

General rating delegations in Rates Remission Policy

TO Thames Coromandel District Council
FROM Donna Holland - Finance Manager
DATE 14 March 2018
SUBJECT **General rating delegations in Rates Remission Policy**

1 Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to seek approval for administrative changes to the general rating delegations in the current Rates Remission Policy.

2 Background

Section 132 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 (the Act) allows a local authority to delegate the exercise of functions, powers, or duties conferred by this Act to

- a) its Chief Executive Officer; or
- b) any other specified officer of the local authority.

However, the Act states that a local authority must not delegate the power to delegate. Therefore, any changes to delegations within the Act must be approved by a resolution of the Council.

3 Issue

The current rates delegations need to be amended because of the changes in Council officers resulting from the reorganisation and the resignation of the Revenue Manager.

The delegated approval amounts for penalties under 2.4.2 and 2.11.2 are recommended to be increased for each staff member to realise efficiency gains.

A wording change is required to the delegation for S41(3) to better align to the Act.

4 Discussion

Proposed administrative changes to the current Rates Remission Policy are presented with tracked changes to the policy in **Attachment A**.

Summary of proposed changes:

- Updating the name of the Audit and Risk Committee.
- Officer title changes - Revenue Manager becomes the Rates Manager; Chief Financial Officer becomes the Group Manager Corporate Services; Legal Counsel becomes the Audit and Risk Group Manager; Credit Controller becomes the Credit Manager; introduction of delegations for the Finance Manager and deletion of the Area Office Team Leader.
- Revised wording for interest on re-assessed rates to align correctly to the legislation (Section 41(3) in the general delegations table).

Note that this report is to seek approval for administrative changes to the current Rates Remission Policy. The proposed Rates Remission Policy that was adopted by Council on 31 October 2018, and amended on 20 February 2018, for consultation as part of the 2018-2028 Long Term Plan, will be revised to align with these policy changes when decisions on the proposed policy are taken during the Long Term Plan deliberations.

5 Suggested resolution(s)

That the Thames-Coromandel District Council:

1. Receives the 'General Rating Delegations' report, dated 14 March 2018.
2. Approves the administrative changes to the current Rates Remission Policy (Attachment A).

References-Tabled/Agenda Attachments

Attachment A - Rates Remission Policy - March 2018

Rates Remission Policy June 2015 - Administrative Changes - March 2018