GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL

Fact Sheet – Information for Rates and Charges

- Up until July 2020, the former Kogarah City Council and Hurstville City Council local government areas will have separate rate structures.

- The *'Rate freeze'* as mentioned by the former Minister for Local Government, Paul Toole, refers to amalgamated Councils remaining on the same rate paths as they were prior to proclamation up until July 2020.

- The 1.5 per cent rate pegging increase is still applicable to the rating income base of both former Councils.

- As of 1 July 2017, all NSW local government areas have had new Land Values issued for the 2017/2018 rating year. The average overall increase across the two former local government areas was 64 per cent. This means some properties will have rate increases greater than 1.5 per cent and some will have a reduction in rates. This is based on how the value the NSW Valuer General places on each individual ratepayer's property.

- The NSW Treasury has deferred, indefinitely, the decision for Councils to collect the Fire & Emergency Levies (FESL) from 1 July 2017. Insurance companies will continue to collect these levies from their customers. The next rate notice for 2017/2018 will include an explanation from Treasury as to the reasons for the change in direction.

- Residents will continue to receive the same Kogarah Domestic Waste Management and Hurstville Domestic Waste Management charges as experienced during the 2016/2017 financial year. However there will be a CPI increase for the 2017/2018 financial year. Harmonisation of charges in this area is still being determined.