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|  | Application for Remission or Postponement of Rates | Version No: | V 01.01 |
| | | Reviewed Date: | 11/01/2017 |
| | | Next Review: | 11/01/2019 |

Application for Remission of Rates or Postponement of Rates - Financial Hardship

Legislation

Remissions of rates, fines and postponement of rates on the basis of hardship are provided for under the Local Government Act 1999. In particular Section 182 contains provisions for remission or postponement of rates in whole or in part on the basis of hardship.

Application for Remission of Rates and Postponement

To apply for a remission of general rates or a postponement of rates on the basis of ongoing financial hardship please complete all sections of the attached form. All details supplied are confidential.

This application does not relate to senior postponement of rates.

Rate Remissions and Postponements – Financial Hardship

Applications for remission of rates or postponement of rates from ratepayers suffering ongoing or extreme financial hardship, will considered each application on an individual basis and on its own merits. Postponed rates (on the basis of hardship) are also subject to evidenced ongoing extreme hardship criteria.

The following supporting documents supplied by an accredited financial counsellor (*this service is available free of charge through some charitable organisations eg Uniting Communities but no longer offered through Families SA*) must be provided with this application form:

- current income and expenditure statement
- a prepared suggested budget
- a letter for Council substantiating the current financial circumstances, indicating any advice, assistance provided to the ratepayer and their reasons supporting that a rate remission be granted

Property Valuation and Rates Payable

As rates are based on property value, prior to lodging any application for remission, the ratepayer should first determine if they consider their valuation to be a fair assessment of their property. If the valuation is considered to be incorrect, an objection to valuation must be lodged through the State Valuation office within 60 days after the service of the first rate notice for the current year. Please telephone the State Valuation office on 1300 653 345 to discuss any valuation issues.

Payment of Rates Pending Processing of Remission Application

Where a ratepayer has applied for a remission of rates or postponement of rates, payment of any amounts due cannot be deferred pending the outcome of their application. Amounts due must be paid as invoiced or statutory fines or interest will apply. Where a rates remission is granted, the applicant will be advised in writing and the adjusted amount will be reflected in the following rates notice.

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| <i>W:\23. Rates\FORMS\Application for remission of rates or postponement of rates V01.01</i> | <i>Electronic version on the W:Drive is the controlled version. Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.</i> | Page 1 of 5 |
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Section A - Ownership/Ratepayer Details

| | |
|--|----------|
| Name of ALL Ratepayer(s): | |
| | |
| | |
| Postal address: | |
| Daytime telephone: | |
| Name of owner: (Complete only if different to Ratepayer details or indicate 'as above') | |
| Property address: | |
| Rates Assessment No: | |
| Purchase date of property: | |
| Is this your principal place of residence: | Yes / No |
| Please list ANY other properties owned: (attach list if insufficient space provided) | |
| | |
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| | |

Section B - Occupant Details

Please provide details of all occupants of the property

For the column marked 'Status' - please indicate if this person is employed, unemployed, pensioner, SFR concession holder, dependent child or other suitable description (attach list if insufficient space).

| Occupant No. | Name | Relationship (Spouse etc) | Status |
|--------------|------|---------------------------|--------|
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |
| 5. | | | |



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| 6. | | | |
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Section C - Concession Details

Please provide details of any concessions for which all ratepayers/occupiers are/may be eligible. Concession Types = Pensioner, SFR concession, Centrelink beneficiary, health care card holder.

| Occupant No. | Concession type | Pensioner, Seniors card, Centrelink or card number (shown on your card) | Date of grant or date benefits commenced |
|--------------|-----------------|---|--|
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |

Have you received or applied for the appropriate concession toward council rates for the current financial year? **Yes No** (Please circle answer)

If the answer to the above question is 'No' do you require information on how to apply for the concessions available? **Yes No** (Please circle answer)

Section D - Rates/Fines Remission or Postponement

| | |
|---|----|
| Amount of general rate remission requested: | \$ |
| Amount of fines remission requested: | \$ |

Are you requesting a postponement of rates? **Yes No** (please circle response)

Note: This application form does not relate to senior postponement of rates.

Please state reason for this request – This information must be provided:

(If insufficient space attach separate sheet)

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Section E – Valuation and Declaration

Do you consider the Capital Value shown on your annual rate notice to be a fair assessment for the property? **Yes No** (Please circle response)

Have you lodged an objection to the valuation with the state valuation office for the current financial year? **Yes No** (Please circle response)

Please note: If you have responded ‘No’ to both of the above questions you must lodge an objection to valuation (please see instructions on page 1 of this document). Applications for remissions will not be considered unless any issues with the valuation have been resolved.

Have you previously received remissions of rates on the basis of on-going financial hardship? **Yes No** (Please circle response)

Legal Declaration

I wish to apply for a remission on my rates for the **2016-17** financial year and declare that the information shown above is true and correct:

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Please forward the completed application to:

**District Council of Mount Remarkable
PO Box 94
MELROSE SA 5483**

Once the application has been assessed, you will be advised of the outcome in writing. Until you are advised of the outcome of your application please ensure that you pay your rates as per your Rates Notice or statutory fines or interest will apply.

Payment of any amounts due cannot be deferred pending outcome of this application.



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Section F – Supporting Documents

Checklist

Please check the list below to ensure you have supplied all documents required with this application form;

- current income and expenditure statement
- a prepared suggested budget
- a letter for Council substantiating the current financial circumstances, indicating any advice, assistance provided to the ratepayer and their reasons supporting that a rate remission be granted.