



LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL

8. FINANCE

Policy 8.5

PENSION REBATES

Version 2

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8.5 PENSION REBATES

OBJECTIVES: To provide assistance to eligible pensioners with the payment of their rates and charges.

POLICY:

Council will provide a rebate of rates to eligible pensioners who were granted both a mandatory pension rebate under Section 575 of the Local Government Act 1993 and Council rebate under Section 582 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Statement of Procedures Council Rebate of Rates and Charges

A Council rebate will apply to eligible pensioners who receive both the mandatory rebate under Section 575 of the Local Government Act 1993 and a Council rebate under Section 582 of the Local Government Act 1993.

The rebate amount by Council will be 45% and may be reviewed annually and the rebate from the State Government will be 55%, or as advised by the State Government.

The rebate will be shown on the Rates and Charges notice and will be deducted from the total amount payable.

On land that is jointly owned and the liability for payment of the rates is shared with ratepayers who are not eligible pensioners, the rebate amount will be calculated proportionally according to the ratio that the eligible pensioners bears to the total number of owners. There will be an exception where a legal agreement exists that makes the eligible pensioners solely liable for payment of the rates. In this case the full rebate will apply.

If an eligible pensioner becomes ineligible for any reason, the Council rebate will be written back proportionally according to the number of full quarters left in the rating year (Section 58 of the Local Government Act 1993).

Hardship

Eligible pensioners can apply to Council for assistance at any time within the current rating year if they are suffering financial hardship and are having difficulty paying their rates and charges. The procedure to apply is set out in the Council's Hardship Policy.

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