



CUMBERLAND
CITY COUNCIL

Pensioner Rebate Policy

AUTHORISATION & VERSION CONTROL

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide eligible pensioners with the mandatory pensioner concession relating to Rates and Charges under the provisions of Section 575 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act). Also, Section 582 of the Act to provide an additional voluntary concession.

SCOPE

This Policy applies to eligible pensioners within the Cumberland City Council Local Government area (LGA) who are owners, responsible for the payments of rates and occupy the dwelling to which they are paying rates as their sole or principal place of living.

POLICY STATEMENT

Council provides a reduction in rates to eligible pensioners by way of a mandatory and voluntary rebate under the Act.

Mandatory Rebate

Under Section 575 of the Act, a mandatory rebate of up to \$250 is provided to eligible pensioners.

Voluntary Rebate

In addition to the mandatory rebate, Council provides voluntary rebate of up to \$25 to eligible pensioners under Section 582 of the Act.

Eligible pensioners who apply, own and occupy a dwelling within the Local Government Area in which they have resided in for five (5) years continuous can receive an additional \$75 to a maximum total of \$100 rebate per financial year.

PRINCIPLES

To be an 'eligible pensioner', the ratepayer must be in receipt of a current Pensioner Concession Card issued by Centrelink.

Alternatively, you must be a holder of the Department of Veterans Affairs' (DVA) Gold Card & must also have a Pensioner Concession Card to be eligible. If you are a holder of a DVA Total Permanent Incapacitated (TPI) or Extremely Disabled Adjustment (EDA) Card the mandatory rebate will apply.

In addition, to claim the rebate on rates, the pensioner must be the owner, be responsible for payment of rates, and occupy the dwelling to which they are paying rates as their sole or principal place of living.

REQUIREMENTS

All pensioners wishing to make an application for a rebate must apply on the prescribed form as advised by Section 579 of the Act.

The mandatory rebate will be calculated proportionate to the quarterly periods remaining for that financial year in accordance with Section 575 of the Act. Similarly, concessions cease on the last day of a quarterly period in accordance with Section 584 of the Act. Council's voluntary rebate will also be proportionate in the same manner as Section 575 of the Act.

If eligibility ceases for the maximum voluntary rebate \$100, and then becomes an eligible pensioner again, the eligible pensioner must re-apply when they reach five (5) years continuous ownership and occupying a dwelling to receive the maximum voluntary rebate under this Policy.

If you are a holder of a Pensioner Concession Card or DVA Card, then you must apply within the same financial year of receiving this card. A rebate will be applied on the current financial year only.

RELATED LEGISLATION

- *Local Government Act (1993)*

RELATED DOCUMENTS AND COUNCIL POLICY

- *Pensioner Concession Application Form*