



Shire of  
**Perenjori**  
Embrace Opportunity

Shire of Perenjori – Special Meeting of Council

# MINUTES

Thursday 22 May 2025



## NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Dear Council Member

Pursuant to *Section 5.25(1)(g) of the Local Government Act 1995* and *Regulation 12(3) of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, Public Notice is hereby given that:

**A Special Meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 22 May 2025 at 4.30 pm in the Shire of Perenjori Council Chambers, 56 Fowler Street Perenjori.**

The purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Differential Rates – Consideration of Submissions
2. Differential Rates – Ministerial Submission

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Anderson', is positioned above the printed name.

**Paul Anderson**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

15 May 2025

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## Council Roles

### **Advocacy:**

When Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government /body /agency.

### **Executive/Strategic:**

The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council e.g. Adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.

### **Legislative:**

Includes adopting local laws, town planning schemes and policies.

### **Review:**

When Council reviews decisions made by Officers.

### **Quasi-Judicial:**

When Council determines an application/matter that directly affects a person's rights and interests. The Judicial character arises from the obligations to abide by the principles of natural justice.

Examples of Quasi-Judicial authority include town planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/licences (e.g.: under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal.

## Disclaimer

"Any statement, comment or decision made at a Council or Committee meeting regarding any application for an approval, consent or licence, including a resolution of approval, is not effective as an approval of any application and must not be relied upon as such.

Any person or entity that has an application before the Shire must obtain, and should only rely on, written notice of the Shire's decision and any conditions attaching to the decision and cannot treat as an approval anything said or done at a Council or Committee meeting.

Any advice provided by an employee of the Shire on the operation of a written law, or the performance of a function by the Shire, is provided in the capacity of an employee, and to the best of that person's knowledge and ability. It does not constitute, and should not be relied upon, as a legal advice or representation by the Shire. Any advice on a matter of law, or anything sought to be relied upon as a representation by the Shire should be sought in writing and should make clear the purpose of the request."

## Shire of Perenjori

Minutes for the Shire of Perenjori Special Meeting of Council held on Thursday 22 May 2025, at the Shire of Perenjori Council Chambers, 56 Fowler Street, Perenjori WA 6620.

### 1. Declaration of Opening/Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 4.30 pm and welcomed those in attendance.

#### Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians: -

As per the Shire of Perenjori Policy (Nº 1021) we wish to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land upon which the Shire of Perenjori is situated and to demonstrate respect for the original custodians.

***The Shire of Perenjori would like to respectfully acknowledge the past and present custodians of the land on which we are meeting, the Badimia people. It is a privilege to be standing on Badimia country.***

### 2. Opening Prayer/Acknowledgement of Pioneers:

The Shire President read the opening prayer.

#### Acknowledgement of Pioneers: -

***The Shire of Perenjori acknowledges the pioneers who settled this country, developed the land and turned it into the productive country that we know today.***

### 3. Disclaimer Reading:

As printed.

### 4. Record of Attendance/Apologies/Leave of Absence:

#### 4.1 ATTENDANCE:

Members:	Cr Jude Sutherland (President) Cr Les Hepworth (Deputy President) Cr Daniel Bradford Cr Colin Bryant Cr Andrew Fraser Cr Brian Campbell Cr Dael Sparkman
Staff:	Paul Anderson (Chief Executive Officer) Nola Comerford (Manager Corporate Community Services) Marty Noordhof (Manager of Infrastructure) Ally Bryant (Finance Manager)
Distinguished Visitors:	Nil
Members of The Public:	Nil
Leave of Absence:	Nil
Apologies:	Nil

**5. Public Question Time:**

**5.1 RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE:**

Nil

**5.2 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE:**

Nil

**6. Declaration of Interest:**

Nil

## 7. Reports:

### 7.1 DIFFERENTIAL RATES – CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

Applicant:	Shire of Perenjori
File:	ADM 0793
Report Date:	22 May 2025
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority
Author:	Ally Bryant – Finance Manager
Responsible Officer:	Paul Anderson – Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	<a href="#">7.1.1 - Submission - Terrain Minerals</a> <a href="#">7.1.2 - Submission - Association of Mining and Exploration Companies</a>

#### Summary

The purpose of this report is to allow council to consider the submissions received in response to the public notice given on 1 May 2025 inviting comment on Council's intent to impose differential rates and minimum payments, as part of the annual budget process.

#### Background

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held in April 2025, council resolved to advertise an increase of 4% in the yield from rates while maintaining the strategy of differential rating as in past years. This approach has seen a 4% yield from all rates category's whilst taking into consideration the significant increase in rural valuations.

#### Statutory Environment

Local Government Act (1995) and associated regulations.

#### **6.33. Differential general rates**

- (1) A local government may impose differential general rates according to any, or a combination, of the following characteristics:
  - (a) the purpose for which the land is zoned, whether or not under a local planning scheme or improvement scheme in force under the *Planning and Development Act 2005*; or
  - (b) a purpose for which the land is held or used as determined by the local government; or
  - (c) whether or not the land is vacant land; or
  - (d) any other characteristic or combination of characteristics prescribed.
- (2) Regulations may:
  - (a) specify the characteristics under subsection (1) which a local government is to use; or
  - (b) limit the characteristics under subsection (1) which a local government is permitted to use.
- (3) In imposing a differential general rate, a local government is not to, without the approval of the Minister, impose a differential general rate which is more than twice the lowest differential general rate imposed by it.

#### **6.36. Local government to give notice of certain rates**

- (1) Before imposing any differential general rates or a minimum payment applying to a differential rate category under section 6.35(6)(c) a local government is to give local public notice of its intention to do so.
- (2) A local government is required to ensure that a notice referred to in subsection (1) is published in sufficient time to allow compliance with the requirements specified in this section and section 6.2(1). (*Budget adoption by 31<sup>st</sup> August*)
- (3) A notice referred to in subsection (1) —

- (a) may be published within the period of 2 months preceding the commencement of the financial year to which the proposed rates are to apply on the basis of the local government's estimate of the budget deficiency; and
  - (b) is to contain —
    - (i) details of each rate or minimum payment the local government intends to impose; and
    - (ii) an invitation for submissions to be made by an elector or a ratepayer in respect of the proposed rate or minimum payment and any related matters within 21 days (or such longer period as is specified in the notice) of the notice; and
    - (iii) any further information in relation to the matters specified in subparagraphs (i) and (ii) which may be prescribed;and
  - (c) is to advise electors and ratepayers that the document referred to in subsection (3A) —
    - (i) may be inspected at a time and place specified in the notice; and
    - (ii) is published on the local government's official website.
- (3A) The local government is required to prepare a document describing the objects of, and reasons for, each proposed rate and minimum payment and to publish the document on the local government's official website.
- (4) The local government is required to consider any submissions received before imposing the proposed rate or minimum payment with or without modification.

### **Policy Implications**

Nil

### **Consultation**

Local public notice in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995*.

### **Financial Implications**

No immediate implications exist, however, the rate in the dollar applied to any differential rate will impact the revenue raised by that aspect of the budget.

### **Strategic Community Plan**

Area 5: Investing in Council's Capacity – Our Leadership

Goal: Strengthen the Shire's position as an innovative and proactive local Government providing excellence in all areas of governance, management, and leadership.

### **Comment**

Before imposing any differential general rates, or a minimum payment applying to a differential rate category, a local government is to give 21 days' local public notice of its intention to do so alongside a document detailing the proposals and rationale for the public to inspect and respond to.

The Shire of Perenjori has an existing "Objects and Reasons" document that has successfully underpinned previous differential rating requests, which was updated and utilised for this current year. A copy has previously been distributed for council's information.

The notices were published on the Shire's website, Facebook page and on public noticeboards within Perenjori and Latham on 1 May 2025. A notice was also published in the West Australian newspaper on 1 May 2025 with a closing date for submissions of 4pm 22 May 2025.

Individual letters were sent to rate payers affected by the differential rates.

Prior to seeking approval from the Minister, council must consider the submissions made in response to the public notice.

### Submissions Received

Two submissions have been received prior to the closing date of 4pm Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 from Terrain Minerals (copy attached) and Association of Mining and Exploration Companies which are both mining title services companies supporting mining and exploration companies

The information provided in the submissions from Terrain Minerals is in relation to the rents imposed by the state government is a separate operating issue for the exploration business. The shire does not receive any income from the state rent revenue applied to exploration and mining leases to undertake the works required to maintain the road and infrastructure assets that are maintained by the Shire.

Terrain Minerals submission indicates an example of the rate increase utilising the advertised rate in the dollar of 24.0665. The Shire's advertisement also indicates that the rate in the dollar will be adjusted once the new Valuations have been uploaded to achieve the overall increase of rate yield of 4%, which is in line with the council overall rate objective in the 2025/26 budget. The Shire have adjusted the rate in the dollar accordingly and the exploration rate in the dollar changed to 21.1055.

The submission from AMEC identifies the reasoning behind the requirement for the differential rate and objects to the UV Mining Rate and the UV Exploration Rate being higher than the UV Rural rate. AMEC also indicate that mineral exploration and mining make much less use of Local Government services than any other rated category.

### Officer Comment

It is acknowledged that shifts in the valuation base will inevitably impact on the rates that individual ratepayers are liable for. In the case of the submissions, the cause of the shift is the change in rents charged by the Department of Mines. However, the shift in the valuations does not impact Council's determination of the expenditure it needs to make to fulfill its obligations.

The mining and exploration activities are in remote locations which are difficult to service which is an addition cost to Council due to maintaining roads and infrastructure.

Council's decision is based upon the yield from each category and in line with councils anticipated budget requirements taking into consideration inflationary factors and council strategic plan objectives.

Council has factored into its budget the opportunity for ratepayers to receive an early payment discount of 5%, which would offset the rate shift identified in the submission if taken up.

### PROCEDURAL MOTION

**Council Resolution Number: 230525.26**

**Moved: Cr Hepworth**

**Seconded: Cr Bryant**

**That Council suspend Standing Orders, *Clause 9.5 Limitation on number of speeches*, at 4.32 pm to allow for open discussion of Item 7.1.**

**Motion put and carried 7/0**

**For: Cr Sutherland, Cr Hepworth, Cr Sparkman, Cr Bryant, Cr Bradford, Cr Fraser, Cr Campbell**

**Against: Nil**

### PROCEDURAL MOTION

**Council Resolution Number: 230525.27**

**Moved: Cr Sparkman**

**Seconded: Cr Bryant**

**That Council resume Standing Orders, *Clause 9.5 Limitation on number of speeches*, at 3.08 pm.**

**Motion put and carried 7/0**

**For: Cr Sutherland, Cr Hepworth, Cr Sparkman, Cr Bryant, Cr Bradford, Cr Fraser, Cr Campbell**

**Against: Nil**

## **COUNCIL DECISION**

**Council Resolution Number: 225025.28**

**Moved: Cr Hepworth**

**Seconded: Cr Bradford**

**THAT Council:**

- 1. That Council note and considered the submissions to council's proposal to impose differential rates for the 2025/26 financial year were received.**
- 2. Note the report and endorse the following objects and reasons for the differential rating in the UV Category,**

### **UV Rural**

**The object of the UV Rural rate is to obtain a fair contribution to the revenue requirements of the Shire, while not risking additional financial pressure on ratepayers in those areas and impact their long-term viability.**

**The reasons for the level of rates set for UV Rural is that this allows for a fair contribution to the revenue requirements of the Shire at a sustainable level. Whilst Council cannot control the rural sector's vulnerability to external forces, it attempts to ensure that the industry is not adversely affected by excessive rates.**

**The minimum payment proposed for the UV Rural category reflects the present financial vulnerability of ratepayers in the category due to factors such as adverse weather, cyclones, bushfires, drought, world demand for product and fluctuations in export prices.**

### **UV Mining**

**The object of the UV Mining rate is to ensure that mining contributes reasonably to the maintenance of the Shire's assets and services. Every effort is made to establish rates and minimum payments at the fairest possible levels, acknowledging that the industry does not need to be specifically nurtured, nor is it affected by the same vulnerabilities as broad acre farming. In reaching its rating decisions, Council has considered that there are external forces, such as fluctuating commodity prices, which impact on resource projects and is sensitive to these issues.**

**The reasons for the level of rates set for the UV Mining rate by the Council is to attain equity amongst those who will bear the burden of the rates and obtain a reasonable contribution from the mining sector for the general level of infrastructure and services provided by the Council. Striking a reasonable balance between all ratepayers in the production of the rate revenue is important in achieving equity, whilst at the same time the fairness of the expenditures by the Shire on the mining sector is also considered.**

**The maintenance of Shire assets and services for the benefit of all users, long term, and short term, is a burden which to a significant extent fall upon the long-term ratepayers, justifying a differential contribution from the mining sector. The minimum payment proposed for the UV Mining category reflects a reasonable cost for a base level of service.**

### **UV Exploration**

**The object of the UV Exploration rate is to ensure the reasonable contribution of these ratepayers to Council's expenditure profile.**

**The reasons for the level of rates set for the UV Exploration rate by the Council is to attain equity amongst those who will bear the burden of the rates and obtain a reasonable contribution from the Exploration sector for the general level of infrastructure, services and tenement administration provided by the Council.**

**Exploration and prospecting ratepayers require a higher level of governance for licensing, clearance permits, etc, and impose greater environmental damage to the environment through activities such as clearing, drilling and associated undertakings.**

**Striking a reasonable balance between all in the production of the rate income is important in achieving balance and equity between ratepayers, whilst at the same time the fairness of the expenditures by the Shire on the Exploration sector is also considered.**

**The minimum payment proposed for the UV Exploration category reflects a reasonable cost for a base level of service.**

**Motion put and carried 7/0**

**For: Cr Sutherland, Cr Hepworth, Cr Sparkman, Cr Bryant, Cr Bradford, Cr Fraser, Cr Campbell**

**Against: Nil**

[Next Item](#)

**7.2 DIFFERENTIAL RATES – MINISTERIAL SUBMISSION**

<b>Applicant:</b>	Shire of Perenjori
<b>File:</b>	ADM 0793
<b>Report Date:</b>	22 May 2025
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Voting Requirements:</b>	Simple Majority
<b>Author:</b>	Ally Bryant – Finance Manager
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Paul Anderson – Chief Executive Officer
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

**Summary**

The purpose of this report is to review and adopt the updated Rate in the Dollar, which demonstrates the rate yield will be unchanged from Council's adoption at the April 2025 meeting and to consider a submission to the Minister for the approval of differential rates, which are more than twice the lowest differential rate, as part of the annual budget process.

**Background**

Council at the April 2025 meeting resolved to adopt and advertise the differential rating for unimproved values for Rural and Mining Properties.

Below is a copy of the Council resolution, 160425.6.

Council Resolution Number: 160425.6

Moved: Cr Bryant

Seconded: Cr Bradford

That Council:

Having regard to the budget deficiency in the context of the Strategic Community plan and Corporate Business Plan.

1. Advertise in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* the Shire of Perenjori's intention to levy the following differential rates.

Rates category	minimum rate	rate in the \$
UV rural 442	1.2637	
UV Mining 442		30.7875
GRV Townsites 442		7.9231
GRV Mining 442		11.1533
UV Exploration 442		24.0665

2. Adopts the 2025/26 Budget Draft Rate Setting Statement
3. Adopts the objects and reasons for each differential rate and minimum payment as follows

UV Rural

The object of the UV Rural is to obtain a fair contribution to the revenue requirements of the Shire, while not risking additional financial pressure on ratepayers in those areas and impact their long-term viability.

The reasons for the level of rates set for UV Rural is that this allows for a fair contribution to the revenue requirements of the Shire at a sustainable level. Whilst Council cannot control the rural sector's vulnerability to external forces, it attempts to ensure that the industry is not adversely affected by excessive rates.

The minimum payment proposed for the UV Rural category reflects the present financial vulnerability of ratepayers in the category due to factors such as adverse weather, cyclones, bushfires, drought, world demand for product and fluctuations in export prices.

UV Mining

The object of the UV Mining rate is to ensure that mining contributes reasonably to the maintenance of the Shire's assets and services. Every effort is made to establish rates and minimum payments at the fairest possible levels, acknowledging that the industry does not need to be specifically nurtured, nor is it affected by the same vulnerabilities as broad acre farming. In reaching its rating decisions, Council has considered that there are external forces, such as fluctuating commodity prices, which impact on resource projects and is sensitive to these issues.

The reasons for the level of rates set for the UV Mining rate by the Council is to attain equity amongst those who will bear the burden of the rates and obtain a reasonable contribution from the mining sector for the general level of infrastructure and services provided by the Council. Striking a reasonable balance between all ratepayers in the production of the rate revenue is important in achieving equity, whilst at the same time the fairness of the expenditures by the Shire on the mining sector is also considered.

The maintenance of Shire assets and services for the benefit of all users, long term, and short term, is a burden which to a significant extent fall upon the long-term ratepayers, justifying a differential contribution from the mining sector. The minimum payment proposed for the UV Mining category reflects a reasonable cost for a base level of service.

#### UV Exploration

The object of the UV Exploration rate is to ensure the reasonable contribution of these ratepayers to Council's expenditure profile.

The reasons for the level of rates set for the UV Exploration rate by the Council is to attain equity amongst those who will bear the burden of the rates and obtain a reasonable contribution from the Exploration sector for the general level of infrastructure, services and tenement administration provided by the Council.

Exploration and prospecting ratepayers require a higher level of governance for licensing, clearance permits, etc, and impose greater environmental damage to the environment through activities such as clearing, drilling and associated undertakings.

Striking a reasonable balance between all in the production of the rate income is important in achieving balance and equity between ratepayers, whilst at the same time the fairness of the expenditures by the Shire on the Exploration sector is also considered.

The minimum payment proposed for the UV Exploration category reflects a reasonable cost for a base level of service.

4. Adopts a discount of 5% when payment of the full amount of rates due and payable is made prior to the due date as set by Council in the Annual Budget.

Motion put and carried 6/0 by absolute majority

For: Cr Sutherland, Cr Hepworth, Cr Bryant, Cr Campbell, Cr Bradford, Cr Sparkman

Against: Nil

All advertisements stated that after the Valuations had been updated from the Valuer General the rate-in-the-dollar will be updated to achieve the advertised rate yield.

Council currently levies rates in the following categories -

- UV Rural
- UV Mining
- UV Exploration
- GRV Townsites (Perenjori, Latham, Other)
- GRV Mining

These categories have been in place for several years and are required to be approved annually by the Minister where any differential exceeds twice the lowest rate, within their respective GRV or UV classification.

The GRV categories are proposed at a rate-in-the-dollar of less than twice the lowest rate and therefore no differential approval is necessary.

The UV Mining and UV Exploration categories are proposed at more than twice the UV Rural rate, therefore ministerial approval is required before the adoption of the budget, and the issuing of rate notices.

Council has resolved to increase the rates yield by 4% and subsequently adjusted the rate-in-the-dollar, applicable across all rate categories, to achieve this objective. The Shire gave public notice to invite submissions on the differentials on this basis: no submissions were received.

### Statutory Environment

*Local Government Act 1995* and associated regulations.

### Policy Implications

Nil

### Consultation

Rates Officer

Elected Members

Department of Local Government

Neighbouring Local Governments

### Financial Implications

In order to enable the maintenance of an equitable and consistent rating regime, and the achievement of council's expenditure requirements within the budget, permission from the Minister to continue levying differential rates on the existing basis of relativity between rating categories is needed.

### Strategic Community Plan

Goal 4: A strong and diverse Council working closely with the proactive and involved community

4.1. The community is well-informed and engaged

4.2. The Shire listens to and works closely with the community and its decision-making is transparent and accountable

4.6. The organisation, assets and finances of the Shire are managed responsibly

### Officer Comment

The revaluation of all categories has now been received and the rate-in-the-dollar has been updated to achieve our advertised rate yield.

Council's adopted rate setting statement from April 2025 meeting advertised a rates yield of \$3,660,022 this is made up of General Rates \$3,838,244, discount for early payment of -\$191,912 and Ex Gratia rates of \$27,543 and Interim Rates -\$13,853.

#### SHIRE OF PERENJORI STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

##### OPERATING ACTIVITIES

##### Revenue from operating activities

	Note	2025/26 Budget	2024/25 Actual Estim	2024/25 Budget
General rates	2(a)(i)	\$ 3,660,022	\$ 3,467,290	\$ 3,441,290
Grants, subsidies and contributions		3,292,737	726,593	761,033
Fees and charges	8	1,140,485	1,007,267	969,267
Interest revenue	5(a)	117,300	162,500	141,800
Other revenue		365,587	1,926,224	2,807,579
Profit on asset disposals	4	0	43,200	2,500
		<b>8,576,131</b>	<b>7,333,074</b>	<b>8,123,469</b>

Updated rate-in-the-dollars have been adjusted to achieve Council's advertised rates.

Rates category	minimum rate	rate in the \$
UV rural	442	1.0644
UV Mining	442	27.9985
GRV Townsites	442	7.9231
GRV Mining	442	11.1533
UV Exploration	442	21.1055

In considering council's request for a differential rate in excess of the legislated parameters (ie. greater than twice the level of the lowest rate), the Minister will have regard to:

***Objectivity***

Essentially, assessing whether the application is within the scope of the legislation.

- The Local Government Act and Regulations have been complied with in preparing the proposals for differential rates.

The Draft Budget in the form of a Rate Setting Statement, Long term Financial Plan and Councils forward expenditure estimates the budget has been prepared and identifies the required rate revenue.

***Fairness and Equity***

- That the council of the local government has reviewed its expenditure and considered efficiency measures as part of its budget deliberations. This is to be reflected in the council minutes when it adopts the budget strategy and endorses objects and reasons for each differential rating category and each minimum payment.
- The objects of imposing differential rates and reasons for each proposed differential general rate are set out by the local government in a publicly available document.
- These objects and reasons clearly explain why each differential general rate is proposed to be imposed.
- The objects and reasons clearly explain why it is proposed to set the differential general rate at that particular rate.
- If a category of ratepayer is significantly contributing to the local government's revenue through fees, charges and other payments, the local government has not used these same costs as the justification for the difference in differential general rate.
- If there are fewer than thirty ratepayers who will be subject to the differential general rate, each affected ratepayer has been informed in writing by the local government of:
  - the terms of the government's policy (through the provision of a copy of the policy document)
  - the local government's objects of and reasons for proposing to impose the differential general rates
  - the differential general rate that will apply to the ratepayer's property; and
  - the differential general rate that applied in the previous year for comparison, and
  - was given at least 21 days to make submissions to the local government on the proposal.
- The ratepayers' submissions, if any, and the local government's response to each ratepayer's submission (as recorded in the minutes of the council meeting at which the response was adopted) have been provided to the Minister.
- The objects and reasons for differential rates have been reviewed, published on the council's website and listed for endorsement separately.
- The objects and reasons have been available for inspection at the Shire Office since public notice was given.
- The objects and reasons are refined and based on those used in past successful differential rating submissions to the Minister.
- The draft budget is to be reviewed for efficiency in a separate agenda item.

***Consistency***

- The local government has rated similar properties that are used for the same purpose in the same way.
- The proposed differential rates align with the rating strategy in the corporate business plan and long-term financial plan or the council of the local government has detailed its reasons for deviating from that rating strategy.
- The local government has reviewed and considered rates proposed in neighbouring or similar local government districts in the rating strategy.

The differential rates proposed are consistent with those, applied for and approved by, the Minister in the past. The categories applied for have not been varied and treat all properties consistently with council's historic rating practices.

The proposed 4% increase in rate yield treats all properties equally, fairly and consistently.

The proposed level of rate increase is in line with council's Long Term Financial Plan, in so far as the Long-Term Financial Plan proposed rate increases of 4% until 2037/38. The dissolution of the Council in 2019 and the subsequent appointment of a Commissioner saw the imposition of financial restraint and the minimization of rating pressure on the community.

This was followed by COVID19 restrictions in the 2020/21 financial year which resulted in a "zero increase" rating strategy at the State Government's request. The Council will revisit its key strategic and business planning documents in the second half of this year to reconsider its rating strategy and other business plan objectives. The Shire of Perenjori's proposed increase in rate revenue is 4%.

The council also considered the 7.5% discount offered on early payments and the overall impact upon its net yield. The council in the 2025/26 budget will reduce this discount to 5%.

- Indicative neighbouring Council's comparison -

Coorow	2% proposed increase on rate revenue from Long Term Financial Plan
Carnamah	6% proposed increase on rate revenue from Long Term Financial Plan
Morawa	4.5% proposed increase on rate revenue from Long Term Financial Plan

#### ***Transparency & Administrative Efficiency***

- The local government has:
  - prepared and made publicly available a document clearly describing the objectives and reasons for each differential general rate;
  - given public notice after 1 May in the relevant year.
  - The notices were published on the Council Website, Council Facebook page and the Public Notice Boards at Perenjori and Latham on 1 May 2025 and in the West Australian newspaper on 1 May 2025 with a closing date of 22 May 2025.
- The public notice published by the local government contained:
  - details of each differential general rate that the local government intends to impose
  - an invitation for submissions to be made by an elector or ratepayer
  - a closing date for submissions which is at least twenty one days after the day on which the notice is published
  - advice on the time and place where a document containing the objectives and reasons for the differential general rates can be inspected.
  - advice that after valuations are updated the Rate in the Dollar would be updated to achieve advertised yield.
- The council of the local government has:
  - considered ratepayer and public submissions
  - resolved to make the application to the Minister with the minutes and agenda papers relevant to these matters.

## **COUNCIL DECISION**

**Council Resolution Number: 220525.29**

**Moved: Cr Fraser**

**Seconded: Cr Bradford**

- 1. Adopt in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 the Shire of Perenjori's intention to levy the following updated differential rates to achieve the advertised rate yield.**

<b>Rates category</b>	<b>minimum rate</b>	<b>rate in the \$</b>
<b>UV rural</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>1.0646</b>
<b>UV Mining</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>28.0090</b>
<b>GRV Townsites</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>7.9231</b>
<b>GRV Mining</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>11.1540</b>
<b>UV Exploration</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>21.1055</b>

- 2. That Council note the report and an application be lodged with the Minister for Local Government seeking approval to levy differential rates for the 2025/26 financial year.**

**Motion put and carried 7/0**

**For: Cr Sutherland, Cr Hepworth, Cr Bryant, Cr Sparkman, Cr Bradford, Cr Fraser, Cr Campbell**

**Against: Nil**

**8. Closure of Meeting:**

The Shire President declared the meeting closed at 4.44 pm.

**I certify that this copy of the Minutes is a true and correct record of the meeting held on 22 May 2025.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Shire President**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_