



## Policy 49 – New Business and Investment Assistance

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Adopted: 18 April 2016  
Minute 68/16

Version: 3

Reviewed Date: 26 June 2023

Council Minute No: 94/23

Statutory Authority: *Local Government Act 1993*

### OBJECTIVE

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To encourage new business, investment in commercial developments and existing businesses to create employment and expand the local economy.

### DEFINITIONS

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**Larger business:** means a business employing 20 or more people.

**Planning regulatory fees:** means fees incurred as a result of planning applications made under Part 4, Division 2 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

**Small business:** means a business employing fewer than 20 people.

### POLICY

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#### ***Discount on Planning Regulatory Fees***

For (i) new and/or existing small businesses or (ii) existing larger businesses, planning regulatory fees (excluding State Government Fees, where applicable) for new developments will be discounted by 50% of the amount stipulated in Council's Fees and Charges Schedule for the corresponding financial year, at time of application lodgement.

#### ***Eligibility criteria:***

- Discount does not apply to (i) visitor accommodation development for Class 1 buildings or (ii) residential development.

#### ***Application process***

- Applications must be made in writing to either the General Manager or Assistant General Manager by post or email.
- Approval of applications will be at the discretion of the General Manager or Assistant General Manager, in accord with applicable eligibility requirements of the Policy.

### ***Rate remission for new small business***

For new small businesses, a 50% rate remission for the first 12 months of business operation will be granted, subject to: (i) lawful occupation of a premises for the respective small business activity being demonstrated to the satisfaction of Council; and (ii) application for the rate remission being approved by the General Manger.

#### ***Eligibility criteria:***

- Remission is only available to business owners that are solely responsible for rates and charges applicable to the respective business premises (evidence must be supplied on request);
- Remission does not apply to (i) visitor accommodation for Class 1 buildings or (ii) residential use or development.
- Remission does not apply to rates charges that have increased due to a general revaluation or an increase by Council during the normal budget estimates process;
- Remission does not apply to re-establishment of an existing small businesses in new premises or under a new business name.

#### ***Application process***

- Applications must be made in writing to the General Manager by post or email.
- Approval of applications will be at the discretion of the General Manager, in accord with applicable eligibility requirements of the Policy.