



## **Draft Annual Budget 2018/19**

### **Overview**

The Kingborough Council has approved the release of its draft Budget for the 2018/19 financial year and is now seeking feedback from the Kingborough community.

Council has a number of challenges in the next financial year including the loss of \$600,000 from TasWater dividends, the rising costs of waste management and the \$135,000 required to fund the local council elections. Maintenance costs for new subdivisions, parks and playgrounds are also increasing, along with the introduction of running costs for the new Community Hub on Kingston Park.

The 2018/19 draft Budget proposes an underlying deficit of \$598,000, which means an underlying surplus will be achieved by 2020/21, extending the surplus target of the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) by 12 months.

The LTFP covers a 10-year planning horizon from 2015/16 to 2024/25, and is an important part of Council's overall financial management framework. It aims to provide consistency in improving Council's overall financial sustainability into the future.

Rates will increase by 4 per cent to maintain current service levels, ensuring there are sufficient cash reserves to fund the required capital works program. Other fees and charges (such as dog registrations, planning fees etc.) will increase by 2.5 per cent. Waste management charges will also increase by 4% plus an additional \$40 per service to fund increased waste collection costs.

The total capital works budget for 2018/19 is \$8.9 million, with half being dedicated to roads and bridge works. Council's asset management system prioritises which roads are required to be included within the years' program. A further \$5.75 million will be spend on the development of Kingston Park (the former Kingston High School site).

Business cases are presented to the Infrastructure Management Group for other projects, such as playgrounds, facility upgrades and street furniture. These are rated and prioritised, along with other influencing factors such as external grants and funding opportunities. Council has no surplus funding for extra projects to be considered outside of this assessment process for 2018/19.

Kingborough Council has the lowest rates per rateable property in the Urban Medium Council category. The proposed increase will maintain Kingborough as charging the lowest rates, per comparable sized council.

## **Supporting Documents**

The following documents are attached to this overview:

- Analysis of Operating Estimates for the 2018/19 Financial year, including the Capital Works Budget
- Draft Annual Plan - Key Corporate Functions and Strategic Actions 2018/19
- Draft Budget for the Year Ending 30 June 2019

## **Submissions**

Submissions on the draft Budget can be made in writing until **5pm on Tuesday 22 May 2018** by email to: [kc@kingborough.tas.gov.au](mailto:kc@kingborough.tas.gov.au) or addressed to the General Manager, Kingborough Council, 15 Channel Highway, Kingston, 7050.