



2020 / 2021

Budget

**Keeping the Region
Going and Growing**



CHARTERS TOWERS
REGIONAL COUNCIL

PO Box 189 Charters Towers QLD 4820

ADMINISTRATION: 12 Mosman Street

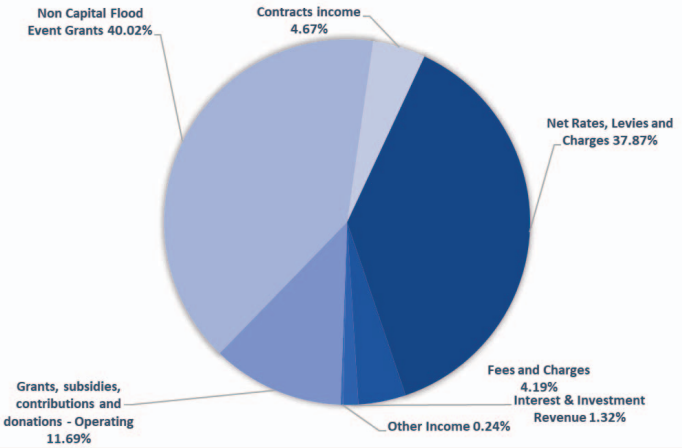
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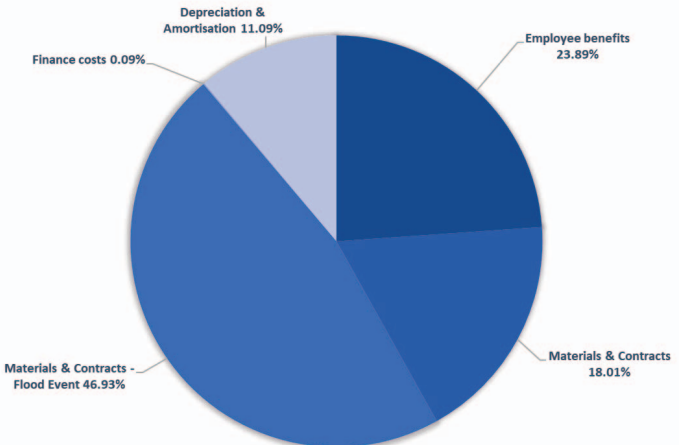
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OPERATING REVENUE



OPERATING EXPENDITURE



KEEPING THE REGION GOING AND GROWING BUDGET SNAPSHOT



1.89%
AVERAGE
RATES INCREASE



\$16.3M
Capital Works Budget



RESTORATION
\$37.5M
Flood Damage
Restoration works
- year 2 of 2



ROADS
\$5.9M
Roads Capital
Works Program



WATER
\$1.955M
In water main
replacements
and improved
metering



PLANT
\$1.56M
In plant
replacements



**WALKING
PATHS**
\$1.306M
Towers Hill
paths
including mine
shaft viewing
platform



PUMP TRACK
\$0.4M
Installation of
Pump Track in
Defiance Mill
Park



**SUPPORTING
COMMUNITY
GROUPS**
\$0.33M
Twice yearly
grant
programs and
services



WATER PARK
\$2.852M
Construction and
installation of a water
park on Water Street



Mayor's Message | Cr Frank Beveridge

The Charters Towers Regional Council 2020/2021 Budget takes a balanced approach to keeping the Region Going and Growing. Our continued key budget priority is to ensure sustainability and improve livability for our Region.

This is the first budget in the Council's four-year term and it provides for continued investment in maintaining and improving our critical infrastructure, whilst considering the current difficult times being experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impacts to the Region from the pandemic are yet to be fully quantified, however Council needs to ensure that there are sufficient economic resources post-pandemic to grow the Region.

With this in mind, Council has adopted a minimal rise of 1.89% across all rates and charges including water, excess water, sewerage and waste management, based on the 2020 Local Government Cost Index. Council has made this decision carefully to ensure that there is sufficient coverage of costs, as Council, just like households and private businesses, is not immune to increases in its expenses like wages, electricity, registration and goods and services.

Due to the continuation of rate capping to 15% on various rate categories, following significant valuation changes to some properties in 2018, some properties will experience an increase greater than 1.89%. If Council had not adopted a rate rise in this year's budget, it is anticipated that future year increases would be much larger to counter the impact. Rates are the main source of income for Charters Towers Regional Council, so it is important to maintain this revenue stream and ensure a strong financial future for the Region. Council will continue to offer residents a choice of either Allocation or Two-Part Tariff for water charges and the annual allocation will remain at 750KI per year.

The 2020/2021 budget for Capital Works is \$16.3m, with a number of these projects being either fully or substantially funded through government grants, which will help to improve the livability of the Region through the development of new recreational facilities and road improvements, including disaster readiness projects. The budget includes over \$9.4m in grant funding.

Major projects for 2020/2021 include:

- Completion of Council's 2019-2021 Works for Queensland Projects
- Finalisation of the implementation of Council's Enterprise Resource Planning Software and other IT purchases (\$2.269m)
- Commencement of installation of additional flood warning infrastructure network (year 1 of 2 year program of works - \$0.35m)
- Completion of the flood damage restoration works (\$38m)
- Roads and drainage capital works program (\$5.9m) – including a new roundabout on Racecourse Road, Fanning River crossing realignment on Dotswood Road and various pathway upgrades in the CBD.
- Completion of the Water Infrastructure Upgrade Project and the design of a new booster pump station and balance tank (\$1.955m)
- Refurbishment and upgrade works to various Council and Community facilities (\$0.576m)
- Development of a new Water Park (\$2.852m)
- Installation of a new pump track (\$0.4m)
- Installation of new walking paths at Towers Hill including a mine shaft viewing platform (\$1.306m)
- Fleet replacements (\$1.564m)

Council will continue its generous community grants program through supporting sporting groups with mowing of fields, rate remissions for sporting, cultural and welfare groups and the twice yearly community grants program at a total cost annually of \$330,000. Council has carefully considered the impacts to the community during these difficult times to balance community needs and expectations, and still deliver some very exciting projects to keep the Region Going and Growing.

RATES
DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES

Council adopted 23 categories of rateable land for 2020/2021 as stated and described below. Pursuant to section 80 of the Regulation the following Differential Rating Categories have been determined having regard to:

- Land use as determined by Council and the Department
- Parcels similarly valued which are used for the same or similar purpose and receive similar services
- Valuation

Limitation on Increase in Rates

Pursuant to section 116 of the Regulation, Council applies capping to the Categories listed below in which the general rates levied for the property for the previous financial year (year ending 30 June 2020) will not be exceeded by 15%:

- Categories 1-5
- Categories 10-12
- Categories 14-15
- Categories 21-23

The differential general rates for eligible land will not exceed the higher of:

- The relevant minimum rate for the property; or
- The amount of general rates levied for the property for the year ending 30 June 2020, plus an increase of 15%.

This is subject to a minimum rate for each category and the following conditions:

- Capping will apply only to general rates;
- Capping will apply only to the categories listed above;
- Capping is not available retrospectively and will only apply from the beginning of a financial year; and
- If ownership of the land to which capping applies is transferred in the period after 1 July of any year, then capping will cease to apply for the following year (eg. *If rates-capped land is sold during 2020/2021, capping will not apply in 2021/2022 but will apply in 2022/2023 (unless the land is sold again after 1 July 2021).*

An average increase of 1.89% has been applied across all rates and charges for 2020/2021.

Cat	Category Description	Rate in Dollar	\$ Min
1	Urban Residential (< 9,000m2) Properties used for residential purposes with an area less than 9,000m2, including all townships.	0.02496	1,044
2	Large Homesites <\$100,000 Rating Valuation Properties used for residential purposes on sites with an area greater than 9,000m2 situated within 8 kilometres of the Charters Towers central business district with a rating valuation less than \$100,000.	0.02130	1,200

Cat	Category Description	Rate in Dollar	\$ Min
3	Large Homesites \$100,000 to \$199,999 Rating Valuation Properties used for residential purposes on sites with an area greater than 9,000m2 situated within 8 kilometres of the Charters Towers central business district with a rating valuation between \$100,000 and \$199,999.	0.01620	2,112
4	Large Homesites \$200,000 to \$299,999 Rating Valuation Properties used for residential purposes on sites with an area greater than 9,000m2 situated within 8 kilometres of the Charters Towers central business district with a rating valuation between \$200,000 and \$299,999.	0.01274	3,166
5	Large Homesites >= \$300,000 Rating Valuation Properties used for residential purposes on sites with an area greater than 9,000m2 situated within 8 kilometres of the Charters Towers central business district with a rating valuation greater than or equal to \$300,000.	0.01019	3,798
6	Rural Residential properties >8kms from Charters Towers CBD Properties used for rural residential purposes situated beyond 8 kilometres from the Charters Towers central business district, including all townships.	0.00999	1,044
7	Multi-unit Residential 2 flats Properties used for the purpose of multiple residential units, maximum of 2 flats, including properties situated in townships.	0.02496	1,312
8	Multi-unit Residential 3-4 flats Properties used for the purpose of multiple residential units, 3-4 flats, including properties situated in townships.	0.02680	1,364
9	Multi-unit Residential >= 5 flats Properties used for the purpose of multiple residential units, 5 flats or greater, including properties situated in townships.	0.02904	1,380

Cat	Category Description	Rate in Dollar	\$ Min
10	Commercial Retail and Business <8kms from Charters Towers CBD Properties zoned or used in part or in full for commercial, retail or business purposes situated within 8 kilometres of the Charters Towers central business district.	0.04422	2,190
11	Industrial, Transport & Storage Category <8kms from Charters Towers CBD Properties used for industrial, transport or storage purposes situated within 8 kilometres of the Charters Towers central business district.	0.02894	1,978
12	Noxious or Hazardous Industries Properties used for noxious or hazardous industry purposes.	0.03352	1,206
13	Drive-in Shopping Centre > 1,500m2 gross floor area Properties used for a drive-in shopping centre having a gross floor area greater than 1,500m2 and onsite car parking spaces.	0.05421	10,392
14	Other Commercial/Industrial land Properties used for other commercial or industrial purposes situated greater than 8 kilometres from the Charters Towers central business district, including properties situated in townships.	0.06582	1,206
15	Rural Agricultural Properties situated beyond 8 kilometres from the Charters Towers central business district used primarily for agricultural purposes.	0.00927	1,004
16	Mines >200 employees and/or contractors Properties located across the region containing one or more mining leases issued pursuant to the Mineral Resources Act 1989, utilised as a working mine with greater than 200 employees and/or contractors as at 1 July 2020.	0.84355	24,104

Cat	Category Description	Rate in Dollar	\$ Min
17	Mines - 101 to 200 employees and/or contractors Properties located across the region containing one or more mining leases issued pursuant to the Mineral Resources Act 1989, utilised as a working mine with between 101 and 200 employees and/or contractors as at 1 July 2020.	0.75205	18,078
18	Mines – 50 to 100 employees and/or contractors Properties located across the region containing one or more mining leases issued pursuant to the Mineral Resources Act 1989, utilised as a working mine with between 50 and 100 employees and/or contractors as at 1 July 2020.	0.31178	6,028
19	Mines – 25 to 49 employees and/or contractors Properties located across the region containing one or more mining leases issued pursuant to the Mineral Resources Act 1989, utilised as a working mine with between 25 and 49 employees and/or contractors as at 1 July 2020.	0.25065	4,122
20	Other working mine or quarry – 1 to 24 employees and/or contractors Properties located across the region containing one or more mining leases issued pursuant to the Mineral Resources Act 1989, utilised as a working mine or quarry with between 1 and 24 employees and/or contractors as at 1 July 2020.	0.12512	1,810
21	Non-working mine or quarry Properties located across the region containing one or more mining leases issued pursuant to the Mineral Resources Act 1989, which are not working mines or quarries and do not fall into Categories 16 to 20.	0.02506	1,256
22	Special Uses Properties with uses for non-residential purposes outside of commercial categories such as sporting or other special uses or community groups.	0.02904	1,004

Cat	Category Description	Rate in Dollar	\$ Min
23	Other Properties which use does not fall into categories 1 to 22.	0.02180	1,004

All \$ figures above are annual – halved across ½ yearly notices.

UTILITIES

UTILITY RATING GROUP DEFINITIONS

Group 31 Charters Towers Reserve – Residential: A parcel of rateable land contained completely within the Town Reserve area of Charters Towers, which is not zoned commercial and is either vacant or used for residential purposes.

Group 32 Charters Towers Reserve – Non-Residential: A parcel of rateable land contained completely within the Town Reserve area of Charters Towers, which is zoned commercial and vacant, or used for non-residential purposes.

Group 34 Within 8 km radius of CBD Charters Towers. Residential - Both Water & Bitumen: A parcel of residential rateable land, not within Utility Group 31, located partly or completely within an eight (8) kilometre radius of the CBD in Charters Towers which is serviced by both Charters Towers reticulated water and which has sealed road access to the property.

Group 35 Within 8 km radius of CBD Charters Towers. Non-Residential - Both Water & Bitumen: A parcel of non-residential rateable land, not within Utility Group 32, located partly or completely within an eight (8) kilometre radius of the CBD in Charters Towers which is serviced by both Charters Towers reticulated water and which has sealed road access to the property.

Group 36 Within 8 km radius of CBD Charters Towers. Residential–One or Neither Water & Bitumen A parcel of residential rateable land, not within Utility Group 31, located partly or completely within an eight (8) kilometre radius of the CBD in Charters Towers which is not serviced by BOTH bitumen road access and Charters Towers reticulated water.

Group 37 Within 8 km radius of CBD Charters Towers. Non-Residential - One or Neither Water & Bitumen

A parcel of non-residential rateable land, not within Utility Group 32, located partly or completely within an eight (8) kilometre radius of the CBD in Charters Towers which is not serviced by BOTH bitumen road access and Charters Towers reticulated water.

Group 38 Townships - Pentland, Ravenswood & Greenvale: Township – a parcel of rateable land contained partly or completely within the defined Township Reserves of Pentland, Ravenswood, or Greenvale.

Group 39 Outside 8 km radius of the GPO – All others not in Group 38: All other parcels of rateable land contained within the region of Charters Towers and not contained within any other Group.

UTILITY RATING GROUPS 31 and 32

Sewerage Charges – Utility Groups 31 & 32

A Sewerage Charge will be levied in accordance with the Sewerage Charge Schedule, on each surveyed parcel of land, vacant and occupied, that Council has or is able to provide with sewerage services. The charge may also be levied on those areas where construction of the service infrastructure has commenced but access is not yet available to the sewerage service.

The sewerage charge will be set to recover all of the annual operating costs associated with the provision of sewerage and wastewater services provided by Council. These costs include loan interest, asset depreciation and the cost of ongoing maintenance and operation of the system, including treatment plant operations.

The adopted Sewerage Charges Schedule is as follows:

- (1) Surveyed parcel of vacant land = 4 units.
- (2) 1 pedestal or urinal = 4 units. (Base Charge)
- (3) Residential Properties, including residential lots under the Body Corporate and Community Management Act, such as a house or strata title unit, shall be charged a base sewerage charge per dwelling and shall be entitled to unlimited pedestals.
- (4) Residential properties consisting of flats or units, covered by a single title, shall be charged a sewerage levy on a per pedestal basis.
- (5) Non-Residential connected to the Sewerage system:
 - (i) The first 5 pedestals or urinals = 4 units per pedestal.
 - (ii) From 6 to 15 pedestals or urinals = 2 units per pedestal.
 - (iii) From 16 or over pedestals or urinals = 1 unit per pedestal.

In accordance with the above schedule, the undermentioned Sewerage Charges be made and levied for the rating period 01 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

UTILITY GROUP	GROUP DESCRIPTION	ANNUAL CHARGE PER UNIT For Sewerage
31	Charters Towers Reserve - Residential	\$215
32	Charters Towers Reserve - Non-Residential	\$215

Waste Collection Charges – Utility Groups 31 & 32

A Waste Collection Charge will be levied in accordance with the following Waste Collection Charges Schedule, on the owner of each parcel of land or structure occupied or capable of being occupied, for which Council is prepared to provide a waste collection service. Where there is more than one structure on land capable of separate occupation a charge will be made for each structure.

For domestic and non-residential users the charge will be for a weekly collection of a 240 litre mobile bin. Charges will be made for additional collections per week from domestic or non-residential properties, referred to in the fees as Extra Waste Collection, or additional bins can be provided and collected at the weekly collection.

If any collection of industrial and bulk waste is required by Council, this will be charged based on volume and frequency of collection in accordance with market rates.

No refund of any charges in respect of a regular service duly made and levied in respect of a year or part thereof shall be made or given by Council for the reason that premises are unoccupied.

The costs incurred in the operation and maintenance of all waste management functions provided by Council, will primarily be funded by waste collection charges. The proceeds from the charges, together with the Landfill Management levy will fund the acquisition, operation and maintenance of Council's Landfill and recycling activities, the collection of waste from street side rubbish bins, the removal of dead animals and abandoned motor vehicles and environment protection activities generally.

A unit charge covers the provision of one 240 litre mobile bin in accordance with the following Schedule:

	WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE		Units	Min	Max
a.	Dwellings		1	1	
b.	Multiple Dwellings	Per unit/dwelling	1	1	
c.	Accommodation Units	Per 2 pedestals	1	2	10
d.	Motels, Caravan Parks, Hotel/Motels	Per 2 pedestals	1	2	20
e.	Hotel and Taverns	Per 2 pedestals	1	1	
f.	Clubs, Community Groups/Churches	Per 2 pedestals	1	1	2
g.	Education	Per 2 pedestals	1	1	20
h.	Childcare	Per 2 pedestals	1	1	4
i.	Hospitals, Nursing Home & Place of Retirement	Per 2 pedestals	1	1	20
j.	Non-residential Premises, Shops	Per shop / premise, whichever is greater	1		
k.	Supermarket (Gross floor area >800 m2)	Per pedestal	1	6	
l.	Other non-residential		1	1	

In accordance with the above schedule, the undermentioned Waste Collection Charges be made and levied by the Council for the rating period 01 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. The following table also covers the Landfill Management levy applicable to every assessment, no exception, within Utility Rate Group 31 and 32.

UTILITY GROUP	GROUP DESCRIPTION	ANNUAL CHARGE PER UNIT For Bin Collection	LANDFILL MANAGEMENT Flat Rate per Assessment For Provision	LANDFILL USAGE
31	Charters Towers Reserve - Residential	\$203	\$30	Fees apply
32	Charters Towers Reserve - Non-residential	\$240*	\$30	Fees apply

*Includes the Queensland Waste Levy annual charge of \$37 per bin collected in accordance with the *Waste Reduction and Recycling (Waste Levy) Amendment Act 2019*

Landfill Management Levy – Utility Groups 31 & 32

The Landfill Management Levy is broken into two components being Provision and Use. In Utility Groups 31 and 32, the levy is based on the assumption that properties will use the Stubbley Street Landfill where at a 'user pay policy' has been implemented.

Utility Group	Provision	Use	Annual Levy
31	\$30.00	Pay per use	\$30.00
32	\$30.00	Pay per use	\$30.00

Regional Water Charges

The basis of the water charge is:

Residential: Can choose between the Allocation Tariff or Two Part Tariff

Non-Residential: Two Part Tariff only

Allocation Tariff is an annual fixed charge combining access charge with an annual allowance of water, and is unit based per parcel according to the variables as set out in the Water Charges Schedule.

Two Part Tariff

- First Part: Flat Charge covering Access or Availability (levied in advance, split between the two half yearly rates notices)
- Second Part: Charge per kilolitre Used (levied on the 1st half yearly notice in the year following meter read).

Residential Properties can choose annually between tariffs. A defined timeframe will be advertised each year, following water meter readings, during which time a request to transfer can be submitted online, or via a hardcopy Transfer Form. Transfer requests will not be accepted outside of the defined advertised 'Transfer Period'.

All such charges levied shall be used to defray the cost of constructing the water supply facilities, including the payment of loan interest, asset depreciation and the costs associated with the operation, maintenance and management of the water supply system.

The charges are also made on a specified basis in respect of any land or other structure, building, individual shop or place on land to which water is supplied that is not rateable under the *Local Government Act*.

Multiple Dwellings shall be levied as set out in the Water Charges Schedule. In cases where the consumption by individual lots and the common property cannot be individually measured, consumption charges will be levied on a per lot basis. It will be necessary for Council to apportion the consumption of the scheme land in accordance with the schedule of lot entitlements in the Contribution Schedule contained in the Community Management Statement.

Meter Readings - Water Meters are read on an annual basis. See Page 17 for more details.

Stopped Meter - Should a meter be found to have stopped, usage for the current year will be levied as averaged across the previous three years.

Undetected Leak - In the case where there is an undetected leak within the property boundaries, assessment will come under the guidelines within Council's Concealed Leak Policy, and subject to approval, the associated method of charging will apply.

Water Charges – Utility Groups 31 & 32

A Water Charge will be levied in accordance with the Water Charges Schedule, on each surveyed parcel of land, both vacant and occupied, that Council has or is able to provide with a water service. 'Able to provide' means the property is within 100 metres of a water main. The charge may also be levied on those areas where construction of the service infrastructure has commenced but access is not yet available to the water service.

Water Charges – Utility Groups 34 to 39

Group 34 – 37

Levies apply to all parcels to which supply is provided.

Group 38-Ravenswood

Levies apply to all parcels to which supply is provided.

Group 38-Greenvale and Pentland

Levies apply on availability of water as per the defined area.

ANNUAL WATER LEVIES ACROSS THE REGION

In accordance with the Water Charges schedule, the undermentioned Water Rates and Charges be made and levied by the Council for the rating period 01 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, with items j) to m) being in accordance with the Special Water Unit Charges Schedule.

Water Charges schedule across the Region

WATER UNIT SCHEDULE ACROSS THE REGION (per parcel)		UNITS
a.	All Vacant Land Not Connected	4
	Residential	
b.	Dwelling	4
c.	Multiple Dwelling Single Parcel – 1 st unit/flat	4
	- all remaining units/flats	2
d.	Multiple Dwellings Separate Parcels (Per unit)	2
e.	Multiple Dwellings:(Per unit) Exempt general rate levies under the LG Act	4
	Non-Residential	
f.	Community Clubs & Organisations	4
g.	Clubs – Private	6
h.	Commercial and Industry	6
i.	Religious Organisation	4
	As per Special Water Unit Schedule (Annexure “A” in Council’s Revenue Statement) – See Council’s website	
j.	Schools/Education	
k.	State Government	
l.	State Government Corporations	
m.	Special Allocations	

WATER ALLOCATION TARIFF (Residential Only)

UTILITY GROUP	Category	ANNUAL ALLOWANCE PER UNIT	ANNUAL CHARGE PER UNIT For Water	EXCESS WATER CHARGE Per KL	
				Used in 19/20	Used in 20/21
31	Residential	187.5 Kilolitres	\$277.00	\$1.66	\$1.69
34	Residential	187.5 Kilolitres	\$277.00	\$1.66	\$1.69
36	Residential	187.5 Kilolitres	\$342.00	\$1.66	\$1.69
38-Greenvale	Residential	187.5 Kilolitres	\$304.00	\$1.66	\$1.69
38-Pentland	Residential	187.5 Kilolitres	\$233.00	\$1.66	\$1.69
38-Ravenswood	Residential	187.5 Kilolitres	\$245.00	\$1.66	\$1.69

WATER TWO-PART TARIFF

UTILITY GROUP	CATEGORY	AVAILABILITY OR ACCESS CHARGE / UNIT	CHARGE / KILOLITRE USED UNDER THRESHOLD	EXCESS THRESHOLD / UNIT	EXCESS WATER CHARGE / KILOLITRE
31	Residential	\$171	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
32	Non-Residential	\$150	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
32	Non-Residential	\$192	Connection-No Meter - Access & Usage		
34	Residential	\$171	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
35	Non-Residential	\$150	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
36	Residential	\$210	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
37	Non-Residential	\$185	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
38-Greenvale	Residential	\$171	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
38-Pentland	Residential	\$171	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
38-Ravenswood	Residential	\$171	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
38-Greenvale	Non-Residential	\$150	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
38-Pentland	Non-Residential	\$150	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
38-Ravenswood	Non-Residential	\$150	\$0.94	187.5 KLS	\$1.69
VACANT – Water Available – Not Connected					
All Groups	Vacant	\$172			

WATER SUPPLIES

Charters Towers

Council reticulates treated water via infrastructure fully installed and owned by Council. Water is sourced from the Burdekin River, pumped to the treatment plant and then reticulated from the storage reservoir on Towers Hill. Some locations are reticulated prior via water travelling to the reservoir.

Pentland

Council reticulates treated water to a defined area of Pentland Township from ground water bores.

Greenvale

Council reticulates treated water to the whole of the Greenvale Township by way of a mains reticulation system originally installed by Queensland Nickel Ltd. As this infrastructure is now owned by Council, the maintenance and replacement of these assets lies with Council to fund.

Ravenswood

Ravenswood water supply is originally sourced from the Burdekin River by Carpentaria Gold. Water is pumped to a “turkey nest” dam before Ravenswood Gold provides treated water to the township. Council is responsible for the maintenance of these assets, and currently pays Ravenswood Gold to operate and provision the service.

UTILITY RATING GROUPS 34 to 39

Waste Collection Charges – Utility Groups 34 To 39

That the undermentioned Waste Collection Charges be made and levied by the Council for the rating period 01 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. One unit covers a weekly collection of one 240 litre mobile bin for a twelve month period.

UTILITY GROUP	ANNUAL CHARGE PER One Unit	WHEN CHARGE TO APPLY
34	\$203	A dwelling to which a collection service is practically available, as determined by Council, from the date of provision of service.
35	\$240.00*	A non-residential premise to which a collection service is practically available, as determined by Council, from the date of provision of service. *Includes the Queensland Waste Levy annual charge of \$37 per bin collected in accordance with the <i>Waste Reduction and Recycling (Waste Levy) Amendment Act 2019</i>
36	\$269.00	A dwelling to which a collection service is practically available, as determined by Council, from the date of provision of service.
37	\$307.00*	A non-residential premise to which a collection service is practically available, as determined by Council, from the date of provision of service. *Includes the Queensland Waste Levy annual charge of \$37 per bin collected in accordance with the <i>Waste Reduction and Recycling (Waste Levy) Amendment Act 2019</i>
38 - Greenvale	\$269.00	To all land parcels with a dwelling within the defined area (see Annexure “Greenvale Garbage Area”).

UTILITY GROUP	ANNUAL CHARGE PER One Unit	WHEN CHARGE TO APPLY
38 - Pentland	\$269.00	To all land parcels within the defined area (see Annexure "Pentland Garbage Area") to which a collection service is practically available, as determined by Council, from the date of provision of service.
38 - Ravenswood	\$269.00	To all land parcels within the defined area (see Annexure "Ravenswood Garbage Area") with a dwelling to which a collection service is practically available, as determined by Council, from the date of provision of service.
39 - Hervey Range	\$269.00	To all land parcels with a dwelling within the defined area (see Annexure to Budget Minutes "Hervey Range Garbage Area") as from date of provision of service.
39 - Balfes Creek	\$269.00	To all land parcels with a dwelling within the defined area (see Annexure to Budget Minutes "Balfes Creek Garbage Area") as from date of provision of service.
39 – Homestead	\$269.00	To all land parcels with a dwelling within the defined area (see Annexure to Budget Minutes "Homestead Garbage Area") as from date of provision of service.
39 – Mingela	\$269.00	To all land parcels with a dwelling within the defined area (see Annexure to Budget Minutes "Mingela Garbage Area") as from date of provision of service.
39 – Sellheim	\$269.00	To all land parcels within the defined area (see Annexure to Budget Minutes Sellheim Garbage Area") with a dwelling to which a collection service is practically available, as determined by Council, from date of provision of service.
39 - Reid River	\$269.00	To all land parcels within the defined area (see Annexure to Budget Minutes "Reid River Garbage Area") with a dwelling to which a collection service is practically available, as determined by Council, from date of provision of service.

Pro rata charges will be levied where services are commenced, or made available, during the course of the financial year. A service is defined as the collection of one domestic bin per week per domicile with the exception of Pentland where commercial services are rated. Waste Collection Charges for Non-residential Services in Groups 36 to 39, with the exception of Pentland, will be charged \$307.00 per annum.

UNITS TO BE USED – Sewerage – Utility Groups 34 to 39

That the following schedule of units be adopted for application to Sewerage utility charges throughout the relevant categories, per surveyed parcel of land.

LAND USE	NO. OF UNITS
Sewerage Utility Groups 38 & 39	
Vacant Land	2
Dwellings	2
Accommodation Units and Flats - per unit/flat	2
Business premises	2

LAND USE	NO. OF UNITS
Café	3
Dwelling combined with business premises	3
School	6
Hotel	10
Hall	2
Church	2
Caravan Park	8
Racecourse	2
Rodeo Grounds	2
Sports Club	2
Motel	10
Shopping Centre – per shop/business within the centre	2
Service Station	3
Industrial – Light and Heavy	3
Golf Course	2
Police Station and Residence	4
Not otherwise defined	4
Specific	
Greenvale Swimming Pool	4
Greenvale Fire and Ambulance	4
State Emergency Service Facilities	4

That the undermentioned Sewerage Charges be made and levied for the rating period 01 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, based on the above Utility Units Table.

UTILITY GROUP	ANNUAL CHARGE PER UNIT (Refer Utility Units Table)	WHEN CHARGE TO APPLY
38-Greenvale	\$322.00 per annum	Upon connection to mains
38-Ravenswood	\$322.00 per annum	Upon connection to mains

Pro rata charges will be levied where services are commenced, during the course of the financial year.

LANDFILL MANAGEMENT LEVY – Utility Groups 34 to 39

The following levies are based on their associated assumption 1 to 5 and the two generic assumptions 6 & 7:

1. All property owners within Utility Groups 34 to 37- the closest landfill is Stubley Street, Charters Towers.
2. All property owners within Utility Group 38 - the closest landfill is either Greenvale, Pentland or Ravenswood.
3. Property owners within Utility Group 39 who have a waste collection service - the closest landfill is either Greenvale, Pentland or Ravenswood.
4. Property owners within Utility Group 39 who have a waste collection service and are located whereby the closest landfill is Stubley Street.
5. Property owners within Utility Group 39 who do not have a waste collection service and will manage their own landfills on their property, do not pay a landfill management levy.
6. The Stubley Street Landfill has a 'user pay policy'.
7. The Greenvale, Pentland or Ravenswood landfills do not have a 'user pay policy'.

Where there are exceptions to 3) above, and a property within Utility Group 39 is located closer to the Stubley Street landfill, and therefore incurs 'user

pay fees' when using the landfill, a reduced landfill management levy will apply on application and subsequent approval.

Assumption	Provision	Use	Annual Levy
1	\$30.00	Pay per use	\$30.00
2	\$30.00	\$15.00	\$45.00
3	\$30.00	\$15.00	\$45.00
4	\$30.00	\$ 0.00	\$30.00
5	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

REBATES AND CONCESSIONS ON RATES AND CHARGES

Rebates and concessions will be determined on an annual basis on the adoption of each budget and will reflect Council's desire to continue to assist Pensioners with their rates payments, while also assisting Sporting/Cultural and Welfare Groups with their rates payments.

Pensioner Rebates

To qualify for the following rebates all of the following conditions must apply:

- The applicant must be the holder of a Pensioner Concession Card or Repatriation Health Card for all Conditions (Gold Card) issued by the Commonwealth Department of Social Security or the Commonwealth Department of Veterans Affairs. Holders of Health Benefit Cards (The Department of Community Services) are not eligible under this scheme, as these cards are issued for a limited specified period of time only; and
- The applicant must be the owner (either solely or jointly) of property which is his/her principal place of residence and the property shall not be utilised for non-residential activities, including Home Occupations; and
- The applicant must have either solely or jointly with a co-owner, the legal responsibility for payment of rates and charges as defined herein which are levied in respect of the said property by the local government in whose area the property is situated; and
- The applicant must be approved in accordance with State Government interpretation of the above; and
- Such concession of rates will only apply if the applicant/s remains a pensioner/s and also retains ownership of the property in respect of which concession is sought, for the whole of the financial year. Council also reserves the right to accept or reject.

Council Remission and Rebate

Policies for pensioner rate accounts across the region are as follows:

- Discount on pensioner rate accounts is calculated on the nett levy, after state and council concessions are applied.
- Council pensioner remissions are limited to pensioners who pay out their rate account by 15th June in the year levied.
- Where a pensioner's rate account is not paid out in full prior to close of discount, that a bonus pensioner rebate, equal to the '30 day discount available' be granted to pensioners who pay out their rate account by 15th June in the year levied.
- The Council Pensioner Remission is calculated on the general rate only, to a maximum of 27% of the general rate levy applicable to the rating category designated, capped at \$174.00 if levied half yearly or \$348.00 if levied once per year.

State Government Subsidy

In accordance with the Queensland Government Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme, as existing at the time of rating, a Pensioner Subsidy of 100%, capped at the State Government's approved maximum of an anticipated \$200 per annum, will be allowed on General rates as levied for residential properties.

Pensioners wishing to apply for subsidy are required to initially complete the necessary application form. Council will then confirm ongoing eligibility on a half-yearly basis, via reconciliation with the records held by the State Government.

Sporting/Cultural/Welfare Groups Concessions

Pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, Council will continue to provide financial assistance to approved Sporting, Cultural and Welfare Groups as budgeted, with the basis of concession being as follows; subject to nett rates and charges, after concession applied, being paid in full by the due date as printed on the rates notice:

- 50% of the General Rate; 50% of the Sewerage Charge; Nil concession on Water Charges unless otherwise determined and 50% of the calculated Excess Water Charge when an organisation has an approved Water Management Plan, subject to a defined period, if required.

OTHER RATES, CHARGES AND RATING MATTERS

Issue of Rates Notices

Council will issue Half Yearly Rates Notices:

1. In September/October (first levy) for the billing period 1 July to 31 December and;
2. In January/February (second levy) for the billing period 1 January to 30 June.

The first levy will contain excess water levies incurred across the previous twelve month period.

The first levy will also contain hardcopies of the Rates & Charges booklet and other standard inclusions. Property owners are requested to retain this booklet for reference with the second levy issue. Copies will be available on Council's website.

Interest on Arrears Pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, rates and charges which are unpaid as of the due date, bear interest at the approved rate of 8.53%, being the maximum interest rate, in accordance with the *Local Government Regulation*; unless interest free instalment arrangements are approved in accordance with the terms stated within this document.

Discount on Rates and Charges

Pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, a discount of 6% is granted on gross rates and charges (less Council and State pensioner rebates, rate arrears, interest and fire levies), to any persons liable to pay the rates and charges levied, provided payment is made within the approved 30 day discount period. In order to receive the benefit of discount, payment in full must be receipted by Council on or before the due date.

Fire Levy and/or Emergency Management, Fire & Rescue Levy

Local Governments are a collection agency only for the State Government Emergency Management, Fire & Rescue Levy on improved and vacant land. All levies collected by local governments throughout Queensland are forwarded on to the State Government. Premises are levied in accordance

with the approved schedule, as issued annually, by the Queensland Department of Community Safety.

Rate Instalment Arrangements

Pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, Council may approve the entering into of a conditional Rate Instalment Arrangement to pay a rate account by weekly, fortnightly or monthly instalments. As part of each application approval, the agreed 'Method of Payment' will be determined. Unless an 'Ongoing Periodic Authority' is in place, as noted on the signed arrangement paperwork; to qualify for an interest free arrangement, applications must be received on or before the due date of the rates notice. Rate accounts containing arrears shall incur interest.

Response to Rates Notice is a Legal Requirement

It is a legal requirement that every rates notice receives one of the following responses by the due date as printed on the face of the notice:

- a) Payment is made in full; or
- b) An Instalment Arrangement is applied for.

Payment Options

See page 20, or the remittance slip on your current rates notice.

Property Valuation

The land valuation used for general rates is provided by the Department of Natural Resources, Mines & Energy (DNRM&E). Please contact the Department on (07) 4447 9125 if you have a question on the amount of your land valuation. Should the status of the property alter throughout the year (such as a reconfiguration or a revaluation), rate levies may require pro-rata adjustment.

Water Meter Readings

Water Meter Readings will be undertaken annually, with the aim of commencing early June each year.

In accordance with *S102 of the Local Government Regulation 2012*, adoption of this policy confirms "a meter is taken to have been read during the period that starts 2 weeks before, and ends 2 weeks after, the day on which the meter is actually read".

Example—

In calculating utility charges for a period ending on 31 May, if a meter is read on 13 June, the meter reading is taken to be the meter reading on 31 May.

Where water is connected, Water Notices showing usage against allocation between 1 June and 31 May will be issued annually, with the first 1st half yearly rates notice issued each financial year.

The 1st half yearly rates notice will be issued in September/October and will contain excess water levies across the previous 12 month period plus 50% of the allocation water levy for the current financial year.

The 2nd half yearly rates notice will be issued in January/February and will only contain the remaining 50% of the allocation water levy for the current financial year.

Please refer to *Regional Water Charges* for details on the levying of the Two Part Tariff.

Water Meter Reading Averaging

A Meter Replacement program takes place annually. The program is aimed at replacing all water meters when 5,000 kilolitres has passed through them, or when the meter reaches 9 years of age, whichever comes first. This program has resulted in stopped or slowed meters becoming less common.

However, faults do still occur, and when they do it is important that it does not result in lost revenue, or inequities whereby property owners do not pay for the water they use. To avoid this, averaging water usage is required.

In the instance where a water meter is found to have stopped, usage on the meter will be averaged based on daily consumption across the previous three full years.

Excess Water

Excess water charges are applied per water meter connected to a property, on the basis of all water used in excess of the annual allowance applicable to the Utility Rate Group allocated to the property, or under the Two Part Tariff, applicable for usage which exceeds the 1st tier threshold.

Reminder

Be sure to read your meter at least monthly, allowing you to monitor your average usage, and avoid unexpected water charges.

Property owners in Charters Towers can monitor water consumption through the free MiWater website: charters Towers.miwater.co.

General Rate Levies on Mining Categories 16 to 20

General Rating Levies will be adjusted throughout the year on assessments allocated mining rating categories 16 to 20 inclusive, based on the number of workers as reported in the latest version of the DNRME Mine Safety Statistics & Company Report. Credit adjustments are conditional on companies advising Council of reduced staff numbers; and substantiated by providing a copy of the abovementioned Report. Adjustments will be effective from the 'quarter end date' of the substantiating report.

Mine Definition

Land that is the subject of a mining lease (issued pursuant to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*) or other form of tenure that was used, is used, or intended to be used:

- as a mine (or for purposes ancillary or associated with mining such as, for example, washing down, processing, stockpiling, haulage, water storage and rehabilitation); or-

- in conjunction with other land (the subject of a mining lease or other mine tenure) as part of an integrated mining operation.

Integrated mining operation

Land contained in more than one mining lease (issued pursuant to the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*) or other form of tenure which land was used, is used, or intended to be used in an integrated manner for the purposes of mining or purposes ancillary or associated with mining such as, for example, washing down, processing, stockpiling, haulage, water storage and rehabilitation.

Other Working Mine or Quarry

A mine as defined above or quarry with less than 25 workers and/or contractors involved which may be in the development stage, be subject to minor extraction activities including exploration, testing and drilling works, or may be in a care and maintenance situation or subject to rehabilitation.

RATE AND/OR CHARGE ADJUSTMENTS

During a financial year, pro-rata levy adjustments may be required where:

- Change of ownership occurs and/or pensioner status of owner(s) change; or
- The reconfiguration of land parcels occurs and/or new valuations take effect; or
- New or additional services are made available or provided, during the course of the financial year.

CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS

It is the responsibility of property owners to inform Council of changes to their mailing address. Only written advice will be accepted, in which all property owners are required to sign the advice provided to Council. Advice can be accepted via fax, mail or by emailing mail@charters Towers.qld.gov.au or

Council's 'Rates Change of Mailing Address Form' can be printed from Council's website: www.charterstowers.qld.gov.au. Complete, sign and forward to Council.

Important: Please note that address changes are not confirmed as received by Council until in return, you receive a copy of a signed Confirmed Advice. It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that they receive the confirmation form.

QUESTIONING CHARGES ON A RATE ACCOUNT?

Should a property owner consider there is an error in the charges levied on the rate account, contact is required to be made prior to the due date of the rates notice. Such advice **does not extend** the discount period. Should the matter result in a reduction to the levy, full refunds will be processed accordingly.

PAYMENT METHODS

Credit Card

To make a payment by Credit Card, use either Bpoint, or Post Billpay, - see below. Council accepts: American Express, Visa, Mastercard and Diners Club.

Bank Account Transfer

To make a payment from your bank account, use BPay – see below for details.

Mail

To send a payment through the mail use only Cheques or Money Orders.

- Payable to: Charters Towers Regional Council and marked 'Not Negotiable'
- Addressed to: PO Box 189, Charters Towers, Qld, 4820
- On the back of the envelope: Sender's name and address
- If receipt is required: A request is to be attached to the payment.

Counter Payment

To pay your invoice in person, using cash, cheque, credit card or EFTPOS (to your daily limit) visit one of the following:

- Council Reception: Monday – Friday 8.30am – 4.00pm
 - o Administration Centre: 12 Mosman Street, Charters Towers
 - Australia Post Offices
- Payment can be made at any Australia Post Office across the Country.

Payment by Instalment

Payment by Instalment is available. To apply, or reapply, contact Council on (07) 4761 5300.

ELECTRONIC PAYMENT PROVIDERS



Bpoint is an electronic 24 hour credit card payment platform.

Bpoint payments can be made by:

- Telephone – 1300 276 468
- Web – www.charterstowers.qld.gov.au



Post billpay is an electronic 24 hour credit card payment platform. Payments can be made by

- Telephone – 13 18 16
- Web – www.charterstowers.qld.gov.au or www.postbillpay.com.au

Before making a payment, have the following information ready:

- Biller Code
- Reference Number (Printed on the invoice)
- Amount you are paying
- Credit Card details
 - Number
 - Expiry Date
 - Security Number (CVN -Card Verification Number)



Scan & Pay is available with iPhone, iPad or Android devices. Download the Australia Post app, select 'Pay your bill,' scan the barcode and enter your payment details.



BPay is a 24 hour payment system, offered by Council for payments via **Bank Account Transfer** only. Payments can be made using the telephone or internet. To use the BPay method, you will need to be set up by your bank, credit union or building society. Before making a payment, please have your Biller Code, Reference No and the Amount ready. The details are located at the bottom of the invoice you are paying.

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