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Strathbogrie Shire celebrates its first rates holiday recipient

21-year-old first home buyer, Jamieson Clarke is the very first person to take up the rates holiday initiative offered in the Strathbogrie Shire.

Jamieson grew up in Toolamba and made the decision to build in the Strathbogrie Shire to be closer to Lindsay Park Racing Stables, where she is employed.

"I wanted to move closer to Lindsay Park and Euroa is a sweet country town so it suits me well," Ms Clarke explained.

"The house and land package looked pretty attractive with the \$20,000 First Home Owner's Grant."

"The rates holiday was an added bonus," she said.

The Rates Holiday initiative was adopted in Council's 2017-18 Budget, granting a full rebate of two years rates for those eligible for the State's First Home Owners Grant.

Eligible residents will receive a waiver of their general rate and the municipal charge for a two year period.

Mayor Amanda McClaren said she encourages those looking to break into the housing market to consider the rates holiday opportunity.

"The Rates Holiday is an exciting initiative that gives first home buyers the chance to purchase an affordable home free from rates for the first two years, and just an hour and a half from Melbourne," Cr McClaren said.

There's never been a better time to build in the shire, with development booming, particularly in the townships of Nagambie and Euroa.

In the last 12 months alone, there have been 62 and 24 new vacant lots in Nagambie and Euroa respectively and there is potential for the release of another 110 lots in the shire in the near future.

"We really encourage people to come and have a look at what the Strathbogrie Shire has to offer," Cr McClaren said.

Jamieson loves working at Lindsay Park and enjoys the Strathbogrie views, as well as having a swim at Polly McQuinns and Gooram Falls.

She is extremely excited to move into her brand new home in March and looks forward to the extra cash she will have to establish herself.

"It's going to be a massive help," she said.

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