

Application for rates remission



Owner name

Property address:

Rate account no.

Your postal address:

I/we wish to apply for the following:

(Tick appropriate box)

- Rural open space remission
- Remission on land used principally for games or sport
- Remission of downtown levy targeted rate on property under development
- Remission of voluntary residential metered water rates
- Special circumstances remission

Please check the reverse of this form for the conditions and criteria for each remission type and include documentation to demonstrate the property meets these.

I understand the following:

- This application applies to Wellington City Council rates only
- My application is for one year only
- I must reapply every year to have a remission applied to rates on a property

I/we confirm that I/we are the owner(s) of the above property.

I/we confirm that the information supplied is true and correct in every respect

I/we confirm that I/we will advise Council should the qualifying criteria of the property change during the remission period

Signed:..... Date:

Name: (please print)

Applications must be received prior to the commencement of the rating year the remission is being applied for (1 July), with the exception of the Special Circumstances Remission and the Voluntary Residential Metered water Rates Remission which may be received after the start of a rating year. No applications will be backdated beyond the current rating year.

Please return your completed application to the Rates team either by email to Rates@wcc.govt.nz or by post to Rates Team, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington.

Qualifying criteria

Rural open space remission

Land used principally for farming or conservation purposes

A rates remission of 50 percent of the Base general rate will be granted to rating units that are classified as rural under the District Plan and used principally for farming or conservation purposes.

Under this policy "principally for farming or conservation purposes" is defined as where:

- a) The rating unit (or property) exceeds 30 hectares in area, and
- b) 50 percent or more of the rateable capital value of the property is made up of the land value, and
- c) the principal use of the land is for conservation, agriculture, horticulture, pastoral or silviculture purposes, or for the keeping of bees, poultry or other livestock excluding commercial dog kennels or catteries.

Remission of rates on land used for sports or games

Where the Council considers a rating unit is used principally for games or sport, it will apply a 50 percent remission of general rates where the rating unit:

- a) has a club licence under the Sale of Liquor Act 1989, and
- b) would otherwise qualify as 50 percent non-rateable under Part 2, Schedule 1, of the Local Government (Rating) Act, and
- c) the property is rated at the Base differential.

For the avoidance of doubt, this policy specifically excludes chartered clubs and clubs holding permanent charters.

Remission of downtown levy targeted rate on property under development

A remission of the Downtown Levy targeted rate may be granted to rating units that are classified under the Council's commercial, business and industrial differential and located in the "downtown area" as defined within our Funding Impact Statement Rating Mechanisms where the property is temporarily not fit for purpose. Under this policy "not fit for purpose" is defined as where:

- a) the property (rating unit) will not hold sufficient consents to permit occupation and,
- b) the property (rating unit) will not be used for any purpose, apart from the construction of buildings, premises or associated works, and
- c) the property (rating unit) will not generate any revenue stream

The above criteria apply to and must be met by an entire rating unit, as identified in the Council's rating base.

Remission of voluntary residential metered water rates

A remission of the residential metered water rate may be granted for excess water consumption where the leak is the rate payer's responsibility (beyond the point of supply). Excess water consumption will be calculated as the difference between actual metered usage on the latest reading and the average daily metered usage over the last 4 readings. The full water rate will be charged on the average daily usage over the last 4 readings and the excess water consumption (as calculated above) will be charged at the current Greater Wellington Regional Council bulk water rate. This remission should only be applied for if:

- i. the leak occurred on a voluntary residential metered water property; and
- ii. excess water consumption has occurred through a broken or leaking pipe; and
- iii. evidence is provided that the fault has been remedied within a reasonable time period and prior to the application for a remission;

In the advent of a recurrence of a water leak, Council would require the property owner to get a condition assessment of the pipes on the property prior to any decisions to remit a subsequent remission.

Remission of rates in special circumstances

The Council may remit part of the general rate assessed in relation to particular rating unit where:

- i) the rates on that rating unit are disproportionate to those levied in respect of comparable rating units, or
- ii) the rating policy is determined by the Council to unfairly disadvantage an individual ratepayer.