

Statement of Proposal

Rates Remission and Postponement Policy

21 March 2024
A1202627

Ōpōtiki District Council would like to hear your thoughts on our draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy. We are updating this as part of the 2024 – 2034 Long Term Plan.

Summary of Proposal

This policy is updated every three years as part of the Long Term Plan development, and we're keen to hear your thoughts on our draft. You can also read more about the 2024 – 2034 Long Term Plan here: <https://connect.odc.govt.nz/long-term-plan-2024-2034>.

Purpose and use of this policy

The Local Government Act allows Councils to adopt a rates remission and rates postponement policy under section 102. The purpose of this policy is outline under which circumstances ratepayers may be eligible for a rates remission or postponement, and how to make an application.

What's new?

This policy has undergone quite a few changes.

1. Council used to have four rates remission/postponement policies: two for remissions and two for postponements. We have combined these into one policy as that is common practice in local government. It also means all the information is in one place and is easier to access.

2. We have updated the policy in compliance with legislation. This has not introduced any significant operational changes to the policy.
3. Ōpōtiki District Council no longer offers rates postponements (apart from ratepayers who enter into payment plans with Council). We have decided to retire our postponement policies as the criteria for a postponement was operationally identical as the criteria for a remission. Thus, our postponement policies were “gathering dust.”

You can read the full draft of Council’s Rates Remission and Postponement Policy on our Connect | Hono Mai website (connect.odc.govt.nz/rates-remission-and-postponement-policy) or by picking up a physical copy from our main office at 108 Saint John Street, Ōpōtiki.

Have your say

Connect with us! We want to hear your feedback, thoughts, and questions about our draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy. Your submissions directly contribute to Council’s decision-making.

KEY DATES

21/03/2024	Submissions open.
19/04/2024	Submissions close.
01/05/2024	Submitters’ opportunity to speak to Council about their submission. Council deliberates on submissions and any changes to the draft policy are agreed.
11/06/2024	Council adopts the updated Rates Remission and Postponement Policy.

Make a submission

Online

The easiest way to make a submission is to visit our Connect | Hono Mai website: connect.odc.govt.nz. The computers at Te Tāhuhu o Te Rangi are available for this if you do not have access to a computer.

Write to us

Printed copies of this proposal, the full policy, and the accompanying feedback form can be collected from our main office at 108 Saint John Street, Ōpōtiki, during usual business hours.

You can also call our main office on 07 315 3030 and ask for a printed copy and feedback form to be posted to you.

You can return the feedback form by

1. Sending it to Ōpōtiki District Council, PO Box 44, Ōpōtiki.
2. Dropping a copy off to our main office front reception at 108 Saint John Street, Ōpōtiki.
3. Emailing a copy to connectadmin@odc.govt.nz.

Your Privacy

All submissions are public information. This supports our drive to be as transparent as possible. If there are any personal details you don’t want made public, please let us know on your submission.

Want to know more?

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Peter Bridgewater at peterb@odc.govt.nz.