

Rates & Charges Hardship Application Waiver of Rates & Charges

APPLICANT DETAILS

Address of Property: _____ Property Number: _____

Name of Ratepayer/s (print) _____

Current Address of Applicant _____

Tel No: (Home) _____ Mobile: _____

See reverse side of form for guidelines on wavier of rates due to severe hardship _____

Amount of current rates & charges outstanding: _____

Amount of waiver sought: \$ _____ (maximum \$500)

Have you sought advise from a Financial Counsellor: Yes No

If yes, please attach details. _____

If no, provide evidence or description of your severe financial hardship circumstances: _____

(Note: If you have further information, please attach letter). _____

I certify that the information provided is true and correct.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: / /

Please return this form to:
City of Greater Dandenong
PO BOX 200
DANDENONG VIC 3175

COUNCIL USE ONLY

INTRODUCTION

If you own land in the City of Greater Dandenong you will be required to pay council rates. However, if you would suffer severe financial hardship as a result of paying council rates you may apply for relief. Relief takes the form of waiving payment of the outstanding council rates and charges. Details of this are provided for in council's *Rates and Charges Hardship Policy* which can be viewed on council's website www.greaterdandenong.com

CASE OF HARDSHIP

You may apply for relief from council rates on the basis that the payment of the full amount for which you are liable would result in severe hardship. The liability to pay council rates does not in itself constitute severe hardship. You must be in detrimental circumstances (financial, personal or otherwise) so that further hardship would be incurred if payment of the council rates were enforced.

WHAT FACTORS ARE CONSIDERED WHEN DETERMINING SEVERE HARDSHIP

There are some factors the council will consider when deciding whether to grant the deferral of council rates and charges.

- Will the payment of council rates leave you unable to provide your immediate family with the necessities of food, shelter, clothing, medical expenses and other basic requirements? (The total assets and income of your family may be taken into account in cases of hardship).
- Could the council rates be paid by re-arranging finances, selling or drawing on non-essential assets? Relief is generally not provided when you have access to savings, other monetary investments or other income.
- Could you use equity in property or other assets as collateral for a loan to finance the payment of the council rates, without causing any substantial erosion of that equity?

HOW DO I APPLY FOR RATES WAIVER

An application must be made within six months of the date of the service of the rate assessment and must specify:

- Details of the severe hardship that would be suffered as a consequence of the immediate payment of the full amount of the rates.

In general, rate relief will be provided only when council is satisfied that severe financial hardship has been clearly demonstrated and the other forms of council rate relief (for example, payment deferred by an extension of time or an instalment plan) are not considered appropriate. A rates waiver may also be provided on compassionate grounds.

(Note: Where an application for such relief is unsuccessful, interest may be charged from the due date of the rate assessment notice).

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|  Telephone 9239 5100 |  Fascimile 9239 5196 |  TTY 13 14 50 |  9239 5153 |
|  Internet www.greaterdandenong.com |  Email council@cgd.vic.gov.au | | |

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