

STAFF REPORT

TO: Corporate Services Committee
FROM: Anthea Campbell, Rates Officer
DATE: 2 July 2007
SUBJECT: New Rate Remissions Applicants

This year there are six new organisations applying for rate remissions under Council's Rate Remission policy on Sporting, Recreation and Community Organisations. Their details are as follows:

1. Murchison Theatre

This is the first year Murchison Theatre have applied for a rate remission.

The Theatre comes under the promotion of arts, recreation, health and education category of Council's rate remission policy.

Revenue is generated chiefly from donations and grants, including a grant from Council for \$1500.00. There are no other theatres in our district receiving a remission.

Rates Total \$1026.70.

Recommendation

That the Murchison Theatre receives a rate remission of 25% for the 2007/2008 financial year.

2. St John

This is the first time that St John (Motueka) have applied for a remission. Their revenue is generated by community grants & donations, first aid courses and supplies. This year St John in the Tasman district are relocating their Richmond ambulance station and Council have agreed to a grant of \$40,000.

Rates Total \$3204.90.

Recommendation

That St John Motueka receive a rate remission of 25% for the 2007/2008 financial year.

3. Pigeon Valley Steam Museum

This is the first time the Pigeon Valley Steam Museum have applied for a rates remission.

The Museum comes under the promotion of arts, recreation, health and education category of Council's rate remission policy. They have very low revenue with their only income coming from Community Trust grants and a donations box.

Rates Total \$330.00.

Recommendation

That the Pigeon Valley Steam Museum is declined a rate remission for the 2007/2008 financial year as they only pay rates for water and recycling rate. Council's policy states "No remission will be granted on targeted rates for water supply or sewerage disposal".

4. 1st Karori Scouts – St Arnaud

This is the first time a remission has been applied for.

The Trust comes under the promotion of arts, recreation, health and education category of Council's rate remission policy. Their main revenue is generated from subscriptions. A comparable organisation already receiving a rate remission is the Scout Association Mohua Area with a rate remission of 100%.

Rates Total \$1981.90.

Recommendation

That the 1st Karori Scout Group is granted a 100% rate remission for the 2007/2008 financial year.

5. Nelson Badminton Club

The Nelson Badminton Club applied last year for a rate remission but were declined. The property is Council owned and the club pay pan charges and a refuse/recycling charge totalling \$1961.00.

Recommendation

That the Nelson Badminton Club is declined a rate remission as they only pay pan charges and refuse rates. Our policy states "No remission will be granted on targeted rates for water supply or sewerage disposal".

6. Te Wharerangi Trust (Golden Bay Community Gardens)

The Golden Bay Community Gardens applied for a rates remission last year but were declined.

The Trust comes under the promotion of arts, recreation, health and education category of Council's rate remission policy. The Trust provides a wide range of services & activities to the community of Golden Bay including composting, worm farming & waste management. The Trust's activities are mainly funded by sales, with small donations and grants from charitable organisations. The Trust receives a zero waste grant from Council and also holds the contract for worming.

Comparable organisations already receiving a rate remission are Bethany Park Trust, Bridge Valley Christian Trust, Rotoiti Outdoor Education Trust and Teapot Valley Christian Camp which each receive a 50% rate remission.

Rates total \$1.872.90.

Recommendation

That the Te Wharerangi Trust is granted a 50% rate remission for the 2007/2008 financial year.