

| Name | Have your say |
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| Kingborough Council | <p>Council recognises the importance of properly funded fire and emergency services. It also recognises the current funding model has inefficiencies and inequities.</p> <p>However, with the removal of the insurance premium fire levy and the funding of the SES with both to now be funded by the fire service contribution from councils, the levy will raise substantial additional revenue through rates meaning most ratepayers will face substantial increases.</p> <p>The new funding includes SES which means properties in rural areas, which have previously not been levied because of a lack of fire brigade, permanent or rural, services will have substantial increases. This is a reflection of the SES, and brigade, services they currently utilise which they have not previously paid through the levy.</p> <p>The new levy will also recover substantial additional funds from commercial, industrial and primary production properties.</p> <p>The increase in the Pension Remission for the fire levy, from 20% to 30%, is welcomed as a means to lessen the impact on pensioners.</p> <p>There is no indicated effective date but for Kingborough Council to include the charge in our 2024/25 rates we would need a determination by March 2024 in order to undertake systems changes and testing.</p> <p>The proposed date for the Treasurer to set the rate of 31 May is too late for councils. The rate would be required by 30 April to prepare rate resolutions.</p> <p>Council should seek detail regarding the payment they will receive for providing this service and whether the 4% commission will continue.</p> |