

# Council Policy

## Draft Rates Remission Farm Properties Policy

Effective Date:	1 July 2025
Date First Adopted:	2003
Last Reviewed:	2021
Next Review Date:	2027 (Three Yearly Review)
File reference:	Pol 18
Responsibility:	Group Manager, Finance and Corporate Services
Associated Documents:	N/A

# 1. Policy Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to ensure that the rates charged to farming properties are not unreasonably high and that they are comparable to the rates charged by other Councils for farming properties of similar value.

# 2. Policy Principles

The level of rates charged for farming property should be fair and equitable.

# 3. Background

Council's rating system has two differentials for the general rate:

- Residential (which includes rural lifestyle) and
- Industrial/Commercial

Farming property is classified as 'residential' for the purposes of charging the general rate, but following the last revaluation, it has been recognised that the rates charged to these properties would not be reasonable if they were charged the rates applicable to residential property in full.

Following the revaluation of the district in 2018, Council revisited the portion of the remission and reduced it from 70% to 45% so the contribution by farming properties to the general rate was similar to that prior to the revaluation. Following the next revaluation in 2021, Council has reviewed the quantum of the remission, with a remission of 30% applicable for 2022/23 and 2023/24.

# 4. Policy Statement

Council will grant a 30% remission for 2025/26 (30% 2024/25) for the general rate charged to farming properties comprising the following assessment numbers:

07281/002.00

07281/008.01

07281/008.02

07281/008.04

07281/008.05

07281/008.06

07281/008.07

07281/008.08

07284/906.00

This remission is conditional on the properties remaining farming (as the principal use).

It will apply only to the general rate which is charged on capital value. The remission will not apply to the Uniform Annual General Charge nor to any other rates charged.

This policy has been reviewed following the last triennial revaluation of the District (August 2024), and it was determined that it was fair and reasonable to continue providing this remission to these properties. The policy will be further reviewed following the next revaluation of the district in August 2027.

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