

CHANGES EXPLAINED: YOUR 2023-24 RATES

Your rates help fund important everyday services, and the projects and initiatives that you have told us are important. The beginning of each new financial year means you may see changes to your annual rates and other charges on your rate notice.

Here is a snapshot of what has changed this year:

Annual property rates

The total amount of rates we collect will increase by 3.9%, the rate peg set by IPART (Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal). Individual properties may be impacted by the gradual harmonisation process in progress, so you may experience a higher, lower, or negligible change in amount payable versus last year.

Annual waste management charges +4% (approx.)

Annual water charges +5%

Water usage charges +1.4% to +5%

Annual sewer access charge - no change

Stormwater management charge - no change

On-site sewerage management charge - no change

The NSW Valuer General has recently issued land valuation notices to property-owners.

If your land valuation has increased, it doesn't mean your rates will automatically increase.

The impact depends on how your valuation changed compared with the average valuation across the rating category relevant to your land.

It's also important to remember the total amount of rates we can collect can't exceed the rate peg.

You can learn more about how we calculate rates and other fees and charges on our website.

midcoast.nsw.gov.au

STAY UPDATED SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY NEWS WRAP

Keep on top of the latest projects, improvement works, events, and other initiatives happening across the MidCoast by registering for our weekly email newsletter.

News Wrap gives you a 5-minute snapshot of the things you need to know. It's also a great way to find out about opportunities for you to have your say on projects that matter to you.



Scan the QR code or visit our website and subscribe today.

You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



midcoast.nsw.gov.au

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO YOUR RATE NOTICE

Your annual rate notice now includes your annual water and sewer charges.

More information inside.

July 2023

IMPORTANT YOUR ANNUAL RATE NOTICE HAS CHANGED

You may have noticed that your annual rate notice now includes your annual water and sewer charges.

This change came into effect on 1 July 2023 and is part of our commitment to improving efficiencies in the way we do business with you.

While this won't change the total amount you pay for your services, it may affect when your payments are due and any existing payment arrangements you have in place.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- You can continue to pay your rates – which includes your annual water and sewer charges – by instalments on a quarterly basis, allowing you to spread the total amount over 12 months.
- Your water usage charges will be itemised on your quarterly water account, making it easier to monitor and manage the amount of water you use.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

If you currently have scheduled payment arrangements in place to pay your rate notice and quarterly water account using:

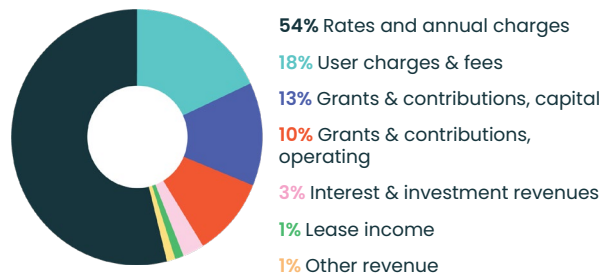
- BPAY** – you may need to adjust the amounts you have programmed by contacting your bank.
- Centrepay** – you may need to adjust the amounts being deducted by lodging a new Centrepay Deduction Authority with us, or directly with Centrelink.
- Direct debit** – you may need to adjust the amounts being deducted by calling us, or by completing a new Direct Debit Agreement with us.

For assistance in determining new payment arrangements or to discuss options available to support you through this change, call us on 7955 7777.

INCOMING FUNDS & WHERE THEY ARE SPENT

Every year we prepare a detailed budget that outlines how our funding resources will be allocated to deliver against the projects and initiatives in our annual Operational Plan. Below is a snapshot of our income sources and where we will spend our funds in 2023–24.

INCOME



EXPENDITURE

Transport network	24.71%
Water supply and treatment	20.15%
Sewer services	13.48%
Waste services	9.97%
Information and communications technology	4.18%
Procurement, fleet and stores	3.76%
Community assets	3.34%
Open spaces and recreation	1.97%
Natural systems	1.66%
Finance service	1.65%
Legal and property	1.58%
Disability services	1.54%
Governance	1.52%
Emergency management	1.16%
Libraries	1.01%
Other services (each representing <1% of total)*	8.32%
Total	100%

* See 2023–24 Operational Plan for a full breakdown by service.

CURRENTLY OPEN FOR FEEDBACK



With your input over the past 18 months, we've drafted an Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy, which sets out a sustainable pathway for our water and sewer services over the next 30 years.

It will become our blueprint for the future, underpinned by two key focus areas:

Water and sewer

Continued delivery of existing services, with an increased focus on water conservation and demand management.

Building resilience

Ensuring continuity of water supply by using an adaptive approach to build resilience into our water sources.

From additional storage dams, to investigating purified recycled water, and everything in between, we're asking everyone to review this important draft plan and let us know what you think.

Hurry, the feedback period closes on 6 August 2023.



Find out more about *Our Water Our Future*
haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au