

# Rates News

Explaining your rates  
for the 2016/17 financial year

## Changes to Your Rates

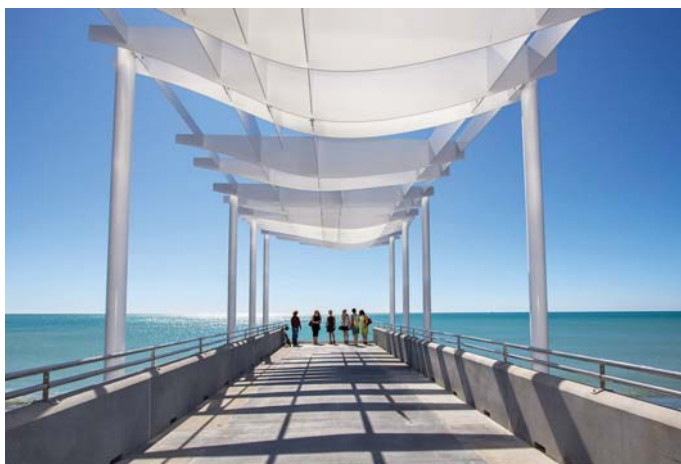
### An increase of 3.6%

Napier City Council recently adopted its 2016/17 Annual Plan with an overall increase in rates revenue of 3.6%.

This 3.6% figure represents the average rates movement across the city. However for most residential and rural properties the increase will be slightly higher while for commercial and industrial properties the increase will be lower.

This is the result of a change in the allocation of general rates between residential, commercial and rural properties called rating differentials. Rating differentials are used to maintain a fair balance between the level of rates charged and the assessed benefits to different categories of property.

2016/17 is the second and final year of phasing in the revised differentials. When combined with Napier City Council's overall 3.6% increase, rates increases for residential and rural properties average between 3.6% and 4.4%, while increases for commercial and industrial properties are averaging around 0.5%.



## Rates Rebate Scheme

The Rates Rebate Scheme assists low income homeowners with meeting the cost of rates for the home in which they were living on 1 July 2016.

For 2016/17, residential ratepayers who earned less than \$24,470 for the year ended 31 March 2016 could be eligible for a rebate of up to \$610. Those earning more might also be eligible, depending on their rates amount and the number of dependants living with them. The scheme allows both Napier City Council and Hawke's Bay Regional Council rates to be included in the rebate calculation.

To check if you qualify, or for more information on eligibility, visit the rates rebate website at:

[www.ratesrebates.govt.nz](http://www.ratesrebates.govt.nz)

or contact the Council on (06) 834-4197.

If you expect to receive a rebate you should still plan on paying your first instalment due in August. The rebate will be credited against your next instalment.

**You can apply for a rebate now. The closing date for applications is 30 June 2017.**

## How to Pay Your Rates

### EASY PAY - Direct Debit

You can pay your rates either weekly or fortnightly on a Thursday, monthly on the 20th, or quarterly on the instalment date.

Contact us for an EASY PAY form or download a copy from Napier City Council's website.

**Remember! If you shift house you must set up a new direct debit arrangement for your new property.**

### Mail us a Cheque

Use the reply paid envelope and **post in time to be received by the due date to:**

**Napier City Council  
Private Bag 6010  
Napier 4142**

### Automatic Payment

If paying by automatic payment you will need to ensure that payments are sufficient to clear your account by the due date for each instalment.

### Phone or Internet Banking

You will need to set up the bank account and payment details with your bank and provide the reference details as set out in the adjacent box headed "Bank Account".

### Pay in Person

Pay by cash, cheque or EFTPOS at the Council Civic Building, Hastings Street, between 8am and 5pm.

Please bring your rates invoice with you.

## Key Dates

Instalment	Due Date
1st Instalment	24 Aug 2016
2nd Instalment	23 Nov 2016
3rd Instalment	22 Feb 2017
4th Instalment	24 May 2017

A 10% charge is added if your rates instalment is not paid by the due date.

An additional 10% charge is added to any outstanding rates from previous years which remain unpaid after the due dates for instalments one and three.

## Problems With Payments

If you are unable to pay your rates on the due date, please contact us for advice. It is better to ask for help than pay late-payment penalties.

For any queries or further information, contact:

Rates Section, Napier City Council  
Hastings Street, Napier 4110  
Private Bag 6010, Napier 4142  
Phone Rates Direct Line:  
(06) 834 4197

## Bank Account

If you pay your rates using either:

- **Automatic payment**
- **Phone bill pay**
- **Internet banking or**
- **Direct credit**

please ensure you are using Napier City Council's correct bank account, Westpac: **03 0698 0289001 00**

Also, please ensure that the details for your payments show as follows:

Particulars: RATES

Code: Your valuation reference no. (No dashes or spaces)

Reference: Surname (First surname appearing on the rates invoice)

**Remember; if you shift house, you must change your valuation reference no. when making your payment.**



## Get your Rates by Email and give your Letterbox a Holiday!

Would you prefer to receive your rates invoice via email?

If so, complete the online form in the rates section of Council's website keyword: #ratesbyemail or email us at:

**rates@napier.govt.nz**

Applications for emailing rate invoices must be authorised by one of the current property owners.

Check your annual rates online: **www.napier.govt.nz**