

SUBJECT: <i>REMISSION OF RATES & CHARGES POLICY</i>	FILE NO:	FIN/0501
ADOPTED BY COUNCIL ON: 17 March 2016	MINUTE NO:	51.03.2016
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1. Introduction

Under s.129(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Act)* ratepayers may apply to Council for a remission of all or part of any rates or charges paid or payable by the ratepayer or any penalty imposed or interest charged under s.128 of the Act.

2. Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this policy is to:

- (a) specify the procedures for exercising the powers in s.129(3) and (4) of the Act; and
- (b) satisfy the requirements of s.22(2)(b) of the Act concerning the delegation by Council of the power in s.129(3) of the Act.

3. Requirements of the Act

Using the powers in s.129 (3) and (4) of the Act, Council may by absolute majority:

- (a) grant an application made by a ratepayer to remit all or part of any rates, charges penalty or interest paid or payable by that ratepayer; and
- (b) grant a remission of any rates, charges penalty or interest paid or payable by a class of ratepayers.

Section 129(5) of the Act requires the General Manager to keep a record of the details of all remissions granted.

4. Procedure for General Manager

The General Manager acting under delegated authority may grant an application made by a ratepayer under s.129(1) of the Act for remission of all or part of any rates or charges paid or payable by the ratepayer or any penalty imposed or interest charged under section 128 of the Act subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the total amount sought to be remitted does not exceed **\$500**
- (b) the ratepayer has not been granted a remission under s.129 of the Act in the 12 month period preceding the relevant application; and

- (c) the ratepayer is either:
- i. not indebted to Council for any other amount of money; or
 - ii. indebted to Council for any other amount(s) of money, however the total debt does not exceed ***\$1500***

5. Referral to Council

Where any of the conditions in Part 3 of this policy are not met, the relevant application for remission must be referred to Council for determination.

Related Legislation, Regulations and Policies

- *Local Government Act 1993, s. 129.*

Responsibilities

Responsibility for this policy rests with the General Manager.