

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget 2020-21

### Council services

23 June 2020

Alexandrina Council draft Annual Business Plan and Budget 2020-21 is open for community consultation, from Tuesday 16 June to 6 July 2020.

The draft plan reflects our commitment to help the Alexandrina region rebuild and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. In response to the financial pressure we know is being felt within our community, the proposed average general rate increase is 1.2% for 2020-21.

The draft plan reflects Council's commitment to maintaining and providing services and facilities that benefit our residents, ratepayers, visitors and natural environment.

Council is committed to maximising ratepayer return through the delivery of cost effective and responsive services, as such the proposed Plan includes service level adjustments of 0.3% with indicative financial impact of \$85,000 savings per annum. This amount comprised of the following potential service level adjustments:

- A review of library opening hours and models of service delivery to balance community needs and demands in an efficient way – anticipated savings of \$40,000 per annum, which may lead to a variation in opening hours
- A review of catering budgets associated with meetings and events – anticipated savings of \$15,000 per annum
- A review of public conveniences with the potential closure of least used facilities – anticipated annual savings of \$10,000 per annum
- A reduction in Council's Community Donation Program of \$9,000 per annum, noting \$30,000 per annum will remain in this program
- A 50% reduction in Council's contribution to the Goolwa Rotary Art Prize – anticipated savings of \$5,000 per annum
- A small reduction to Council's Public Art Budget of \$6,000 per annum, noting \$20,000 per annum will remain for public art.

Council welcomes feedback from our community and invites residents and ratepayers to view the draft Annual Business Plan and Budget 2020-21, which is on display at Council offices and libraries; and can also be viewed on Council's website at [www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au](http://www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au)

Feedback is encouraged through Council's My Say site <http://mysay.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/ABP2020-21>