

Multiple Pan Wastewater Remissions Policy

1. Relevant Legislation

- Local Government Act 2002
- Local Government Act 1974
- Local Government Rating Act 2002

2. Definitions

Actual water consumption	means the usage of water at an individual property based on the most recent four water supply meter readings in order to account for seasonal variations.
Wastewater estimation	means actual water consumption multiplied by a factor of 0.85

3. Policy Objective

To provide fair and reasonable relief to property owners, who have wastewater charges greater than a domestic household based on the presence of multiple pans, but who believe that their wastewater charges are not a true reflection of their actual use of wastewater treatment capacity.

To provide certainty regarding the conditions which must be satisfied before Council will accept an application for the remission of multiple pan wastewater charges.

The charging of wastewater will still require that a multiple pan charge is levied on those properties that have more than one (1) pan, but allows for an assessment of wastewater remission based on the conditions of application and remission.

4. General Obligations

Council has no obligation to remit for individual wastewater charges.

However, Council has resolved to assist wastewater customers with a remission if they believe that their wastewater charges, based on multiple pans, are not a true reflection of their actual use of the Council wastewater treatment capacity.

The wastewater contributions from individual households generally tend to be biodegradable and non-toxic to the biological processes at the wastewater treatment plant. The exception to this is when household cleaning products,

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solvents, paint thinners, motor oil, petrol, pesticides and herbicides are put into the sewer in significant quantities. Many of these are diluted to the point where they do not pose a problem to the treatment plant but some can be problematic even in small quantities.

The wastewater discharge from commercial and industrial activities will in future be assessed against both the new formula and the Trade Waste Bylaw. This is in order to assess which is the most justifiable method of charging based on;

- a) the composition and / or volume of their wastewater discharge
- and
- b) any additional treatment demands the discharge requires

Council will annually, prior to the initial rates demand being sent, write to all property owners eligible for a multiple pan wastewater remission advising them of the policy and requesting that they advise Council if they wish to apply for a remission.

5. Conditions of Application

Council will accept applications for remission of wastewater charges to properties connected to the Council owned wastewater reticulated network provided that:

- a) To resolve any doubt this policy expressly excludes rest homes and retirement villages irrespective of their commercial or charitable status;
- b) The application does not apply to schools as these are charged wastewater under the existing nationally accepted Donnelly Formula;
- c) The application does not apply to customers charged under the Trade Waste Bylaw
- d) The application applies to all residential, commercial, industrial and not-for-profit activities that do not fall in any of clauses 5 a),b) and c) above;
- e) The application must be made in writing and signed by the property owner(s);
- f) The application must relate to a property fitted with a functioning Council water meter;
- g) The water consumption for the previous four (4) billing periods was been verified by water meter readings undertaken by Council staff;
- h) The application for wastewater remission must be made prior to the issuing of the first (July/December) rates installment for a full remission;

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- i) Applications received after the issuing of the first (July/December) rates installment will only be eligible for a 50% remission;
- j) Applications will not be backdated.

6. Conditions of Remission

- a) Only one remission will be granted annually per qualifying property.
- b) Each remission will be assessed on a case by case basis.
- c) The maximum remission will be the difference between;
 - i. one sewerage charge for wastewater for the first pan plus the number of multiple pan charges applicable to the property, and
 - ii. one sewerage charge for wastewater for the first pan plus a wastewater charge of 85% of the actual average daily water usage based on the previous 4 billing periods.
- d) Remissions under \$5,000 can be approved by the Finance Manager. Remissions in excess of \$5,000 must be approved by the Chief Financial Officer.

7. Wastewater Estimation and Remission Calculation

- a) The wastewater estimation is based on the following;
 - Average district household daily water usage;*
 - 220 litres per person per day and 2.7 people per household = 0.6 m³ of water
 - Average district household daily wastewater discharge;*
 - Wastewater estimation = actual water consumption x 0.85
 - 0.6 m³ of water x 0.85 = 0.5 m³ of wastewater
- b) The wastewater estimation calculation is based on the following formula;
 - Wastewater estimation charge = 1 sewerage charge + [(estimated daily wastewater use in m³ – 0.5 m³) / 0.5] x 1 sewerage charge]
- c) If in assessing the application for remission the wastewater is identified as having treatment requirements greater than that of domestic wastewater the applicant will be advised that they will be transitioned to wastewater charging under the Trade Waste Bylaw provisions.

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8. Associated Council Policies and Procedures

- Western Bay of Plenty District Council's Long Term Plan;
- Western Bay of Plenty District Council's Annual Plan;
- Western Bay of Plenty District Council Water Supply System – Terms and Conditions for the Supply of Water 2008.
- Western Bay of Plenty District Council's Tradewaste Bylaw 2008 or its replacement

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Group	Policy, Planning & Community	Contact Liz Davies	Policy and Planning Manager
Supersedes	2008		
Creation Date	2015	Resolution Reference	Council
Last Review Date	2008	Resolution Reference	C19.2.16 LTP 2015 - 2025
Review Cycle	Review 1 year after completion of District wide water metering and 5 yearly thereafter	Date	
Authorised by	Policy and Strategy Committee	Date	25 June 2015