Media Release

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Council rate pegs set for 2026-27

The NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal has set council rate pegs for the 2026-27 financial year.

Tribunal Chair Carmel Donnelly said IPART sets a separate rate peg for each of the State's 128 local government areas and core rate pegs range from 2.5% to 4.2%.

"The rate peg allows councils to increase income from rates to keep pace with increased costs, while limiting the increase to what is necessary to maintain services," Ms Donnelly said. "This helps councils keep providing services that ratepayers rely on.

"The rate peg reflects changes in council operating costs. The Tribunal has also included an adjustment to smooth the impact of local government election costs for ratepayers." she said.

"83 councils will also receive an additional population growth factor to reflect their increasing population, so council's total rates income per capita keeps pace with population growth."

The rate peg only applies to a council's 'general income', which is mostly from rates and makes up around a third of councils' total income on average. Councils receive revenue from multiple sources other than rates, including grants and user fees and charges.

It is now up to each council to decide whether rates will rise. The rate peg doesn't automatically change the rates notice people receive from their council. Each elected council will decide whether to increase rates, which categories of rates to change, and what concessions apply to people in need of financial assistance.

"We encourage any ratepayers facing difficulty paying their rates bill to get in touch with their council for information on concessions and other assistance options."

An information paper, which includes the rate peg for each council, is available from IPART's website.

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Table 1 Rate pegs for all councils for 2026-27

Council	Core rate peg	Population factor	Final rate peg
Albury	3.0%	0.6%	3.6%
Armidale Regional	3.2%	0.0%	3.2%
Ballina	2.9%	0.5%	3.4%
Balranald	3.8%	0.8%	4.6%
Bathurst Regional	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Bayside	2.9%	1.0%	3.9%
Bega Valley	3.0%	0.5%	3.5%
Bellingen	3.8%	0.0%	3.8%
Berrigan	2.8%	0.0%	2.8%
Blacktown	3.0%	2.4%	5.4%
Bland	3.6%	0.0%	3.6%
Blayney	3.2%	1.5%	4.7%
Blue Mountains	3.2%	0.5%	3.7%
Bogan	3.4%	0.0%	3.4%
Bourke	4.1%	0.0%	4.1%
Brewarrina	3.6%	0.0%	3.6%
Broken Hill	3.2%	0.0%	3.2%
Burwood	2.9%	1.2%	4.1%
Byron	3.0%	1.6%	4.6%
Cabonne	3.3%	0.1%	3.4%
Camden	2.5%	2.1%	4.6%
Campbelltown	3.1%	0.6%	3.7%
Canada Bay	3.4%	0.8%	4.2%
Canterbury-Bankstown	3.0%	1.1%	4.1%
Carrathool	3.7%	0.0%	3.7%
Central Coast	3.0%	0.2%	3.2%
Central Darling	4.2%	0.6%	4.8%
Cessnock	3.0%	0.8%	3.8%
Clarence Valley	3.1%	1.2%	4.3%
Cobar	3.7%	0.0%	3.7%
Coffs Harbour	3.1%	0.6%	3.7%
Coolamon	3.5%	1.4%	4.9%
Coonamble	3.2%	0.3%	3.5%
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional	3.2%	0.0%	3.2%
Cowra	3.8%	0.0%	3.8%

Council	Core rate peg	Population factor	Final rate peg
Cumberland	2.8%	1.6%	4.4%
Dubbo Regional	3.0%	0.0%	3.0%
Dungog	3.3%	0.7%	4.0%
Edward River	3.0%	0.0%	3.0%
Eurobodalla	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Fairfield	3.0%	1.0%	4.0%
Federation	3.1%	1.0%	4.1%
Forbes	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Georges River	3.0%	1.8%	4.8%
Gilgandra	3.5%	0.0%	3.5%
Glen Innes Severn	3.4%	0.2%	3.6%
Goulburn Mulwaree	3.1%	1.5%	4.6%
Greater Hume	3.3%	0.8%	4.1%
Griffith	2.9%	0.3%	3.2%
Gunnedah	2.8%	0.9%	3.7%
Gwydir	3.4%	0.0%	3.4%
Hawkesbury	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Hay	3.7%	1.1%	4.8%
Hilltops	3.2%	0.0%	3.2%
Hornsby	3.3%	0.3%	3.6%
Hunters Hill	2.7%	0.2%	2.9%
Inner West	3.0%	1.4%	4.4%
Inverell	3.2%	0.0%	3.2%
Junee	3.0%	0.8%	3.8%
Kempsey	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Kiama	3.1%	0.1%	3.2%
Ku-ring-gai	3.3%	1.1%	4.4%
Kyogle	3.2%	1.2%	4.4%
Lachlan	3.4%	0.0%	3.4%
Lake Macquarie	3.2%	0.0%	3.2%
Lane Cove	3.0%	1.7%	4.7%
Leeton	2.7%	0.0%	2.7%
Lismore	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Lithgow	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Liverpool	3.0%	1.1%	4.1%
Liverpool Plains	3.5%	0.1%	3.6%
Lockhart	3.5%	2.2%	5.7%

Council	Core rate peg	Population factor	Final rate peg
Maitland	3.1%	0.1%	3.2%
Mid-Coast	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Mid-Western Regional	3.2%	0.4%	3.6%
Moree Plains	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Mosman	3.5%	0.6%	4.1%
Murray River	3.2%	0.0%	3.2%
Murrumbidgee	3.5%	1.4%	4.9%
Muswellbrook	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Nambucca	3.2%	0.3%	3.5%
Narrabri	3.1%	0.3%	3.4%
Narrandera	3.3%	0.0%	3.3%
Narromine	3.4%	0.0%	3.4%
Newcastle	3.0%	1.2%	4.2%
North Sydney	3.0%	1.0%	4.0%
Northern Beaches	3.1%	1.0%	4.1%
Oberon	3.2%	0.1%	3.3%
Orange	3.0%	0.0%	3.0%
Parkes	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Parramatta	3.0%	1.8%	4.8%
Penrith	3.0%	0.7%	3.7%
Port Macquarie-Hastings	2.9%	0.5%	3.4%
Port Stephens	3.0%	1.1%	4.1%
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Randwick	3.1%	1.9%	5.0%
Richmond Valley	3.1%	0.6%	3.7%
Ryde	3.1%	2.0%	5.1%
Shellharbour	3.1%	1.2%	4.3%
Shoalhaven	3.0%	0.1%	3.1%
Singleton	3.2%	1.0%	4.2%
Snowy Monaro Regional	3.9%	0.3%	4.2%
Snowy Valleys	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Strathfield	3.3%	0.0%	3.3%
Sutherland	3.1%	1.1%	4.2%
Sydney	2.9%	2.7%	5.6%
Tamworth Regional	3.2%	0.0%	3.2%
Temora	3.4%	0.0%	3.4%
Tenterfield	3.5%	1.6%	5.1%

Council	Core rate peg	Population factor	Final rate peg
The Hills	3.0%	1.7%	4.7%
Tweed	2.9%	0.2%	3.1%
Upper Hunter	3.4%	0.1%	3.5%
Upper Lachlan	3.5%	1.4%	4.9%
Uralla	3.0%	0.7%	3.7%
Wagga Wagga	3.1%	0.1%	3.2%
Walcha	3.4%	0.7%	4.1%
Walgett	3.3%	0.0%	3.3%
Warren	3.2%	0.4%	3.6%
Warrumbungle	3.8%	0.1%	3.9%
Waverley	3.2%	2.0%	5.2%
Weddin	4.2%	0.0%	4.2%
Wentworth	3.2%	0.0%	3.2%
Willoughby	3.0%	2.2%	5.2%
Wingecarribee	3.0%	0.3%	3.3%
Wollondilly	3.0%	1.6%	4.6%
Wollongong	3.1%	0.8%	3.9%
Woollahra	3.6%	0.9%	4.5%
Yass Valley	3.4%	0.0%	3.4%

Note: The final rate peg is the core rate peg including the population factor adjustment. Our methodology does not reduce council income when population falls. This is because in an area of falling population a council still needs to maintain its infrastructure and provide services, so its costs may not decline correspondingly.