

# WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL

## APPLICATION FOR HARDSHIP COVID-19 ASSISTANCE (RESIDENTIAL RATES )

Under Section 564 or 567 - Local Government Act, 1993

### 1. OVERVIEW

Due to the current Covid-19 Pandemic the Wentworth Shire Council will offer qualifying Ratepayers assistance who are experiencing hardship due to the loss of income placing them in a situation where they cannot pay their rates in full or by instalments.

Decisions will be made on a case by case basis.

### 2. INTENT

Council intends to provide Ratepayers the ability to defer their rates over an agreed period of time with a repayment plan not exceeding 12 months starting from the end of the agreed deferred period.

No interest will be charged on outstanding balances for a Covid-19 Assisted Deferred Rate Account, however if the repayment agreement is not upheld, Council has the right to review this and add interest at its discretion.

### 3. PROCESS

- i. A Residential Ratepayer will submit an application to Council via the 'Application For Hardship (Residential Rates) Covid-19 Assistance Form'
- ii. 'Application for Hardship (Residential Rates) Covid-19 Assistance Form' entered into Council's record management system and forwarded to Finance.
- iii. Finance will review the application and make an assessment based on the information provided to determine eligibility for assistance.

#### ***Eligibility for assistance is based on:-***

- Information about the Ratepayer's hardship situation via financial information (a) Income, (b) Expenditure.
  - Willingness of Ratepayer to provide a similar freeze on rental agreements with any commercial tenants
  - Acceptance of General Terms and Privacy Statement.
- iv. A designated finance staff member will contact the Ratepayer to advise if their application was successful.

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1. Applicant's Details (must be property owner)			
Salutation: (please tick)	Mr	Ms	Miss Other (please specify)
First Name:			Surname:
Street Address:			
Suburb:		Postcode:	
Phone No:		Mobile:	
Email:			

Postal Address (if different to street address):			
Suburb:		Postcode:	

2. Property Information			
Customer Reference No.			
Street Address:			
Suburb:		Postcode:	
a)	Is this property your principal residence?	Yes	No
b)	Is any part of the property tenanted?	Yes	No
	If yes, provide details:		
c)	Do you own the property	Yes	No
	i. By yourself?	Yes	No
	ii. With other person(s)?	Yes	No
	iii. Is the property owned as shares in a company title?	Yes	No
d)	How many people live at the property?		
	Please indicate who these people are?		
	Self	Spouse	
	Children (state ages)	Boarders	
	Relatives	Others (please specify)	
e)	Do you own (in full or in part), lease or have a financial or beneficial interest in any other land or building in the Inner West?	Yes	No
	If yes, please provide address(es) and details of financial interest		

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#### 3. Hardship Details

a) What is the cause of the hardship?

#### 4. Do you hold a Current Centrelink Or Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) Issued By The Commonwealth Government Through Centrelink Or The Department Of Veterans' Affairs?

YES

NO - Go to next question

Applicant name:

PCC number:

Card start date:

#### 5. Do you hold a gold card issued by the Department Of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) under the veterans' entitlement act (VEA) or Military Rehabilitation And Compensation Act 2004 (MRCA) and embossed with either:

Totally & Permanently Incapacitation (TPI)

Extreme Disablement Adjustment (EDA)

War Widow/er (WW)

NO – Go to next question

File No.

Date of Grant of TPI, EDA or WW under VEA

Date of eligibility for Special Rate Disability Pension (SRDP)\* or wholly dependent partner payment\*\* under the MRCA

\* date of eligibility for SRDP is the eligibility date as notified in the letter from the DVA.

\*\* date of eligibility for wholly dependent partner payment is the date of your partner's death.

TPI/EDA applicants will need to submit a copy of DVA letter of grant.

MRCA applicants will need to obtain a letter from DVA confirming eligibility. Call the DVA on telephone number: 133254, to obtain a letter.

War widow (ers)/wholly dependent partners must be eligible for a PCC in order to claim the pensioner concession on their rates. DVA can assist in determining your eligibility; contact DVA on 133254 or visit [www.factsheets.dva.gov.au](http://www.factsheets.dva.gov.au) for further information on the process.

#### 6. Have you claimed a pensioner concession on any other property this year?

Yes

No

If Yes, state the address of the other property:

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## 7. Privacy Statement

The information contained in this application form and any information requested for the purpose of assessing eligibility for a Hardship Rate Relief Assistance is required under the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005.

This information is required before your application for a Hardship Rate Relief Assistance can be processed. The information is private and confidential and Council must not disclose the information to any person or body if it is not directly related to the purpose for which the information was collected.

If you have a complaint about the use of your personal information, contact the Council's Public Officer. The information contained or referred to in this application form may be corrected and updated by you, by contacting the Council.

Applicant's signature:

Date:

\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

### INCOMPLETE OR ILLEGIBLE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AND WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU

- Please address your application  
ATTENTION:- FINANCE OFFICER - RATES  
"PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL"
- Lodgement details:
  - by email – [council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au)
  - by mail - Wentworth Shire Council – Po Box 81 Wentworth NSW 2049
- Applicants will be asked to provide detailed Financial information and a Statutory Declaration (separate document to be provided) if the first phase of the application is successful.

## OFFICE USE ONLY

Checked by Officer:

Initial of Officer:

Date:

Doc No: