Specified Area Rate – Water Supply

Council over previous years and again in 2026/2027 has raised a specified area rate over all rateable Port Gregory Gross Rental Value properties to contribute to the cost of operating and maintaining the non-potable water supply to the Townsite. Council will be raising \$29,000 from this rate during 2026/2027.

Further information on the above Specified Area Rates can be obtained by contacting the Administration Office in Northampton.

PENSIONER/SENIOR CARD CONCESSIONS

Pensioners and Seniors, who are entitled to receive a rebate on their rates account, need to make application with the Shire, and should reconfirm their details with the Rates Officer at the commencement of each financial year.

Refuse and services charges are not given pensioner rate concessions.

Subject to certain conditions, you may qualify for a rates concession, if you own and reside at the property before 1st July 2026.

WA Seniors Card Holders

Ratepayers holding a WA Seniors Card may receive a 25% Government rebate capped at \$100.

Commonwealth Concession Cards

Ratepayers holding an applicable Pension Card may receive a 50% Government rebate capped at \$750.

Council is now offering Centrepay to eligible pensioners. Centrepay is a free direct bill-paying service offered to customers receiving payments from Centrelink. Through Centrepay you can choose to pay bills by having a regular amount deducted from your Centrelink payment making bills more manageable. Centrepay is voluntary.

If any of the above situations relate to you, please contact the Council office to clarify your entitlement.

The Council does not administer laws regarding Pension Concessions. If you wish to lodge a complaint regarding the rebate, you will need to contact your local Member of Parliament.

RATES PAYMENTS AND RECOVERY

Rates and services are payable within 35 days of the date of issue of the original rate notice (refer to the due date on the rate notice). Any rates outstanding after this date may be recovered by Legal Action. **COSTS OF LEGAL ACTION WILL BE ADDED TO YOUR ACCOUNT.**

Should there be any reason why payment cannot be made in full please contact Council's Rate Officer immediately. If payment is allowed to fall into arrears for a period of three years or more the Council may:

1. Take the land and let it on lease;
2. Sell the land;
3. Have the land vested in the Local Government;
or
4. Have the land re-vested in the Crown.