



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 to eligible pensioners.

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 and charges 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 a voluntary rebate of up to \$25 to all eligible pensioners under Section 582 of the *Act*.

A further Additional Voluntary Rebate of up to \$100 is granted to eligible pensioners who apply, own and have occupied a dwelling within the LGA for a minimum of five (5) full consecutive financial years. The additional rebate will take effect from 1 July of the new financial year once the five years of full ownership has elapsed.

PRINCIPLES

To be an 'eligible pensioner', the ratepayer can claim the rebate towards rates and charges. 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.

To meet the criteria of an 'eligible pensioner', the ratepayer must be in receipt of a current Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card (PCC).

Alternatively, a holder of the Department of Veterans Affairs' (DVA) Total Permanent Incapacitated (TPI) or Extremely Disabled Adjustment (EDA) Card.

The pensioner details of either card must match the name exactly to the ownership of the property to which they are claiming a rebate.

All other Department of Veteran Affairs' (DVA) Gold Card holders must also have a Pensioner Concession Card to be eligible to apply to receive the Mandatory Rebate.

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 Additional Voluntary rebate concession will also be proportionate in the same manner as Section 575 of the *Act*.

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)*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (NSW)*

RELATED DOCUMENTS AND COUNCIL POLICY

- *Pensioner Concession Application Form*

ELIGIBILITY

- Holders of Centrelink's PCC (Pensioner Concession Card)
- Holders of Department of Veteran Affairs' (DVA) Gold Card embossed with TPI (Totally Permanently Incapacitated)
- Holders of DVA Gold Card embossed with EDA (Extreme Disablement Adjustment)
- War Widows or Widowers or wholly dependent partners who have a DVA Gold Card must also have Centrelink's Pensioner Concession Card.