

# Pensioner Rates Concession Policy

## Policy Details

|                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Policy Category</b>       | Council Policy                 |
| <b>Date Adopted</b>          | 30/6/2021                      |
| <b>Endorsed by</b>           | Chief Executive Officer        |
| <b>Approval Authority</b>    | Council                        |
| <b>Effective Date</b>        | 1/7/2021                       |
| <b>Policy Version Number</b> | 3.0.0                          |
| <b>Policy Owner</b>          | Director of Corporate Services |
| <b>Contact Officer</b>       | Manager Finance                |
| <b>Review Date</b>           | 30/6/2022                      |

## Supporting documentation

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Legislation</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Local Government Act 2009</i></li> <li>• <i>Local government Regulation 2012</i></li> </ul> |
| <b>Policies</b>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revenue Policy</li> <li>• Revenue Statement</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Delegations</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nil</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Forms</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form 311 – Pensioner Concession Application</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Supporting Documents</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate Plan 2021 - 2025</li> </ul>  |

## Version History:

| Version | Adopted    | Comment                       | eDRMS #           |
|---------|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 3.0.0   | 30/06/2022 | Council Resolution 0621/012   |                   |
| 2.0.0   | 15/07/2020 | Council Resolution SM0720/011 | POL_E_C<br>SF_018 |

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## Intent

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The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to pensioners who apply for rate concessions.

## Repeal

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This policy repeals all previous versions of policies relating to Pensioner Rates Remission.

## Scope

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This policy is applicable to all Pensioners within the Council area who meet the required criteria for the State Government rebate of rates and charges.

## Policy

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The State Government of Queensland grants a rebate of rates and charges to those persons who meet the required criteria and hold a current pension card. In line with this concession, Council recognises the financial constraints for Pensioners and extends a concession of its own.

In accordance with Section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 120 (1) (a) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council will grant a concession of 30% on all rates and charges (excluding excess water consumption charges, special rates and charges, and rural and state fire levy), relating only to the current rating period where:

1. The Pensioner meets the requirements for receiving the State Government pensioner concession; and
2. Can prove they have been a resident of Carpentaria Shire for a total of at least ten years.

Applications must be made by Pensioners seeking a concession under this Policy by using the Pensioner Concession Application Form. Approved Pensioner's cards shall be accepted as sufficient evidence that the person/s applying is/are an approved Pensioner, or if no card is presented, through confirmation by the Commonwealth Department of Human Services or the Commonwealth Department of Veterans Affairs, in accordance with the definition 1 - 5 of the Administrative Guidelines for the Queensland Government Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme.

In cases where the applicant Pensioner is a joint owner of a property with a person other than their spouse, a pro-rata concession shall be granted.

Subject to the applicant providing written consent to Council to seek confirmation, where a Pensioner has been granted a concession in accordance with a commensurate policy in a previous financial year, and where with applicant's pension and residential requirements have not altered, confirmation by the Commonwealth Department of Human Services and the Commonwealth Department of Veterans Affairs that he or she is an approved Pensioner, will be accepted in lieu of a written application.

Under this Policy any arrears of rates and charges associated with the residential allotment must be paid in full before a Pensioner is eligible to receive a concession.

## Definitions

| TERM             | DEFINITION  |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Form</b>      | Refers to Pensioner Concession Application form   |
| <b>Pensioner</b> | A person who is the holder of a pensioner concession card issued by the department of the Commonwealth responsible for administering the <i>Social Security Act 1991</i> (Cwlth) or the <i>Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986</i> (Cwlth). |

Adopted by Council 30 June 2021 by Resolution Number 0621/012



**Mark Crawley**  
Chief Executive Officer