

# Fees and Charges Policy



## POLICY STATEMENT:

Council will adopt a Fees and Charges Schedule on an annual basis separated between Statutory and User Charges. Where Council's Fees and Charges are not of a statutory nature, Council will apply the principle of user pays and where possible recover the full cost of operating or providing the service or goods. Where it can be demonstrated that members of the community are unable to meet the full cost, concessions may apply.

## DEFINITIONS:

**Statutory Charges** - fees from regulatory services. They are associated with the granting of a permit/license or the regulation of an activity

**User Fees/Charges** - revenues from the sale of goods and services or rent of property facilities. They are discretionary charges for which the payer receives a direct benefit.

## PRINCIPLES:

The Fees and Charges Schedule details the user charges to be set by Council and the current statutory charges set by the State Government in regulations.

User Charges set by Council includes:

- Swimming Pool Fees
- Land Clearing Fees
- Library Service Fees
- Halls/Community Centre Hire Fees
- Recreational Fees

Statutory Charges set by State Government in regulations includes:

- Animal Registration Fees
- Parking Infringements
- By Laws
- Development Assessment Fees

The statutory fees and charges listed may be amended at any time during the financial year. The Fees and Charges Schedule will be updated as statutory charges are amended.

Concessions can be applied for by members of the community in relation to User Charges. These applications are required to be in writing on the basis that it can be demonstrated that due to financial hardship they are unable to meet the full cost. Council will consider applications for concessions on a case by case basis.

The relevant work areas and community groups have been consulted in relation to the proposed fees and charges and the following factors have been examined when determining the proposed fees:

- the cost of providing the service, inclusive of overhead costs
- the importance of the service to the community
- market comparison of fees and pricing structures with other enterprises who offer a similar service
- the level of service/facility provided by the City of Marion
- increase in statutory charges set by regulation