

## RATING POLICY

The following rates are levied by Council

**General rates:** The Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC) and the differential rates together are the "general rates" which are used to fund Democracy, District Promotion and Tourism, Regulatory Services, Amenities and Reserves, Roading and Urban Development, Solid Waste and Storm-water Activities.

**Targeted rates:**

- Targeted Water Rate(s): To fund the particular water supply area's upgrade and maintenance to which a rating unit may be connected or serviced.
- Targeted Sewage Disposal Rate(s): To fund the particular sewage disposal area's upgrade and maintenance to which a rating unit may be connected or serviced.
- Targeted Waste Management Rate: To fund the collection and processing of kerbside waste and/or to fund the management of refuse tips/landfills.

## RATES REMISSION POLICIES

**Remission of Penalties**

Council allows for the remission of penalties in certain circumstances.

**Remission of rates on land used and/or occupied by community, sporting, and other organisations**

Council provides financial assistance to community, sporting and other non-profit organisations by granting a rates remission on properties owned or used for the provision of sporting, cultural, and recreational activities for the residents and ratepayers of the district.

**Remission of uniform charges on non-contiguous lands**

Council allows for a remission of uniform charges (excluding targeted rates) on non-contiguous rural lands that are used as a single entity and are owned or occupied by the same ratepayer. To qualify, only one of the rating units may have residential dwellings.

**Remission of rates and charges in times of extenuating circumstances**

Council allows for the remission of rates on properties affected by circumstances outside the normal status of everyday life (ie civil defence emergency situations).

**Remission of uniform charges and targeted rates on certain rating units**

Council will remit certain rates on properties that are used as a single property but have apportionments for differing uses.

**A full copy of these policies is available in Council's Long Term Council Community Plan or on application, from Council.**

## POLICY FOR RATES RELIEF ON MAORI FREEHOLD LAND

Council's policy with regard to Maori Freehold Land is that, unless the rating unit is eligible in terms of the general remission policies, then no remission or postponement will be given.

**Note: Council does not have a rates postponement policy.**

## RATE PENALTIES

The following penalties will apply to unpaid rates:

- A charge of ten per cent on so much of any instalment that has been assessed in the current year and which is unpaid after the due date(s) as shown on the rates assessment.
- A charge of five per cent on so much of any rates levied in previous years to the current, and which remain unpaid after 31 August in the current rating year.

## PAYMENT OPTIONS

Rates may be paid by cash, cheque, or Eftpos (credit card use will be subject to a surcharge) during the opening hours of the main office at 8 Brougham St, Westport (hours 8.30am-4.30pm) or at the Service Centre at 66 Broadway, Reefton (hours 9.00am-4.30pm).

Direct Debit (Easypay), Automatic Payments, Internet and Telephone Banking may also be used. Details on these including Direct Debit or Automatic payment forms are available from the main office in Westport (PO Box 21), or on the website [www.bullerdc.govt.nz](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz)

For those using any direct payment option, then the bank details are: Bank - **WESTPAC**, Branch - **WESTPORT**, Account name - **BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL**, Account number - **030897-0084770-00**. **PLEASE ENSURE YOU QUOTE THE VALUATION NUMBER FROM THE RATES INVOICE.**

## INSPECTION OF RATE RECORDS

Council's Rating Information Database is available at Council's main office, Brougham Street, Westport. Any ratepayer has the right to object to the information held in those records in terms of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.