

RATES SUBSIDY

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 104

1. POLICY STATEMENT

That a 50% subsidy for current rates (excluding municipal, garbage or other charges) be made available to those organisations that occupy premises in the Gannawarra Shire that:

- Provide either health, education, counselling, sporting, cultural or other charitable services to the community, whose staff operation only on a voluntary basis and where any profits derived from commercial activities are used only to support the activities of the organisation
- Are responsible for the payment of rates and charges for those premises
- Are not suited on land that can be considered for rating purposes under the Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963.

2. ADVERTISING

Council will advertise the availability of the subsidy in local newspapers after the adoption of the annual budget.

3. MAKING APPLICATION

Organisations will be required to make written application by 30 April describing their objectives and confirming that any profits from commercial activities are applied in promoting those objectives and not paid as a dividend or amount to any of its members or staff.

Claims will only be for the current year. Prior years cannot be claimed.

Full payment of rates must be made by 15 February each year. Where a subsidy is approved, Council will issue a refund in June of that financial year.

4. APPROVED ORGANISATIONS

Once an organisation is approved for the subsidy, the subsidy will remain in force until the circumstances allowing the subsidy change.

Approved organisations will be requested to confirm their continued entitlement to the subsidy within twelve months of the review of this policy.

5. POLICY REVIEW

Council will review this policy as required, but always within two (2) years after a general election of the Council.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

Members of the public may inspect all Council policies at Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna Offices, or online at www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au.

Any enquiries in relation to this policy should be directed to the Director Corporate Services on (03) 5450 9333.

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