

POLICY NAME: DONATIONS – RATES AND CHARGES
POLICY REF: D03
MEETING REVIEWED: 23 July 2020
Resolution No 230720/30



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OBJECTIVE

The objective of this policy is to provide guidelines for the management of recurring rates and charges donations by Council.

POLICY

Council will annually donate land rates and charges (e.g. water, wastewater, etc.) to assist organisations in delivering community based services with the Ballina Shire. This assistance is provided as Council recognises that many community based organisations have limited resources and by providing this donation Council can assist these organisations in providing those services.

Guidelines for Selection:

- The recipient organisation must be not for profit and must provide a community service within the Ballina Shire.
- The organisation will typically be located on community owned or controlled land, being either Council or crown land.

Strategies:

1. Based on the guidelines Council has identified two categories of donations, being organisations that are entitled to a 100% donation of their rates and charges each year and organisations entitled to a portion of their rates and charges being donated each year.
2. The two categories are defined as:

Category A - Council will donate all rates and charges, as the organisation has:

- (i) no control over the levying of the number or amount of the land rates and access / annual charges and little or no control over the consumption component of any charge or

- (ii) the donation is consistent with an historical lease agreement, which is the case with the Ballina CWA. That lease agreement has now expired.

Category B – Council will donate the access / annual charges component of the rates and charges bill however the organisation will be responsible for charges based on usage, or optional charges, where the organisation has the ability to manage that usage or determine whether it wishes to be provided the service.

Category/ Organisation	Rates	Water		Sewer		Waste	Storm water	On Site Septic
		Access	Consumed	Access	Usage			
Category A (donation of all rates and charges)								
Surf Life Saving Clubs	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
CWA Hall Ballina	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Category B (donation of rates and any other fixed charges not directly related to a measurable “user pays” charge)								
Pre-schools / Playgroups	100%	100%	Nil	100%	Nil	Nil	100%	100%
Agricultural Societies	100%	100%	Nil	100%	Nil	Nil	100%	100%
Public Halls	100%	100%	Nil	100%	Nil	Nil	100%	100%
Scouts and Girl Guides	100%	100%	Nil	100%	Nil	Nil	100%	100%
Rescue Services	100%	100%	Nil	100%	Nil	Nil	100%	100%
Community Gardens	100%	100%	Nil	100%	Nil	Nil	100%	100%

3. Details of the organisations approved by Council to be included in categories A and B are as follows.

<p>Category A</p> <p>Surf Life Saving Clubs</p> <p>Ballina / Lismore Jnr SLSC</p> <p>Lennox / Alstonville SLSC</p> <p>Ballina / Lismore SLSC</p> <p>CWA Buildings</p> <p>CWA of NSW – Ballina</p> <p>Category B</p> <p>Pre-schools and Playgroups</p> <p>Fox Street Pre-School</p> <p>Ballina Playgroup</p> <p>River Street Pre-School</p> <p>Biala Special School *</p> <p>Lennox Head Pre-School (* partial Council)</p> <p>Alstonville Community Pre-School</p> <p>Wollongbar Pre-School</p> <p>Rainbow Children's Centre</p> <p>Lennox Head Playgroup</p> <p>Agricultural Societies</p> <p>Alstonville Agricultural Society *</p>	<p>Public Halls</p> <p>Newrybar Hall</p> <p>Northlakes Community Centre</p> <p>Pimlico Hall</p> <p>Wardell District War Memorial Hall</p> <p>Wigmore Hall</p> <p>Wollongbar Hall</p> <p>McLeans Ridges Hall *</p> <p>Tintenbar School of Arts *</p> <p>Meerschaum Vale Hall *</p> <p>Rous Mill Hall *</p> <p>Pearces Creek Hall *</p> <p>RSL Sub Branch Hall (13 Bugden Ave A'ville) *</p> <p>Alstonville Plateau Historical Society</p> <p>Girl Guide and Boy Scout Associations</p> <p>Lennox Scouts</p> <p>Ballina Scouts and Girl Guides</p> <p>Rescue Services</p> <p>Ballina Jetboat Surf Rescue *</p> <p>Marine Rescue NSW</p> <p>Community Gardens</p> <p>Ballina Community Garden</p> <p>Lennox Head Community Garden</p>
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(*) The organisations marked with an asterix are not located on Council owned or controlled land however they are included in the list of eligible organisations as Council recognises they provide services of a similar nature to the other organisations listed.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 356 of the Local Government Act Ballina Shire Council annually donates rates and charges to a range of community groups. This policy provides a framework to explain how Council allocates that assistance. Section 356 of the Local Government Act also requires a council resolution for each donation. Therefore the policy provides a framework for the donation but not the authority to donate.

REVIEW

This policy is to be reviewed at least every four years.