



**GLAMORGAN
SPRING BAY
COUNCIL**

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council

Rate Relief for Community Groups Policy

Version 3

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

To recognise the contributions community groups and organisations make to the community and to assist them by providing rate relief.

1.2 Scope

This policy covers all forms of community groups and organisations.

1.3 Definitions

Nil

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* (the Act).

1.5 Policy Review and Update Cycle

This policy is to be reviewed every 4 years.

2 Policy

This policy refers only to the general rates that are payable on the proportion of land that is owned or used by the organisation. Commonwealth, Crown, State and Council owned land is exempt from this policy. All organisations listed below are required to pay all service rates and charges in full. A remission on general rates can only be considered initially upon receipt of a written request from the organisation to the General Manager.

2.1 Types of Organisations

CLUBS - 100% remission in general rates

- Examples of such organisations are Scouts, Girl Guides, Retired Servicemen's League and similar.

SPORTING BODIES – No remission on general rates

- Examples of such organisations are Cricket, Football, Tennis, Badminton, Soccer Clubs, Sporting Shooters Clubs, Boating Clubs, Golf, Bowls and the like.
- In previous years a 50% remission was available for Sporting Bodies.
- With the change in rating models, land use for Sport and Recreation will see a significant reduction in rates.
- Therefore, the remission for this group has been reviewed and Council do not believe that it continues to be justified. Council will continue to monitor and review this policy.

COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS - 50% remission on general rates

- Examples of such organisations are Men's/Community Sheds, Museum, Art Gallery and the like.

CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS - Exempt from General Rates

- Examples of such organisations are St Vincent De Paul, Salvation Army and the like.
- Charitable organisations are exempt from General Rates per S.87 of the Act, where the land is owned and occupied exclusively for charitable purposes.

HEALTH FACILITIES - No remission from general rates

- Examples of such organisations are Nursing Homes, Retirement Homes, Child Care Centres, Doctors Surgeries, Specialist Consultancy Practices, and the like.

2.2 Criteria

- To qualify for a remission the property must be solely used for public or community purposes. If the property is used for any other purposes, then no remission on general rates is available.
- The organisation must apply in writing each year.

3 Implementation

Implementation of this Policy rests with the General Manager and the Director of Corporate and Community.

4 Delegation

This policy is delegated to the General Manager.

5 Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the General Manager to approve any remission under this policy.