



Rates

20-21



Need help paying your rates?

COVID-19 has financially impacted many in our community. If you need assistance paying rates you can register on-line at www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au and complete the online hardship assistance form for:

- smaller regular payments, or
- extending the time for payment, interest free

Phone Council on 02 4988 0393 for confidential advice on whether you may be eligible for writing off accrued interest or deferring payment of rates for aged pensioners against the property estate.



Pensioner concessions

Eligible pensioners, usually those who hold a Pensioner concession card, can claim an annual rate rebate of up to \$250. You can apply for a concession online at www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au or over the phone on 02 4988 0393.



What happens if you don't pay your rates?

There is no interest payable on overdue rates and charges until 31 December 2020 under temporary COVID-19 provisions. Daily interest charged at 7% will apply to overdue amounts from 1 January 2021.

If you are under financial hardship from COVID-19 complete the online hardship assistance form on Council's website and we can give you more time to pay without interest charges.

Council issues overdue notices to remind ratepayers if payment is not received. Please contact Council if you need to make a repayment arrangement.



Moving?

Update your postal address by visiting Council's website portstephens.nsw.gov.au. Search "change of address" in the search box and complete the online change of address form.

Help reduce administration costs and win up to \$2000

Direct debit is the most cost effective way to pay Council rates and email delivery is great for the environment. Now more than ever it is important to contain these costs so we offer two promotions to encourage this.

Get rate notices via email

Do your bit for the environment and register to get your rate notices emailed! We'll add you to the draw of all existing email rates recipients, to win \$1000.

1. Go to portstephens.nsw.gov.au
2. Search "change of address" in the search box and complete the online change of address form
3. Choose "Yes" to "Do you want rate and instalment notices emailed to you?" and provide a valid email address - no logins or passwords are needed

Pay by direct debit

Phone 02 4988 0393 to set up direct debit from your savings account (not credit cards). We'll still send you a reminder before each instalment, and you'll go in the draw with all existing direct debit ratepayers, to win \$1000.

Double your chances of winning \$1000

Register to pay your rates by direct debit and register to receive your rates notices via email and go in both \$1000 draws. If you are already on direct debit or email delivery the good news is you are already in one or both draws.

NSW Permit Numbers LTPS/20/43882 and LTPS/20/43834

2020-2021 Rates

Category	Sub-category	Base amount	Rate c in \$
Residential	Williamstown Primary Zone	\$193	0.1373
Residential	Williamstown Secondary Zone	\$289.50	0.206
Residential	Williamstown Broader Zone	\$347.40	0.2471
Residential	Residential	\$386	0.2746
Farmland	Williamstown Primary Zone	\$193	0.1373
Farmland	Williamstown Secondary Zone	\$289.50	0.206
Farmland	Williamstown Broader Zone	\$347.40	0.2471
Farmland	Farmland	\$386	0.2746
Business	n/a	\$1638	0.7625
Mining	n/a	n/a	0.7625
Catchment Contribution		n/a	0.00947

How your rate is calculated

Rates income increased 2.6% this year. Your land category appears on your rate notice. The appropriate rate is applied to your 1 July 2019 base date land value. Council has made sub-categories for residential and farmland properties in the Williamstown Management Area for 2020-2021.

Hunter Catchment Contribution

All properties within a defined area in the western half of the local government area (generally south and west of Salt Ash) are levied a catchment contribution on behalf of Hunter Local Land Services.

Hunter Local Land Services manage the catchments of the Hunter and Williams Rivers through Waterwatch programs; swamp and wetland rehabilitation; programs to reduce sedimentation, salinity, streambank erosion and address loss of vegetation; and flood mitigation works. To find out more visit hunter.lhs.nsw.gov.au or call 02 4930 1030.

Annual waste charges

Charge	Last year	2020-2021
Waste management	\$62	\$91
Waste service	\$428	\$452
Additional waste service (red lid bin)	\$250	\$250
Additional recycling service (yellow lid bin)	\$150	\$150
On-site sewage management	\$125	\$127.50



Waste management charge

Applies to all rateable properties and contributes towards:

- management of waste transfer stations
- rehabilitation and environmental monitoring of old landfill sites



Waste service charge

Applies to all developed residential properties, whether occupied or unoccupied and entitles the ratepayer to:

- weekly collection of waste (240 litre wheelie bin)
- fortnightly collection of recycling (240 litre or 360 litre wheelie bin)
- two annual on-call bulk waste clean up services per financial year



Commercial waste charge

A non domestic waste service charge is applied to developed commercial and business properties, whether occupied or unoccupied and entitles the ratepayer to:

- weekly collection of waste (240 litre wheelie bin)
- fortnightly collection of recycling (240 litre or 360 litre wheelie bin)

Additional waste and/or recycling services are available on request for an additional fee.

240 litre recycling bins can be upgraded to 360 litre upon application and payment of a one-off fee of \$25.

Fees and charges

Credit Card/PayPal fee	up to 1%
Direct debit/Cheque dishonour	\$24.50 (GST exempt)
Property enquiry fee	\$16.40 (GST exempt)
Refund fee	\$25.00 (GST exempt)



Conditions of competition entry

1. The registered business is Port Stephens Council.
2. The promotion will commence on 1 July 2020 and end on 31 August 2020.
3. The draw will be conducted at Port Stephens Council Administration Building 116 Adelaide Street Raymond Terrace at 10.00am on Tuesday 8 September 2020.
4. The prize winner will be selected using an electronic draw.
5. The winner will be notified in writing.
6. There will be no redraw.
7. The winner's name will be published on the Port Stephens Council Website.
8. Promoter: Port Stephens Council, 116 Adelaide Street, Raymond Terrace NSW 2324. Phone 02 4988 0255.

Direct debit promotion

1. Eligibility for inclusion in the Direct Debit Promotion: Port Stephens Council ratepayers who pay the first quarterly instalment of their 2020/2021 rate bill in full by direct debit will have their name automatically placed in the draw. Councillors and employees of Port Stephens Council are not eligible for inclusion in the prize draw. There is no minimum age.
2. There is one prize to the winner of \$1,000.
3. The prize will be direct deposited in to the prize winner's bank account as it appears on Council's records at 31 August 2020.

NSW Permit Number LTPS/20/43834

Rates via email promotion

1. Eligibility for inclusion in the Direct Debit Promotion:
 - Port Stephens Council ratepayers who register by 31 August 2020 to have their rates notices delivered by email will have their name automatically placed in the draw.
 - To register you need to go to the Port Stephens Council website www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au. Search Change of Address in the search box and complete the online Change of Address form. You will need to answer "Yes" to the question "Do you want rate and instalment notices emailed to you?" and provide a valid email address.
 - Councillors and employees of Port Stephens Council are not eligible for inclusion in the prize draw. There is no minimum age.
2. There is one prize to the winner of \$1,000.
3. The prize will be paid in the name of the ratepayer as appears on Council's records at 31 August 2020. If the ratepayer has rates arrears the \$1000 prize will be applied against the arrears in the first instance and the balance, if any, paid to the ratepayer.

NSW Permit Number LTPS/20/43882