



Rates Remissions and Postponement Policy for Māori Freehold Land

Māori freehold land is defined by the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 as “Land whose beneficial ownership has been determined by the Māori Land Court by Freehold Order”.

The Local Government Act 2002 requires Council to adopt a policy on the “Remission and Postponement of Rates on Māori Freehold Land”.

Council adopted a General Remissions and Postponements Policy in 2003, which has the objective of “facilitating the ongoing provision of community services and recreational opportunities for the residents of the West Coast Region”.

The general policy applies to land owned and occupied by charitable organisations, which is used exclusively or principally for sporting, recreation, or community purposes, and the organisation wishes to receive a discretionary 50% remission in addition to any mandatory 50% remission allowed by statute (i.e. zero rates).

Existing organisations receiving a discretionary 50% remission as at 30 June 2003 continued to receive this remission provided their circumstances continue to come within the criteria of the general policy.

It is considered appropriate for the existing general remissions and postponements policy to include Māori Freehold Land.

Policy

The Council’s policy with regard to Rates Remissions and Postponement also applies to Māori Freehold Land.