

Proposed Budget 2023/24

Executive Summary

Under the New South Wales Local Government Act (LGA) 1993, Council is required to prepare and adopt an annual budget by 30 June each year.

A Financial Plan has been developed to assist Council in adopting the budget. The Plan provides information and recommendations on a number of financial issues and highlights options in terms of expected outcomes in a number of key areas such as:

- Long Term Financial Sustainability
- City Projects Program
- Sale of Assets
- Revenue Policy
- Annual Charges Policy
- Pricing Policy
- Statement of Borrowings

The budget for 2023/24 presented in this Financial Plan has been developed through a rigorous process of consultation and review with Council and staff. The budget puts forward the framework for Council to achieve the objectives and actions in the Operational Plan 2023/24. It fits within a longer-term framework which seeks to achieve financial sustainability.

The Financial Plan has been developed within an overall planning framework which guides Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the next four years through the Delivery Program. The Financial Plan outlines the financial resources required and how they will be used to achieve our Operational Plan outcomes.

The Financial Plan forecasts a cash surplus of \$89,306 for 2023/24. This has been achieved by using the following parameters:

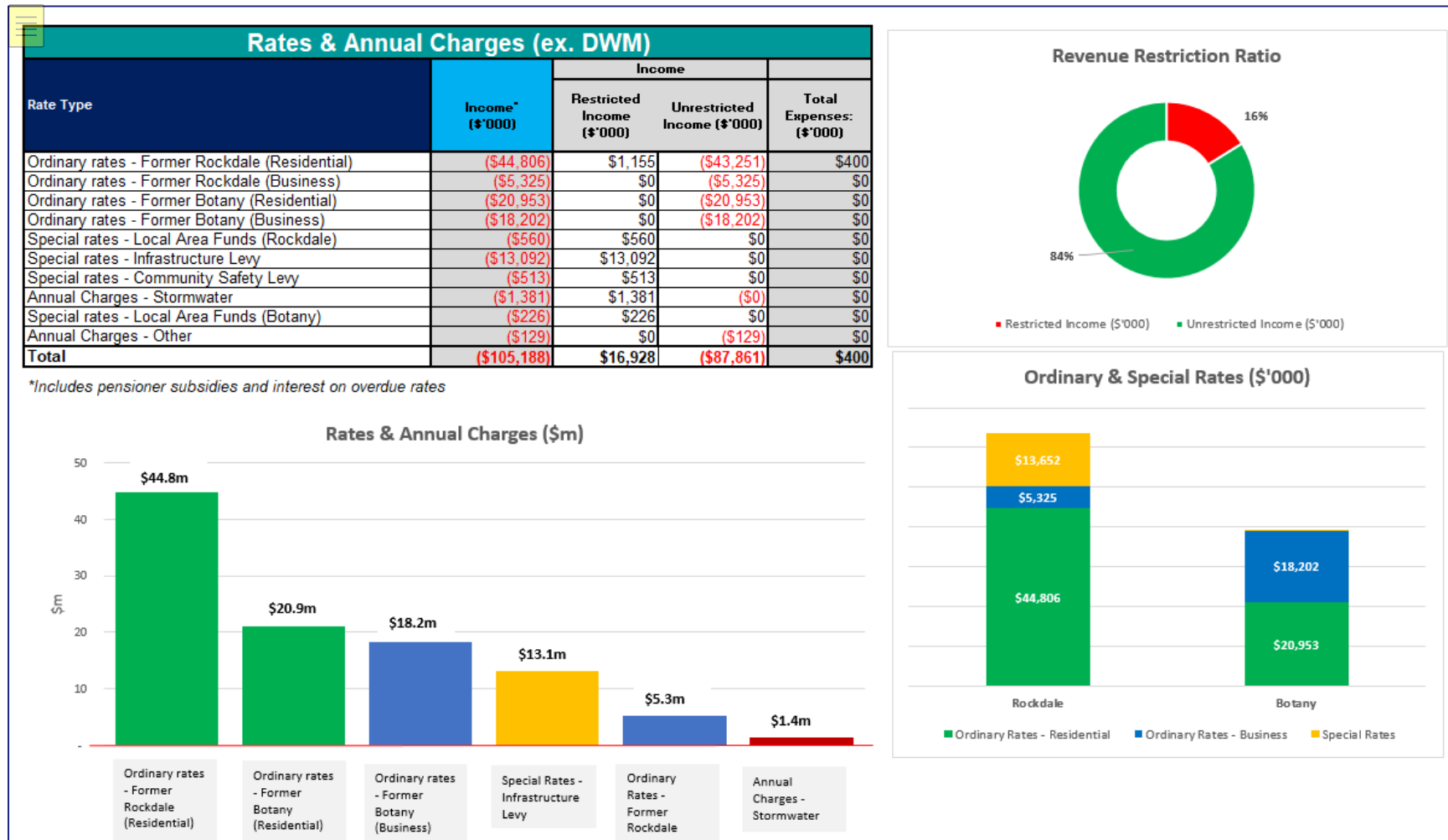
- Rate Peg set at 3.7% by IPART
- Council's IPART approved rates harmonisation instrument
- Operational income indexed by CPI at 7.5%
- Full Time Equivalent staff of 783 (excluding casuals)
- Other operational expenditure indexed by components of the Local Government Cost Index

As with the majority of councils in NSW, Bayside Council is faced with the issue of costs increasing at a greater rate than general revenue base. As an amalgamated Council, Bayside Council continues to examine strategies to address this issue.

Financial Plan Context

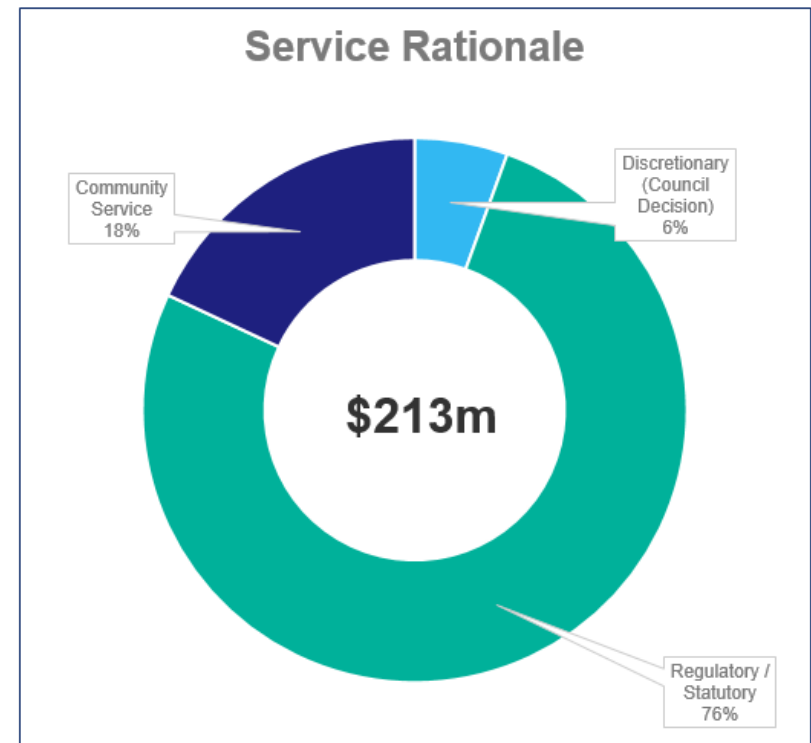
The following diagrams illustrate Council's revenue stream and expenditure allocation for 2023/24. Detailed breakdowns can be found in the BudgetSummary section of this plan.

Nb: the table excludes the Domestic Waste Levy & Capital Income and Financial Assistance Grants.



Expenditure Profile by Service Rationale

Category	Description
Regulatory / Statutory / Essential	<p>The provision of these services are mandated through requirements derived from regulations, required as a result of statutory requirements derived from legislation, or are essential services required to be provided by Council.</p> <p><i>E.g., Certification, Councilor Support, Compliance, Infrastructure & Asset management, Workplace Safety, Planning & Strategy, Financial Management & Reporting, Governance, Audit, etc.</i></p>
Community Services	<p>Services or functions which are not legislated but are expected to be provided by Council or has been agreed with the Community through the CSP. It would be very difficult for council to exit these services.</p> <p><i>E.g. Community Facilities, Parks and Open Space maintenance, Public Amenities and Street Scape Cleansing Services, Civil Maintenance, and Other Community Services</i></p>
Discretionary	<p>A service that is purely at the discretion of council and is being provided through a council resolution or has been historically provided to the community. These are services that other organizations are willing to provide and may be better placed to provide.</p> <p><i>E.g., Events, Economic Development, Commercial Waste, Childcare, Local History.</i></p>



*The above costs include internal expenses, depreciation expenses and the written down value of disposed assets.