



Central Coast Council

Conservation Covenant Rate Rebate Policy

JUNE 2021

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PURPOSE

To assist the conservation and protection of significant flora and fauna and habitat values on private property by providing recognition and support to landholders with land voluntarily protected under conservation covenants.

Where land has been assessed as having a high conservation value, in return for the landowners agreeing to a conservation covenant being placed on the title, the Council will provide a financial incentive by way of a rate rebate.

SCOPE

The Policy applies to rateable land that has been covenanted in perpetuity under either the Private Forest Reserves Program or the Protected Areas on Private Land Program under Part 5 of the *Tasmanian Nature Conservation Act 2002*.

STANDARDS (INCLUDING RELEVANT LEGISLATION)

This Policy was developed in accordance with:

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

- Section 129 of the *Local Government Act 1993*; and
- Part 5 of the *Tasmanian Nature Conservation Act 2002*.

RELATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS

- Rates and Charges Policy.

RELATED FORMS/TOOLS

- Conservation Covenant Rate Rebate Application Form.

POLICY STATEMENT

A rate rebate is to be provided to ratepayers that have registered conservation covenants within the municipal area of Central Coast under either the Private Forest Reserves Program or the Private Land Conservation Program. The rebate is set at \$5 per hectare per annum with a minimum of \$50 and a maximum of \$500.

Any request for relief is subject to an application by the landholder to the Council.

The Council will provide an application form for this purpose and advise eligible property owners of the Conservation Covenant Rate Rebate Policy.

Eligible properties are determined by being listed in the Central Coast Council schedule provided annually by the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water & Environment.

Only when all normal rates due to the Council for the year for a property have been paid (including where an approved payment plan is in place) may the Conservation Covenant Rate Rebate to be paid for that year.

ASSESSING APPLICATIONS

Applications for a Conservation Covenant Rate Rebate must be decided by the General Manager.

An annual report will be provided to the Council of rebates approved under this Policy.

REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed every three years by the Council, unless organisational and legislative changes require more frequent modification/s.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Conservation Covenant Rate Rebate Application Form.

SANDRA AYTON
GENERAL MANAGER

Date of approval: / /

Approved by:

.....

CONSERVATION COVENANT RATE REBATE APPLICATION

Applications are to be received by 15 May, each given financial year

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

To be eligible for a rate rebate, the rates for each financial year must be paid in full on or before the final instalment date.

APPLICANT/S DETAILS:

Name of Ratepayer/s:

Property Address:

Property ID No.:

I hereby apply for a Conservation Covenant Rate Rebate on the above property. I understand that the rate rebate only applies to that portion of land set aside under a Conservation Covenant and that the total amount, for all claims, is capped each year with any payments made being at the Council's discretion.

I also acknowledge that the rebate, if applied, will be credited directly to the property to be offset against the rates and is not redeemable.

I have paid/or will pay my rates in full by the final instalment date each financial year.

Signature of Applicant/s / /

..... / /

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Approved for rebate: / /
General Manager \$.....

The Council is collecting personal information from you for the purposes of managing, assessing, advising upon and determining the relevant application.

All information is collected in accordance with the Central Coast Council's Privacy Policy, available at:

<https://www.centralcoast.tas.gov.au/privacy/>

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