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## MEDIA RELEASE

5 June 2020

# Huon Valley Council sets fees and charges for 2020/21

At its 28 May 2020 Ordinary Meeting, the Huon Valley Council set its fees and charges for the 2020/21 budget, achieving a good balance of affordability for our residents and covering costs for Council.

Fees and charges cover the cost of the wide range of services that Council provides to the community. "Care has been taken to ensure our fees and charges are affordable, and reflective of costs of service delivery," said Huon Valley Council Mayor Bec Enders. "We are committed to using 'best value' principles in Council services to ensure we provide value for money for our community and continue to meet expectations."

The fees and charges for 2020/21 have been reviewed in line with Council's budget preparation, which has been significantly affected by COVID-19 impacts. Some fees have been increased to a level that covers the current cost of providing the service.

"For the most part, the increases are at or around 3 per cent, which is in line with Council's long-term financial plan," said Cr Enders.

Key changes include:

- Waste Transfer Station fees have seen cubic-metre-load rates altered
- Animal-related compliance fees have been adjusted, bringing the charge in line with the actual cost in addition to the introduction of new fees
- Hall fees have seen no change in cost, with a simplification of function bonds put in place to introduce a single fee
- Some increases for recreation centre passes and gym entry
- Increase to retirement villages weekly to reflect the industry

Childcare fees have not been increased in line with the Government response to COVID-19.

Council's *Financial Hardship and Payment Assistance Policy* assists community members who are having difficulty meeting financial obligations to Council due to genuine financial hardship. If this is you, please contact us on (03) 6264 0300 to discuss the options that are currently available to support you during this time.

**Communications & Media Officer**

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A copy of the 2020/21 Fees and Charges is now available on the Council's website at [huonvalley.tas.gov.au](http://huonvalley.tas.gov.au).

**For more information: Mayor Bec Enders (03) 6264 0300**