

FIN-PL 515 Relief from Rates Hardship Resulting From Land Valuation Changes

1. **The purpose of this policy is**

to provide Rate relief to owners who experience substantial financial hardship as a result of using new land valuations for Rates assessment.

2. **Policy statement**

Council seeks to provide the Rates Manager with the authority to process applications under s601 of the Local Government Act 1993 - "Hardship resulting from certain valuation changes".

It is Council's intention that whilst rates will not be reduced or waived, the Rates Manager has the authority to defer payment of rates for a maximum period of 2 years once a hardship application is lodged. This ensures that Council's Rate revenue is protected.

Where the application is approved and payment of the increased Rates is made in accordance with the arrangement, interest charges will be written off.

This policy applies to all ratable owners whose land value has increased by more than the average increase for the particular rating category.

3. **Principles**

An application to defer Rates payment due to hardship is assessed based on:

- the percentage increase in land value
- corresponding interest in the Rates assessment; and
- any arrears of Rates at the time of application.

4. **Amendments**

The Rates Hardship Resulting From Land Valuation Changes policy FIN-PL 515 was last amended in December 2003.

This policy is due for review on 31 December 2008.

**FIN-PL 515 Relief from Rates Hardship
Resulting From Land
Valuation Changes (cont.)**

5. Authorisation

Policy no. FIN-PL 515 Relief from Rates Hardship Resulting From Land Valuation Changes was authorised by Council on 31.5.1995.

This policy is due for review on 31 December 2008.

6. Who is responsible for implementing this policy?

Service Unit Manager, Corporate.

7. Document owner

Director, Public Office.

8. Dataworks

Corporate Management – Corporate Unit/Standards

9. Legislation and references

s. 601 Local Government Act 1993 - "Hardship resulting from certain valuation changes"

Part 3, Sections 29-36 of the Valuation of Land Act 1916 "Notices and objections".

9.1. Definitions

None.`