

# Casey City Council

## Group: Interface

This fact sheet uses graphs and other data to show whether there have been any significant changes in this council's services, infrastructure and financial outcomes since the introduction of rate capping — a system that restricts the amount a council can increase its general rates and municipal charges in each financial year.

A reader's guide is available to help you understand the terms used in this fact sheet. You can compare this council's data against its 'group' by looking at the fact sheet for interface councils. View the reader's guide, all available fact sheets and information for the sector as a whole at <http://www.esc.vic.gov.au/outcomes-reports>.



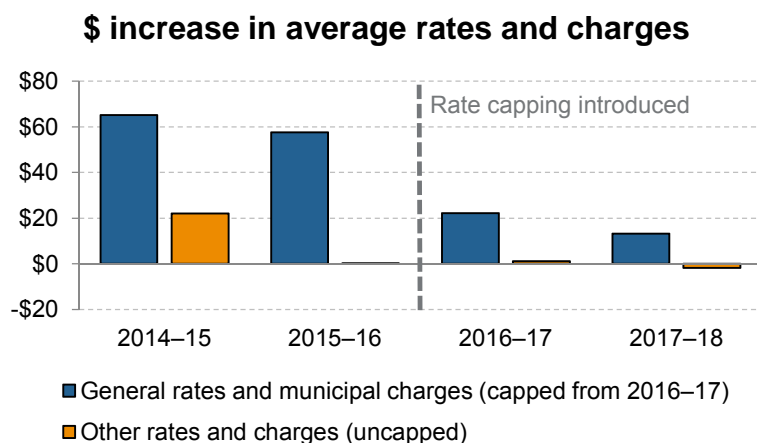
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### Key facts

Population:	365,600
Size (km <sup>2</sup> ):	409
Length of local roads (km):	1,695
Population per km of roads:	192
Council employees (FTE, 2017–18):	1,173
Submitted an application for a higher cap for 2016–17 or 2017–18?	Yes (see table below)

## Rates

### What has happened to average rates and charges?



Year	Average rates and charges	Applicable rate cap
2014–15	\$1,701	n/a
2015–16	\$1,759	n/a
2016–17	\$1,782	2.50% <sup>a</sup>
2017–18	\$1,794	2.00%

<sup>a</sup> Council applied for a higher cap of 3.47% but was unsuccessful.

# Rates (continued)

See the reader's guide for data sources and useful information.  
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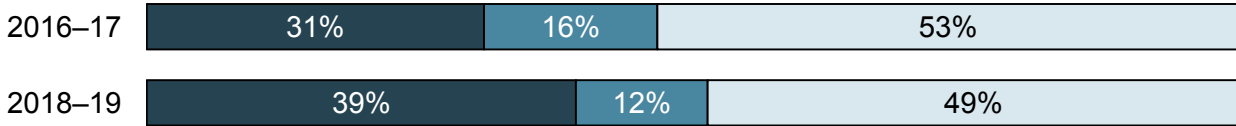
## Have council's average rates complied with the applicable rate caps?

2016–17 (2.50%)	2017–18 (2.00%)	2018–19 (2.25%)
Yes	Yes	Yes

## How have rates changed for individual ratepayers?

### Distribution of rates increases and decreases in revaluation years

The applicable rate cap is applied to council's average rate, which means some individual rates increased by more and some increased by less (or even decreased).

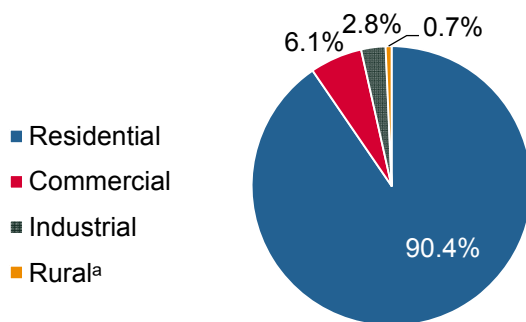


- % of rates notices decreasing
- % of rates notices increasing by less than the applicable cap
- % of rates notices increasing by more than the applicable cap

Note: In 2017–18, properties were not revalued so most rates notices would have increased by a similar percentage.

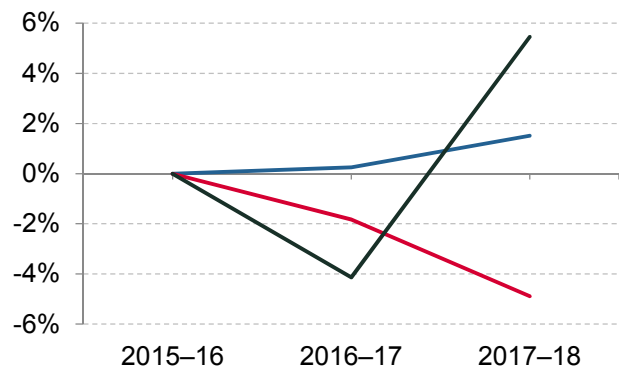
## Ratepayers by property class

### Proportion of rates and charges revenue from each property class in 2017–18



<sup>a</sup> Category has been omitted from the line chart

### Percentage change in average rates and charges since 2015–16



Source: Victoria Grants Commission (unaudited data). Includes both capped and uncapped rates and charges.

Residential ratepayers pay the majority of Casey City Council's rates and charges. This group of ratepayers, on average, experienced a 1.5 per cent increase in their rates notices between 2015–16 and 2017–18. The difference in rate increases can be due to relative changes in property valuations, and changes in property numbers, the council's rating structure, and uncapped rates and charges. Council's average rates and charges (a combination of all classes) increased from \$1,759 to \$1,794 (2 per cent) over the same period.

# Revenue

See the reader's guide for data sources and useful information.  
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## Where is council's money coming from?

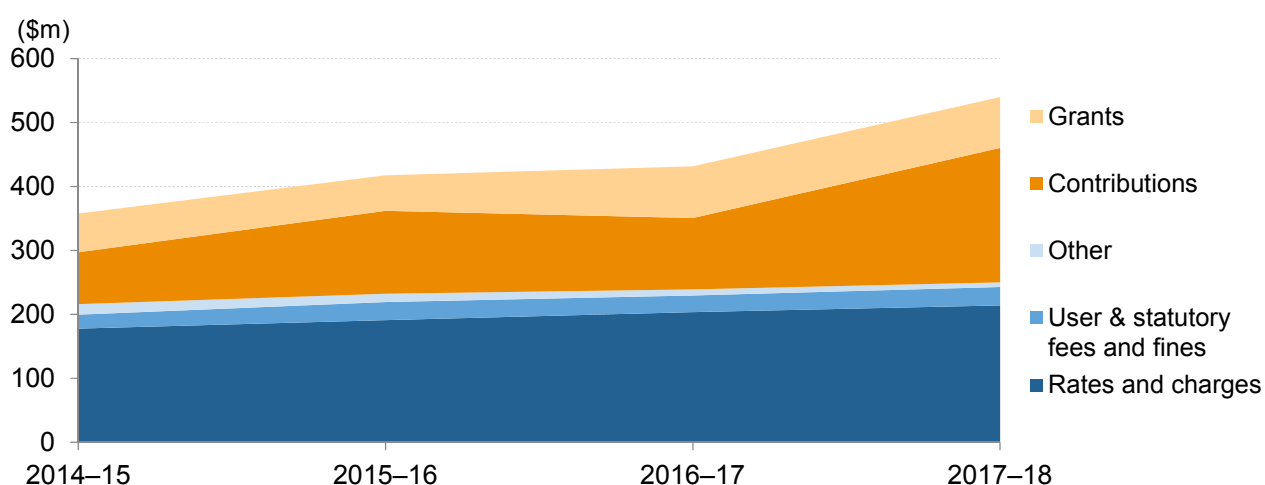
Revenue source	Before rate capping (average of 2014–15 and 2015–16)		After rate capping (average of 2016–17 and 2017–18)	
	\$m	% of revenue	\$m	% of revenue
Rates and charges	184.3	48	208.7	43
Grants	58.1	15	80.3	16
User fees and statutory fees and fines	25.2	7	27.4	6
Contributions	105.3	27	160.9	33
Other	12.4	3	8.4	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>385.2</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>485.7</b>	<b>100</b>

Casey City Council's average revenue from all sources (except 'other') increased in the two years following the introduction of rate capping compared to the two years before rate capping.

The biggest changes in the composition of council's revenue were the decrease in the proportion of revenue from rates and charges and the increase in the proportion of revenue from contributions over the two years after rate capping commenced.

**Note:** Revenue from grants may have been affected by the advance payment of annual Commonwealth grant allocations in 2014–15, 2016–17 and 2017–18.

## Revenue growth by source



# Expenditure

See the reader's guide for data sources and useful information.  
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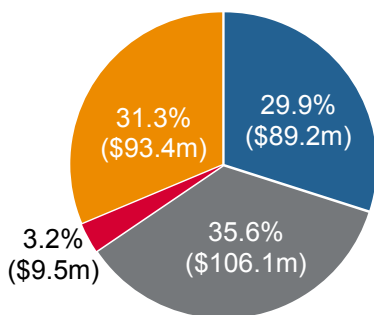
## How much money is council spending?

Year	Operating expenditure	Capital expenditure	Operating expenditure per head of population	Capital expenditure per head of population
2014–15	\$205m	\$83m	\$712	\$288
2015–16	\$205m	\$104m	\$683	\$347
2016–17	\$202m	\$141m	\$645	\$451
2017–18	\$255m	\$134m	\$780	\$410

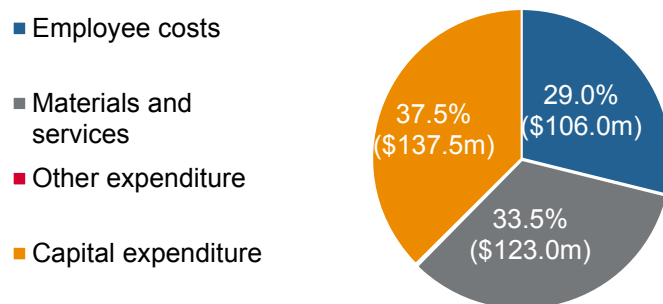
Casey City Council's operating expenses have been relatively stable over time, with a jump in 2017–18 reflecting increases in employee costs and spending on materials and services. Capital expenditure has trended upwards, relating to increases in spending on new assets.

## How is council spending its money?

**Average expenditure by category in the 2 years before rate capping**

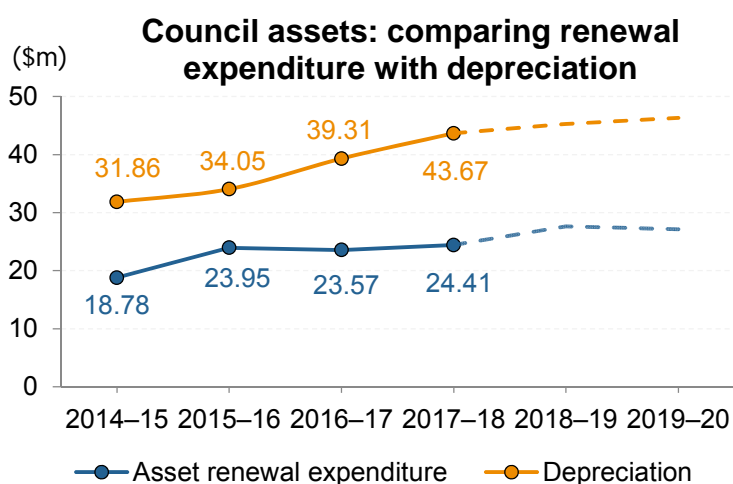


**Average expenditure by category in the 2 years after rate capping**



There was a change in the composition of Casey City Council's expenditure, reflecting both an increase in average capital expenditure and a reduction in average 'other' expenditure (relating to an adjustment to landfill provisions) in the two years after rate capping was introduced. Employee costs and spending on materials and services decreased as a proportion of total expenditure over the same period, despite increasing in terms of average dollars spent.

## Is council renewing its assets (such as roads, parks and buildings)?



Year	Asset renewal expenditure as a percentage of depreciation (%)
2014-15	59
2015-16	70
2016-17	60
2017-18	56
2018-19	61 (forecast data)
2019-20	59 (forecast data)

Casey City Council's spending on the renewal of its assets has been relatively stable in recent years, with a slight upward trend, but remains less than the amount of depreciation (the decline in value of its assets caused by age and use). Renewal expenditure is planned to remain at similar levels and below depreciation in 2018-19 and 2019-20. A sustained gap between expenditure and depreciation can lead to a backlog of renewal expenditure required and increase a council's costs in the long term. However, councils with a growing population (typically interface councils) tend to have lower levels of asset renewal as a percentage of depreciation. Their capital works are generally focused on new asset, upgrade and expansion projects to service their growing communities, and because of this they tend to have a higher proportion of newer assets with less need for renewal in the short term.

## Has council's capital expenditure pattern changed?

Capital expenditure	Before rate capping (average 2014-15 and 2015-16)		After rate capping (average 2016-17 and 2017-18)		Council's average spending in the two years after rate capping was introduced has increased across all categories, most notably in relation to new assets. Asset renewal decreased as a proportion of total capital expenditure despite increasing in average dollars spent.
	\$m	% of total	\$m	% of total	
Renewal	20.4	22	27.5	19	
New	62.8	67	100.1	68	
Upgrade	7.3	8	11.9	8	
Expansion	2.9	3	7.8	5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>93.4</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>147.3</b>	<b>100</b>	

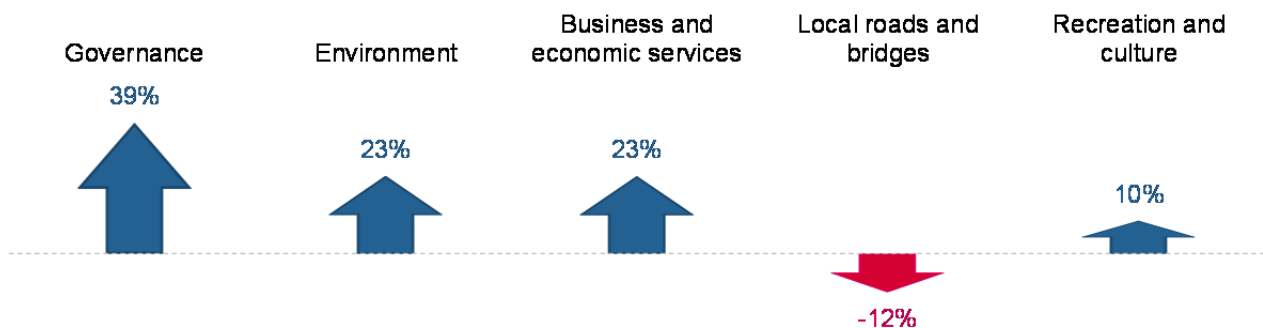
# Services

See the reader's guide for data sources and useful information.  
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## Which service areas is council spending its money in?

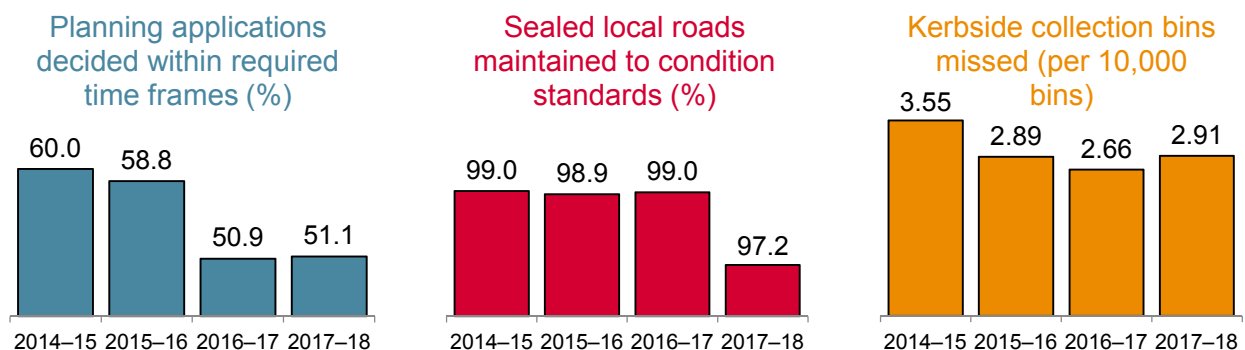
Expenditure by function	Before rate capping (average 2014–15 and 2015–16)		After rate capping (average 2016–17 and 2017–18)	
	\$ per person	% of expenditure	\$ per person	% of expenditure
Governance	132	16.8	184	21.1
Recreation and culture	151	19.2	166	19.0
Family and community services	146	18.6	151	17.3
Waste management	90	11.4	94	10.8
Traffic and street management	73	9.3	71	8.1
Aged and disabled services	59	7.5	59	6.8
Local roads and bridges	59	7.5	52	6.0
Business and economic services	39	5.0	49	5.6
Environment	37	4.7	46	5.3
Other	0	0.0	0	0.0

## Which service areas have experienced the biggest changes in spending?



Source: Victoria Grants Commission (unaudited). Council Annual Reports may provide further explanation of these expenditure changes.

## Has there been a change in service quality? (selected services only)

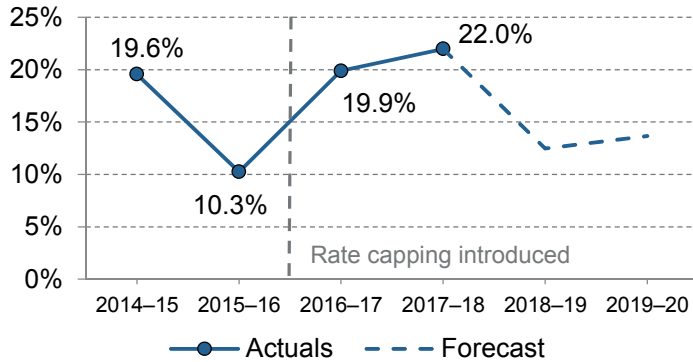


# Financial position

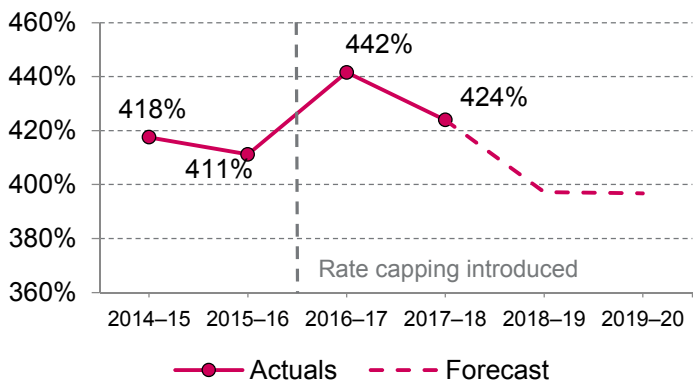
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## Is council operating sustainably?

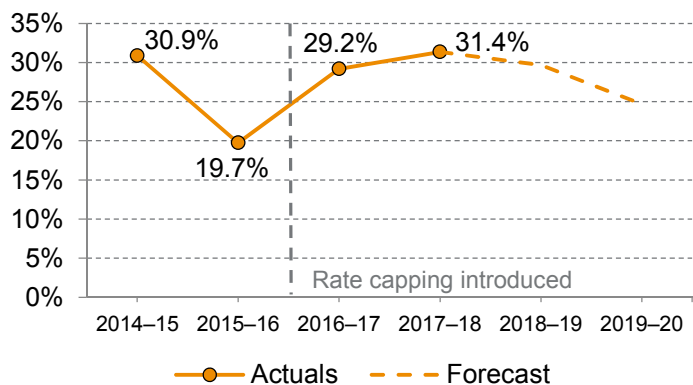
Adjusted underlying result  
 (adjusted underlying surplus or deficit as a percentage of adjusted underlying revenue)



Working capital (current assets as a percentage of current liabilities)



Indebtedness (non-current liabilities as a percentage of own-source revenue)



Between 2014–15 and 2017–18, Casey City Council reported an average **adjusted underlying result** of 17.9 per cent. A positive result suggests that there is enough ongoing revenue to continue to fund the current level of service provision.

The fall in 2015–16 reflects adjustments to contributions.

Council is able to meet its short-term financial obligations with an average **working capital ratio** of 424 per cent between 2014–15 and 2017–18.

The **indebtedness ratio** fell in 2015–16, reflecting a decrease in long-term liabilities.

**Note:** Some of the year on year change in the adjusted underlying result and the working capital ratio may be due to the timing of Commonwealth grant payments.