

Renewing Rockdale



Renewing Rockdale is a Program of works that Council proposes to continue supporting community life today and in the future. The Program of works will deliver improvements to the standard of community buildings, amenities, playgrounds, roads, parks, sports fields and the foreshore along Lady Robinsons Beach (see pages 4-5 for a complete list of the program). To pay for the Renewing Rockdale Program of works, Council is proposing through a Special Rate Variation (SRV), to increase residential and business rates with a total rate rise of 6% every year for 4 years.



Previous SRV funded projects

COMPLETED PROJECTS

- ◆ Arncliffe Branch Library
- ◆ Arncliffe Early Childhood Centre
- ◆ Arncliffe Park – Field refurbishment
- ◆ Bexley Community Centre
- ◆ Bexley Oval – New sight screens
- ◆ Bicentennial Park
- ◆ Brighton Le Sands public toilets
- ◆ Broadford Reserve
- ◆ Cook Park – Bollards to prevent illegal parking
- ◆ Cook Park amenities opposite Bruce Street
- ◆ Cook Park amenities opposite Solander Street
- ◆ Cook Park amenities Pine Park
- ◆ Kingsgrove/Bexley North Community Centre
- ◆ McCarthy Reserve – New spectator bench seating
- ◆ Peter Depena Reserve – Bollards to prevent illegal parking
- ◆ Ramsgate Beach public amenities
- ◆ Ramsgate Life Saving Club
- ◆ Rockdale Netball Courts – Drainage improvements
- ◆ Tindale Reserve – Picnic shelter
- ◆ Tonbridge Oval – Reconstruction of cricket wicket

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- ◆ Arncliffe Park – Sport field amenities and changerooms
- ◆ Cook Park amenities opposite Emmaline Street
- ◆ Cook Park amenities opposite Scarborough Street
- ◆ Cook Park amenities Vanston Parade
- ◆ Gardiner Park – Sport field amenities and changerooms
- ◆ Ramsgate Beach Thriving Town Centre upgrade
- ◆ Sans Souci Branch Library
- ◆ Scarborough Park – Sport field amenities and changerooms

PENDING COMMENCEMENT

- ◆ Jack & Jill Kindergarten – Retaining wall and stairs

Projects listed have been achieved with previous SRV funding.

Please read this brochure and take the time to 'Have Your Say' on Council's plan to continue Renewing Rockdale

Did you know Council looks after...



522km Kerb and Gutter
386km Paved Footpaths
254km Sealed Roads
10km Creeks and Channels
5973 Drainage Pits
44 Bridges and Culverts

227 Parks and Reserves
82 Playgrounds
23 Reserves with Sport Facilities
6 Swimming Enclosures
2 Eighteen Hole Golf Courses
1 Boat Ramp and Pontoon



8km of Lady Robinsons Beach on Historic Botany Bay

46 Community Buildings
67 Parks Buildings
1 Swimming Pool Complex
11 Depot Buildings
16 Commercial Buildings
17 Residential Buildings
6 Library Buildings
Administration Building and Town Hall



The Challenge

Delivering for the present and future

The City of Rockdale is a growing city, with forecasts estimating the population to reach 127,076 in 2026. It is important that we make appropriate plans to ensure residents are able to continue to access services and facilities which meet their needs. The current median age in the Rockdale Local Government Area is 36 years and 62.2% of the population are either couples with children or single parent families.

What the community has told us they want

Over the past few years Council has engaged extensively with the community and received feedback from people about their expectations of asset provision in the City. We have done this through surveys, meetings, community and online forums, information booths and meetings with community groups. Collectively, people have asked us to spend more money on infrastructure and improve the:

- ◆ Provision and maintenance of public toilets;
- ◆ Condition and maintenance of local roads;
- ◆ Quality and maintenance of footpaths;
- ◆ Maintenance of natural waterways;
- ◆ Condition, maintenance and design of sporting fields and parks;
- ◆ Design, safety and maintenance of playgrounds;
- ◆ Condition of community halls;
- ◆ Our branch libraries.

We have also been asked to consider the provision of community hubs through larger facilities which allow co-location of services for residents, as well as improved support for young people, older people and people with a disability.

Council's current asset position

The age, harsh coastal conditions and regular use of our existing assets means that we need to invest in renewal programs to ensure community assets continue to meet community needs. If Council does not spend money on asset renewal now we will need to invest more money in the future as asset conditions continue to decline. The money spent today on renewing assets will greatly reduce the cost to completely replace our assets in years to come.

How does Council decide which assets are renewed?

When making choices about which assets are renewed and when, Council makes an assessment by considering:

- ◆ Community feedback;
- ◆ Community need for the asset;
- ◆ Risk of harm to the community and asset users;
- ◆ Asset lifecycle that includes the ongoing costs of operation, maintenance and improvement.

Council's capacity to meet the Challenge

Where Council's money comes from?

Each year the NSW Government through the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) sets a limit on the total amount of income that NSW councils can generate from rates. This is called the rate-pegging percentage and it is specified by the Minister for Local Government each year. If a council would like to increase their general income by more than the rate-peg limit they need to apply to the Minister for Local Government for a special rate variation (SRV). Revenue from rates makes up 41% of our total annual revenue. The balance includes fees and charges, government grants, developer contributions, loans and interest earned on investments.

What is our current financial position?

The NSW Treasury Corporation (TCorp) completed a financial assessment of all NSW councils in 2011/12. The Comparative Information on NSW Local Government 2013 determined Rockdale City Council's financial sustainability as "moderate" in the short-term "with a neutral outlook". This was a rating similar to 75% of all NSW councils. What this means is we are unable to improve the standard of community services and facilities without seeking extra funds.

Our current financial position does not allow us to spend the amount needed to properly look after all our assets.



What is our response to meeting the Challenge?

Council has implemented the following approach in order to balance our limited resources and the demand on the City's assets and services:

1. Productivity improvements and efficiencies in service delivery with an expected saving target of 0.5%, which means a saving of \$250,000 every year;
2. Review Council's property portfolio to optimise returns and value for money;
3. An SRV specifically for the renewal of our community's assets;
4. Increase our level of borrowing through the State Government Interest Subsidy Scheme.

Council's approved SRV applications

With the support of the community, consecutive SRV's have been in place since 2007. SRV funding has contributed to the renewal of community centres, libraries, public toilets, sports fields and parks. Projects funded by previous SRVs are listed on the cover of this brochure. The proposed Renewing Rockdale SRV will continue to supplement the 'Infrastructure Levy' allowing Council to keep addressing the City's asset renewal challenge.

SRV Application	Length of Levy		% Rate Rise First Year of SRV		
	Start	End	Rate Peg	SRV	Total
Infrastructure Levy	2007/2008	Remains in rate base	3.0%	4.1%	5.1%*
Community Building Levy	2010/2011	2012/2013	2.6%	3.0%	5.6%
Infrastructure Levy Supplement	2013/2014	Remains in rate base	3.4%	3.0%	3.4%**

* Community Safety Levy of 3% expired and new application for 1% approved. ** Community Building Levy 3% expired.



Proposed Renewing Rockdale SRV Program of works

The proposed Renewing Rockdale Program of works has been informed by community engagement, risk and lifecycle assessments. If Council is successful with our application for a rate rise we will complete the following works. Costs shown indicate only the SRV financial contribution to the works.

- Key:**
- Projects will not be funded without the full rate rise
 - Projects will be funded by the already approved Infrastructure Levy
 - Project implementation will be delayed without the full rate rise
 - ** Project funding sourced from the overlap of the approved and proposed SRV funding

Sport and Recreation – \$3,865,870

■	Arncliffe Park	Install drainage, automatic irrigation, new turf, training lighting upgrade	\$300,000
■	AS Tanner Reserve	Install drainage, automatic irrigation, new turf, training lighting upgrade	\$280,000
■	Bexley Oval and Outer	Install drainage, automatic irrigation, new turf, training lighting upgrade	\$100,000
■	Firmstone Gardens	Re-level ground surface, install drainage, automatic irrigation, new turf, training lighting upgrade	\$675,000
■	Scarborough Park	Re-level ground surface, install drainage, automatic irrigation, new turf, training lighting upgrade	\$2,510,870

Playground and Park Improvements – \$3,325,725

The following playgrounds will be upgraded, which includes the removal of old equipment and installation of new play equipment with soft fall surface:

■	Arncliffe Park	\$175,000	■	Leo Smith Reserve	\$125,000
■	Bexley Park	\$315,435	■	Moorefield Reserve	\$125,000
■	Cahill Park** (Section 94 to supplement)	\$100,000	■	Peter Depena Reserve	\$315,000
■	Cook Park** (Emmaline St / President Ave)	\$175,000	■	Robertson St Reserve	\$125,000
■	Cook Park – Park Upgrade (Ramsgate St / Emmaline St)	\$135,000	■	Scott Park – Park Upgrade	\$125,000
■	Dominey Reserve	\$160,145	■	Silver Jubilee Park	\$250,000
■	Highgate St Reserve	\$125,000	■	Slade Road Reserve	\$125,145
■	Kingsgrove Avenue Reserve	\$125,000	■	Stotts Reserve	\$175,000
■	Kingsland Road Reserve	\$125,000	■	Yamba Woorra Reserve	\$125,000
			■	Safety renewals program to meet compliance requirements	\$400,000

Thriving Town Centres Program – \$1,600,000

■	Ramsgate Beach Thriving Town Centre**	Replace / upgrade aging public infrastructure, improve integrated public transport and cycling and promote private investment in Town Centres	\$800,000
■	Wollongong Road	Renew aging public infrastructure	\$800,000

Community Building and Public Amenities – \$7,479,435

■	Administration Building	Refurbish interior of existing building	\$1,600,000
■	Arncliffe Pre School Kindergarten	Upgrade existing kindergarten with an accessible ramp, entry and toilet	\$160,000
■	Bexley North Public Toilet	Demolish existing and provide new public toilet	\$250,000
■	Bexley Oval Toilets and Kiosk	Refurbish the existing public amenities	\$500,000
■	Bicentennial Park Central Amenities	Demolish existing and construct new amenities	\$530,000
■	Brighton Early Childhood Centre	Upgrade existing kindergarten to current standards, including accessible ramp, entry and toilet	\$115,000
■	Gilchrist Park Amenities	Refurbish the existing public amenities	\$530,000
■	Guild Theatre Roof Replacement	Replace existing asbestos roof with new roof sheeting and new gutters	\$452,000
■	Kyeemagh Boat Ramp Reserve	Refurbish the existing public amenities	\$275,000
■	Jack and Jill Kindergarten**	Upgrade existing kindergarten with an accessible ramp, entry and toilet	\$150,000
■	Old St David's Church	Refurbish interior of existing building	\$200,000
■	Peter Depena Reserve South Amenities	Demolish existing and construct new accessible amenities	\$330,000
■	Peter Depena Reserve Toilets West	Demolish existing and construct new amenities	\$330,000
■	Rockdale Community Aid	Refurbish interior of existing building	\$150,000
■	Rockdale Park Amenities	Demolish existing and construct new amenities	\$250,000
■	Scott Park Toilet Block	Demolish existing and construct new accessible amenities	\$285,000
■	Syd Frost Hall Internal Refurbishment	Refurbish existing hall and amenities	\$200,000
■	Tonbridge Street Reserve Amenities and Kiosk	Demolish existing and construct new accessible amenities	\$742,435
■	Wilson's Cottage Heritage Item	Identify and implement opportunities for community uses	\$430,000

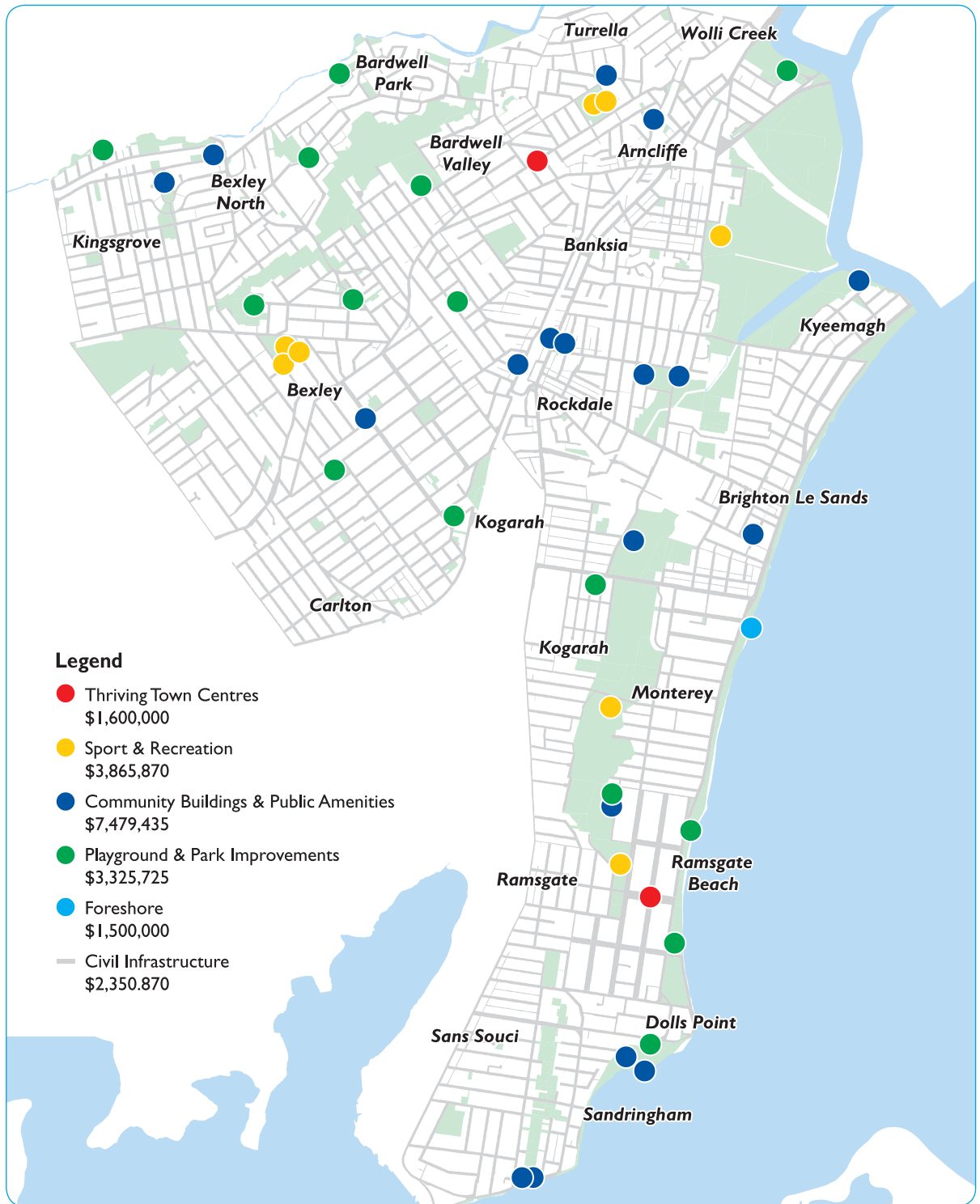
Civil Infrastructure (Kerb, Gutters and Roads) – \$2,350,870

■	Kerb and Guttering Rehabilitation	Remove and replace of concrete kerb and gutter at various locations	\$40,000
■	Resheet and Rehabilitation of Road Pavements	Replace of worn asphalt and rehabilitation of road pavements at various locations	\$2,310,870

Foreshore Renewal – \$1,500,000

■	Various locations along Lady Robinsons Beach	Replace, renew and/or rehabilitate of coastal infrastructure including seawalls, boardwalks, retaining walls, stairs, railings, fences, and jetties at various locations	\$1,500,000
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What's happening near you...



Proposed Renewing Rockdale SRV

Council is planning to apply for an SRV of 6% per annum for 4 years. This means each year starting from 1 July 2014 for 4 years residential and business rates will increase by 6% above the previous year's rates. After the last year of the SRV (30 June 2018) the increases will remain permanently in Council's rate base and will continue to fund the Renewing Rockdale program of works. The proposed Renewing Rockdale Levy will supplement the current Infrastructure Levy.

SRV Application	Length of Levy		% Rate Rise First Year of SRV		
	Start	End	Rate Peg	SRV	Total
Renewing Rockdale	2014/2015	Remains in rate base	2.3%	3.7%	6.0%
Renewing Rockdale	2015/2016	Remains in rate base	3%*	3%*	6.0%
Renewing Rockdale	2016/2017	Remains in rate base	3%*	3%*	6.0%
Renewing Rockdale	2017/2018	Remains in rate base	3%*	3%*	6.0%

* Projected rate peg and SRV value.

The proposed Renewing Rockdale SRV and program of works would only occur if Council is successful in its SRV application to IPART.

What does the 6% rate increase consist of?

The 6% rate increase includes the IPART determined 'rate peg' annual increase. This is an increase given to all councils in NSW each year. Council proposes to increase residential and business rates by 6% IN TOTAL each year for four years. The actual SRV component of the increase is 6% minus the rate peg amount. For 2014/15 the rate peg has been set by IPART at 2.3%, so the proposed SRV component of the total rate rise would be 3.7%, giving the total rate increase of 6%. During the four year period City of Rockdale rates will not increase by more than 6% each year.

Peter's story – An example of how the proposed SRV could affect ratepayers

The land value of Peter's property is \$347,362 and his rates in 2013/14 were \$1,156.43. The affect of the 'Renewing Rockdale' levy on Peter's rates in 2014/15 will be an estimated \$1.48 per week and a total estimated increase of \$76.97. At the end of the four year period in 2017/18 Peter's rates are estimated to be \$1,489.31. As the special variation remains in Council's rates base Peter's rates in 2018/19 will remain at the estimated \$1,489.31 plus the ongoing IPART rate peg.

Year	Estimated Annual Rate Payment	Increase Per Annum	6% Increase Per Annum
2013 – 2014	\$1,156.43	–	–
2014 – 2015	\$1,233.40	\$76.97	6%
2015 – 2016	\$1,313.58	\$80.18	6%
2016 – 2017	\$1,398.79	\$85.21	6%
2017 – 2018	\$1,489.31	\$90.52	6%
2018 – 2019	\$1,489.31 + increased subjected to IPART rate peg		



To get an estimate of your rates over the next four years, scan the QR Code with your smartphone or visit Council's website at www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au

How could the proposed 6% rate rise affect you?

It is important to know how rates could change if Council's SRV application was successful. The following tables provide an indication of what both residential and business rates will be over the 2014/15 to 2017/18 period. Special arrangements can be made for residents who are facing financial hardship and residents who are on a pension. Council has a Hardship Policy and also offers pensioner rate rebates.

RESIDENTIAL IPART + SRV			Current Base	Proposed				
			2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	
Increase on Previous Year			–	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	
Rateable Value	Properties	Land Value						
Minimum rate*	18,692	347,362	1,168.93	1,245.90	1,326.08	1,411.29	1,501.81	
\$347,363 to \$449,999	4,088	400,000	1,281.05	1,362.90	1,451.76	1,544.38	1,642.73	
\$450,000 to \$599,999	9,889	525,000	1,547.32	1,644.23	1,750.21	1,860.42	1,977.39	
\$600,000 to \$749,999	3,482	675,000	1,866.83	1,981.82	2,108.36	2,239.67	2,378.99	
\$750,000 to \$899,999	1,126	825,000	2,186.35	2,319.41	2,466.49	2,618.91	2,780.58	
\$900,000 to \$1,999,999	260	975,000	2,505.86	2,657.00	2,824.64	2,998.16	3,182.18	
\$2,000,000 and greater	36	2,000,000	4,689.21	4,963.86	5,271.92	5,589.66	5,926.41	
37,573								

* Assumed to be strata – Note: 347,362 is the maximum rateable value allowed for minimum rates to apply for the 2013/2014 year.

BUSINESS IPART + SRV			Current Base	Proposed				
			2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	
Increase on Previous Year			–	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	
Rateable Value	Properties	Land Value						
Minimum rate*	443	171,971	777.65	826.53	877.60	932.12	989.92	
\$171,972 to \$399,999	424	300,000	1,321.59	1,397.54	1,480.68	1,567.92	1,660.20	
\$400,000 to \$599,999	351	500,000	2,171.31	2,290.74	2,422.80	2,561.14	2,707.30	
\$600,000 to \$799,999	171	700,000	3,021.03	3,183.94	3,364.92	3,554.36	3,754.40	
\$800,000 to \$999,999	65	900,000	3,870.75	4,077.14	4,307.04	4,547.58	4,801.50	
\$1,000,000 to \$1,999,999	183	1,500,000	6,419.91	6,756.74	7,133.40	7,527.24	7,942.80	
\$2,000,000 and greater	97	2,000,001	8,544.21	8,989.74	9,488.70	10,010.29	10,560.55	
1,734								

* Assumed to be strata – Note: 171,971 is the maximum rateable value allowed for minimum rates to apply for the 2013/2014 year.

What do you think about Renewing Rockdale?

Please let us know what you think about the proposed Renewing Rockdale Program of works and Council's intention to apply for an SRV to fund the Program.

- ◆ You can find out more information by talking with staff at a Renewing Rockdale **Information Booth**:
 - Ramsgate Organic Foodies Market (Ramsgate Public School)
Saturday 25 January 2014 – 8am to 1pm
 - Dolls Point, Peter Depena Reserve
Australia Day Event
Sunday 26 January 2014 – 10am to 1pm
 - Rockdale Plaza (in front Big W)
Thursday 30 January 2014 – 3pm to 7pm
- ◆ Visit www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au
- ◆ Have Your Say at <http://haveyoursayrockdale.com.au/renewing-rockdale> or fill in the attached paper survey and return it to Council reply paid or hand it at Council's Customer Service Centre or at your local branch library by Wednesday 19 February 2014
- ◆ Visit an **Information Board** at Council's Customer Service Centre or your local branch library
- ◆ Call the Renewing Rockdale Information Line on **9562 1761** (Mon-Fri, 9am to 4:30pm)
- ◆ Register and attend the **Community Forum** at Rockdale Town Hall, 448 Princes Highway
Tuesday 11 February 2014 – 6pm to 8pm
You can come and talk with the Mayor and Council staff at the Community Forum
To assist us in organising light refreshments call the Renewing Rockdale Information Line on 9562 1761 by Tuesday 4 February 2014

Previous Information Booths

Brighton Le Sands: Carols by the Sea event on Lady Robinsons Beach, Saturday 7 December 2013

Bexley North: Nairn Gardens, Tuesday 10 December 2013

Arncliffe: Town Centre, Tuesday 14 January 2014

Carlton: Stell Reserve, Tuesday 21 January 2014



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Phone 02 9562 1666

Fax 02 9562 1777

Email rcc@rockdale.nsw.gov.au

www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au

This document contains important information about Rockdale City Council. If you do not understand, please visit Council's Customer Service Centre at 2 Bryant Street Rockdale on Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm, Saturday from 9am to 1pm. Council Staff will be happy to arrange interpreter services for you.

You may also contact Telephone Interpreter Services on 131 450 and ask them to ring Rockdale City Council on 9562 1666 on your behalf.

هام:

تحتوي هذه الوثيقة على معلومات هامة عن بلدية روكدايل. إذا لم تكن قادراً على فهمها. يرجى زيارة مركز خدمة زبائن البلدية على العنوان التالي: 2 Bryant Street في روكدايل من الإثنين إلى الجمعة بين الساعة ٨.٣٠ صباحاً و ٤.٣٠ مساءً. والسبت بين الساعة ٩.٠٠ صباحاً و ١.٠٠ بعد الظهر حيث سيقوم موظفو البلدية بتأمين مترجم لك بكل سرور. كما يمكنك الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الهاتفية على الرقم 131 450 والطلب منهم الاتصال ببلدية روكدايل على الرقم 9562 1666 نيابة عنك.

重要消息

本文件載有關於 Rockdale 市政府的重要資訊，如果您有不明白之處，請於星期一至星期五，上午8時30分至下午4時30分，及星期六上午9時至下午1時，前來位於2 Bryant Street, Rockdale, 市政府的顧客服務中心。市政府的職員會很樂意為您安排傳譯員的服務。您也可以聯絡電話傳譯服務處，電話 131 450，並請他們代您致電 9562 1666 給 Rockdale 市政府。

Σημαντικό:

Αυτό το έγγραφο περιέχει σημαντικές πληροφορίες για τη Δημαρχία Rockdale City Council. Αν δεν τις καταλαβαίνετε, παρακαλείσθε να επισκεφτείτε το Κέντρο Εξυπηρέτησης Πελατών [Customer Service Centre] του Δήμου στο 2 Bryant Street, Rockdale, Δευτέρα - Παρασκευή από 8.30πμ - 4.30μμ και Σάββατο από 9.00πμ - 1.00μμ. Το Προσωπικό του Δήμου θα χαρεί να κανονίσει υπηρεσίες διερμηνέων για σας. Μπορείτε επίσης να επικοινωνήσετε με τις Τηλεφωνικές Υπηρεσίες Διερμηνέων [Telephone Interpreter Services] στο 131 450 και να τους ζητήσετε να τηλεφωνήσουν στο Rockdale City Council στο 9562 1666 για λογαριασμό σας.

Importante:

Questo documento contiene importanti informazioni sul Comune di Rockdale City. Se avete difficoltà a comprenderne il contenuto, recatevi presso il Customer Service Centre del Comune a 2 Bryant Street, Rockdale dal lunedì al venerdì dalle ore 8.30 alle 16.30 e al sabato dalle 9.00 alle 13.00. Il personale del Comune sarà ben lieto di procurarvi un servizio interprete. Potete anche chiamare il Servizio telefonico interpreti (TIS) al numero 131 450 chiedendo che telefoni per vostro conto al Comune di Rockdale City al numero 9562 1666.

Важно:

Овој документ содржи важни информации за Rockdale City Council (Градската општина на Rockdale). Ако не го разбирате, ве молиме, посетете го општинскиот Customer Service Centre (Центар за услуги на клиенти), кој се наоѓа на 2 Bryant Street, Rockdale, од понеделник до петок, од 8.30 наутро до 4.30 попладне и во сабота од 9.00 наутро до 1.00 попладне. Вработените во општината со задоволство ќе ви организираат да користите преведувач.

Исто така, можете да телефонираате во Telephone Interpreter Services (Служба за преведување по телефон) на 131 450, и да ги замолиме во ваше име да се јават во Градската општина на Rockdale на 9562 1666.

Importante:

Este documento contiene información importante sobre el Rockdale City Council (Municipio de Rockdale). Si no la entiende, le rogamos concurrir al Centro de Servicio al Cliente del Municipio, ubicado en 2 Bryant Street, Rockdale, atención de lunes a viernes, de 8:30 am a 4:30 pm y el sábado de 9.00 am a 1.00 pm. El personal del municipio se complacerá en obtener los servicios de un intérprete para usted.

Puede asimismo llamar al Servicio Telefónico de Intérpretes al 131 450 y pedirles que llamen de su parte al Rockdale City Council, teléfono 9562 1666.