

UNDERGROUND POWER

South Perth and Hurlingham project area



INFORMATION FOR PROPERTY OWNERS

Underground power is coming to South Perth and Hurlingham, as part of a partnership between the City and Western Power.

This project will replace overhead power lines with underground power infrastructure to move closer towards the City's vision for underground power in all its suburbs.

Construction is expected to commence in November 2022.

To find out more, visit southperth.wa.gov.au/SUPP, where you can also view Frequently Asked Questions.

YOUR SERVICE CHARGE EXPLAINED

On the Rate Notice enclosed, you will see your underground power charges. This includes one line for your **connection fee** and another line for your **network charge**.

Your connection fee is based on the status of the connection between your property boundary and the meter box as determined by Western Power.

Your total connection fee will be between **\$0 - \$750**. Where connections between the front of the property and the meter box are already wholly or partially underground, the charge will be discounted based on the type of existing connection.

Your network charge is your proportion of the total project cost for connection to your property boundary.

To equitably apportion the owner contribution to the project cost, Council adopted a simple methodology based on four tiers of the **Gross Rental Value (GRV)** per dwelling/unit.

GRV is an estimate of the total rent (full year) that may be received from a property as determined by Landgate. The GRV for your property is indicated on your Rate Notice.

For many years GRV has been used as part of the calculation to determine your rate charges. For more information about how GRV is calculated, visit the Landgate website.

Your service charge will be levied in five equal annual instalments and will be automatically included in your Rate Notice each year, with the **first instalment payable by 7 September 2022**.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the benefits of underground power?

There are many benefits to underground power, including improved street appearance, security, street lighting and property values. Underground power also provides an increase in tree canopy cover and a safer public environment for all.

How much will I have to pay?

Your 2022/23 Rate Notice includes your first annual instalment and will be charged every year for five years as part of your Rate Notice.

When is my first instalment due?

Your first annual instalment is due by 7 September 2022. If the annual underground power instalment is not fully paid along with rates, waste and ESL charges on the 1st due date (7 September 2022) as per the Rate Notice, it will be subject to the same instalment system and charges as listed on the annual Rate Notice.

Are there any discounts for Pensioners or Seniors?

Pensioners and seniors who currently receive a rebate on their Council rates may be entitled to a rebate against their underground power charge in accordance with the State Government Pensioner and Seniors Rebate Scheme. More information about the Scheme can be found on the Department of Finance website.

What if I can't afford to pay my underground power invoice?

Payment options will be detailed on your Rate Notice. If you are unable to meet these options please contact the City to discuss the matter further.

What if I don't want to pay?

As with Council rates, the underground power service charge is a charge on the property. Outstanding charges on a property may be recoverable in court in the event that you choose not to pay. This is in accordance with section 6.56 of the Local Government Act 1995.

What if I sell my property before I have paid my charges in full?

As with outstanding rates, any amount outstanding (including instalments not yet levied) for your underground power service charge would be payable on settlement if the property is sold.

Does the cost include the connection to my meter box?

Yes. The cost will include a new underground property service cable from the green dome near the front of your property to your meter if required.

I already have underground power from the front of my property to my meter box, do I still have to pay?

Yes. All properties are checked to see if they have a suitable connection. Where connections between the front of the property and the meter box are already wholly or partially underground, the connection fee will be discounted according to the type of existing connection. The network charge (your share of the total project cost) will still be payable.

South Perth & Hurlingham Network charge table

South Perth & Hurlingham- Network Charge (per unit/dwelling)	Total charge (levied in five annual instalments)	2022/23 charge (instalment one of five)
Residential/Commercial GRV < \$13,200	\$3,000	\$600
Residential/Commercial GRV \$13,201 - \$26,600	\$4,300	\$860
Residential/Commercial GRV \$26,601 - \$50,000	\$6,100	\$1,220
> \$50,000	\$6,100 + 20 cents in the \$ per \$ of the GRV > \$50,000	\$1,220 + 4 cents in the \$ per \$ of the GRV > \$50,000
*Other – Larger	\$18,300	\$3,660

*Larger properties that are not held or used as Residential or Commercial properties fall under this category.

Note - If the property is sold, the outstanding network charge is recovered at property settlement.

South Perth & Hurlingham Connection Fee Table

South Perth & Hurlingham- Connection Charge (per unit/dwelling)	Total charge (levied in five annual instalments)	2022/23 charge (instalment one of five)
*Connection fee	Between \$0 - \$750	Between \$0 - \$150

*Where connections between the front of the property and the meter box are already wholly or partially underground, this charge will be discounted according to the type of existing connection.

Note - If the property is sold the outstanding connection fee is recovered at property settlement.

How can I find out more?

For information about timing of the projects, site reinstatement or construction activities, email Western Power at undergroundpower@westernpower.com.au.

For information about payment and billing, please contact the City on 9474 0777. Alternatively, you can raise a request at southperth.wa.gov.au/makearequest or email enquiries@southperth.wa.gov.au.

More information is also available on the City's website at southperth.wa.gov.au/SUPP.