PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

Policy Document

POLICY NAME
Pensioner Rebate Policy

DATE ADOPTED
24 August 2026

NEXT REVIEW DATE
1 July 2030

COUNCIL MINUTE NUMBER
198

POLICY TYPE
Council Policy

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT
Financial Services

RELATED DOCUMENTS
Pensioner Rebate Procedure and Process

Purpose
To provide eligible pensioners with a rebate on Council rates and applicable charges, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Policy statement
Under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW,) eligible pensioners are entitled to receive a rebate on their Council rates. Penrith City Council also provides a voluntary rebate on stormwater charges. Council's Rates Section is responsible for assessing eligibility, administering rebates, and ensuring that rebates are applied in accordance with legislative requirements.

This policy provides for the maximum allowances to be applied to pensioner rebates under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Scope
This policy applies to the administration of pensioner rebates on rates and applicable charges and includes the following provisions:

- Section 575 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) requires Council to provide a mandatory pensioner concession (rebate) on rates.
- Penrith City Council provides the mandatory pensioner rebate, currently set at $250 per year.
- Penrith City Council also provides a voluntary rebate of the stormwater charge - $25 (house) or $12.50 (strata properties) where applicable.
- The applicant must hold a current Pensioner Concession Card issued by either Services Australia (Centrelink) or Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).
- Eligibility also extends to holders of a DVA Gold Card embossed with TPI (Totally and Permanently Incapacitated) or EDA (Extreme Disablement Adjustment).
- The property must be owned and occupied by the applicant as their sole or principal place of residence.

- Where a pensioner owns a property jointly with a spouse or partner, the full (100%) rebate may apply, subject to eligibility requirements being met even if the other owner is not an eligible pensioner. If both owners are pensioners, only one owner needs to apply to receive the full rebate, however both owners can apply.
- Where a property is jointly owned and the other owner is not a spouse or partner, and only one owner is an eligible pensioner, a partial rebate may apply.
- Where a property is jointly owned by more than one eligible pensioner, but the owners are not spouses/partners (eg Parent/child, siblings, unrelated), each eligible owner is required to complete a separate Pensioner Rebate application.

Applications

Applications may be made by:

- Telephone, via Council's Contact Centre; or
- Over the counter at Council Offices; or
- Other approved application methods as determined by Council.

Policy Administration

- The Rates Section is responsible for assessing pensioner rebate applications and verifying eligibility.
- Applicants will be notified of the outcome within 14 days of a complete application being received.
- Rebates are only applied in accordance with legislative requirements.
- A rebate will be provided from the first day of the next instalment period after the owner became eligible for the rebate.
- Where a backdating of the rebate is applicable, any rebate will be limited to the current rating year and the rating year prior to the application.
- If circumstances arise where the owner is no longer eligible for a pension rebate, the rebate will be ended from the beginning of the next instalment period and any necessary adjustment made to the rates account.

Document Control

Policy History	Approving Authority	Date
Development and adoption of the policy	Council	24 August 2024