

# Draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2025-2029 Questionnaire

We want to hear your thoughts on our draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2025-2029. Your feedback will help us finalise the plan before it goes to Council for adoption in June 2025.

## Part 1: Changes to the Plan

This section asks for your feedback on the key changes proposed in the draft Revenue and Rating Plan — including how property categories are grouped, rate fairness, and payment options. Your responses will help us understand if the changes are clear and aligned with community expectations.

01. Do you think combining the Commercial, Industrial and Recreational 2 categories into a single 'Business' classification makes the rating system easier to understand? **Required**

Select one answer only
<input type="radio"/> Yes
<input type="radio"/> No
<input type="radio"/> Unsure

02. Do you feel the proposed differential rate ratios (the way rates are divided between property types) are fair and equitable? **Required**

Residential (including Rural Residential) - 100% Business (Commercial, Industrial etc) - 250% Farm - 72%

Select one answer only
<input type="radio"/> Yes
<input type="radio"/> No

03. Why is it that you don't think that the current proposed rate distribution in the Revenue and Rating Plan is fair and equitable?

### Skip this question if

- your answer to question Do you feel the proposed differential rate ratios (the way rates are divided between property types) are fair and equitable? is not "No"

04. Council currently provides a rates rebate to single pensioner households. Should Council consider offering rebates for other ratepayers? (i.e. dual household pensioners, low income health care card holders) **Required**

Select one answer only
<input type="radio"/> Yes
<input type="radio"/> No

05. Which group of ratepayers do you think should be provided with additional rebate support by Council?

**Skip this question if**

- your answer to question Council currently provides a rates rebate to single pensioner households. Should Council consider offering rebates for other ratepayers? (i.e. dual household pensioners, low income health care card holders) is not "Yes"

06. Council currently offers several payment options — by instalments, lump sum, or monthly direct debit. Are there any other payment options you think Council should offer? **Required**

- Instalments (30 Sept, 30 Nov, 28 Feb and 31 May - Lump Sum payment on or before 15 February, - Direct Debit over 10 months from Sept to June.

Select one answer only
<input type="radio"/> Yes
<input type="radio"/> No

07. What other payment options would you like Council to consider?

**Skip this question if**

- your answer to question Council currently offers several payment options — by instalments, lump sum, or monthly direct debit. Are there any other payment options you think Council should offer? is not "Yes"

## Part 2: Your Overall Thoughts on the Plan

Now that you've reviewed the key changes, we'd like to understand your overall impression of the draft Revenue and Rating Plan. Your comments will help us refine the plan before it goes to Council for adoption.

08. Overall, how satisfied are you with the draft Revenue and Rating Plan?

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09. Do you have any other comments or feedback you'd like to share about the draft plan?

## About You

We want to hear from the wide and diverse range of people who make up Ballarat and the surrounding region. The City of Ballarat's Inclusion Framework guides us in listening to all voices — especially those who may not always be heard — so that the different needs and perspectives in our community can be understood and represented. Your answers to the following questions help us ensure that everyone has an opportunity to participate. Your responses are anonymous, secure, and confidential. Each question includes a "Prefer not to say" option.

10. Which of the following best describes your gender? **Required**

Select one answer only
<input type="radio"/> Man
<input type="radio"/> Woman
<input type="radio"/> Non-binary
<input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say

<input type="radio"/> Self-describe <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 25px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>
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11. Please select your age group **Required**

Select one answer only
<input type="radio"/> Under 12
<input type="radio"/> 12 to 25
<input type="radio"/> 26 to 35
<input type="radio"/> 36 to 45
<input type="radio"/> 45 to 55
<input type="radio"/> 56 to 65
<input type="radio"/> 66 to 75
<input type="radio"/> 76 to 85
<input type="radio"/> 86+
<input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say

12. Do any of the following apply to you?

Select all that apply
<input type="checkbox"/> I identify as LGBTQIA+
<input type="checkbox"/> I am Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a person with disability
<input type="checkbox"/> I am from a culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) background
<input type="checkbox"/> I have a low income (e.g. I earn less than \$650 per week, receive a government pension or allowance, or hold a Health Care Card)
<input type="checkbox"/> None of the above
<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say