

Outstanding Debt

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 025

1. POLICY OBJECTIVE

To confirm the manner in which Council will recover outstanding debt.

2. SCOPE

This Policy applies to ratepayers and other clients who have an outstanding debt with Council and sets out the steps that Council will take to recover these debts.

3. REFERENCES

Local Government Act 1989 and Local Government Act 2020

4. POLICY

4.1 Rates and Charges

In the instance rates and charges remain outstanding following the final date for payment Council will issue a Final Notice. This will apply to ratepayers on either full payment or installment options. If the assessment remains unpaid after 14 days of the final notice being issued, or a suitable payment arrangements have not been made within that timeframe, Council will commence legal action via Council's Collection Agency to assist with recovery of the amount owing.

Penalty interest is to be charged on overdue amounts in accordance with Section 172(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

4.2 Private Works/Hire and General Debtors (Including childcare, leases, etc.)

Council will issue invoices for private works/hire and general debtors. Where these accounts are unpaid after 60 days, Council will commence legal action to assist with recovery of the amount owing. In relation to outstanding children services fees a final notice will be issued prior to proceeding to legal action to assist with the debt recovery.

Interest may be charged on amounts unpaid for in excess of 60 days in accordance with Section 120 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

5. POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed within twelve months after a general election of the Council.

At the time of review, this policy was compliant with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

Members of the public may inspect all Council policies at Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna Offices, or online at www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au

Any enquiries in relation to this policy should be directed to the Director Corporate Services on (03) 5450 9333.

Records – 3.000518

Reviewed:

19/03/2025

To be reviewed by:

2029