



Glamorgan Spring Bay Council

Conservation Covenant Rebate Policy

Version 2

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1 Introduction

1.1 Objective

The objective of this policy is to outline the eligibility and guidelines for rate rebates granted on property preserved under conservation covenants.

1.2 Scope

This policy applies to rateable land for which Council receives formal notification by the relevant State Authority of it being preserved for conservation purposes in perpetuity.

1.3 Definitions

A conservation covenant is a legally binding agreement under the Nature Conservation Act (2002) that is registered on a land title.

1.4 Related Policies and Legislation

This policy relates to and depends on other Council policies, as well as legislation, including:

- Section 129 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

1.5 Policy Review and Update Cycle

This policy is to be reviewed in May 2021.

1.6 Delegation

The General Manager has delegated authority to apply the provisions of this policy.

1.7 Reporting

Details of rebates provided under this policy will be reported to Council on an annual basis.

2 Procedure

Council offers a rate rebate scheme which enables land vegetated, including forest, non-forest and wetlands, which have been covenanted for conservation in perpetuity.

This includes land with conservation covenants for both the Protected Area's on Private Land and the Private Forest Reserves Program.

The rate rebate offered is \$5 per hectare per annum for the land area of which is subject to the covenant. The rebate will be of a minimum annual value of \$50 and a maximum value of \$500, or three-quarters of the general rate that would otherwise be payable on the entire property before any applicable rate remissions have been applied (whichever is of the lesser value).

The rate rebate may be forfeited if the rates on the property are not fully paid by the specified due dates. The general manager has the delegated authority to determine the application of this provision. This delegation may be sub-delegated by the General Manager to any other staff member. New and existing applications will be subject to sufficient funding being allocated in annual budgets.

3 Implementation

Implementation of this policy is the responsibility of Council's Rates Officer (or equivalent).

Letters will be sent out annually to ratepayers shortly after sending annual rate notices to advise them of their reduction in rates as part of this policy.