

## BUDGET 2020-21

# I AM A RESIDENT. WHAT SUPPORT CAN I ACCESS?

The 2020-21 Budget includes \$2.2 million in rates relief, ongoing delivery of more than 100 vital community services, \$3 million to boost our grants and community support packages and a revised Financial Hardship Policy. The budget also includes a \$67.566 million Capital Works Program to strengthen our local economy, support jobs and provide infrastructure for our community.

### Community consultation

Hobsons Bay City Council's Annual Budget 2020-21 has been developed and released in unprecedented times but with the community and their needs at its centre. Council listened and responded to feedback and has reshaped the Annual Budget 2020-21 to provide targeted support for Hobsons Bay community and businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council will continue to consult with the community and help our residents, ratepayers, local businesses and industry with services and programs to recover and get through the pandemic.

### Rates adjustment

To keep delivering essential services and projects, the budget applies a 2 per cent rate increase, in line with the state government's Fair Go Rates System. While this would normally generate additional revenue of approximately \$2 million, we are implementing a rate adjustment to redirect approximately \$2.2 million in funds back to ratepayers. This means rates notices for 2020-21, when compared to the previous year will, on average, decrease by 0.17 per cent for residential properties and by 0.31 per cent for vacant residential properties.

The rates adjustments are automatically included in your rates notice.

Rates are calculated on property valuations that are conducted on 1 January each year. If you do not agree with your valuation, you may lodge an objection on 1300 179 944 or at [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/rates](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/rates)

### Community Support Package 3

In addition to the \$2.2 million rates adjustment mentioned above, the third Community Support Package also invests almost \$3 million into the community, including \$2 million towards business and economic recovery and \$943,000 for the community. Residents will have access to:

- COVID-19 Recovery Grants Program new funding of \$500,000 has been added to Council's grants programs this financial year to enable flexible and responsive support to the community.
- programs to support local connections and celebration
- incentives to use Council venues including the Williamstown Town Hall and Altona Theatre
- 'loan to own' iPads program at the libraries



### Financial hardship

If you are experiencing financial hardship, you can apply for financial assistance. Council's Financial Hardship Policy has been refreshed with various options available from rate deferral through to waivers depending on the financial circumstances. Apply online at [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/financialassistance](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/financialassistance) or call Council on 1300 179 944.

Council is also providing additional support for pensioners, with a further \$25 automatically added to the existing pensioner rebates.

Residents wanting assistance in their first language can call Council's Language Line on 9932 1212 and ask to speak with an interpreter.



**HOBSONS BAY  
LANGUAGE LINE**

**9932 1212**

INTERPRETER SERVICE FOR ALL LANGUAGES  
Your Council in your language

**HOBSONS  
BAY CITY  
COUNCIL**



# DID YOU KNOW COUNCIL DELIVERS MORE THAN 100 SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY?

If you live in Hobsons Bay, through Council's support you can . . .

## Children/families



- Access Maternal Child Health services, including support for new parents and early years services
- Receive immunisations
- Find playgroups, kinders and schools in the area
- Access youth counselling services, events and programs for young people and youth leadership opportunities

## Aged and disability services

- Access Aged and Disability services, including meals on wheels, in-home support and planned activity groups.

## Health and Wellbeing



- Discover and use local skating and BMX tracks
- Access local pools and recreation centres, foreshore, beaches and boating facilities
- Join a walking or cycling group and explore the 40km network of coastal and inland shared trails
- Participate in health and wellbeing programs
- Keep active at Council's community centres
- Enjoy the fitness stations across the municipality
- Access crisis intervention support through Council-funded Laverton Community Integrated Services

## Libraries



- Join a library, watch movies online, order books, borrow iPads
- Hire a library meeting room/space
- Access school holiday programs, author events, education sessions and workshops

## Arts, culture and our city



- Find out about things to do through Experience Hobsons Bay
- Discover local businesses through a business directory
- Engage in a dynamic arts program, from Woods Street Arts Space in Laverton to The Substation in Newport
- Hire one of our venues, including the Williamstown Town Hall
- Check out a local event or festival supported by Council, many of which are being delivered online during COVID-19.
- Apply for community grants
- Explore walking trails delighting in the natural environment
- Experience public art within Hobsons Bay
- Access programs and services at Council-supported community centres and neighbourhood houses around the city

## Diversity



- Join Hobsons Bay Interfaith network
- Celebrate the cultural and linguistic diversity of Hobsons Bay
- Access information about local Aboriginal history
- Find services in my language through translations or interpreters
- Participate in multicultural programs and projects
- Participate in Council's inclusive LGBTIQ+ events and programs promoting equal rights and celebrating diversity

## Environment



- Access plant and gardening tips, local wildlife and indigenous planting advice, education and events
- Join a community environment group and play a role in the care and management of local biodiversity, open space and ecosystems
- Learn about energy use through EnviroCentre

And there are many more! Contact Council on 1300 179 944, email [customerservice@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:customerservice@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au) or Live Chat with a Customer Service officer via [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

