

Policy

Title: Pensioner Rate Remissions

Category: Rates and Charges

Date Last Adopted: 19 March 2024

1. Objectives

To define the application of the remission of rates to eligible pensioners, pursuant to the *Local Government (Rates and Charges Remissions) Act 1991*.

2. Background

Pursuant to the *Local Government (Rates and Charges Remissions) Act 1991*, the State Government provides eligible pensioners a remission from Local Government rates. Eligible pensioners apply for a remission directly with the Council after which the Council invoices the State Government for the remission amount granted, as prescribed in the *Local Government (Rates and Charges Remissions) Act 1991*.

3. Policy

That pensioners eligible for assistance under the *Local Government (Rates and Charges Remissions) Act 1991*, be granted as a rate remission of:

1. 30% of rates and charges (including rates, other relevant charges and the fire levy and waste levy offset component) capped at a maximum amount each year as annually advised by the State Government, plus
2. 20% of the fire service rate.

Pensioners are eligible for a remission if they hold the following cards:

- Centrelink or Department of Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card
- Centrelink Health Care Card
- Department of Veterans' Affairs 'Gold Card' endorsed with TPI or War Widow

The card holder must be legally responsible for the rates on the property and be their principal place of residence.

In the case of joint ownership, at least one of the owners must meet the eligibility criteria.

There is a limit of one remission per year per pensioner household. Pensioners who received a remission last year will receive a remission automatically. Any pensioner who has not previously received a remission must complete an application form and possess a current Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) with a date of grant on or before 1st July of the current financial year.

Eligibility of a pensioner remission is determined by the State Government – Department of Treasury and Finance and not by Council.

4. Legislation, Terminology and References

Local Government (Rates and Charges Remissions) Act 1991

Responsible Officer:	Director City Enablers
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