



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Council offers rates relief for struggling residents

**5 May, 2020
COOKTOWN**

Cook Shire Council introduced a package of rates relief measures at last week's Council meeting, including a freeze on rates interest and extension of the rates discount period to support the community during the coronavirus pandemic.

"I am very conscious that the current economic climate has caused serious financial stress to many of our ratepayers," Cook Shire Council Mayor Peter Scott said. "While Council does not have the capacity to provide widespread financial support, we are able to provide some relief to our ratepayers through these measures and help to ensure our community and businesses make it through these difficult times."

Council has decided to extend the discount on all rates issues on February 25, up to a maximum of \$150 per rates notice. Interest on all overdue rates and charges has been frozen until June 30, 2020 and ratepayers can also defer rates and charges for three months, or enter into 6 to 18 month payment arrangements. All debt recovery action and credit default listings have also been deferred until June 30, 2020.

For more information contact Council's Rates Officer via email at mail@cook.qld.gov.au or phone on 4082 0500.

~ end ~