Application for

Rates Postponement: Financial Hardship



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Important information

Complete this form in full if you wish to apply for postponement of rates under the above policy. Please see the full policy with conditions and criteria at the end of this form.

Policy objective

To assist the ratepayers experiencing financial hardship which directly affects their ability to pay rates. This objective support our principle of financial affordability.

General conditions and criteria

- · The application must support the objectives of this policy.
- The Council must be satisfied that:
 - the ratepayer does not have the financial capacity to pay their rates instalment when due; or
 the payment of rates instalment would create financial hardship to the ratepayer.
- · Any postponed rates will be postponed until:
 - A date specified by the Council; or
 - The death of the ratepayer(s); or
 - The ratepayer(s) cease(s) to be the owner of the rating unit through sale or transfer.
- · Postponed rates may be registered as a charge, by registering a Notice of Charge on the Record of title.
- An annual postponement fee may be required. This fee will be calculated as a percentage interest rate and will be used to cover Council's administrative and financial costs.
- The applicant must have received budget advice from a Budget Advisory Service, an accountant or a lawyer and must make the budget adviser's findings available to the Council Revenue Team to support the application.

1. Applicant deta	ails
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Name: Postal address:			Date of birth:
No.	Street/Road		Suburb
Town/City			Postcode
Phone:		Mobile:	
Email:			
2. Property de	etails		
Valuation referen	nce:		
Property location	n:		
The property I a	m applying for is a:	Residential rating unit(s) (Go to 2A)	Non-residential rating unit(s) (Go to 2B)
2A. Residenti	al		

To qualify for a postponement/deferral of rates, the following criteria must be met. Please carefully read each point and tick your acknowledgement.

Is the rating unit your primary residence?	Yes	No
How long would you require a rate deferral for?		
Have you received budget advice from an approved budget advisory service and included the findings v If you've answered No, why?	with this form? Yes	No

(Please note: Failure to attend the budget advisory meetings or failure to make the budget adviser's findings available to Council will automatically result in the application being declined.)

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Tell us about your personal and financial circumstances relevant to your application. (eg. age, physical or mental disability, injury, illness, family circumstances, all property and other assets (including financial assets).

Details of rates outstanding
Financial Year Amount Outstanding

Do you wish to add further comments to support your application?



2B. Non-residential rating units

The postponement/deferral of rates is a last resort to assist commercial, industrial, business or farming ratepayers after all other avenues to meet commitments have been exhausted. The financial hardship must be caused by circumstances outside of business's control. In addition to the general condition and criteria listed above, the following criteria for non –residential applications must also be considered.

Tell us why you are financially stressed and what avenues have you tried to fund your rate? (eg. loan from the bank):

How long would you require a rate deferral for?

What is the net value your property (after the value of all the mortgages on the property and the total value of the rates postponed)?

Have you received budget advice from an approved budget advisory service and included the findings with this form?	Yes	No
If you've answered No, why?		

(Please note: Failure to attend the budget advisory meetings or failure to make the budget adviser's findings available to Council will automatically result in the application being declined.)

Details of rates outstanding

Financial Year Amount Outstanding Do you wish to add further comments to support your application?



3. Privacy Act

In signing this form I acknowledge that the information collected and provided in this application is for the purpose of processing the application and may be published or discussed in public meetings of Council in accordance with the Local Government Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the Privacy Act 2020. I understand I have the right to contact the Council at any time to raise any concerns with this potential publication and/or cancel my application.

4. Signature

Signature:

Date:

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5. My household budget

INCOME (weekly, net after tax) Salary/wages Partner's income Working for Families assistance Child support (you receive) Benefit (before deductions) Accommodation supplement CDA (Child Disability Allowance) Student loan/allowance ACC Superannuation/pension Rent/board (you receive) Other earnings **TOTAL INCOME** Less EXPENSES (E) SURPLUS (DEFICIT)

This budget has been supplied as a personal household budgeting tool. It has been completed by or for the individual named above from information supplied by them for their purposes only. This information has not been verified and no responsibility is accepted for its accuracy. No third party or agency accepts any responsibility to any other person(s) or organisation(s), on any grounds whatsoever, for the accuracy or otherwise of this information.

WEEKLY EXPENSES Benefit repayments **IRD** payments Court payments Child support (you pay) Groceries - general Groceries - other Rent/board Petrol/fuel Fares Personal cash Liquor Tobacco Gambling Childcare/daycare Preschool (kohanga reo, playcentre, etc) School costs (trips, lunch money, etc) Giving (charity, church, koha, etc) Children's pocket money

Superannuation

Savings

Other weekly/fortnightly costs

TOTAL A

MONTHLY EXPENSES

Bank fees House mortgage Electricity Gas Phone/internet Cell phone Pay/subscription TV Appliance rental Credit contracts Credit/store cards Other monthly costs

ANNUAL EXPENSES House insurance Contents insurance Health/life insurance Vehicle insurance Vehicle registration Vehicle warrant of fitness Vehicle maintenance Road user charges (diesel) School fees School activity fees Other school costs Rates **Regional rates** Water rates Recreation/memberships (adults) Recreation/membership (children) Other annual expenses

TOTAL C

OTHER EXPENSES

Heating (wood, coal, etc)

Taxation provision

Medical

Dental

Optician

Presents

Repairs

Clothing/shoes

Haircuts

Christmas club

Vet fees

Other costs

TOTAL D

EXPENSES TOTAL E Sum of totals A, B, C, D

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17. Financial Hardship

17.1 Objective

To assist ratepayers experiencing financial hardship which directly affects their ability to pay rates.

This objective support our principle of financial affordability.

17.2 General Conditions and Criteria

The application must support the objectives of this policy.

The Council must be satisfied that the ratepayer does not have the financial capacity to pay their rates instalment when demanded, or the payment of rates instalment would create financial hardship to the ratepayer.

Any postponed rates will be postponed until:

- a. A date specified by the Council; or
- b. The death of the ratepayer(s); or
- c. The ratepayer(s) cease(s) to be the owner of the rating unit through sale or transfer.

Postponed rates may be registered as a charge, by registering a Notice of Charge on the Record of Title.

An annual postponement fee may be required. This fee will be calculated as a percentage interest rate and will be used to cover Council's administrative and financial costs.

Before making written application, the applicant must have received budget advice from the Budget Advisory Service, accountant or lawyer and must make the budget adviser's findings available to Council staff.

Applicants may also elect to postpone the payment of a lesser sum than that which they would be entitled to have postponed pursuant to this policy.

Residential

The rating unit must be the primary residence of the ratepayer.

When considering whether financial circumstances exists, all of the ratepayer's personal circumstances will be relevant including the following factors:

- Age
- Physical or mental disability
- Injury
- Illness
- Family circumstances
- · All property and other assets (including financial assets)

The Council must be satisfied that the ratepayer does not have the financial capacity to pay their rates instalment when demanded, or the payment of rates instalment would create financial hardship to the ratepayer.

In addition to the General conditions outlined under 17.2, any postponed rates will be postponed until:

d. The ratepayer(s) cease(s) to use the property as their residence.

Non-residential Rating Units

The postponement of rates is a last resort to assist commercial, industrial, business or farming ratepayers after all other avenues to meet commitments have been exhausted. The financial hardship must be caused by circumstances outside the business's control.

In addition to the general criteria, the following criteria for nonresidential applications must also be considered.

Criteria for postponement of rates for non-residential rating units, in cases of hardship as follows:

- The applicant must be unable to pay their rates because of business circumstances
- The applicant must have tried all other avenues (including a loan from their bank) to fund their rates
- The net value of an applicant's property (after the value of all the mortgages on the property and the total value of the rates postponed) must exceed 10% of the market value of the property.